

# Enduring Connection Policy 2.1

Constraints Analysis for Solar and Wind

Area J and G Main



# AGENDA

- Introduction and Update
- ECP 2.1 Study Scenarios
- Modelling Approach to Dispatch Down
- Oversupply and Curtailment Calculation
- Constraint Sub-Group Logic
- Constraint Group Short Note
- Area overview
- ECP 2.1 Maintenance Sensitivity
- ECP 2.1 Battery Performance
- ECP 2.1 Contingency Binding
- Discussions and Questions

# ECP 2.1 QUERIES

## COMPLETED IN THE LAST MONTH

A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) document has been published which includes responses to individual customer queries.

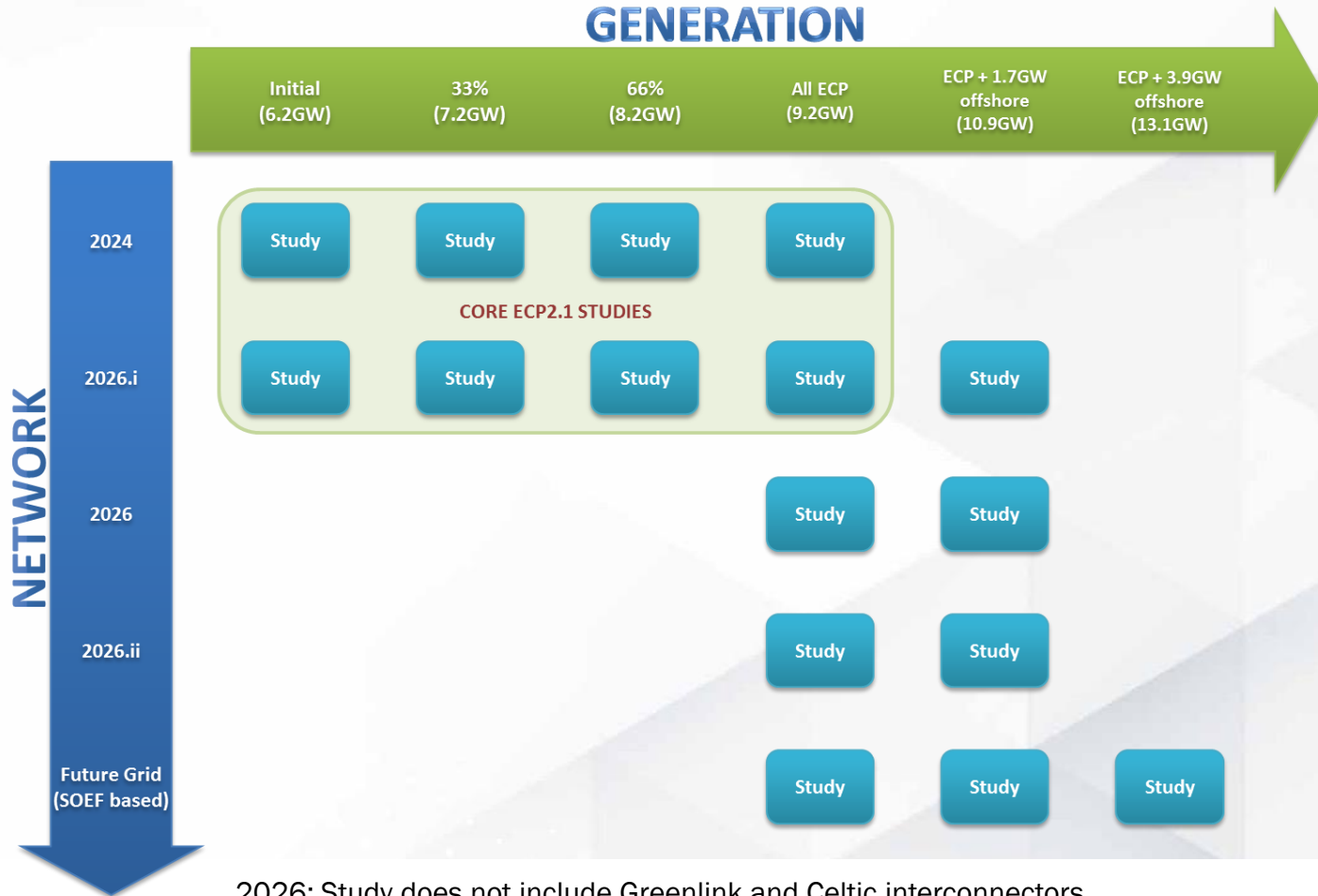
A short report on:

- Maintenance sensitivity
- Renewable Energy Source (RES) % in the studies
- Battery performance during constraint dispatch down
- Contingency list for the year 2024 and 2026
- Short note on constraint groups used within ECP 2.1

## ADDITIONAL DATA MADE AVAILABLE ON ECP 2.1 WEBSITE

- Node level results for Oversupply, Curtailment and Constraints in [Excel format](#)
- Hourly wind and solar area [profiles](#) used within the studies
- [Wind and solar generation](#) build out tables for Northern Ireland
- [Line ratings](#) used in the studies for the years 2024 and 2026
- [Interconnector flow](#) data in the core ECP 2.1 studies

# SCENARIO & SENSITIVITY OVERVIEW



- Large # of scenarios including sensitivities
- Core ECP 2.1 Study Years: 2024 & 2026
- Generation Scenarios Studied:
  - Core ECP Studies:
    - Initial (6.2 GW)
    - 33% of ECP (7.2 GW)
    - 66% of ECP (8.2 GW)
    - All ECP (9.2 GW)
  - Sensitivities requested by industry:
    - ECP + 1.7 GW offshore (10.9 GW)
    - ECP + 3.9 GW offshore (13.1 GW)
    - Greenlink & Celtic included
    - Future Grid (To align with SOEF)

2026: Study does not include Greenlink and Celtic interconnectors.

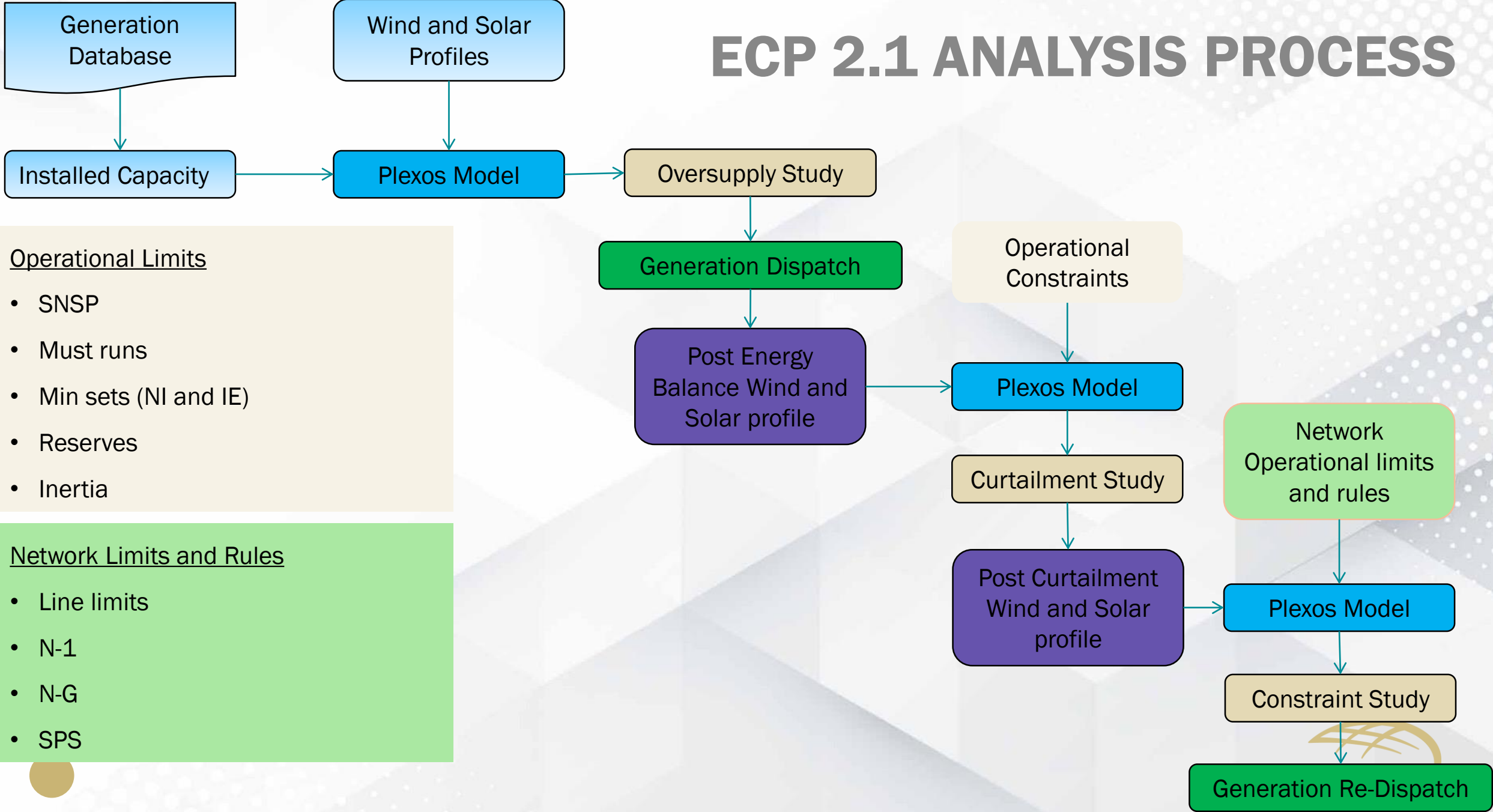
2026.i: Study includes Greenlink but not Celtic interconnector.

2026.ii: Study includes Greenlink and Celtic interconnectors.

# MODELLING APPROACH To DISPATCH DOWN

- Renewable generation modelled at 110 kV station
  - A 110 kV station can have Wind/Solar Priority, Non Priority or Uncontrolled generation connected.
  - Wind and Solar hourly profiles are used in model.
- Over-supply Dispatch Down
  - Applied if there is not enough demand, or export capability to meet renewable generation.
  - For each hour, the “non priority” generators are dispatched down first (pro-rata all island).
- Curtailment
  - Following dispatch down for oversupply reasons, curtailment is applied to meet operational limits e.g. SNSP, Inertia, Min Sets Rules, Generator Must Runs, Operating Reserve.
  - For each hour, curtailment is shared equally between “priority” and “non priority” generators (applied pro-rata all island).
- Constraint
  - Following curtailment, generation constraint is applied to solve localised transmission issues.
  - The model dispatches down by individual station to mathematically minimise the total renewable generation dispatch down.
  - For annual energy, the results are then averaged across adjacent 110 kV stations.
  - “priority” and “non priority” generators are dispatched down equally.

