

Balancing Market Principles Statement

Consultation on Revisions

Opening: 26th February 2021

Closing: 5pm 26th March 2021



Introduction

The SEM Committee has highlighted the importance of transparency within the new market arrangements. SONI and EirGrid's Balancing Market Principles Statement (BMPS) is a comprehensive transparency resource. The purpose of the document is to increase awareness and visibility of the Transmission System Operators' scheduling and dispatch processes.

Our intention is that the BMPS is informative and comprehensive, striking a balance between detail on the technical complexity of the scheduling and dispatch process and accessibility for informed industry participants.

The format, style and content of the document were consulted before Version 1.0 of the document was published in 2017. The most recent version, [Version 4.0](#), was published in October 2020 following consultation on revisions.

The purpose of this consultation is to present a number of revisions to the BMPS and to seek feedback on those revisions. Stakeholders will note that every effort is made by EirGrid and SONI to review the BMPS on an ongoing basis, with a view to ensuring that its content continues to be accurate and up-to-date. Notwithstanding this intention, it should be highlighted that 2021 serves as a period of transition for the SEM, with a number of changes deriving from EU legislation (including certain Clean Energy Package requirements and the changes resulting from the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU) yet to receive full regulatory endorsement. Thus, such changes have not been applied to the relevant SEM industry frameworks; the BMPS focuses exclusively on the extant codes and licences that apply in Ireland and Northern Ireland and does not speculate on the outcome of the regulatory approval process. Looking forward, it may therefore be necessary for EirGrid and SONI to amend this BMPS (subject to and in accordance with the applicable licence condition in their respective Transmission System Operator Licences) to ensure that the BMPS remains consistent with the applicable obligations framework.

Proposed Revisions

All proposed revisions are highlighted as tracked changes in the consultation version of the document, Version 4.1, 26th February 2021. There are numerous minor edits to the document to ensure it is contemporary. A summary of other proposed revisions in the document are shown in the following table.

Section	Update / Reason for Update
3.2.1 Scheduling and Dispatch Policy Parameters	Updated reference to latest SEMC decision on LNAF and SIFF, whereby parameters will remain at zero for 2021 and subsequent years going forward until there are changes to the metrics for determining these parameters.

3.4.6 Prices and Volumes for Cross Zonal Actions	Further information included on Cross Border Balancing as requested by responses to the 2020 BMPS Consultation
5.3 Audit	Updates given on the first audit covering the period from go-live to 31 st December 2019.
6.1 Publication Sources	Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service added as a publication source
6.2 Operational Data	Source of CBB data added
6.5 Reports	Source of the Annual Scheduling and Dispatch Process Audit Report included.

Participating in this Consultation

The proposed revisions are presented for consultation by EirGrid and SONI in accordance with our Transmission System Operator Licence obligations (Condition 22B of SONI's and Condition 10B of EirGrid's TSO licences) and SEM Committee decision SEM-16-058 'Balancing Market Principles Statement Terms of Reference'.

Respondents should focus their feedback on the proposed revisions only. The [consultation report from the previous consultation](#) will provide an indication of previous feedback and out of scope comments. **Responses to this consultation should be sent to BMPS@EirGrid.com or BMPS@SONI.ltd.uk before 5pm on Friday 26th March.**

Please note:

- Late submissions will not be accepted to ensure a consultation report is compiled and issued to the Regulatory Authorities within 7 days of the closing date as required by our Transmission System Operator Licences.
- We intend to publish all responses to the consultation. If you do not want your response to be published please state this clearly in your response.
- We will submit all responses, the consultation report and a proposed new version of the BMPS to the Regulatory Authorities with the intention of publishing an updated BMPS in April 2021.



Figure 1: Timeline to Publication of Version 5. *Unless directed otherwise by the Regulatory Authorities

Future Revisions

We will continue to monitor, review and update the BMPS on an enduring basis, in line with our licence obligations. Any revisions which may be required will be subject to further public consultation and engagement with the Utility Regulator in Northern Ireland and the Commission for Regulation of Utilities in Ireland.