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NESO Operational Transparency Forum

26 March 2025

NESO
National Energy System Operator

Introduction | Sli.do code #OTF

Slido code #OTF

To ask questions live & give us post event feedback go to Sli.do event code #OTF

- **Ask your questions as early as possible** as our experts may need time to ensure a correct answer can be given live.
- **Please provide your name or organisation**. This is an operational forum for industry participants therefore questions from unidentified parties will not be answered live. If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, please use the advance question or email options below.
- **The OTF is not the place to challenge the actions of individual parties** (other than the NESO), and we will not comment on these challenges. This type of concern can be reported to the Market Monitoring team at: marketreporting@nationalenergyso.com
- **Questions will be answered in the upvoted order whenever possible**. We will take questions from further down the list when: the answer is not ready; we need to take the question away or the topic is outside of the scope of the OTF.
- **Sli.do will remain open until 12:00**, even when the call closes earlier, to provide the maximum opportunity for you to ask questions. After that please use the advance questions or email options below.
- **All questions will be recorded and published.** Questions which are not answered on the day will be included, with answers, in the slide pack for the next OTF.
- **Ask questions in advance** (before 12:00 on Monday) at: https://forms.office.com/r/k0AEfKnai3
- **Ask questions anytime** whether for inclusion in the forum or individual response at: box.nc.customer@nationalenergyso.com

Stay up to date on our webpage: https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum (OTF Q&A is published with slide packs)

Note: to access previous OTF webinars from Slido click on the three lines to the left of forum title

NESO National Energy System Operator

Future deep dive / focus topics

Slido code #OTF

Today's Focus Topics/deep dives

February Balancing Costs

Future

Overview of NESO System Access Planning process – 2 April

NESO Market Monitoring activities – 9 April (moved from 19 March)

March Balancing Costs – 16 April

There will be no OTF on 23 April (week after Easter)

If you have questions/suggestions of areas to cover during above presentations or ideas for deep dives or focus topics you would like us to consider, please send them to us at: box.nc.customer@nationalenergyso.com

NESO National Energy System Operator

North Hyde Substation Fire

Slido code #OTF

GOV.UK

Home > Transport > Aviation

Press release

NESO to investigate Heathrow power loss

The Energy Secretary has commissioned the independent National Energy System Operator to investigate the power outage that affected Heathrow Airport

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/neso-to-investigate-heathrow-power-loss

"NESO welcomes the government's commission to review the power outage incident impacting Heathrow and surrounding areas.

We will now work with all relevant stakeholders to understand the lessons that can be learned to improve future resilience of Great Britain's energy system."

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Future Event Summary

Slido code #OTF

Event	Date & Time	Link
Quick Reserve Phase 2 – IT integration drop-in sessions covering OBP, Settlement and Operational Metering	Weekly until 10 April (10:30 – 11:30)	Register here
Response Reform Webinar	26th March (15:00-16:00)	Register here
FRCR 2025 Consultation – response deadline	31st March (17:00)	Documents Response Form
NESO Customer & Stakeholder Feedback Survey	**Closes: 31 March 2025**	Provided via email when invited
Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP) technical webinar	3rd April (11:00-12:30)	Register here
Long-term 2029 tender – consultation and expression of interest	Consultation feedback deadline: 17th April Expression of interest deadline: 28th April	Further details
GB Pricing Methodology Consultation	Closes: 4th April 2025	Consultation Documents Responses to: box.eft@nationalenergyso.com
Joint C9 and Dynamic Response A18 Consultation	7th April 2025	Provide your response here
Skip Rate methodology and dataset drop-in	15th April (16:00-16:45)	Register here

Check out the NESO Events Calendar for more...

NESO Customer & Stakeholder Feedback Survey

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This is a sample survey across NESO customers and stakeholders conducted during March. If you have been contacted, please do participate as we really value your feedback.

- Email address: surveys@bmgresearch.co.uk
- Phone number: 01213893024
- Scores:
  - Detractor: scores of 1-6 – what did we do wrong?
  - Passive: scores of 7 or 8 – what do we need to do better?
  - Promoter: scores of 9 or 10 – what do we need to keep doing?

Closing date: 31 March 2025

Frequency Risk and Control Report (FRCR) 2025 Consultation: 3rd – 31st March 2025

Slido code #OTF

- In line with SQSS requirement, NESO is obliged to produce an annual FRCR report and consult with industry on the assessment and policy recommendation presented in the report on how we manage frequency risks.
- **We will be consulting on the 2025 version of FRCR between the 3rd and 31st March 2025.** The associated documents is published on FRCR webpage.
- NESO is proving **integrated technical assurance** whereby Accenture, with whom NESO has an Engineering Services Framework, is performing an independent review. The phase 1 report is now available on FRCR webpage.
- We held a webinar on **Wednesday 19th March 13:00-14:00**. You can find the recording and slides on FRCR webpage.
- To further facilitate your understanding of FRCR 2025 modelling approach and data used, please refer to the recordings of
  - FRCR 2025 Technical Webinar 1 Framework and Methodology
  - FRCR 2025 Technical Webinar 2 Model and Data

Please send your response proforma to box.FRCR@nationalenergyso.com or complete the online Response Form by 5pm on Monday 31st March 2025

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Future of Reactive Power

Approval of the Mid-Term Reactive Power Market

NESO has approved the implementation of a Mid-Term Reactive Power Market.

More information on the proposed design can be found on our Mid-Term (Y-1) webpage.

As we continue to progress through implementation, progress updates will be shared via:

- Our Mid-term market (Y-1) webpage
- NESO's Energise Newsletter
- Operational Transparency Forums

Mid-term market (Y-1) webpage

NESO's Energise Newsletter

If you have any questions, contact us at box.voltage@nationalenergyso.com

GB Pricing Methodology Consultation 21st March – 4th April 2025

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- Article 6(4) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 obliges TSOs to settle balancing energy (utilisation) on a Pay as Cleared (PAC) basis for standard and specific balancing products. Most balancing products in GB use a Pay as Bid (PAB) settlement for balancing energy as an Alternative Payment Mechanism.

- In 2022, Ofgem approved a pricing proposal methodology for the settlement of balancing energy (utilisation) in GB.

- The methodology is currently being reviewed as part of the requirement to review every 3 years by NESO. As part of the review, NESO is running a consultation for industry feedback on the methodology.

Access the Consultation documents HERE

Please send your response proforma to: box.eft@nationalenergyso.com by 5PM on Friday the 4th of April 2025

The Consultation is now open, and we are seeking your views.

Consultation Closes: 4th April at 5PM

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Webinar: Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP) technical webinar

Slido code #OTF

We are hosting an SSEP technical webinar on **3 April 11:00-12:30.**

Event details

The webinar will provide an in-depth overview of the economic modelling process and geospatial evaluation for the SSEP.

The economic model plays a crucial role in simulating and analysing the operation and evolution of the energy system under various inputs and scenarios. Geospatial data will help to determine areas where generation and storage infrastructure development may be possible.

Audience

The webinar is open to all interested parties. Please be aware that the content will cover technical detail and will assume prior knowledge of the SSEP modelling approach.

Background

In December 2024, we consulted on three strategic energy planning methodologies, including the draft SSEP methodology. To support this consultation, we held a webinar detailing our proposed approaches. The webinar recording and FAQs can be found here. You may find this helpful ahead of the SSEP technical webinar.