# ECP 2.1 ANALYSIS PROCESS



## Operational Limits

- SNSP
- Must runs
- Min sets (NI and IE)
- Reserves
- Inertia

## Network Limits and Rules

- Line limits
- N-1
- N-G
- SPS

# OVERSUPPLY AND CURTAILMENT CALCULATION

Oversupply – Applied differently for priority and non priority generators

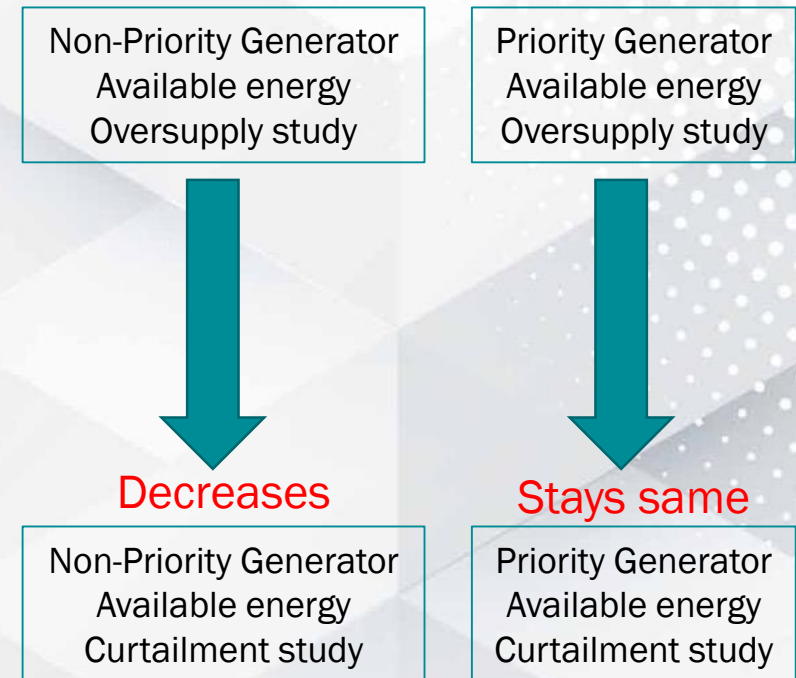
$$\text{Oversupply \% (system)} = \frac{\text{Total Oversupply Dispatch Down (system)}}{\text{Total Available Energy in Oversupply study}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Oversupply \% (Generator)} = \frac{\text{Total Oversupply Dispatch Down } \textit{pro-rata} \text{ (Generator)}}{\text{Total Available Energy in Oversupply study (Generator)}} \times 100$$

Curtailement – No distinction between priority and non priority generators

$$\text{Curtailement \% (system)} = \frac{\text{Total Curtailement Dispatch Down (system)}}{\text{Total Available Energy in Oversupply study}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Curtailement \% (Generator)} = \frac{\text{Total Curtailement Dispatch Down } \textit{pro-rata} \text{ (Generator)}}{\text{Total Available Energy in Oversupply study (Generator)}} \times 100$$

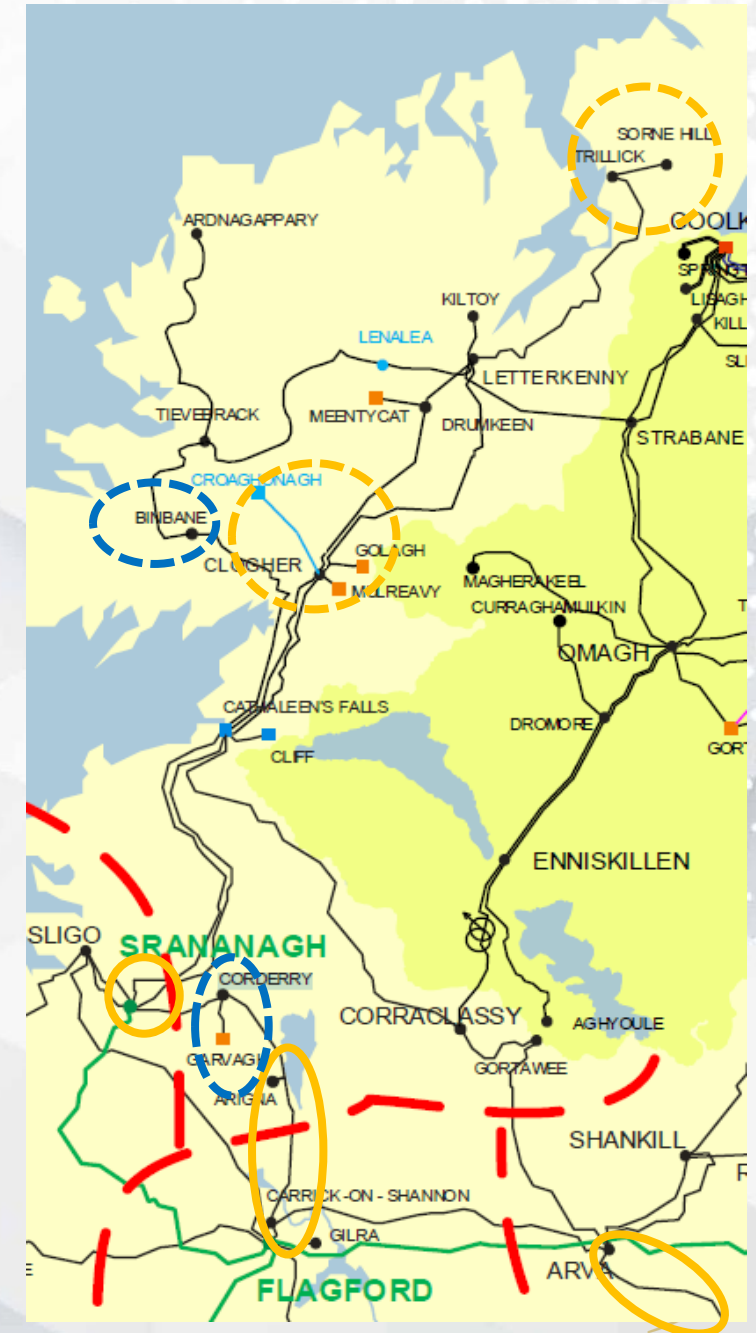


# CONSTRAINT SUB-GROUP LOGIC

## ANALYSIS SAMPLE

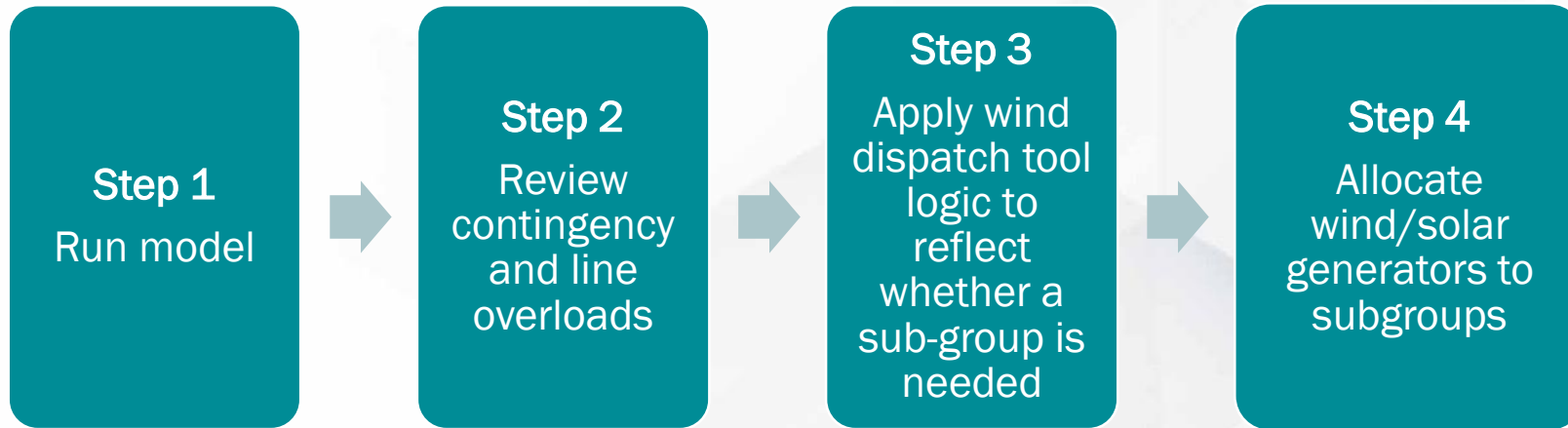
- Contingencies observed in a sample instance in the region
  - Loss of Carrick on Shannon - Arigna\_110\_1
  - Loss of Arva - Navan\_110\_1
  - Loss of Srananagh T2102
- Generators are selected for dispatch down at same location differently for managing issues in the region.
- The generators may not always be dispatched down at the same node as the contingency for managing the contingency.

| Available and Dispatch Down (MWh) |                                  |                             |                           |                                 |                                  |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                   | Croaghonagh<br>wind not priority | Sorne Hill<br>wind priority | Mulreavy<br>wind priority | Binbane<br>wind not<br>priority | Corderry<br>wind not<br>priority | Sligo wind<br>priority | Garvagh wind<br>priority |
| Available                         | 127.1                            | 44.3                        | 87.6                      | 34.2                            | 15.0                             | 13.7                   | 75.4                     |
| Dispatch<br>down                  | 127.1                            | 44.3                        | 87.6                      | 0                               | 15.0                             | 13.7                   | 11.6                     |





