

Selection Guideline for SEM Testing Tariffs

Guidance Document

01 February 2016



1. PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to detail which Testing Tariffs are levied to a Generating Unit (new, refurbished and existing) under test in the Single Electricity Market (SEM).

Note: this document details the normal guidelines that are followed for a Generating Unit Testing; the Transmission System Operator (TSO) may deviate from these guidelines as system conditions require.

2. BACKGROUND TO TESTING TARIFFS

The purpose of Testing Tariffs in the SEM is detailed in the SEM Committee Decision paper [SEM-12-014]¹. In summary there are two applicable tariffs based on the different levels of risk associated with the specific type of testing: Tariff A has a high level of risk, followed by Tariff B which, has a level of risk greater than when the unit is in normal operation.

3.1 Tariff A

A Generating Unit will be assigned to Tariff A for the following reasons:

- a) **Unit Commitment:** The Generating Unit nominates into the SEM the load profile which they would like to follow, however, if it is likely due to unproven running that there may/will be difficulties meeting commitment and/or nominated dispatch schedule then the Generating Unit may be considered unreliable and will not be included as part of the TSO day ahead unit commitment schedules. Additional Generating Units may therefore be constrained up/on to meet system demand for that day;
- b) **Tripping:** The Generating Unit is considered to be at a high risk of tripping. If the Generating Unit trips the TSO must react to maintain system security in a short space of time. It should be noted that Trip Charges through the Other System Charges Methodology are not applied when a Generating Unit is under test in SEM;
- c) **Reserve:** To cover the uncertainty associated with the unit reliability the TSOs will schedule to ensure that there is 100% Primary Operating Reserve and Secondary Operating Reserve for the Generating Unit Under Test.

The constituent parts which make up Testing Tariff A are outlined in Table 1.

3.2 Tariff B

A Generating Unit will be assigned to Tariff B for the following reasons:

- a) **Tripping:** The Generating Unit is considered to be at an increased risk of tripping than in normal operation, however at a lower risk than if being levied Testing Tariff A. If the Generating Unit trips the TSOs must react to maintain system security in a short space of time. It should be noted that Trip Charges through the Other System Charges Methodology are not applied when a Generating Unit is under test in SEM,

¹ http://www.allislandproject.org/en/transmission_decision_documents.aspx?article=3d45a24c-5677-4fa6-9254-ebe00aa0db0c

furthermore, the trip charge component under Tariff B is less than the trip charge component which makes up Testing Tariff A. Testing Tariff B is outlined in Table 1.

Generating Unit Size (MW)	TARIFF A					TARIFF B
	Reserve Premium	Reserve Constraint Cost	Additional Run Hours	Tripping	Total Charge	Tripping
GEN <50			€ 9.01		€ 9.01	
50 < GEN ≤100			€ 7.76		€ 7.76	
100 < GEN ≤ 150			€ 7.82		€ 7.82	
150 < GEN ≤ 200			€ 6.91	€ 0.35	€ 7.27	€ 0.22
200 < GEN ≤ 250			€ 7.02	€ 0.57	€ 7.59	€ 0.35
250 < GEN ≤ 300			€ 6.87	€ 0.93	€ 7.80	€ 0.57
300 < GEN ≤ 350			€ 6.65	€ 1.50	€ 8.16	€ 0.93
350 < GEN ≤ 400	€ 0.05	€ 0.12	€ 5.49	€ 2.44	€ 8.10	€ 1.51
400 < GEN ≤ 450	€ 0.24	€ 0.74	€ 4.45	€ 3.97	€ 9.41	€ 2.46
450 < GEN	€ 0.45	€ 1.66	€ 3.48	€ 6.47	€ 12.06	€ 4.01

Table 1: 2016 Testing Tariffs

3. DECISION ON WHICH TESTING TARIFF APPLIES

3.1. New or Refurbished Generating Units

Any Generating Unit which is new or refurbished² will automatically be levied Testing Tariff A. The transfer from Testing Tariff A to Testing Tariff B will be communicated when the Generating Unit meets the success criteria outlined below.