Register here

Date: 3 April

Time: 11:00-12:30

Contact: box.sep-engagement@nationalenergyso.com

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Long-term 2029 Expression of Interest Stage Now Open

If you have any questions, please email box.voltage@nationalenergyso.com or box.stability@nationalenergyso.com

- NESO are pleased to announce the launch of the **Long-term 2029** tender
- A simultaneous tender process seeking reactive power services, stability services and restoration services across Great Britain from 2029 onwards
- This marks the first long-term (Y-4) tender being run under both the Stability Market and the Reactive Power Market
- **Market participants are invited to:**
  - **Provide consultation feedback by 17 April 2025**
  - **Express their Interest by 28 April 2025 to take part**

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Public

Monthly Balancing Cost Update

February 2025

Balancing Costs Team

Slido code #OTF

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National Energy System Operator

Monthly Cost Summary

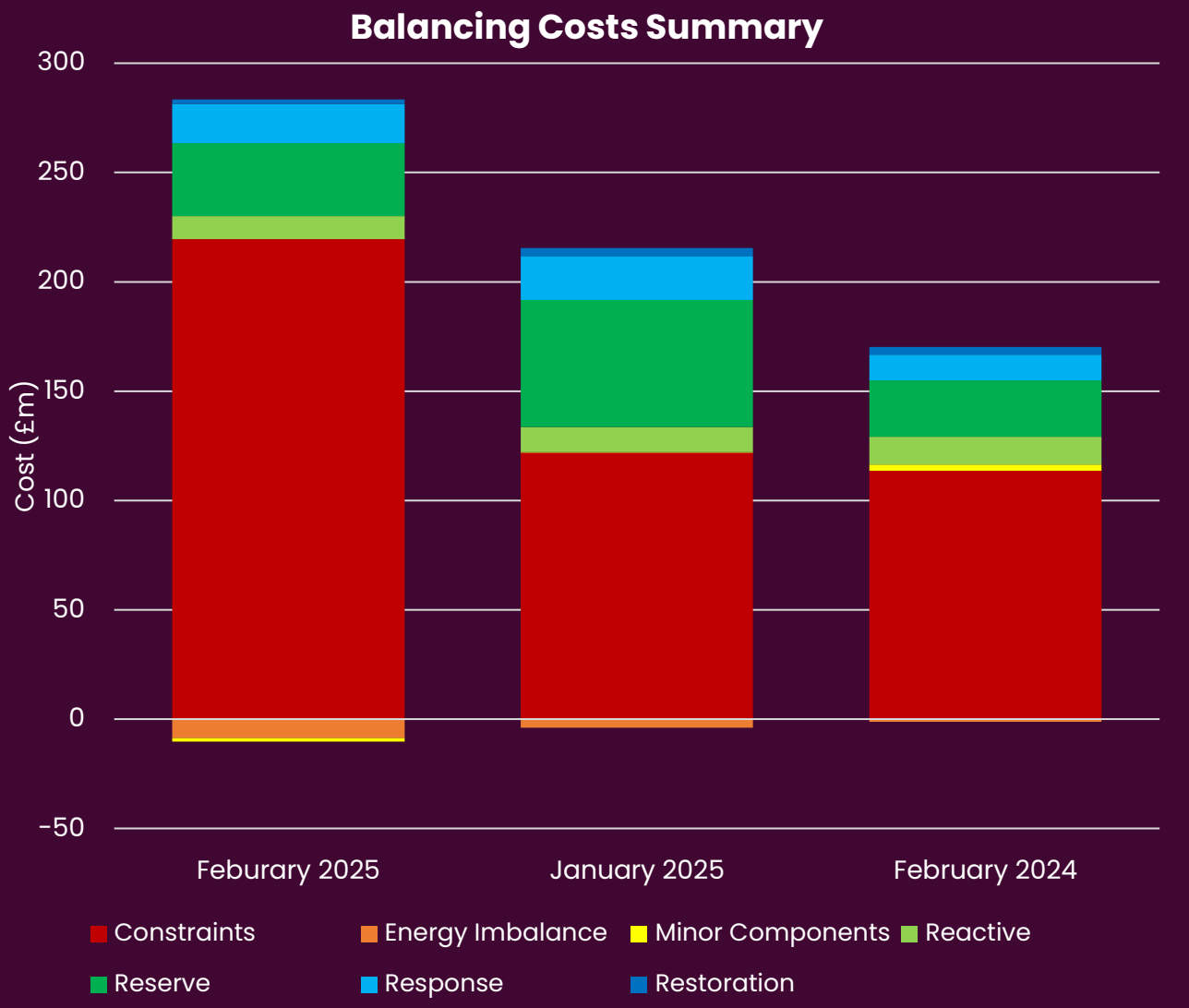
Balancing costs in February 2025 were £273m.

This is a £62m increase on last month and up £104m on last year.

During February, the majority of balancing costs were associated with thermal constraints.

The most expensive days of the month were characterised by high volumes of wind bids required to manage transfer limits in Scotland (B4, B5, B6) and Cheviot (B7). These costs, as has been common in recent months, have been exacerbated by multi-stage reinforcement works in the Scottish boundaries.

February was also characterised by particularly low spending on voltage constraints, partly linked to the commissioning of Greenlink which has allowed access to additional reactive capacity in the South-West.