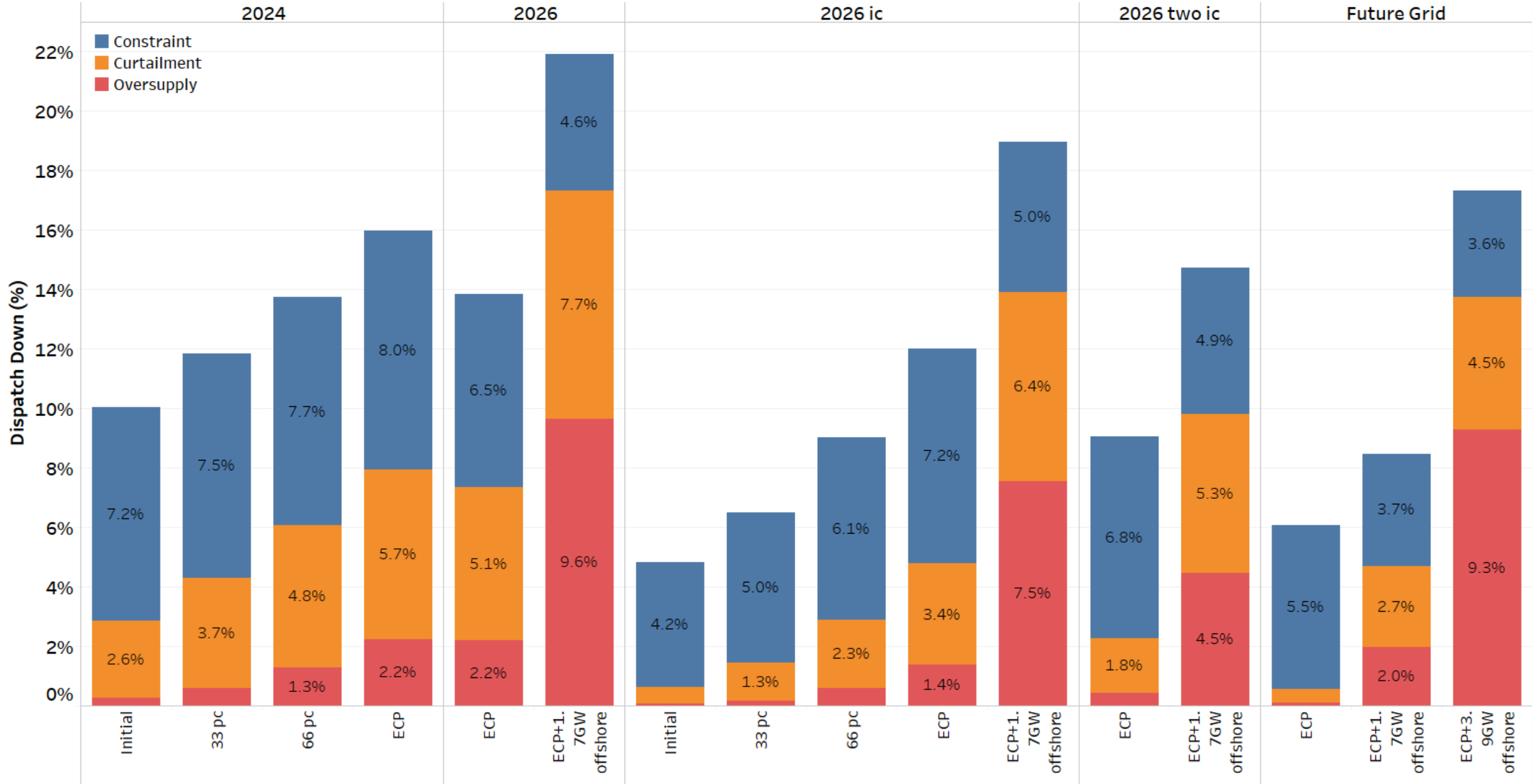
# CONSTRAINT SUB-GROUP LOGIC



## Caveats:

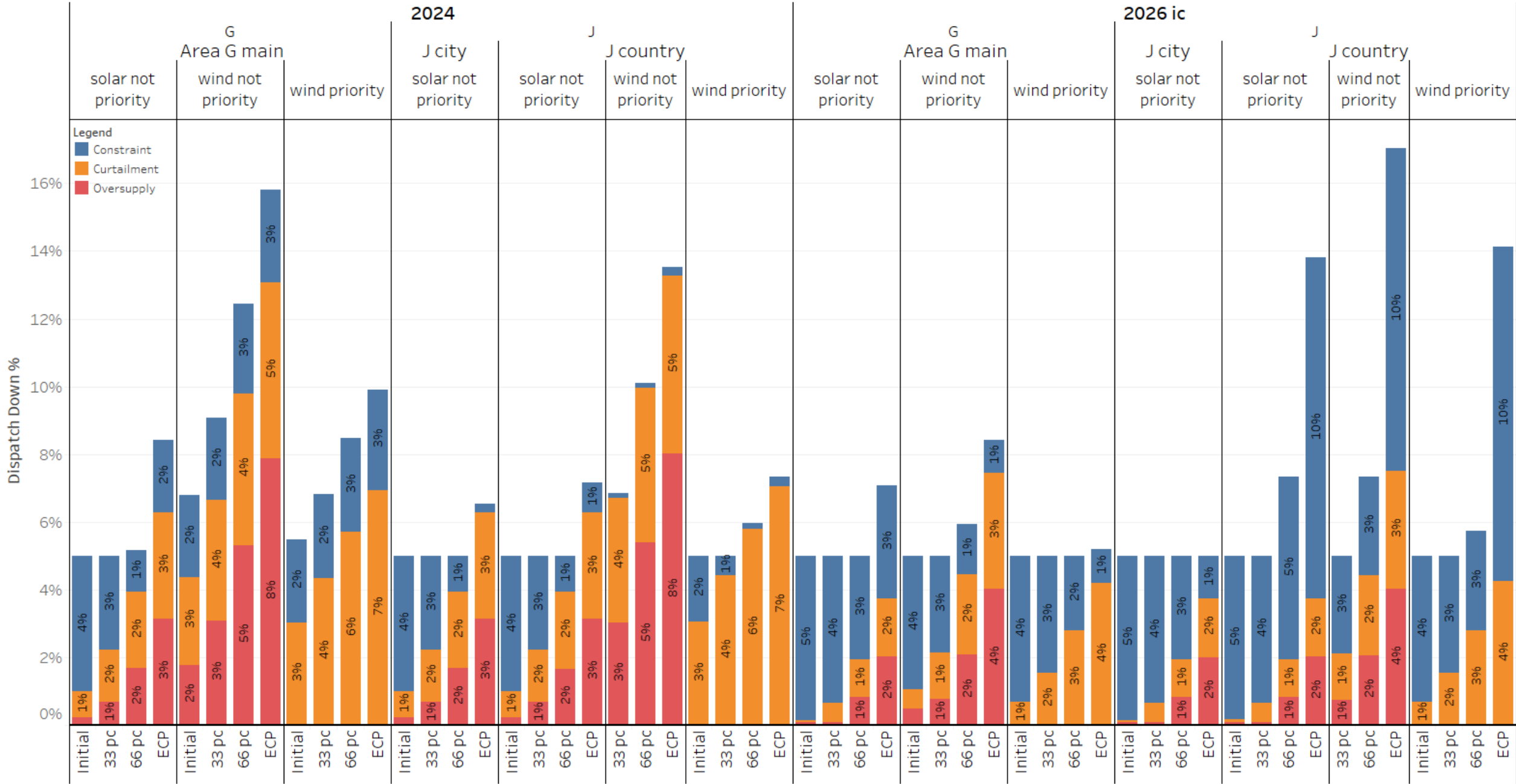
- Constraint groups are developed with the 2024/2026 studies.
- These sub-groups are not redefined for future years, this allows comparison across the study years.
- Constraint subgroupings are part of the ECP analysis to ensure balanced allocation of constraints, this is done to overcome the Plexos modelling limitations. e.g. Plexos is a cost optimisation model and may over constrain particular nodes for a given contingency.
- This study does not act to predict future wind dispatch tool sub-groups rather it aims to enable appropriate allocation of network constraints within the boundaries of the ECP 2.1 studies.
- Future iterations of the ECP constraint reports will re-assess these constraint groups.

# System Dispatch Down (%)



## **AREA J AND G MAIN**

# Dispatch Down % (Area J and G main)

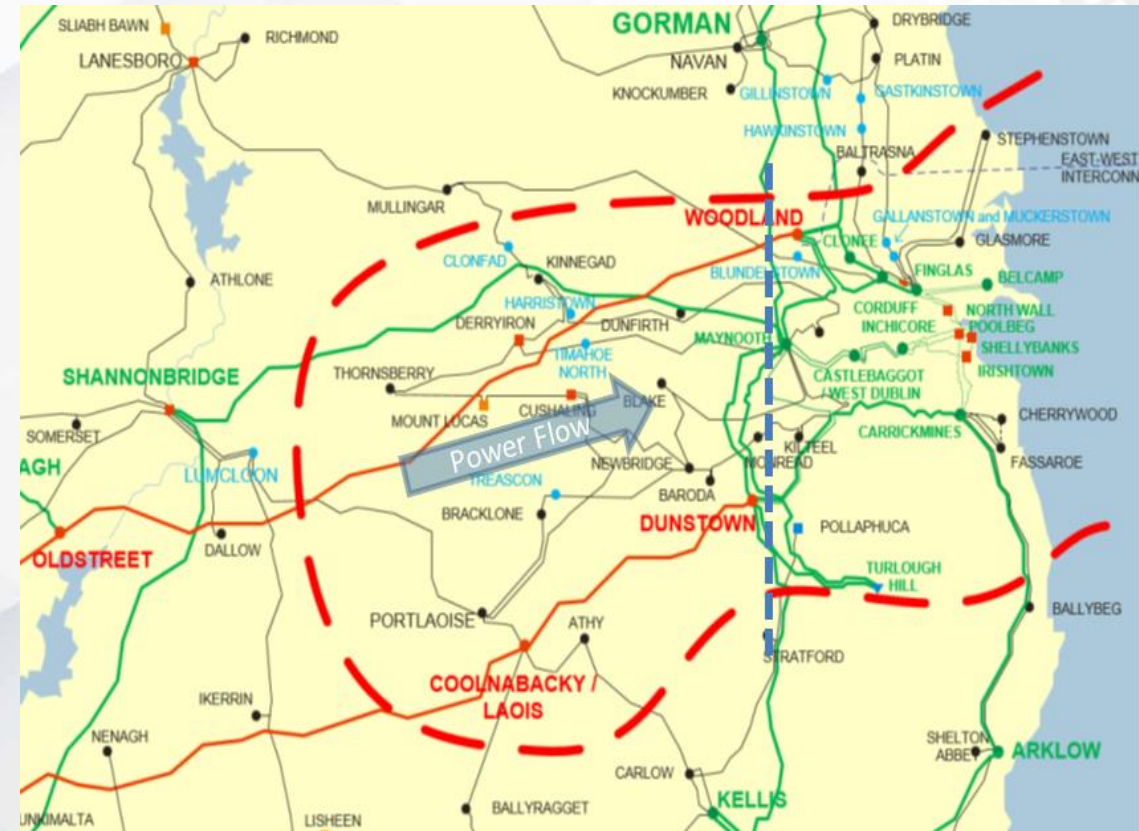


# Key Overview of the Area J and G

- ECP 2.1 has a total of 285 MW of wind and 110 MW of solar in Area J. In Area G there is 49 MW of wind and 60 MW solar.
- Pre-ECP 2.1 there were 224 MW of onshore wind and 678 MW of solar in area J. Area G had 287 MW solar and 571 MW wind.
- In Area J, most of the generation is located on the 110 kV network west of Dublin and is trying to move towards the 220 kV stations.
- In Area G, the power tends to flow towards Dublin through the Louth and Gorman 220 kV stations.
- The prospective loss of any parallel 220 kV/110 kV line may cause an overload on other lines resulting in an operational dispatch down action.
- West of Dublin has 2,150 MW of offshore wind connected to the 220 kV stations.

