

Accuracy of System Management Action Flagging

May 2020 – April 2021

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Introduction

This report reviews the accuracy of the P217A flagging mechanism for the period 1st May 2020 – 30th April 2021, in accordance with the System Management Action Flagging (SMAF) methodology.

The purpose of P217A flagging is to remove actions that are taken by National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) for system management issues from the cash out calculations of imbalance prices.

Examples of system management issues mainly faced by NGESO are:

- Transmission Constraint
- Voltage Support
- Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF)

Out of merit actions using options in the Balancing Mechanism (BM) are often used to help NGESO resolve system management issues. These actions do not constitute balancing actions taken by NGESO to manage the imbalance of demand and supply in real time, hence system actions are tagged and removed from cash out calculations.

The P217A flagging mechanism came into operation on 5th November 2009. From 5th November 2015 the scope of system management issues that were subjected to P217A flagging was broadened to include:

- Balancing actions used by National Grid primarily to manage the Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF), or to manage Fault Levels
- Automatic Low Frequency Demand Disconnection relay demand control action

To assess the accuracy of flagging, a statistical overview of Data Inquiry Reports (DIRs) produced during May 2020 to April 2021 is provided. A DIR is raised by the Control Room, or by post event analysis, or by market participants, when they are aware that the flagging of BOAs (Bid Offer Acceptances) for system (or energy) issues may have been incorrectly set. The DIRs are then investigated by the Post Event Performance Review Team.

If analysis concludes that flag changes are required, the Balancing and Settlement Code Company (BSCCo) are notified via BSCP18 process and the requisite changes are processed ahead of a settlement run.

From June 2014, any flags associated with actions in the Balancing Mechanism can be retrospectively updated in settlements systems. This is carried out for actions on which DIRs have been raised or where an error has been identified.

Highlights

During the reporting period, a total of 625,690 BOAs were accepted, where 201,203 BOAs were given P217A flags, representing 32.16% of the total accepted BOAs.

A table containing a monthly breakdown of total accepted BOAs, total BOAs P217A flagged and the percentage of BOAs flagged is shown below in Table 1.

Month & Year	Total Number of BOAs Accepted	Total Number of BOAs P217A Flagged	% BOAs Flagged to P217A
May-2020	52886	20200	38.20%
Jun-2020	57930	19786	34.16%
Jul-2020	52059	16939	32.54%
Aug-2020	46451	10725	23.09%
Sep-2020	57777	14636	25.33%
Oct-2020	54408	20251	37.22%
Nov-2020	65729	31788	48.36%
Dec-2020	53511	17905	33.46%
Jan-2021	40694	5435	13.36%
Feb-2021	53789	21885	40.69%
Mar-2021	49872	15571	31.22%
Apr-2021	40584	6082	14.99%
Total:	625690	201203	32.16%

Table 1: Monthly breakdown of total accepted BOAs

There were 36 DIRs raised in the reporting period, which led to a total of 1062 BOAs being subjected to the BSCP18 process.

The majority of system flag amendments were for BOAs that should've been system flagged, but went through as energy. There were 15 DIRs raised for BOAs that should've been energy flagged, but went through as system, which involved a total of 189 BOAs.

Overall, 0.5% of the P217A BOAs flagged in the reporting period were the subject of a DIR process, giving a potential P217A flagging accuracy of 99.5%. Table 2 shows the historic P217A flagging accuracy for the previous five reporting years.

Reporting Year	Flagging Accuracy
2015/2016	99.91%
2016/2017	99.92%
2017/2018	99.30%
2018/2019	99.60%
2019/2020	99.80%

Table 2: Flagging accuracy for previous reporting years

This report is under continuous review and development, if you have any comments or suggestions of information you would like to see in the future reports, please send an Email to:

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