System Conditions

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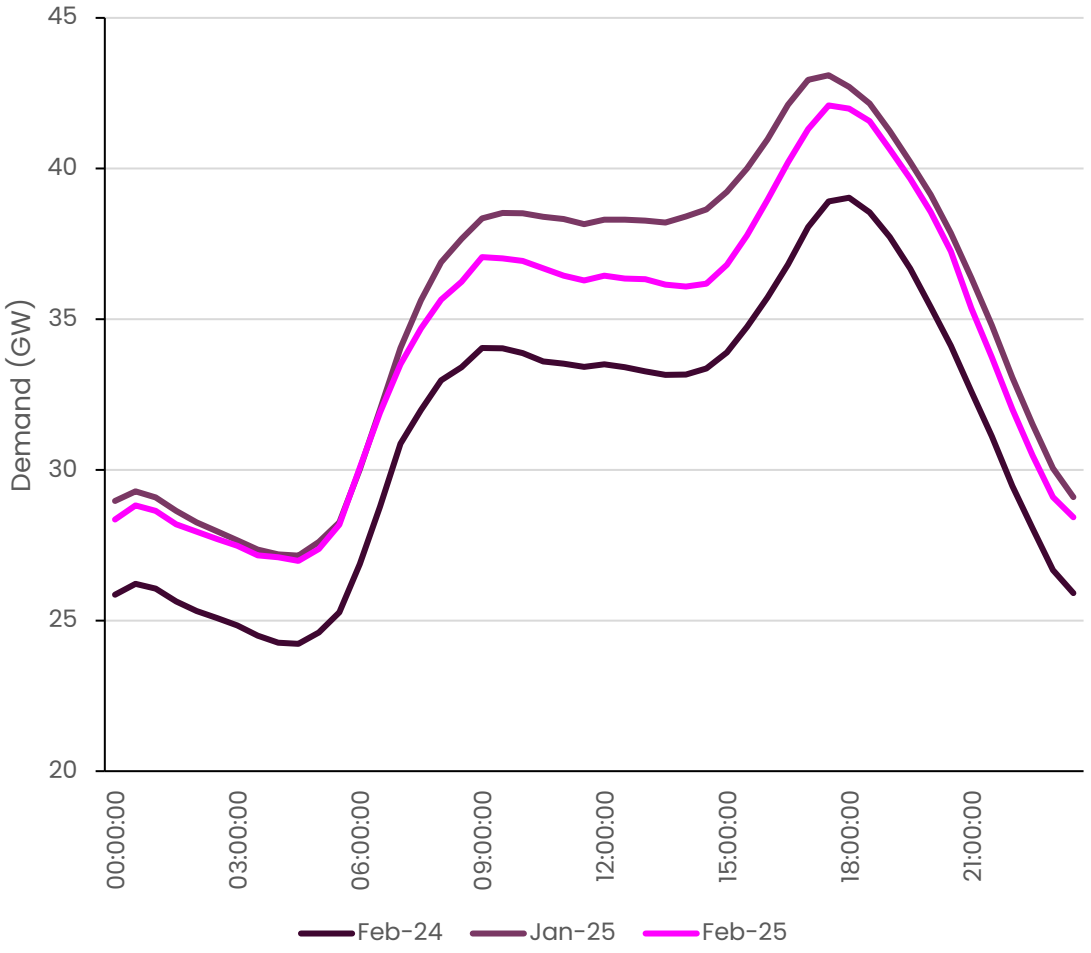
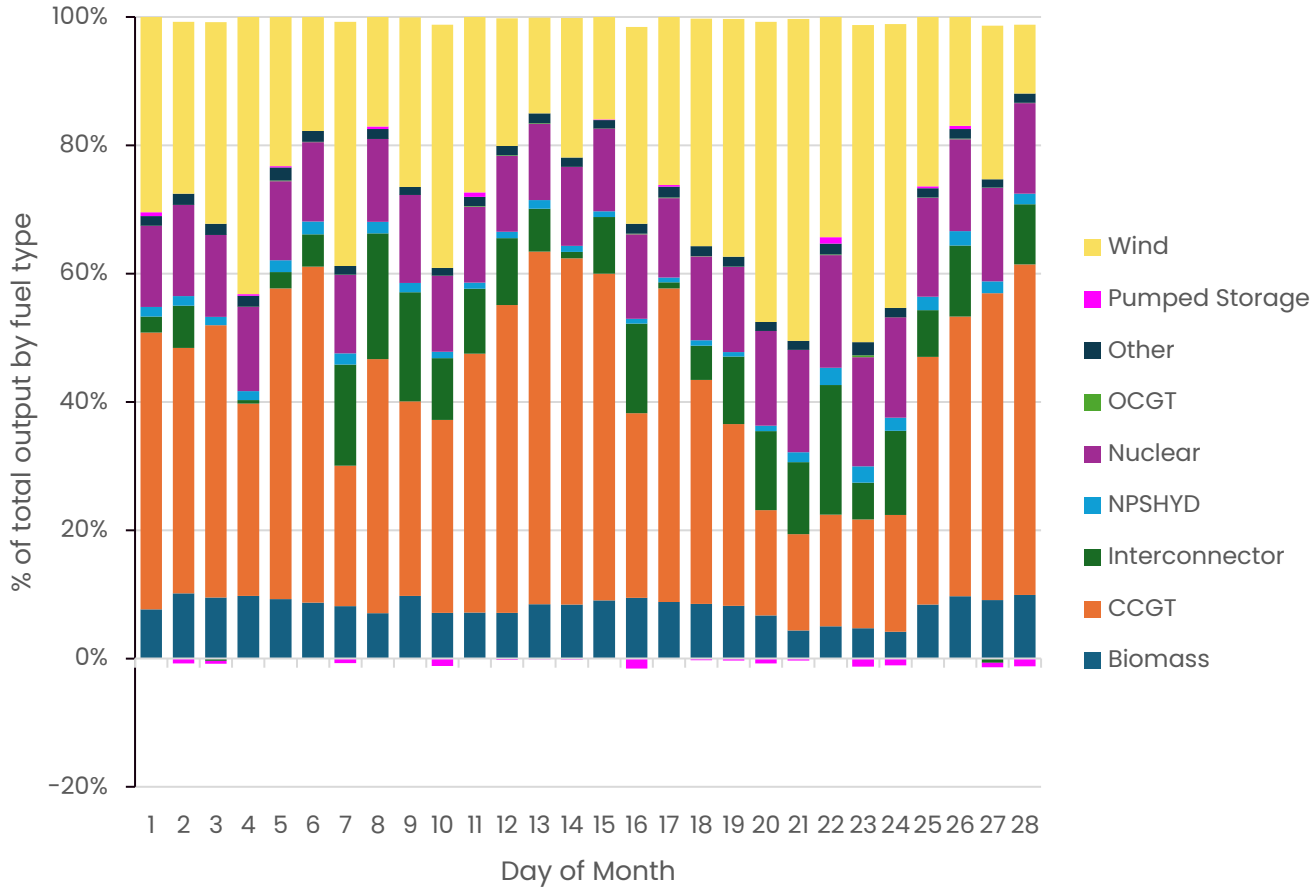
Average Transmission System Demand (MW) - February 25