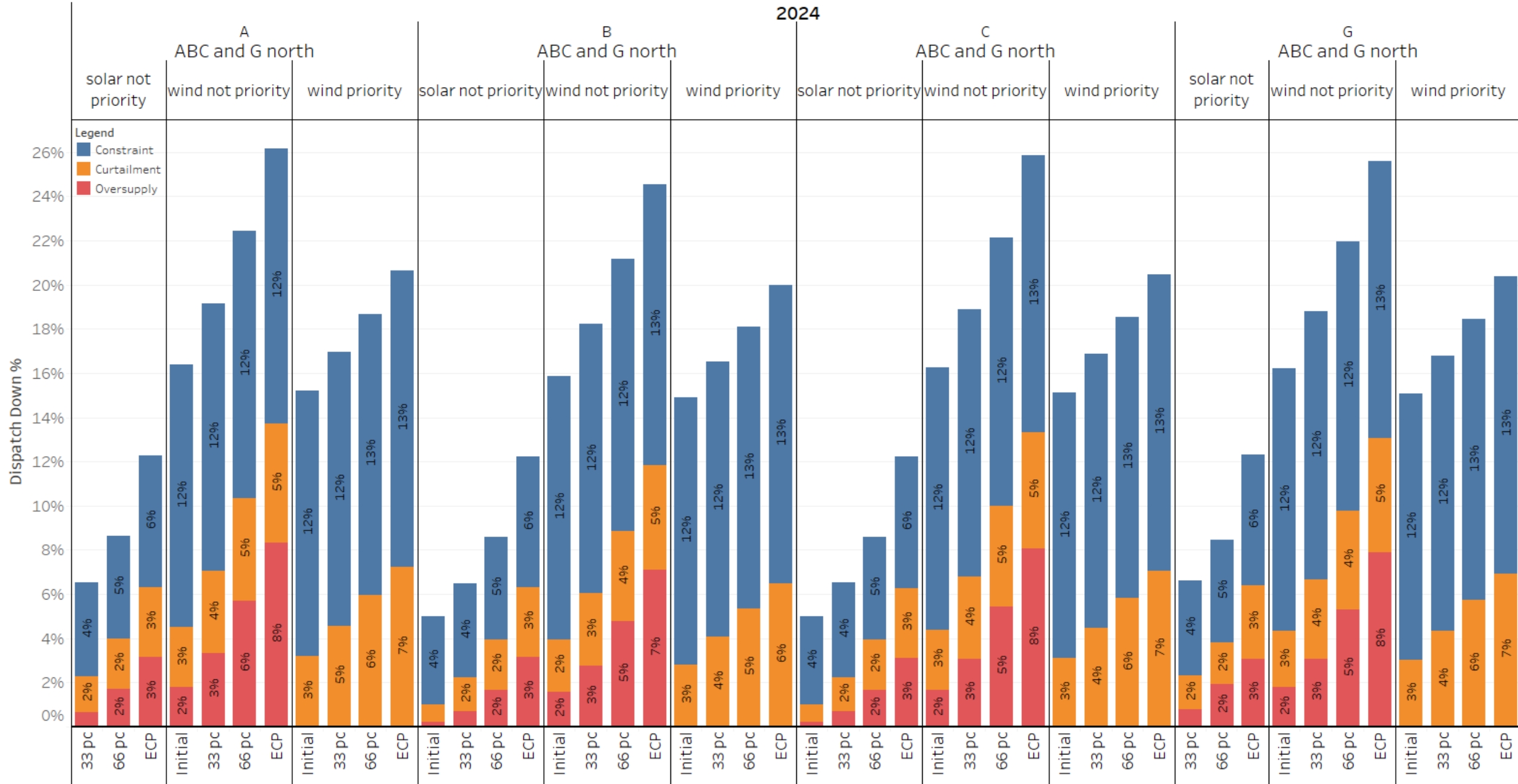
# AREA OVERVIEW

- Area J has the major load centres contributing to more than 50% of the total load in Ireland.
- Power from different areas across the country flow towards Dublin through the 220 kV and 400 kV Circuits.
- The prospective loss of any high voltage circuit can potentially congest the parallel circuit invoking redispatch/dispatch down of generation.
- Additionally, the increased generation (427 MW) in year 2026 for the area causes higher power flow in the 110 kV circuits.
- However, the 2<sup>nd</sup> N-S interconnector in 2026 has potential benefit on constraints to the area along with reduction in oversupply and curtailment.
- The area has a 400 kV station (Coolnabacky) in 2026 study that can create additional pathways for the nearby 110 kV lines.
- Uprates in Future Grid scenario for 110 kV
  - Baroda - Monread 110 kV uprate
  - Baroda - Newbridge 110 kV (DLR)
  - Coolnabacky - Portlaoise 110 kV uprate
  - Cushling - Newbridge 110 kV (DLR)
  - Derryiron - Kinnegad 110 kV uprate
  - Derryiron - Timahoe 110 kV uprate
  - Maynooth - Timahoe 110 kV uprate