A Generating Unit will be allowed to move from Testing Tariff A to Testing Tariff B if it operates reliably for 72 continuous hours with its active power output greater than 90% of its Registered Capacity. Any tripping or reliability issues may result in the continuation of the Generating Unit being levied Testing Tariff A. Further points of note are:

- The TSOs will determine, taking into account specific issues relating to the plant under test and the testing conditions that were experienced, when the Generating Unit moves from Testing Tariff A to Testing Tariff B;
- The Generating Unit should declare their availability in line with their test profile, unless they become unavailable. If they become unavailable or if they are not testing then they should declare zero availability. This is in line with the Other System Charges Methodology Statement³.

² Refurbished means any unit which has undergone any electrical or mechanical changes

³ <http://www.eirgridgroup.com/site-files/library/EirGrid/2015-2016-Statement-of-Charges-CER-Approved-final-290915.pdf>

3.2. Existing Units

If an existing Generating unit is carrying out testing in the SEM then it will automatically default to Testing Tariff A for the first 72 hours of testing, unless the testing is deemed low risk. Figure 1 gives a guideline for determining whether the Generating Unit is high or low risk. If a Generating Unit is deemed to be high risk then it will be levied Testing Tariff A for the first 72 hours of actual testing. Any delays to testing, unreliability issues or not following the load profile (to ± 50 MW or ± 50 Mvar) will result in the Generating Unit continuing on Testing Tariff A until reliable operation can be proven.

Even if a Generating Unit is transferred to Testing Tariff B it may be returned to Testing Tariff A if the testing in any day is considered to be high risk. Further points of note are:

- The TSOs will determine when the Generating Unit moves from Testing Tariff A to Testing Tariff B;
- Generating Units should declare their availability in line with their test profile, unless they become unavailable. If they become unavailable or if they are not testing then they should declare zero availability.

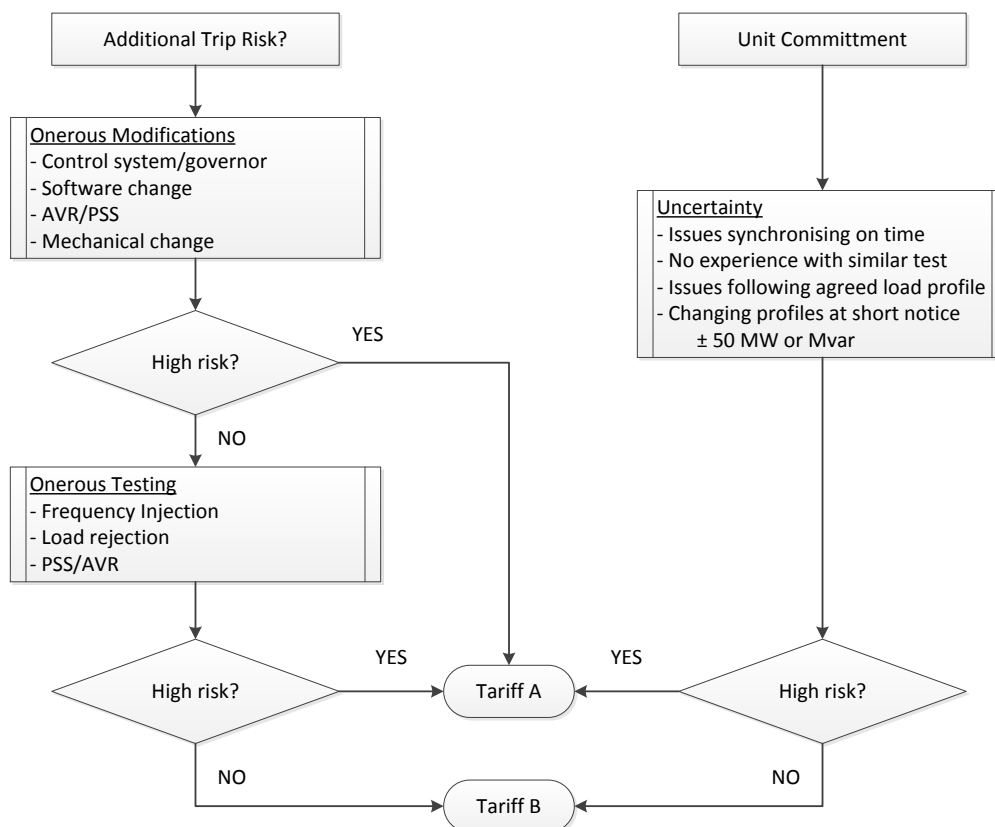


Figure 1: Guidance Process for Testing Tariff A or B