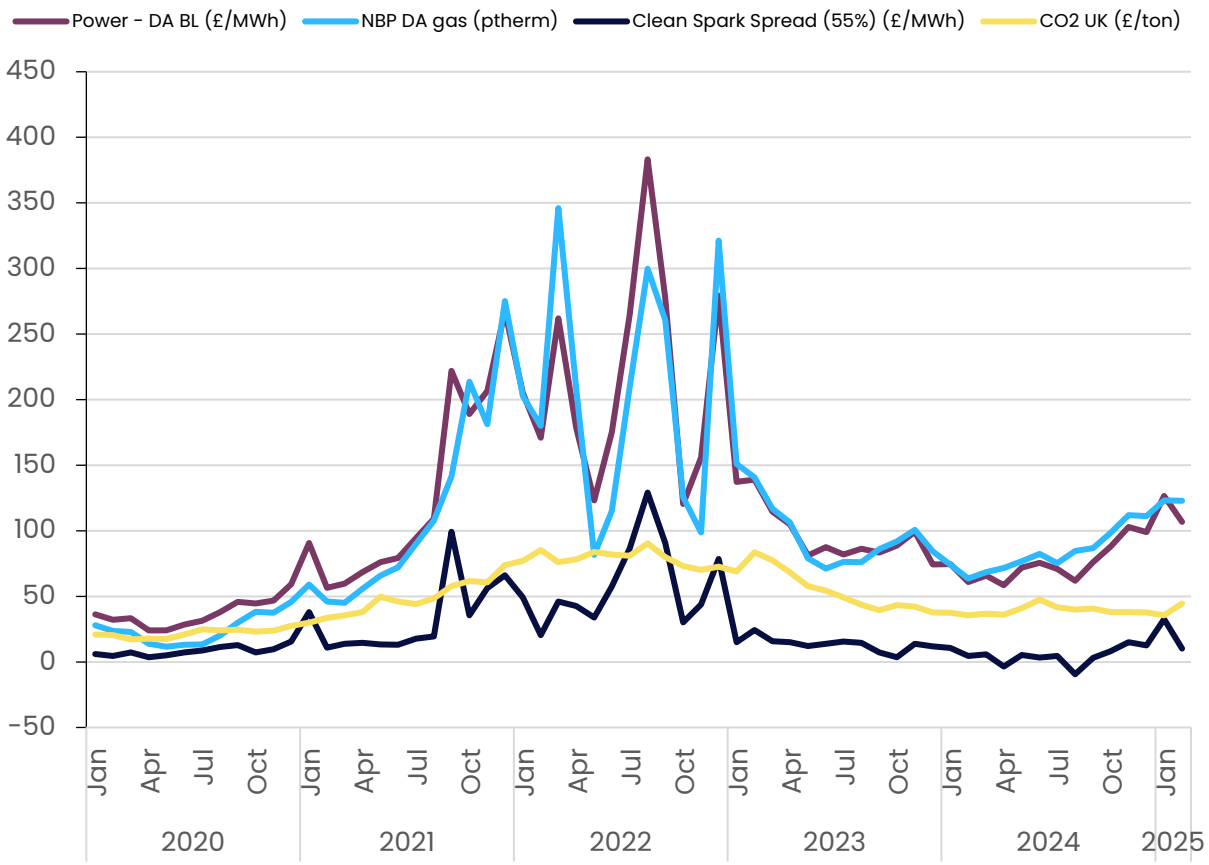
Daily Generation by Fuel Type



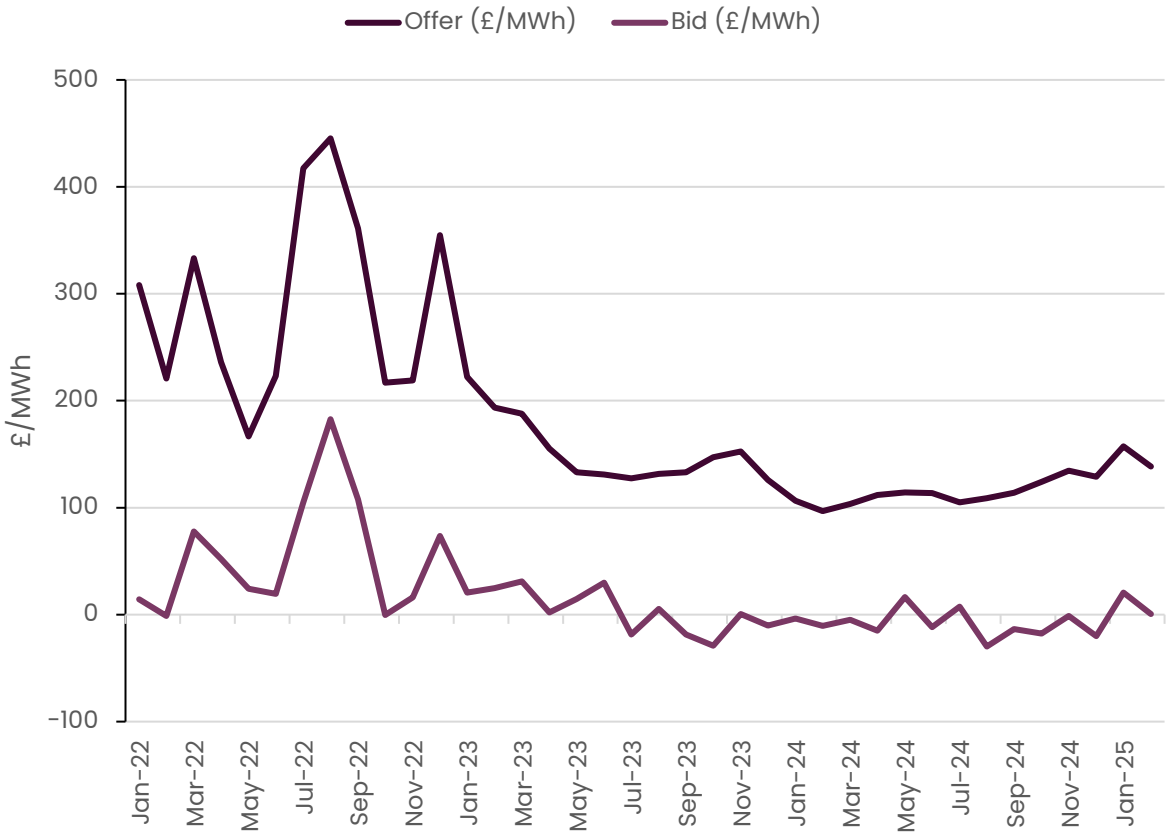
Market Conditions

	DA Power Price	VWA offer price	VWA bid price
Month-on-month change	-£20/MWh	-£19/MWh	-£20/MWh
Year-on-year change	+£46/MWh	+£41/MWh	+£11/MWh

Day Ahead market trends (2020 - 2025)



Monthly VWA bid and offer prices



VWA: Volume Weighted Average

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Daily Costs and Volumes

The high cost day was 23rd February with a total spend of £23.4m. This day was characterised by Scottish constraints, which forced the curtailment of high volumes of wind.

The daily average cost was £9.8m, up £3m on previous month.

Key trends from previous month:

	Constraint	Non-constraint
Cost	↑ 80%	↓ 40%
Volume	↑ 71%	↓ 23%

Daily average cost:

£9.8m

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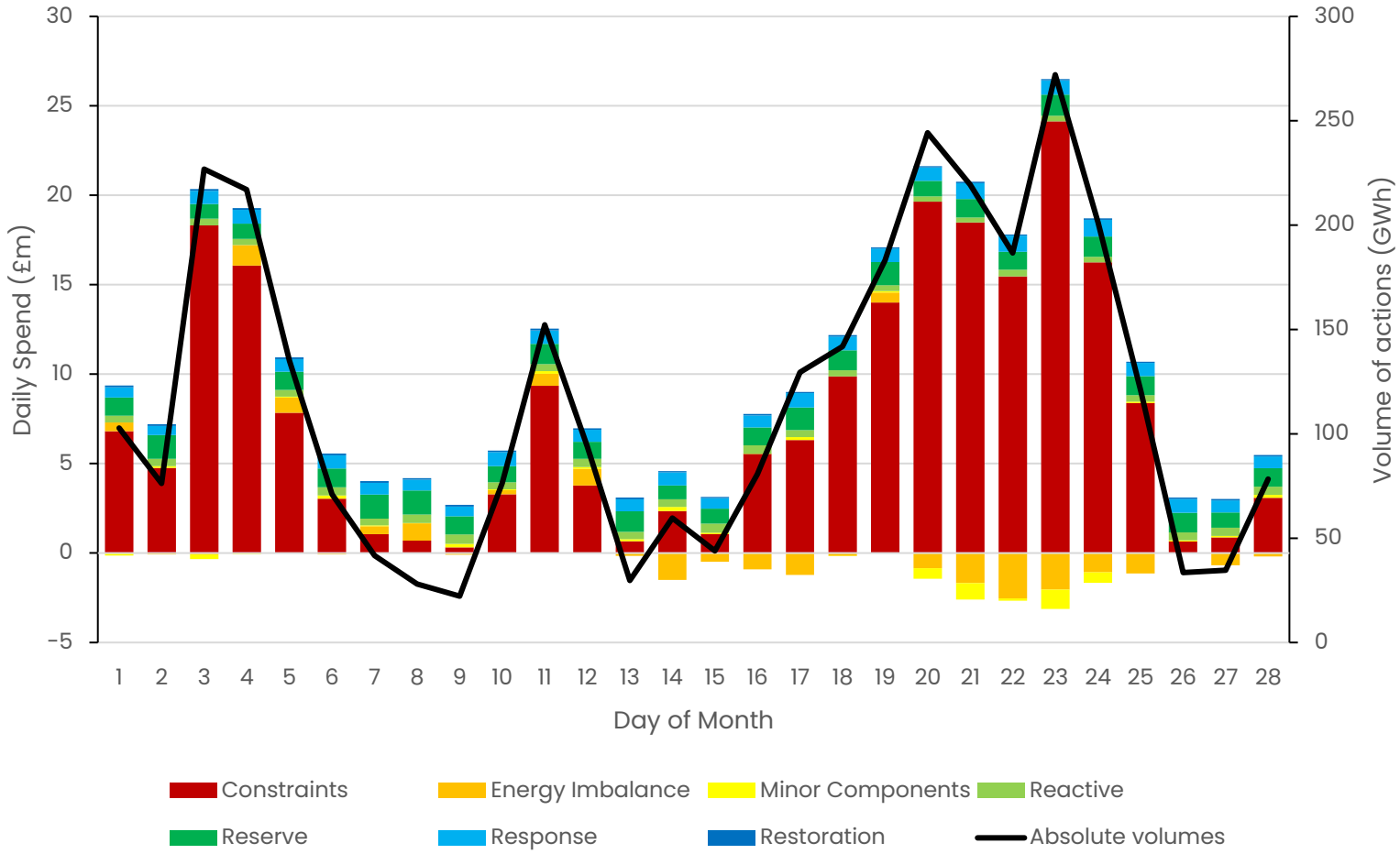
Daily cost and volume by action type



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Monthly wind curtailment %:

15%

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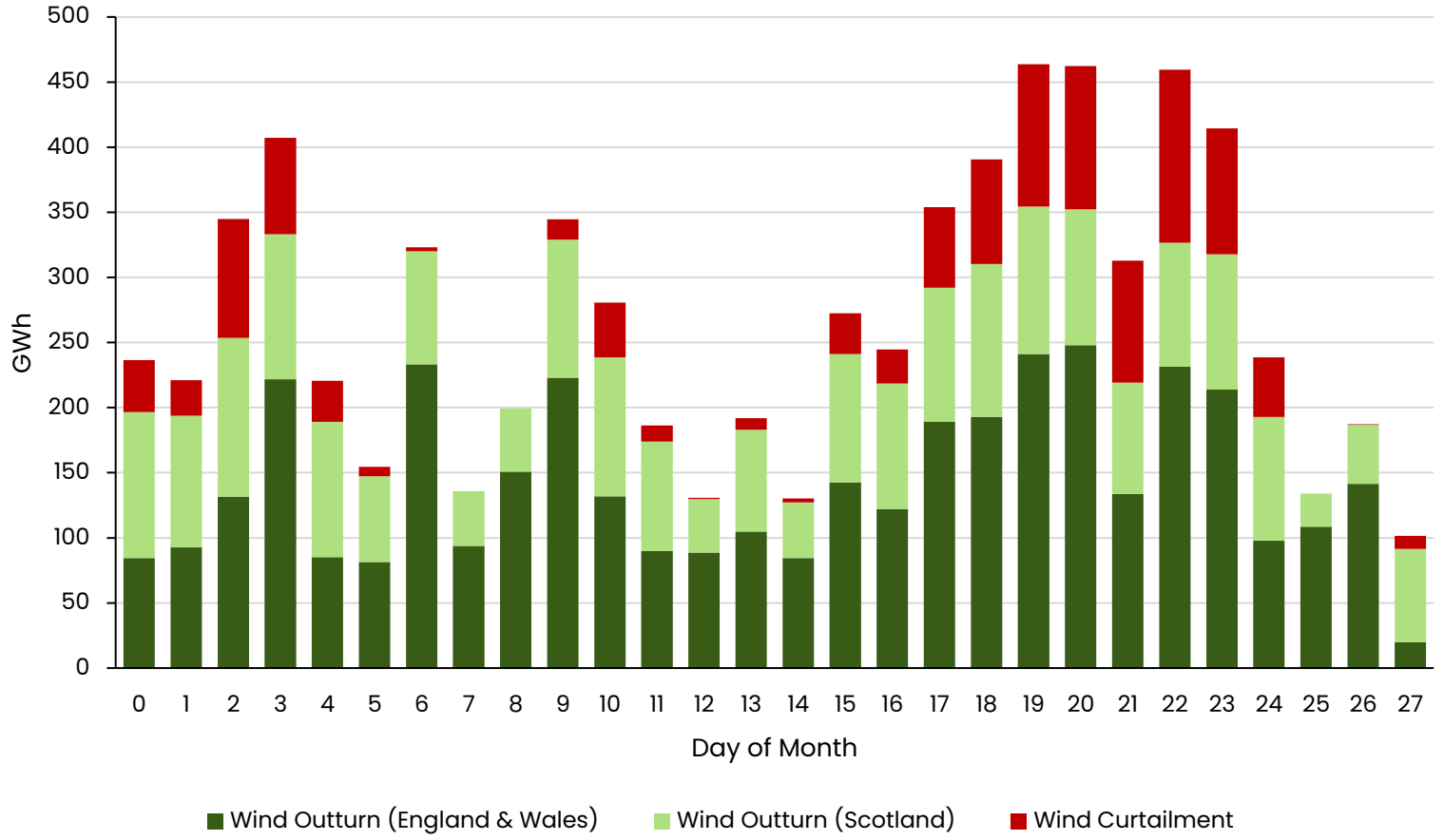
Wind Outturn

Overall wind outturn in February remained similar to the previous month, rising slightly from 6.1 TWh in January to 6.4 TWh in February.

The highest wind curtailment for the month was seen on 23 February at 133 GWh, representing 30% of the hypothetical outturn. Reflecting active constraints at the Scottish boundaries.

	Total	England & Wales	Scotland
Wind Outturn (TWh)	**6.4**	**4.0**	**2.4**



Demand | Last week demand out-turn

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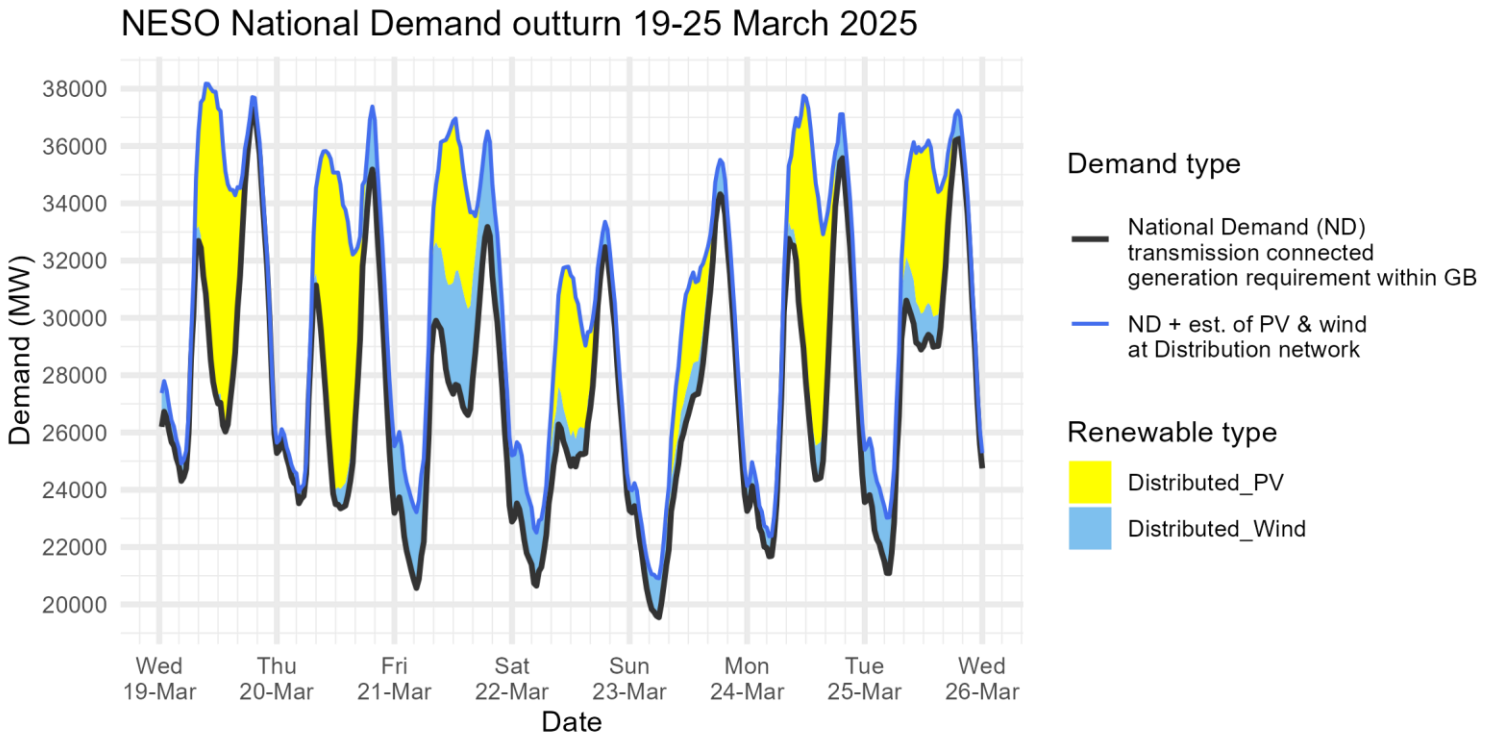


The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.

ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real time data.

Historic out-turn data can be found on the NESO Data Portal in the following data sets: Historic Demand Data & Demand Data Update

Distributed generation

Peak values by day

Date	OUTTURN	
	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
19 Mar 2025	10.3	1.2
20 Mar 2025	11.0	2.5
21 Mar 2025	5.6	4.1
22 Mar 2025	5.6	2.3
23 Mar 2025	3.4	1.4
24 Mar 2025	9.7	1.8
25 Mar 2025	5.7	2.1