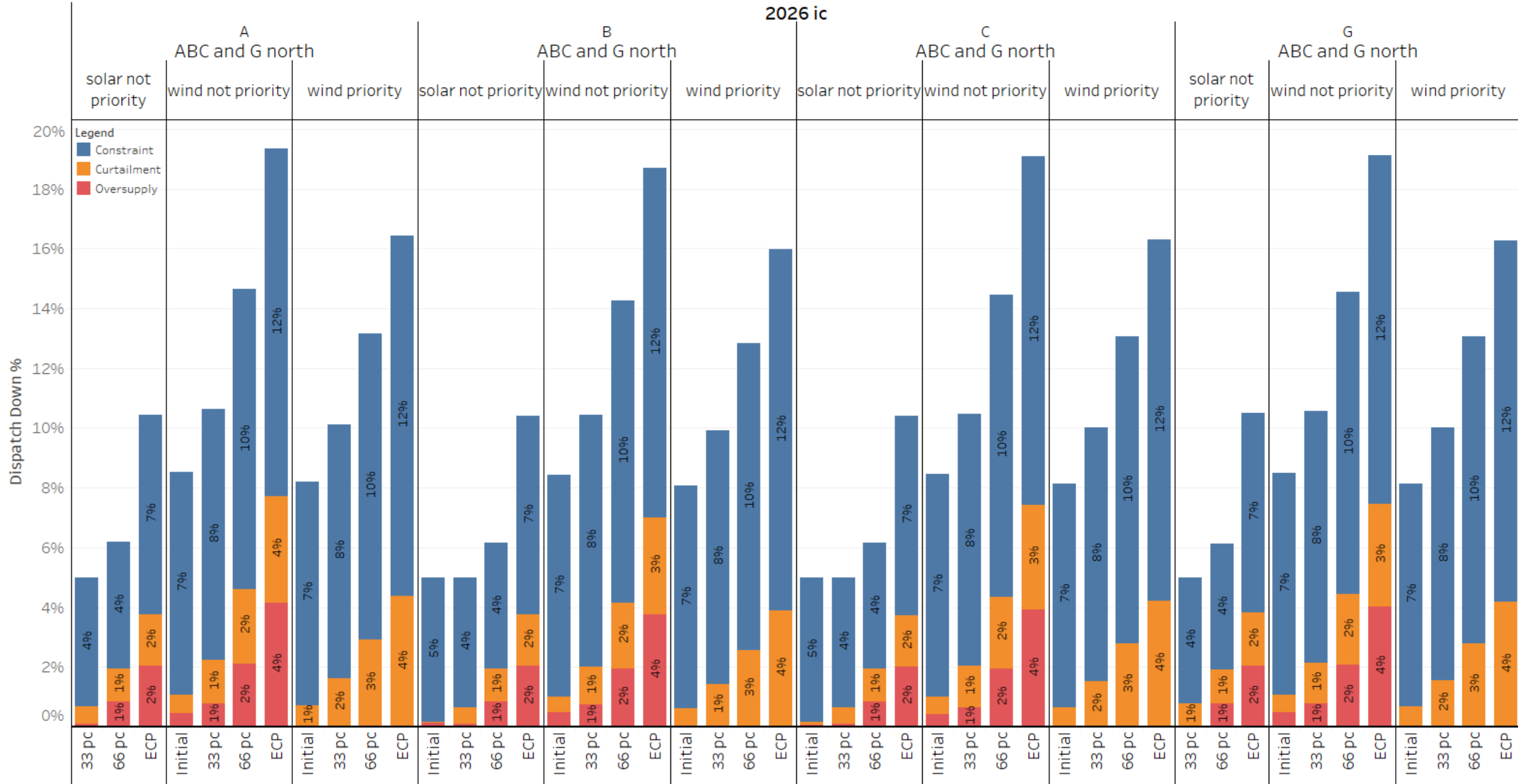
## **AREA A, B, C AND G NORTH**

# Area A, B, C and G North Dispatch Down % (2024)





# Area A, B, C and G North Dispatch Down % (2026 with GL)



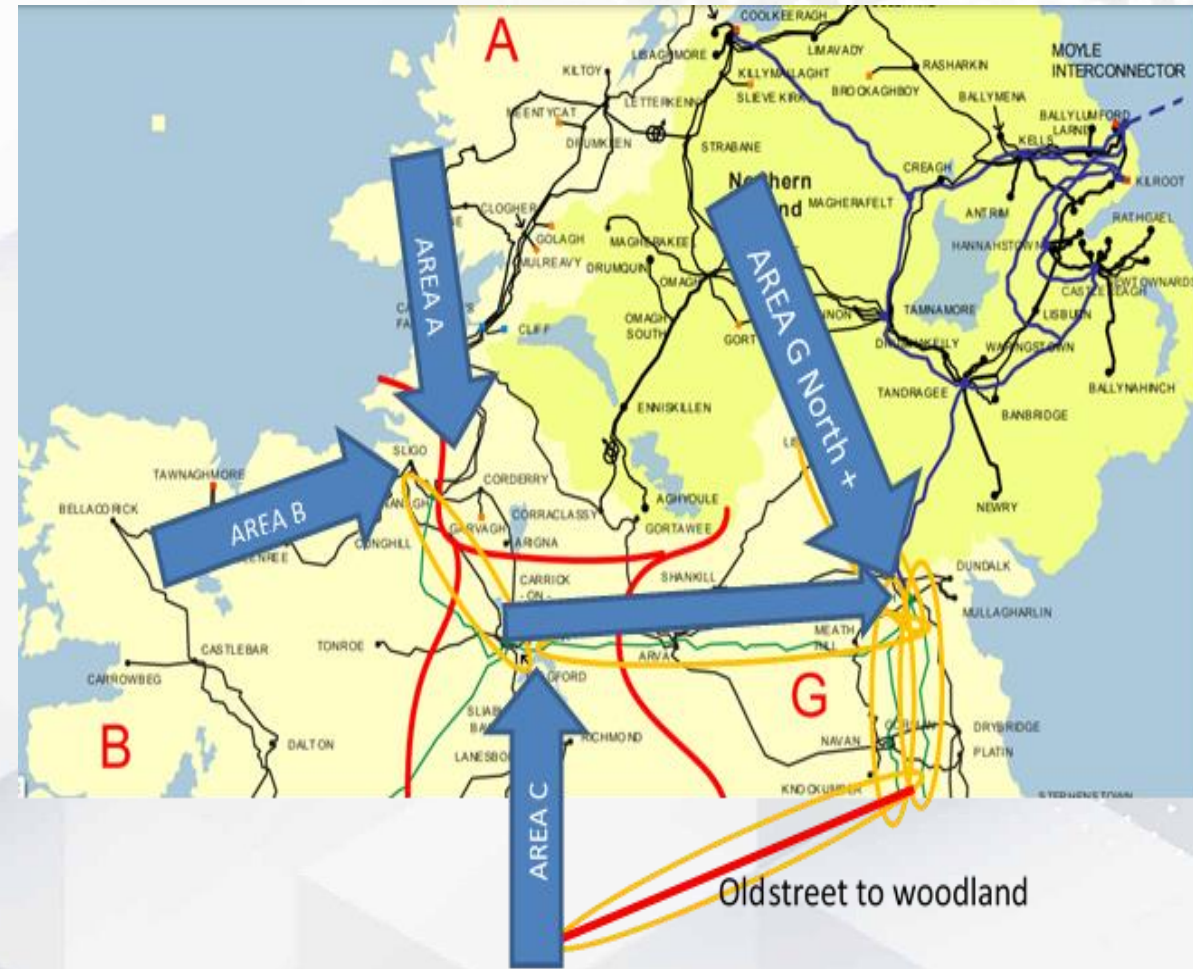
# Key Overview of the Area A, B, C and G

- The region has high wind installed on the 110kV networks which feeds into Srananagh, Flagford and Louth 220kV stations.
- The general power flow is towards the Dublin load centres utilizing the 220kV circuits.
- The prospective loss of any parallel 220 kV/110 kV line may cause an overload on other lines resulting in an operational dispatch down action.
- For example, the rescue flow for contingency of Flagford – Louth 220kV/ Arva – Navan 110kV can invoke additional stress to the shankill – Lisdrum 110kV circuit and Shankill – Ratrussan – Louth 110kV circuit. This can in-effect induce dispatch down of generators connecting to these nodes.
- The North Connacht provides additional paths to generators and improves the congestion to certain level due to the loss of Cunghill – Sligo 110kV/Bellacorick Castlebar 110kV circuit.

| Area | Pre ECP 2-1  | ECP 2-1                     |
|------|--|-----------------------------|
| A    | Wind – 721MW, Solar – 40MW                           | Wind – 34MW                 |
| B    | Wind – 902MW, Solar – 63MW<br>Offshore wind – 392MW  | Wind – 58MW, Solar – 4MW    |
| C    | Wind – 107MW, Solar – 109MW                          | Wind – 186MW, Solar – 132MW |
| G    | Wind – 411MW, Solar – 287MW<br>Offshore wind – 160MW | Wind – 49MW, Solar – 60MW   |

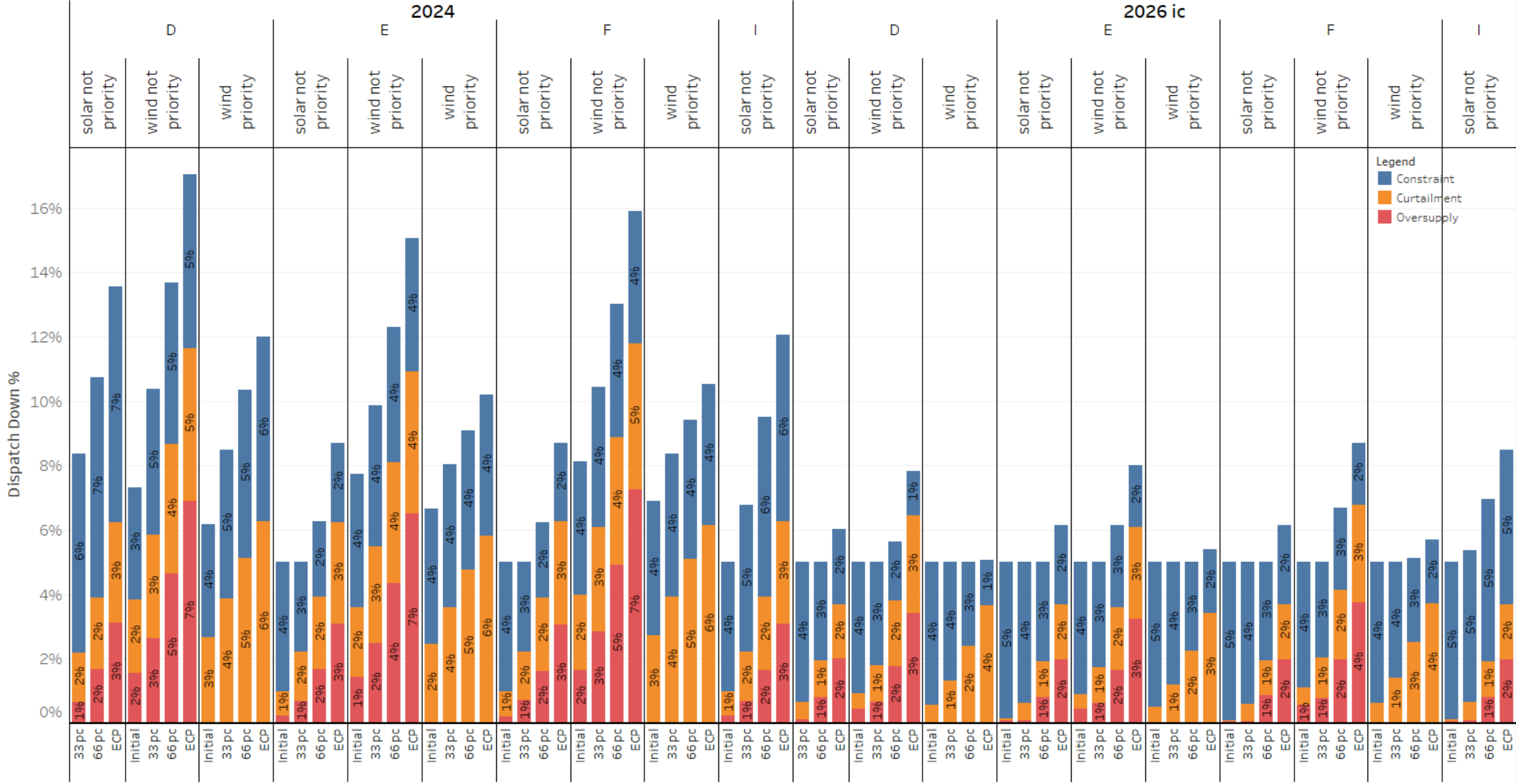
# AREA OVERVIEW

- Power from different areas across the country flow towards Dublin through the 220 kV and 400 kV Circuits.
- The prospective loss of any high voltage circuit can potentially congest the parallel circuit invoking redispatch/dispatch down of generation.
- Additionally, the increased generation (180MW in Area B) in year 2026 for the area causes higher power flow in the 110 kV circuits.
- However, the 2<sup>nd</sup> N-S interconnector in 2026 has potential benefit on constraints to this region along with reduction in oversupply and curtailment as the transfer capacity between two jurisdictions increases.
- The area also has the North Connacht 110kV reinforcement in 2026 which provides additional paths for power flow to Flagford 220kV.
- The uprate of Louth – Ratrussan 110kV in 2026 has improved the congestion on the circuit, but yet, partially moved the congestion on to other parallel circuits.
- Upgrades in Future Grid scenario for 110 kV
  - Arva - Carrick On Shannon 110 kV uprate
  - Sliabh Bawn – Lanesboro – Mullingar 110kV
  - Moy – Glenree 110kV uprate
  - Sligo – Srananagh 110kV uprate
  - Flagford – Srananagh 110kV upvoltage
  - Corderry – Srananagh 110kV uprate
  - Athlone – Lanesboro 110kV uprate
  - Clogher – Srananagh 220kV
  - Galway – Salthill 110kV uprate
  - Drumkeenan – Clogher 110kV uprate
  - Binbane - Clogher - Cathaleen's Fall - 110 kV
  - Cashla – Salthill 110kV uprate
  - Cashla – Dalton 110kV (DLR)
  - Castlebar – Cloon 110kV uprate
  - Castlebar 110 kV station busbar
  - Cathaleen's Fall - Coraclassy 110 kV (DLR)



