

Future Markets Industry Workshop - May 2026

Questions & Answers

Thank you for attending the Future Markets Industry Workshop on **Wednesday, 20th May 2026**.

This document provides answers to the questions raised during the event. For ease of reference, the FAQ is organized by each segment presented on the day.

Segment
1. Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)
2. Scheduling & Dispatch Programme (SDP)
3. EirGrid Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)
4. Energy Market Policy (EMP)
5. Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)
6. Technical Liaison Group (TLG)

1 Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)

Q1: When will we have the new PIR?

A1: The TSOs are still working with the RAs on that the PIR and the TSOs will continue to inform industry on the progress of these activities through existing programme channels. The TSOs will provide details on upcoming consultations in advance of publication of the PIR.

Q2: When will FASS go live and when will the TEST environment open?

A2: We are currently undergoing replanning activities, and the PIR is subject to SEMC approval. Regarding the test environment, we will take this question away and revert.

Q3: For which units will DASSA participation be mandatory and for which will it be optional?

A3: This was discussed with industry representatives at the RA Project Panel meeting in May: mandatory participation in the DASSA will be subject to an upcoming RA consultation.

Q4: Will any grid code retesting of system services providers be required to prove downward FFR, POR etc. regulation capability for high frequency events, or will existing DS3 test data suffice?

A5: The TSOs will aim to minimise physical testing where possible, but it will be required in certain circumstances. We are intending to issue a note to industry towards the end of June on the qualification process for the DASSA

Q5: Will EirGrid and SONI launch a DS3 Gate 15 in June? If yes, will Gate 15 contracts run from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027?

A5: Yes, Gate 15 will be launching on 10 June, and contract conditions will be the same as per existing contracted service providers - contracts expiring no later than the DS3 Regulated Tariff Arrangements' long-stop date of 30 September 2027.

Q6: Will there be workshops/training ahead of FASS/DASSA go live?

A6: Yes, the TSOs will provide training to service providers ahead of DASSA go-live.

2 Scheduling & Dispatch Programme (SDP)

Q1: What is going on with SDP-1, we've had this same frame now for what - a year? All we've heard has been from the RAs that the implementation planned was not what was in the Mod, where is this going, when will we know anything more than we do now? The concern is that the same box has been here for a year without clarity, in a mod meeting a rep for RAs said that problem is that intended implementation was not coherent with mod, industry has been kept in the dark, is it possible for participants to attend meetings with RAs and SEMO?

A1: We acknowledge the question and concern. To provide some context, we received a request from the RAs to carry out modelling on the introduction of NPDR. This is intended to facilitate a RA decision on both the TSC modification (Mod_13_23) and the TSO Definitions (SEM-24-044).

At a recent modifications meeting, an update was provided to say that this modelling is to inform the decision on SEM-24-044, rather than Mod_13_23 which is not expected to change. We will engage with the RAs to consider appropriate opportunities for industry involvement.

Q2: Will there be market participant attendance at these meetings? Could the NPDR modelling and analysis in relation to SDP-01 be published to allow it to be reviewed by industry? Industry would appreciate having input into the modelling assumptions and nature of analysis before any decisions are made by the RAs.

A2: We acknowledge the feedback from market participants regarding SDP-01 (NPDR) and will engage with the RAs to consider appropriate opportunities for industry involvement.

We intend to publish a version of the NPDR modelling outcomes and analysis to support transparency.

Q3: Is there any indication as to when the regulatory decision on Mod_13_23 will be made?

A3: The RAs are awaiting the outcomes of the ongoing NPDR modelling and analysis, which will inform the decision on Mod_13_23

Q4: Is there any idea of what kind of additional delay we could expect to the NPDR go-live should the EU find in favour of the complainants on the interpretation of Regulation (EU) 2019/943?

Q4: The timeline for SDP-01 (NPDR) will depend on a range of factors, including overall programme delivery and release schedules, regulatory decisions on Mod_13_23 and SEM-24-044, and the outcome of related legal and regulatory processes.

Subject to these dependencies, a further planning phase will be required to confirm timelines and coordinate final design, testing, and pre-go-live activities. Once this is complete, a minimum of six months will be required to deliver SDP-01.

3 EirGrid Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)

Q1: When will the second consultation be out?

A1: If this is regarding the contractual arrangements, it will be out by the end of the year.

Q2: When will we get a decision on the first consultation?

A2: We are working on recommendations paper and finalising our recommendations and assessments - which is complex given the interaction with multiple market streams. We will be working towards internal sign off over the coming weeks to allow submission of the paper to the CRU. It will likely be released along with the CRU decision paper.

Q3: When will we have an auction?

A3: It will not be an auction but a tender. Current expectation is 2027.

