

# Operational Transparency Forum

## Meeting name

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**Date:** 14/07/2021      **Location:** Teams Virtual Meeting  
**Start:** 11:00      **End:** 12:00

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## Questions & Answers

We hope those of you who attended the Operational Transparency Forum on 14/07/21 found the content useful. As a result of providing the requested inertia deep dive content in detail we were unable to get to many questions. We intend to start next week's forum on 21/07/21 by answering all these questions first ahead of the usual content, but this summary seeks to provide some answers ahead of this meeting. This is not a comprehensive list of all questions posed, but these have been captured and will be answered next week.

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### Inertia Questions:

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**Q:** What is the consumption to keep the plants activated through the stability pathfinder online and ready for inertia drops?

The consumption depends on the individual unit. This was a tendered value during stability pathfinder phase one and the values are published in the tender results table. The values are between 0.5 and 7 MW.

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**Q:** Can you publish how much inertia each machine / BMU contributes with?

This information is provided by generators to us by the requirements of the Grid Code. As such, it is not our data to share and we are unable to publish.

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**Q:** Can you publish inertia estimates live?

No as we need access to the operational view of generator output, what MELs are (to deduce configuration) and what Bids/Offer and trades were enacted. The database that updates this is updated once a day just after midnight. The real-time systems that manage the system are cordoned off from the analysis teams to ensure they are not at risk of data request overload – so the data is in our system, but we have to wait for it to be safely transferred into the data warehouse.

When we have the new measurement tools in use we will be able to publish the measurement data however again the time taken to publish these will depend on the access the analysis team has to this data and is not initially likely to be live.

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**Q:** Inertia deep dive: Given DC & Stability Pathfinders do not provide a signal to existing inertia providers, is there a 3rd way of managing inertia decline by ensuring existing inertia providers have the opportunity to compete / be rewarded for inertia thereby signalling them to remain on the system?

This is a question which will be considered as part of the [Stability Market Design](#) Innovation Project which will be investigating enduring approaches for procuring services to fulfil our stability needs. This project will be taking part throughout the second half of this year and we will be engaging with the industry during the project to get input on the approaches to be considered.

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**Q:** Will you be publishing the inertia data generated via these new tools as well, and which inertia value will drive your procurement and balancing actions?

Yes we will be publishing the inertia measurement data once we build confidence in their results. The work to incorporate these new tools into our existing processes will identify how we decide which determine the actions we will take.

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#### Other Questions

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**Q:** Sometimes interconnectors are traded down by NG (e.g. currently IFA2 traded down 300MW), but there does not appear to be a reason on data portal. Is there a reason for this trade, and why is the reason not given on the data portal?

Interconnectors are traded down for a number of reasons – to manage RoCoF, for constraint reasons, for downward regulation and occasionally for voltage control.

If we have understood the question correctly, the trades referred to on IFA2 are being undertaken to manage a constraint in the south of England (MACHEX constraint). We haven't had to manage this constraint through trading previously and did not have the option to include this constraint name. It was updated yesterday and will be applied to these trades going forward.

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**Q:** Oliwja noted that you lack real-time data for distributed generation. What are doing to get real-time data for all significant DG in order that your forecasts of actual demand and assessments of system stability can be improved?

This is something that is a high priority for us. We've been working on it and faced some GDPR issues. However, we are planning to have a consultation in autumn for what we forecast and what data we need to have rights to access in order to do this.

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