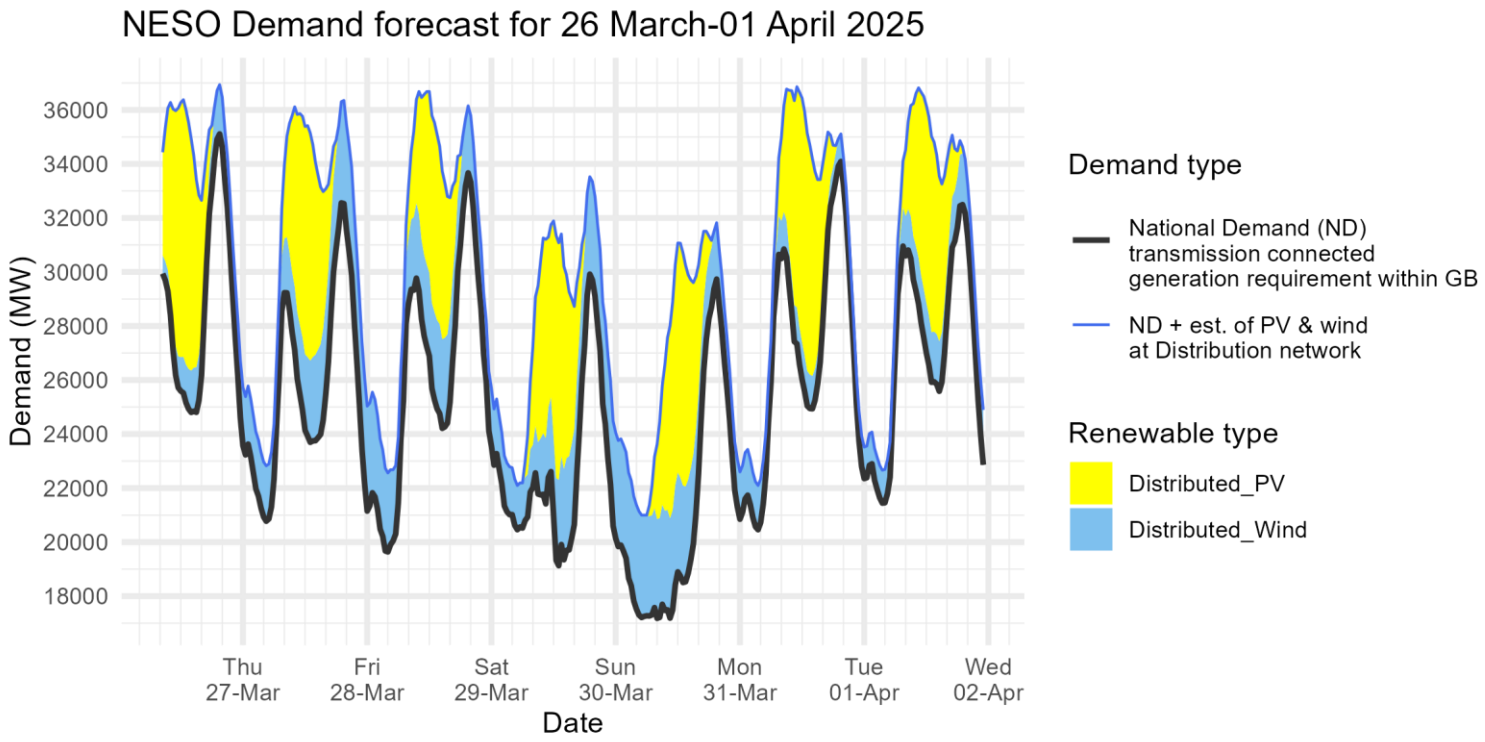
National Demand

Peaks and troughs

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 19 Mar)		OUTTURN	
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
19 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	38.6	0.4	37.3	0.4
20 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	24.2	0.4	23.5	0.4
20 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	35.2	2.1	35.2	2.2
21 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	20.3	2.8	20.6	2.6
21 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	32.9	2.7	33.2	3.3
22 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	19.5	2.3	20.6	1.9
22 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	31.7	1.4	32.5	0.9
23 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	20.0	1.3	19.5	1.4
23 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	33.7	1.3	34.3	1.2
24 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	21.4	1.2	21.7	0.7
24 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	37.0	1.1	35.6	1.5
25 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	22.5	1.1	21.1	1.9
25 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	37.5	0.9	36.3	0.8

Demand | Week Ahead

Slido code #OTF



National Demand

Peaks and troughs

		FORECAST (Wed 26 Mar)	
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
26 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	35.1	1.8
27 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	20.8	2.0
27 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	32.6	3.7
28 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	19.6	2.9
28 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	33.7	2.5
29 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	20.5	1.6
29 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	29.9	3.6
30 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	17.2	3.8
30 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	28.7	2.2
31 Mar 2025	Overnight Min	20.5	1.6
31 Mar 2025	Evening Peak	33.4	1.0
01 Apr 2025	Overnight Min	21.4	1.2
01 Apr 2025	Evening Peak	32.4	1.9

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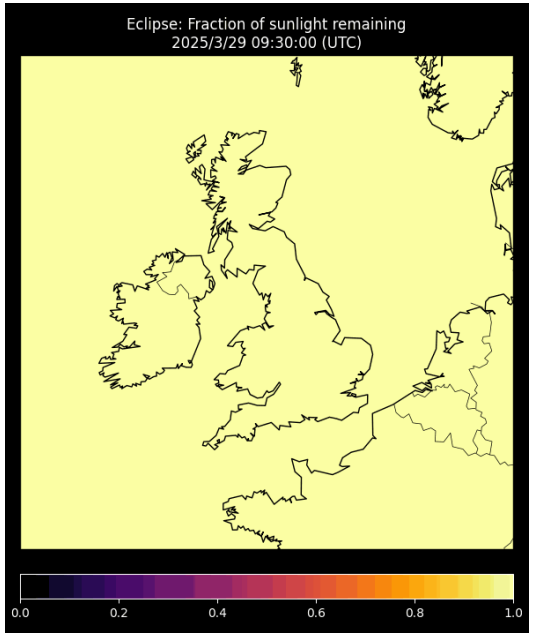
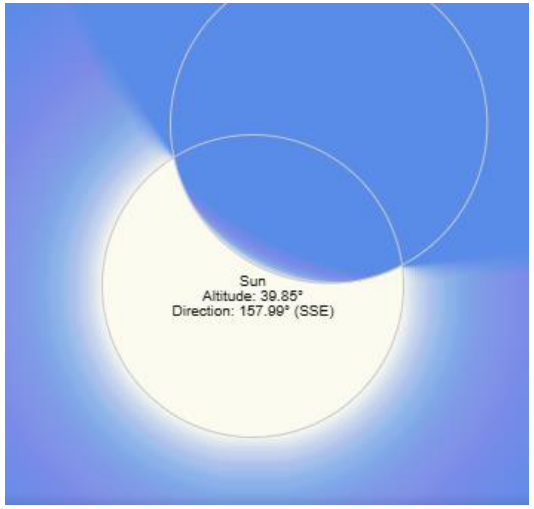
Historic out-turn data can be found on the NESO Data Portal in the following data sets: Historic Demand Data & Demand Data Update

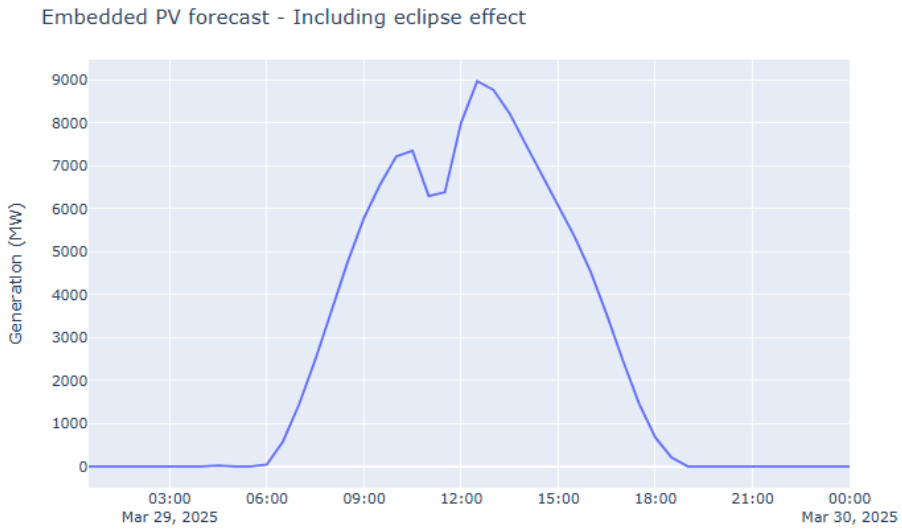
Demand | Solar eclipse

Slido code #OTF

- Partial solar eclipse upcoming on Sat 29 March
- Approx 35% of sun obscured
- Effect on PV generation included in forecasts
- As always, PV generation will depend strongly on weather
  - E.g. clouds
- Next solar eclipse 12 Aug 2026 – approx. 90%
  - Though near the end of day with lower PV generation
- **Never look directly at the Sun. You can seriously hurt your eyes and even go blind. Proper eye protection like eclipse glasses or a special solar filter is the only safe option. Sunglasses don't work.**
- Related links:
  - https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/uk/oxford?iso=20250329
  - https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/eclipse-tips-safety.html
  - https://www.suncalc.org/#/52.2879,-1.3996,5/2025.03.29/11:04/1/3







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Operational Margins | Week Ahead

Slido code #OTF

How to interpret this information

This slide sets out our view of operational margins for the next week. We are providing this information to help market participants identify when tighter periods are more likely to occur such that they can plan to respond accordingly.