## **AREA D, E, F AND I**

# Area D, E, F and I Dispatch Down %





# AREA OVERVIEW

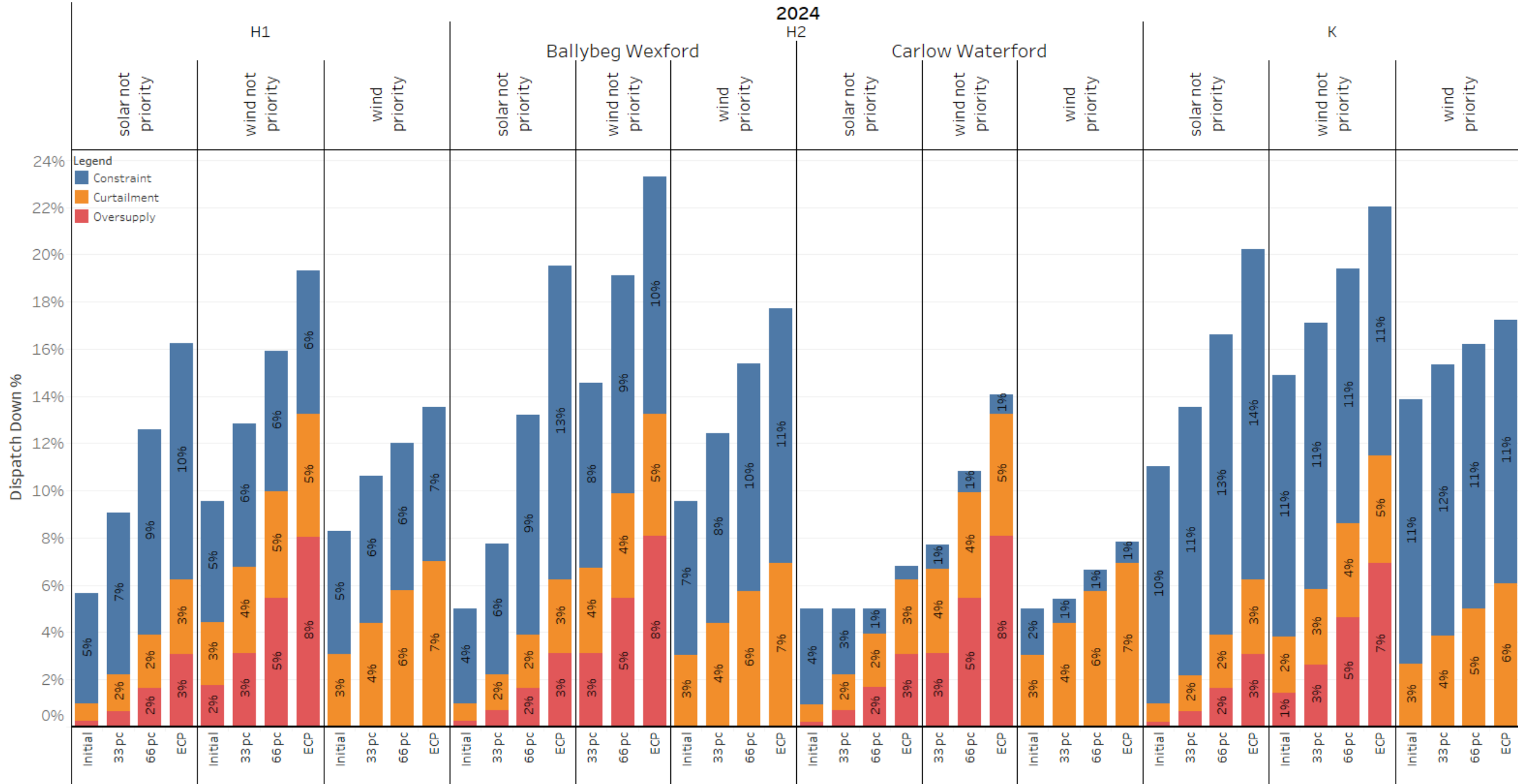
- Power from different areas across the country flows towards Dublin load centres and interconnectors through the 220 kV and 400 kV Circuits.
- The prospective loss of any high voltage circuit can potentially congest the parallel circuit invoking redispatch/dispatch down of generation.
- Additionally, in year 2026 14MW is connected as the SRCE generators.
- Uprates in Future Grid scenario for 110 kV
  - Aghada Station Busbar Reconfiguration
  - Ballynahulla and Ballyvoskill Station – Statcom
  - Ballyvoskill - Ballynahulla - Knockanure 220 kV uprate
  - Bandon - Dunmanway 110 kV uprate
  - Kilpaddoge - Knockanure 220 kV cable
  - Kilpaddoge - Moneypoint 400 kV Project (Cross Shannon)
  - Knockraha - Cahir 110 kV uprate
  - Knockraha station works



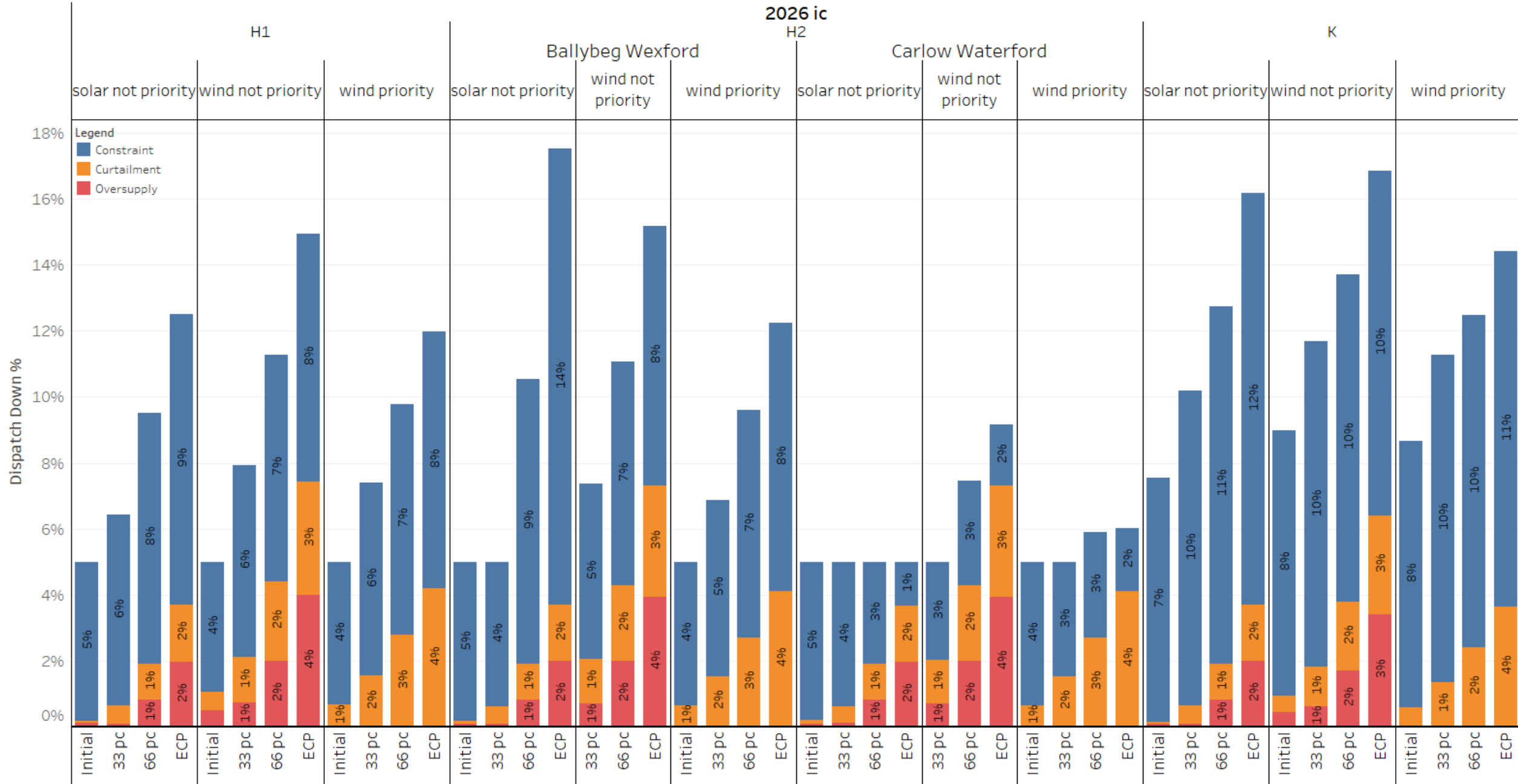
## **AREA H1, H2 AND K**



# Area H1, H2 and K Dispatch Down % (2024)



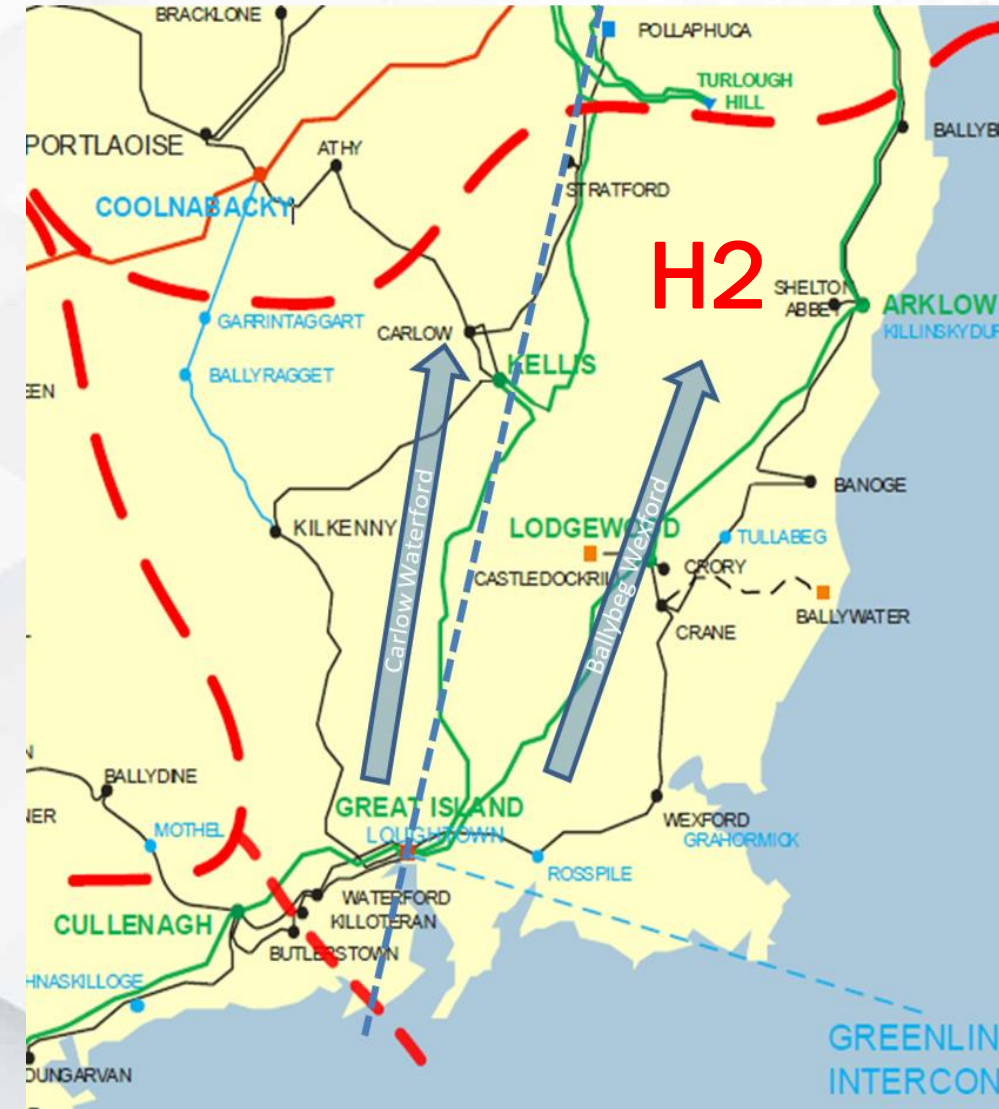
# Area H1, H2, and K Dispatch Down % (2026 with GL)