Q4: What are the interactions between the LDES procurement workstream and the analysis being undertaken by Eirgrid to support the CRU's development of the Flexibility Needs Assessment?

A4: The Flexibility Needs Assessment (FNA) is an EU mandatory process, that aims to support the identification of future flexibility requirements, the work on this initial assessment is nearing completion by both EirGrid and SONI for submission to their respective regulators.

The current LDES workstream is a separate process and is supported by the Irish Government's ESPF, Action 6 in particular which calls for the immediate procurement of LDES capability. In future iterations of the FNA there may be an identification of future long duration flexibility requirements.

Q5: Is there not an interaction between the workstreams?

A5: Yes, that is a valid point. This initial procurement and development of the preparatory arrangements started before the FNA requirements and assessment developments. There will be a greater interaction between the outcomes of the FNA and the identification of any future LDES requirements.

Q6: Can industry see the highlights of the latest proposal? Have industry's replies to the consultation been taken on?

A6: This will all be available in the recommendations paper, which will be published in due course. Industry's replies have been taken into consideration.

Q7: Did I hear that the second LDES consultation is due to be "out" by end of this year? Prior to this I understood it was expected to stay on track and conclude by end of year?

A7: We are currently finalising our paper on the Recommendations for the LDES Procurement Approach based on the industry consultation run in late 2025. Once this is complete, we will be working to finalise our contractual consultation, which will need to be informed by the CRU decision on our Recommended Procurement Approach. We aim to publish this consultation after summer 2026. Once we have a clear timeline on the CRU decision on the Recommended Approach, we will be able to issue a clearer timeline in due course.

4 Energy Market Policy (EMP)

Q1: What sort of timescale might we see a decision on the return of the British Electricity Trading and Transmission Arrangements (BETTA) markets to EUPHEMIA and when might that be enacted?

A1: The return of BETTA markets to EUPHEMIA will depend on the outcome of an EU - UK Electricity Agreement, noting that the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on March 30th, 2026.

Q2: Is Remit 2.0 fully applicable to Northern Ireland? Will CRU and UR coordinate on guidance to Remit 2.0?

A2: Yes, it applies to Northern Ireland along with the rest of SEM.

Q3: You mentioned the Cross-Border Participation consultation, is there any update on the decarbonisation decision?

A6: The outcomes from the decarbonisation decision will feed into the SEMC's CRM Development Programme, the next stage of which is intended to open for consultation in July 2026. We would therefore expect to see a decision on decarbonisation prior to July 2026.

Q4: Does the Post Brexit engagement forestall any development of forward trading in the SEM GB ICs?

A4: Forward trading will depend on the outcome of an EU - UK Electricity Agreement, noting that the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on March 30th, 2026. Please refer to the SEM Committee Decision Paper 23-012 on Cross Border Trading¹ for the supporting legislation.

Q5: What is the Auction timing decision timing?

A5: The SEMC decision on auction timing decision was published on 21 May 2026 and can be found here: [Options for the timings of upcoming CRM auctions Decision Paper \(SEM-26-024\) | The Single Electricity Market Committee.](#)

Q6: When will there be a decision on the 3 Capacity market consultations from earlier this year?

A6: See answers above. The auction timing decision was published on 21 May. We are expecting a decision on cross-border participation and decarbonisation prior to the next stage of the SEMC's CRM Development Programme, which is intended to open for consultation in July 2026.

¹ [SEM - GB Decision Paper on Cross Border Trading](#)

5 Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

Q1: In terms of go live of commercial operation of Celtic which looks like the bigger problem right now: construction delay or Core Hub issues?

A1: There are some aspects of SMP which are linked to the delivery of the cable, but the Core Hub design is a separate issue.

Q2: Which is a bigger problem?

A2: They are both on critical path for the programme.

Q3: What are the impacts of the delay to Celtic on the planned changes to schedule of intraday auctions? Will the timeline for this aspect of implementation also be replanned?

A3: That is something we will finalise in the replan. We will have to relook at timelines with the delay. It is likely that the timelines for the SIDC go live are affected. We will have a more certain answer over the coming months.

Q4: There was talk of MNA focused testing being planned for market participants in Q4 this year. Is this no longer planned and given the rebaselining, is it likely that no market participants testing will take place this year on SMP workstreams?

A4: The MNA work is not directly linked to delay of the cable or the Core Hub issue. MNA timelines are likely to be unaffected. We will aim to get that information to industry as soon as possible on this question.

6 Technical Liaison Group (TLG)

Q1: Does TLG discuss largely IT issues, or will it get into technical detail of system services delivery as well?

A1: Yes, IT topics are the sole focus of the group. It will not cover programme timelines or updates like the Future Market Industry Workshop. The audience for the TLG is an IT audience.

Q2: Will the testing of system services be discussed?

A2: Qualification related queries will be dealt with separately.