

Accuracy of System Management Action Flagging

May 2023 – April 2024

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Introduction

This report reviews the accuracy of the P217A flagging mechanism for the period 1st May 2023 – 30th April 2024, in accordance with the System Management Action Flagging (SMAF) methodology.

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

Examples of system management issues mainly faced by ESO 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 ESO resolve system management issues. These actions do not constitute balancing actions taken by ESO to manage the imbalance of demand and supply in real time, hence system actions are flagged and removed from cash out calculations.

The P217A flagging mechanism was introduced 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 ESO 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 2023 to April 2024 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 Operational Insight Team.

If analysis concludes that flag changes are required, the Balancing and Settlement Code Company (BSCCo) are notified via the 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 804,190 BOAs were accepted, where 235,005 BOAs were system flagged, representing 29.22% 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-2023	41648	7682	18.45%
Jun-2023	38684	3782	9.78%
Jul-2023	59285	18717	31.57%
Aug-2023	56088	15956	28.45%
Sep-2023	64007	25101	39.22%
Oct-2023	75336	31066	41.24%
Nov-2023	56875	16924	29.76%
Dec-2023	65628	21786	33.20%
Jan-2024	75075	20998	27.97%
Feb-2024	91892	23693	25.78%
Mar-2024	87737	22255	25.37%
Apr-2024	91935	27045	29.42%
Total:	804190	235005	29.22%

Table 1: Monthly breakdown of total accepted BOAs

There were 103 DIRs raised in the reporting period, which led to a total of 261 BOAs being subjected to the BSCP18 process.

Most system flag amendments were for BOAs that should have been system flagged but went through as energy. There were 42 DIRs raised for BOAs that should have been energy flagged but went through as system, which involved a total of 116 BOAs.

Overall, 0.11% of the P217A BOAs flagged in the reporting period were the subject of a DIR process, giving a potential P217A flagging accuracy of 99.89%. Table 2 shows the historic P217A flagging accuracy for the previous five reporting years.

Reporting Year	Flagging Accuracy
2018/2019	99.60%
2019/2020	99.80%
2020/2021	99.50%
2021/2022	99.88%
2022/2023	99.88%

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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