

Unit under Test

Guidelines for Market Participants

21st September 2018

Unit under Test

This guideline will take effect from 1st October

New Unit under Test arrangements have been developed for I-SEM whereby a unit can request to go under test for a number of imbalance settlement periods or a full trading day.

The type of test being requested by a unit will determine the notification time required by the TSO to assess and approve a test and incorporate it into the scheduling process. Testing can be split in to two categories: Significant and Minor Testing as defined in EirGrid and SONI Grid Codes below.

Generators submit a [Load Profile Request Form](#) email to request a test to neartime@eirgrid.com for generators in Republic of Ireland and neartime@soni.ltd.uk for generators in Northern Ireland.

Types of Testing

Significant Test

An Operational Test with a total duration of equal to or greater than 6 hours or where the Active Energy produced during the total duration of the test is equal to or greater than:

- (i) 3 times the Active Energy which would be produced by the Test Proposer's Plant during 1 hour of operation at the Plant's Registered Capacity; or
- (ii) 500 MWh.

There are two types of significant test;

- High Impact¹ and

- Low Impact.¹

High Impact Testing is when new units are being commissioned on the power system for the first time, when existing units require testing on return of outages and for testing which is determined to be high risk. (Tariff applied)

Low Impact Testing, the TSO assumes that the unit is reliable and will meet FPNs with no risk of tripping (No Tariff applied).

Minor Test

An Operational Test with a total duration of less than 6 hours in any Trading Day or were the active energy produced during the total duration of the test is less than:

- (i) Three times the Active Energy which would be produced by the Test Proposer's Plant during 1 hour of operation at the Plant's Registered Capacity; **and**
- (ii) 500 MWh

There is one type of minor test;

- Low Impact¹

Low Impact Testing, the TSO assumes that the unit is reliable and will meet FPNs with no risk of tripping or sufficient reserve is already carried on the system which covers any reserve requirements (No Tariff applied).

TSO Test

In addition to test requests by a User, the TSO need to carry out Operational Tests in order to maintain and develop operational procedures, to train staff, and to acquire information in respect of Power System behaviour under abnormal system conditions in line with Eirgrid **Grid Code OC.8 Operational Testing**. and SONI Grid Code OC11.6 Procedure for Testing.

¹ <http://www.eirgridgroup.com/site-files/library/EirGrid/Proposed-Testing-Tariff-Rates-2019.Ver1.0.pdf>

Timelines

- 1) **Significant testing** profile should be submitted to the TSO **at least five business days in advance** of the test proposal date. The TSO may accept a new significant test proposal after this time at their discretion but no later than **09:00 two business days** ahead of proposed test date.
For pre-approved tests, a Physical Notification (PN) with corresponding unit under test flags should be submitted by the User via the market participant interface no later than **11:30 on D-1** to facilitate review and approval by the TSO in the Market Management System (MMS) by **13:00 on D-1** in advance of day-ahead market PN submissions. Subsequent changes in the intra-day may be permitted.
- 2) For a **Minor Test**: The unit submits its test request to neartime@eirgrid.com or neartime@soni.ltd.uk and balancingmarketoperations@eirgrid.com no later than **six hours** before testing is due to commence and follows up with a call to the control centre. The TSO reviews the test request and replies **within two hours** stating if the test is approved). The unit under test informs the TSO by phone before submission of PN which should be at **5 minutes past the half hour** to allow time for PN approval before Balancing Market gate closure. The TSO must approve or reject the test PN (if the test PN is for current day it must be accepted or rejected within the current trading period, half hour or it will be automatically rejected by the market management system).
- 3) For a TSO Test (such as secondary fuel); The TSO will notify the Participant of the requirement for testing and dispatch the unit as required for the duration of the test. From a settlement perspective these dispatch instructions will be treated as normal sync/inc/dec/de-sync actions – not test instructions.
- 4) For **modification or cancellations**: The unit submits its modification/cancellation request to balancingmarketoperations@eirgrid.com at **least four hours** in advance of Balancing Market gate closure for the relevant imbalance settlement period

that is affected and follow up with a call to the control centre. The TSO reviews the test request and replies **within two hours** stating if test is approved and which phone number to call (Belfast or Dublin). The unit under test advises the control centre before submission which should be at **5 minutes past the half hour** to allow time for PN approval before BM gate closure. The control room must approve or reject the test PN (if the test PN is for current day it must be accepted or rejected within the current trading period, half hour or it will be automatically rejected by the market management system).

Appendix 1

Related Documents

	Title	Date/Issue
1.	EirGrid Grid Code	Version 6 22 July 2015
2.	Proposed Modifications required for I-SEM: EirGrid Grid Code:(OC8, SDC1, SDC2, Glossary) MPID 271	1 Nov 2016
3.	Trading and Settlement Code-Part B	7 April 2017
4.	Testing Tariff Rates I-SEM 2018 Recommendation Paper.Rev3	13 th March 2018
5.	BP SO 12.1 Unit Testing	