# Key Overview of the Area H1, H2 and K

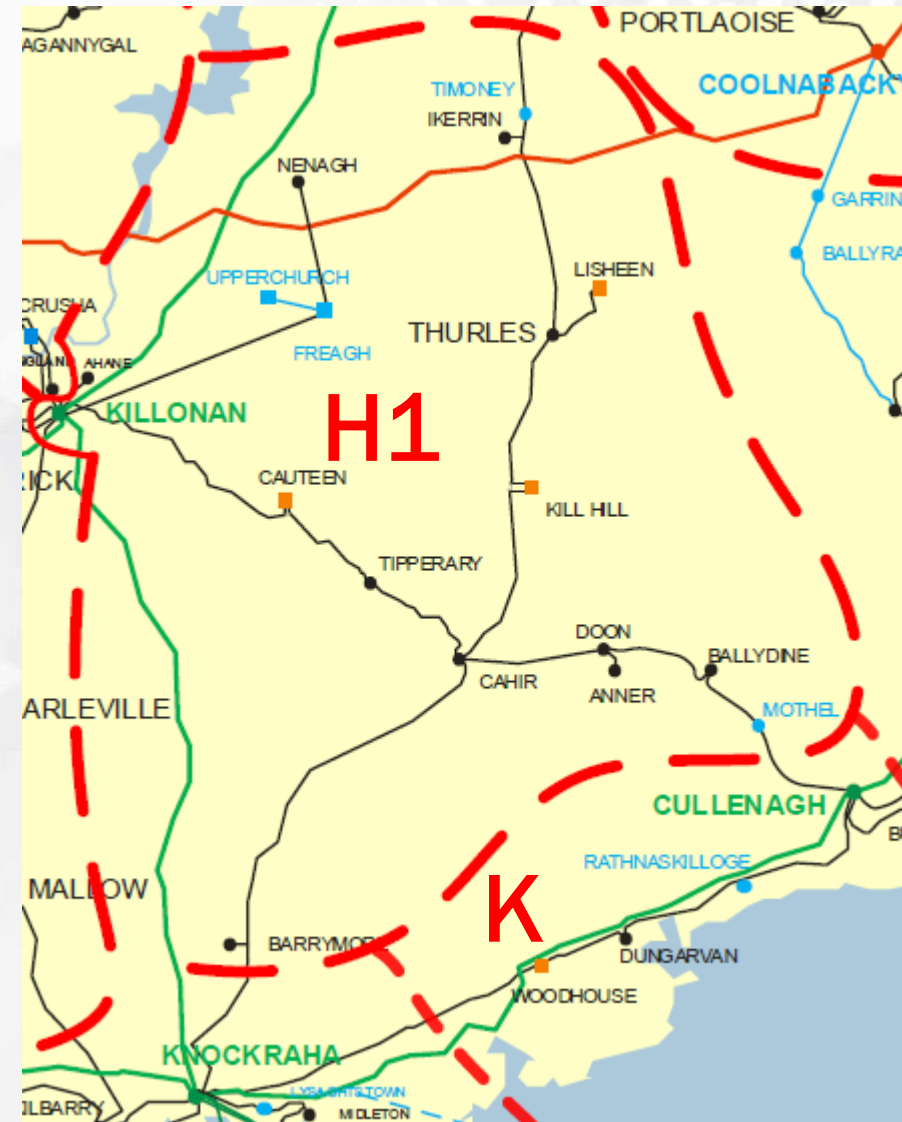
- The general power flow is towards the Dublin load centres utilizing the 220kV and 110kV circuits.
- The area H2 mainly has 220kV circuits parallel with 110kV circuits.
- The prospective loss of any parallel 220 kV/110 kV line may cause an overload on other lines resulting in an operational dispatch down action.
- For example, the rescue flow for contingency of Great Island – Lodgewood 220kV can invoke additional stress to the Arklow transformer.
- This can in-effect induce dispatch down of generators connecting to these lines and stations.
- The loss of Arklow - Carrickmines 220 kV circuit causes additional stress to the other parallel sections in the area.

| Area | Pre ECP 2-1                 | ECP 2-1                     |
|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| H1   | Wind – 543MW, Solar – 117MW | Solar – 86MW                |
| H2   | Wind – 803MW, Solar – 233MW | Wind – 106MW, Solar – 315MW |
| K    | Wind – 54MW, Solar – 196MW  |                             |



# AREA OVERVIEW

- Power from different areas across the country flow towards Dublin through the 220 kV and 400 kV Circuits.
- The prospective loss of any high voltage circuit can potentially congest the parallel circuit invoking redispatch/dispatch down of generation.
- Additionally, the increased generation (88MW in Area H2 and 98MW in H1) in year 2026 for the area causes higher power flow in the 110 kV circuits.
- However, the Greenlink interconnector in 2026 has potential benefit on constraints to this region along with reduction in oversupply and curtailment.
- The Area H1 is meshed towards 4 different 220kV stations. Any loss of one/multiple of the sections will have rescue flow flowing towards other lines and can potentially cause congestion on those lines.
- The 400 kV station (Coolnabacky) in 2026 study (in Area J) that can create additional pathways for the nearby 110 kV lines.
- Upgrades in Future Grid scenario for 110 kV
  - Arklow - Ballybeg - Carrickmines 220 kV
  - Athy - Carlow 110 kV uprate
  - Crane - Wexford 110 kV uprate
  - Great Island - Kellis 220 kV uprate
  - Great Island - Kilkenny 110 kV uprate
  - Great Island 220/110 kV transformer No.3
  - Killoteran - Waterford 110 kV uprate
  - Thurles Station - Statcom





# Maintenance Sensitivity

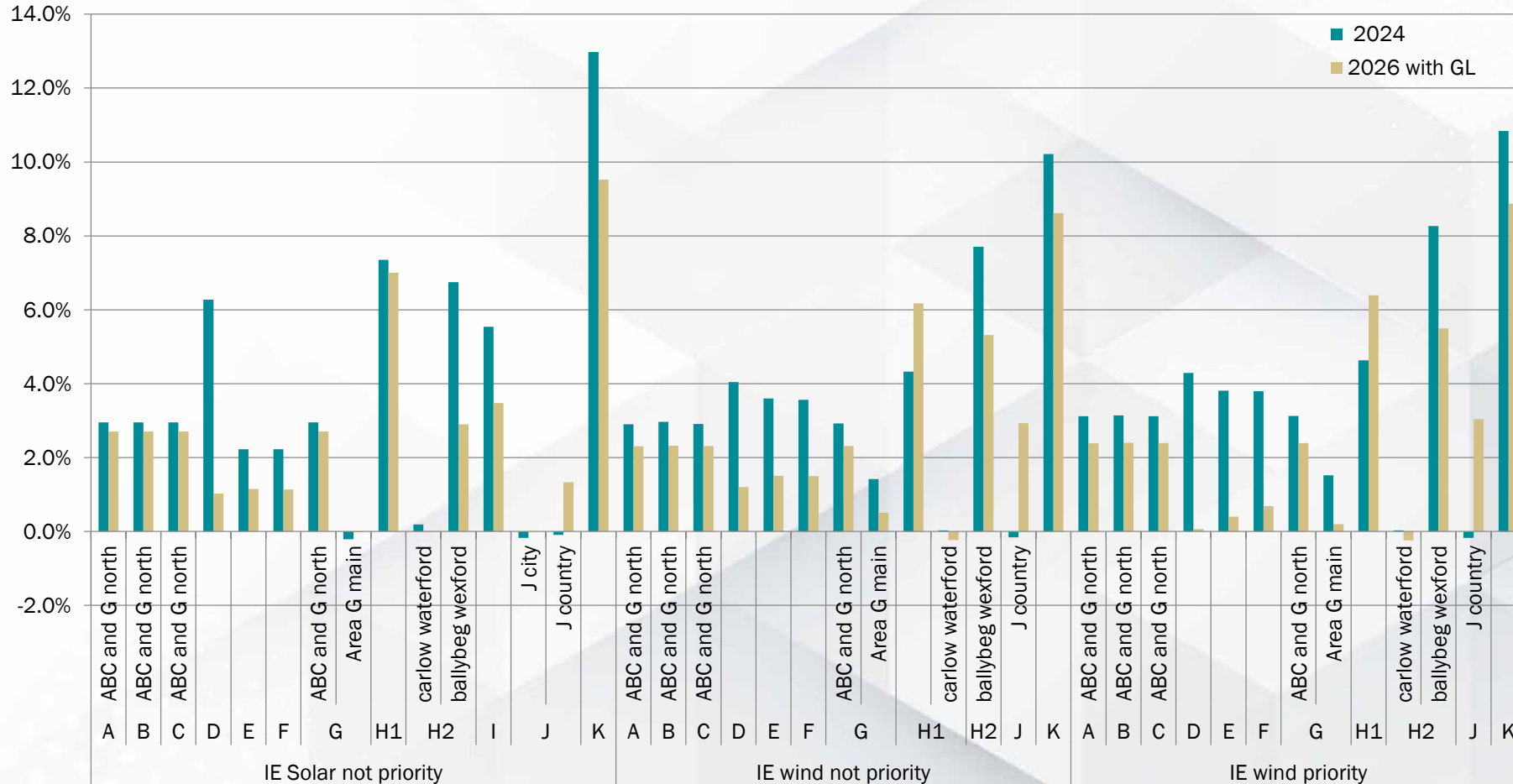
# Maintenance Sensitivity

- Following on from ECP 1 feedback a maintenance schedule was included in the ECP 2.1 studies.
- For ECP 2.1, a representative maintenance schedule was developed to represent an outage season in each area.
- The maintenance schedule was kept the same for all studies to ensure consistency in the results.
- This additional study was prepared following an industry request regarding the sensitivity of the maintenance schedule used in ECP 2.1.
- Two representative studies (2024 (All ECP) and 2026 with Greenlink (All ECP)) were chosen to conduct the maintenance sensitivity.
- The results show the difference in constraints in in each Area/subgroup with respect to maintenance.

