

All interested parties, stakeholders in Northern Ireland and beyond
and other regulatory bodies

29 June 2017

Our Ref: WM018-11-356

Dear All

Approval of the proposal for Day-Ahead Firmness Deadline

On 14 December 2016, the Utility Regulator received an all TSOs' proposal for the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline (DAFD), submitted by the Northern Ireland TSO, SONI Limited, in line with Article 69 of the Guideline of Capacity Allocation and Congestion Management (the CACM Regulation)¹.

This letter sets out the Utility Regulator's decision to approve the DAFD proposal, pursuant to Article 9(6) and Article 9(10) of the CACM Regulation.

Background

The DAFD submission proposes the point in time after which cross-zonal capacity becomes firm. The proposal foresees a DAFD of one hour before day ahead market gate closure time.

The implementation timeline of the DAFD proposal foresees an immediate implementation of the DAFD on a bidding zone border when the capacity calculation methodology and the day-ahead market coupling operator function have been implemented.

The DAFD proposal was consulted on in line with Article 69 and Article 12 of the CACM Regulation.

¹ [COMMISSION REGULATION \(EU\) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management](#)

The proposal includes proposed timescales for its implementation and a description of its expected impact on the objectives of the CACM Regulation, in line with CACM Article 9(9).

All Regulatory Authorities consider the DAFD of 60 minutes prior to the day ahead market gate closure time as sufficient for market participants to adapt their bidding behaviour to the information on available capacity. All Regulatory Authorities are of the opinion that the proposed implementation timeline is in line with the provision of CACM Article 9(9).

Decision

The Utility Regulator has reviewed the proposal in line with the requirements of the CACM Regulation, the wider objectives of Regulation (EC) 714/2009², and the Utility Regulator's principal objectives and duties.

The Utility Regulator has closely cooperated and coordinated with all Regulatory Authorities to reach an agreement on the all TSOs' proposal for DAFD submitted in accordance with Article 69 of the CACM Regulation.

The all Regulatory Authorities' agreement, reach on 15 May 2017, is attached as an Annex to this decision, and constitutes the reasons for the Utility Regulator's decision. In line with this agreement, the Utility Regulator hereby approves the proposal for the day-ahead firmness deadline submitted by SONI Limited.


Next Steps

In accordance with this decision, the DAFD proposal will take effect following approval by all Regulatory Authorities. As such, SONI Limited must publish the proposal on the internet in line with Article 9(14) of the CACM Regulation.

² [REGULATION \(EC\) No 714/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 13 July 2009 on conditions for access to the network for cross-border exchanges in electricity and repealing Regulation \(EC\) No 1228/2003](#)

If you have any queries regarding the information contained within this letter or the all Regulatory Authorities Agreement, please contact jeanpierre.miura@uregni.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully



Jo Aston

Director of Wholesale Markets