# ECP 2.1 MAINTENANCE SENSITIVITY

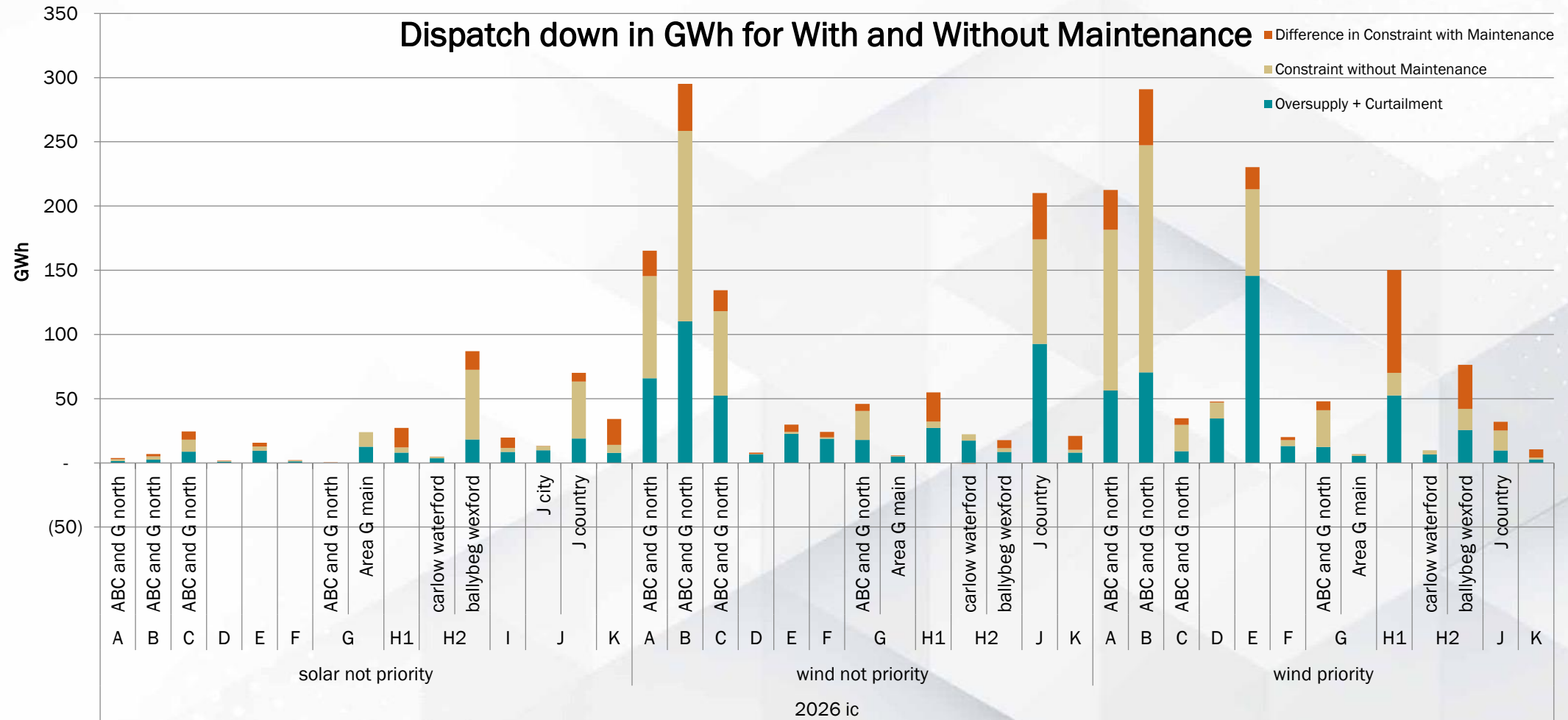
FOR 2024 AND 2026 WITH GREENLINK ALL ECP SCENARIO

Difference in Constraint % (with and without Maintenance)



# ECP 2.1 MAINTENANCE SENSITIVITY

## FOR 2026 WITH GREENLINK ALL ECP SCENARIO

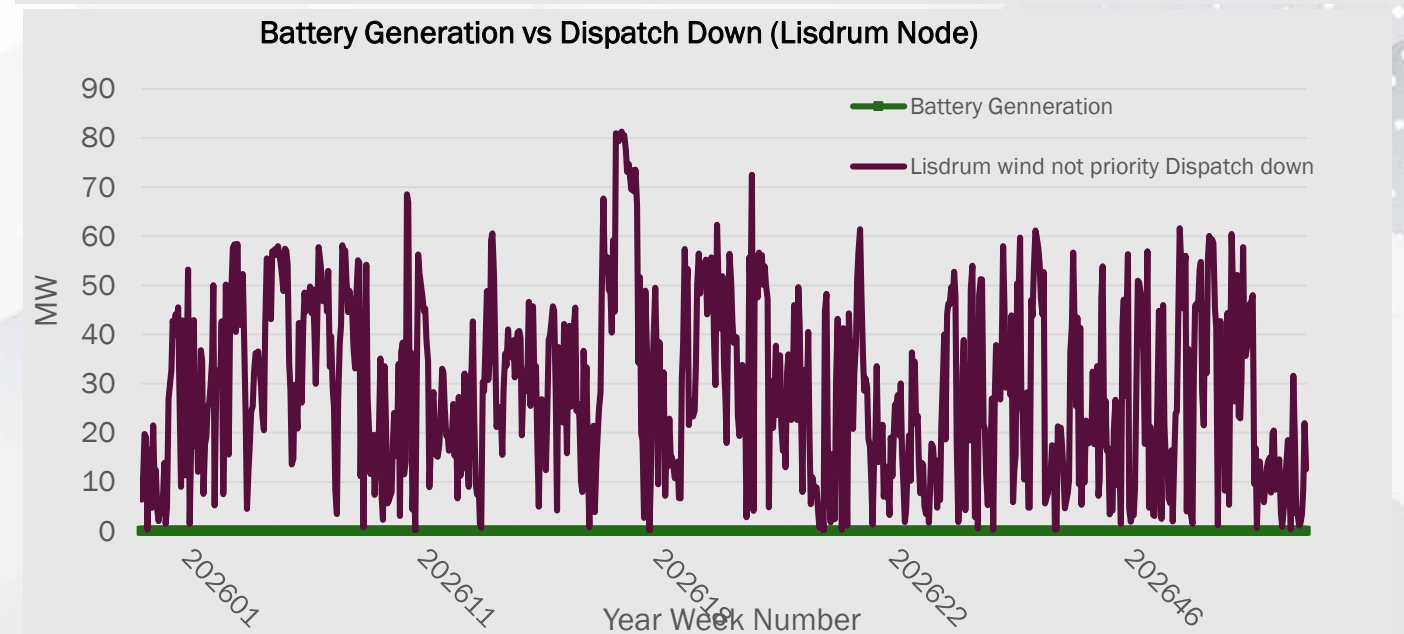
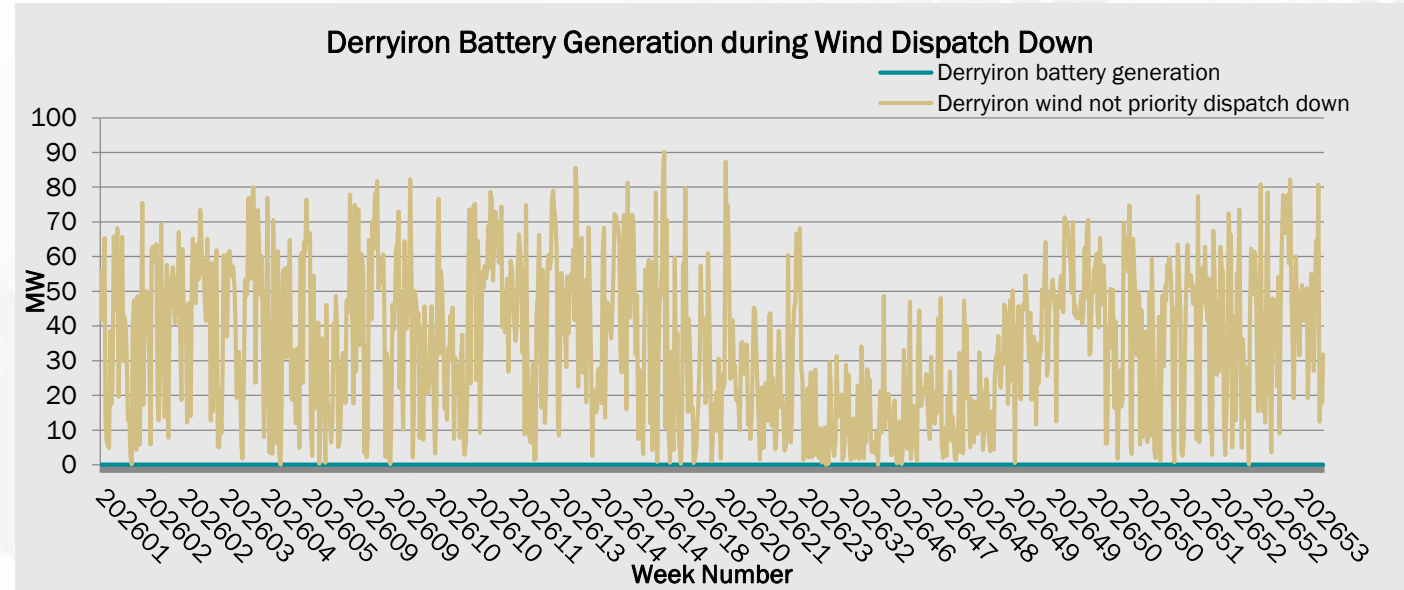




# ECP 2.1 BATTERIES

## BATTERY CHARGING VS RENEWABLE DISPATCH DOWN

- The batteries charging and discharging is based on the system level price.
- However, the batteries are not generating when renewable generation is dispatched down at the node.
- Sample node data for Derryiron and Lisdrum (**Dispatch Down > 0**).





## DISCUSSION