The table provides our current view on the operational surplus based on expected levels of generation, wind and peak demand. This is based on information available to NESO as of the day these slides are being published and is subject to change. It represents a view of what the market is currently intending to provide before we take any actions. The interconnector flows are equal to those in the Base case presented in the Winter Outlook.

The indicative surplus is a measure of how tight we expect margins to be and the likelihood of the NESO needing to use its operational tools.

For higher surplus values, margins are expected to be adequate and there is a low likelihood of the NESO needing to use its tools. In such cases, we may even experience exports to Europe on the interconnectors over the peak depending on market prices.

For lower (and potentially negative) surplus values, then this indicates operational margins could be tight and that there is a higher likelihood of the NESO needing to use its tools, such as interconnector trading and issuing margins notices. We expect there to be sufficient supply available to respond to these signals to meet demand.

Margins are adequate for the next week.

Day	Date	Notified Generation (MW)	Wind (MW)	IC Flows* (MW)	Peak demand (MW)	Indicative surplus (MW)
Thu	27/03/2025	39624	16400	5120	33160	19230
Fri	28/03/2025	39808	9850	5120	34270	14800
Sat	29/03/2025	39425	14410	5120	30520	21000
Sun	30/03/2025	39493	10760	5120	30340	19360
Mon	31/03/2025	40773	5400	4740	34690	12440
Tue	01/04/2025	40698	9010	4740	33090	16080
Wed	02/04/2025	41178	9990	4740	32860	17680

*Interconnector flow in line with the Winter Outlook Report Base Case but will ultimately flow to market price

Margins do not include NESO enhanced or emergency actions

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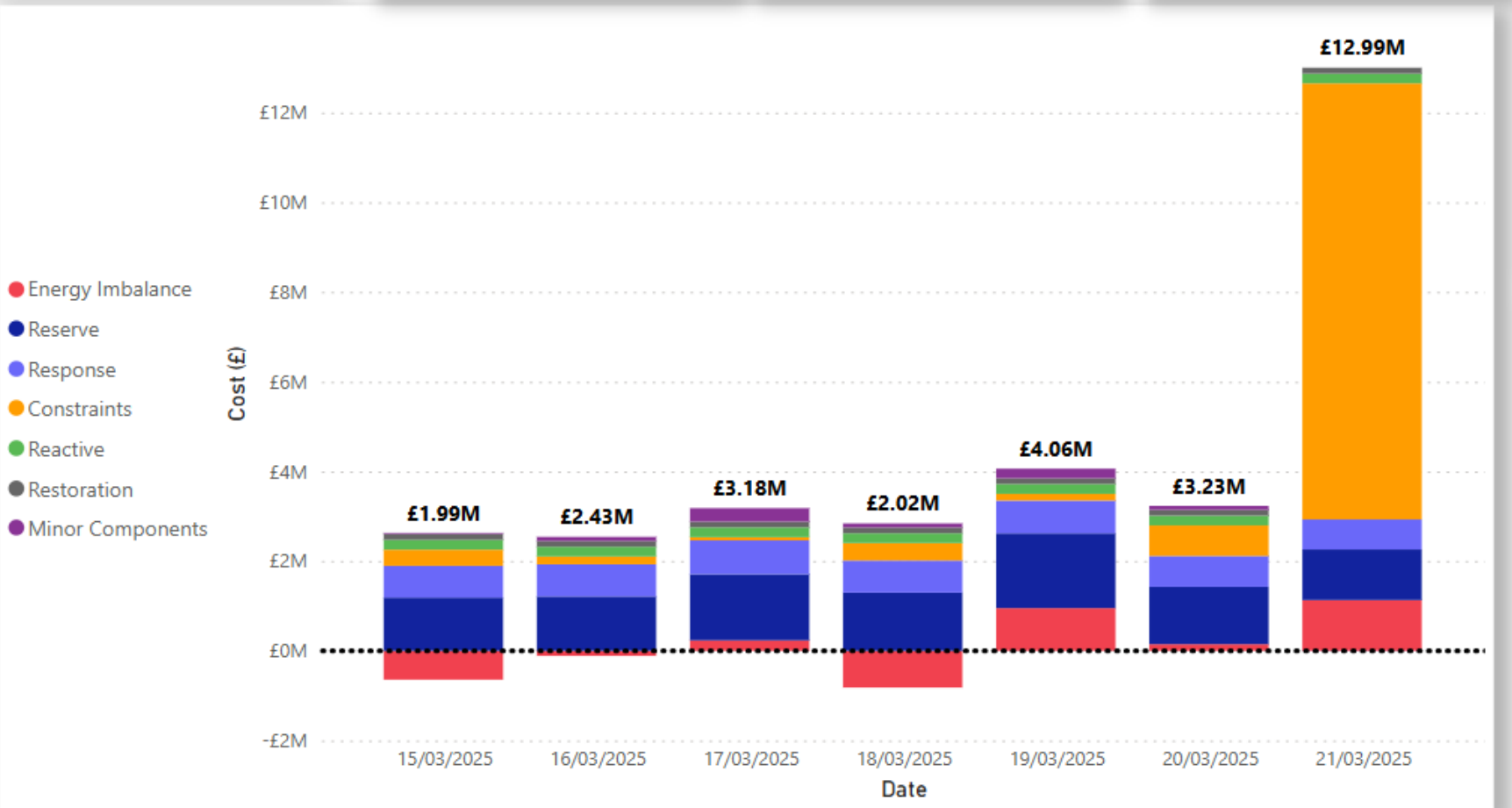
NESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown

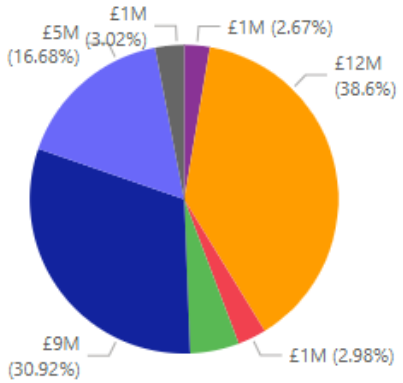
Date
15/03/2025 — 21/03/2025

Weekly Total Costs (£)	Last Week Total Costs (£)	Past 30-Day Average Costs (£)
£29.9M	£48.2M	£9.3M



Date	Total Outturn Cost
15/03/2025	£1,985,111
16/03/2025	£2,426,859
17/03/2025	£3,180,880
18/03/2025	£2,023,224
19/03/2025	£4,060,776
20/03/2025	£3,230,217
21/03/2025	£12,992,046

Weekly Cost (£) and Share (%)



National Energy System Operator

January 2025 MBSS report update: please note this is still in progress and will be published later than usual

NESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

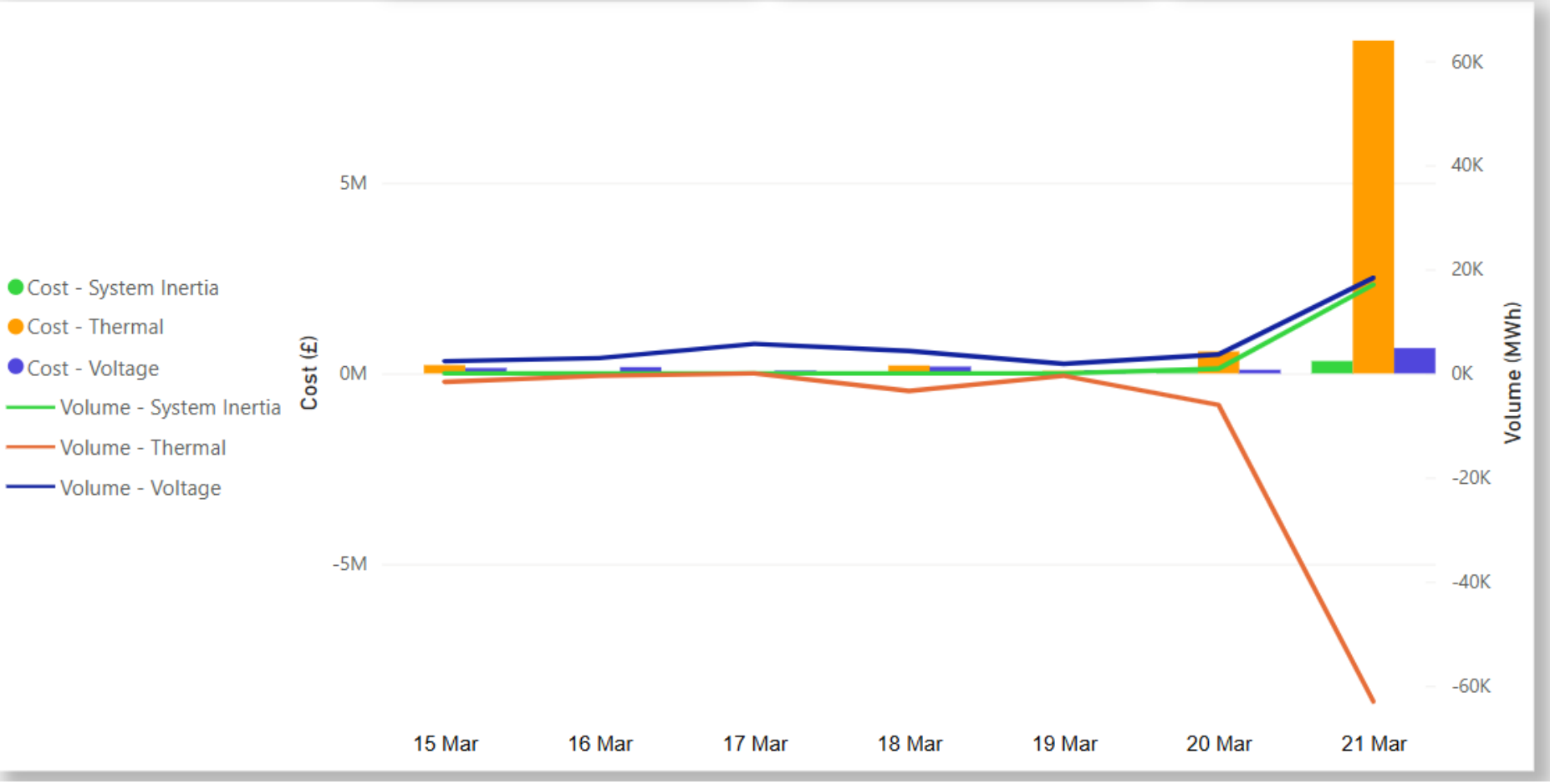
Date

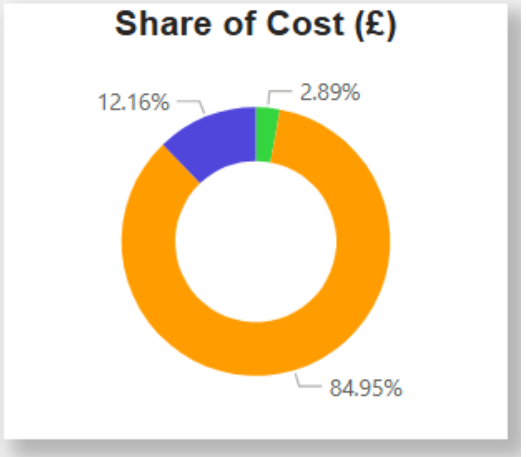
15/03/2025 21/03/2025

Thermal Constraints	
Costs (£)	Vol (MWh)
9.8M	-75.1K

Voltage Constraints	
Costs (£)	Vol (MWh)
1.4M	39.1K

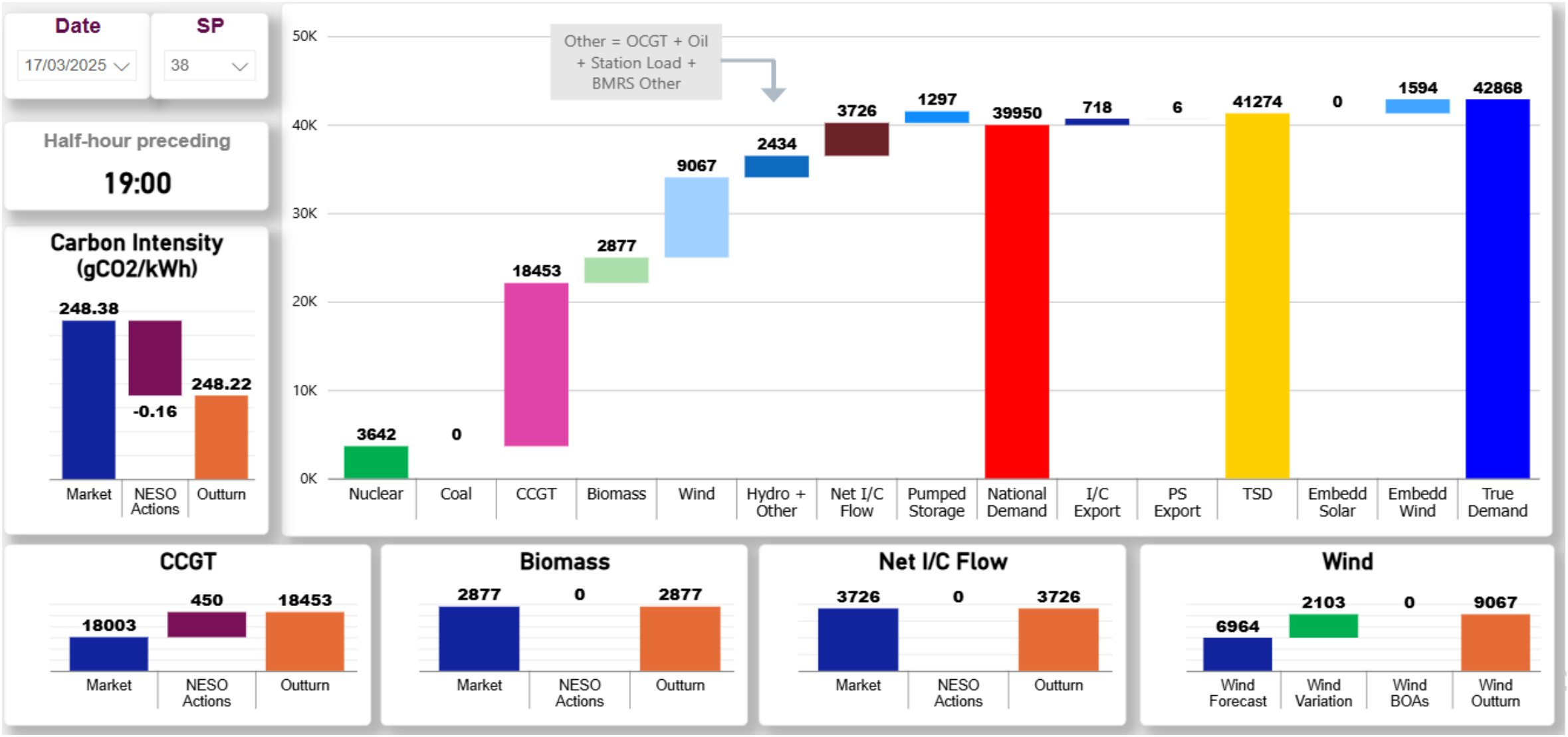
System Inertia	
Costs (£)	Vol (MWh)
333.1K	17.9K





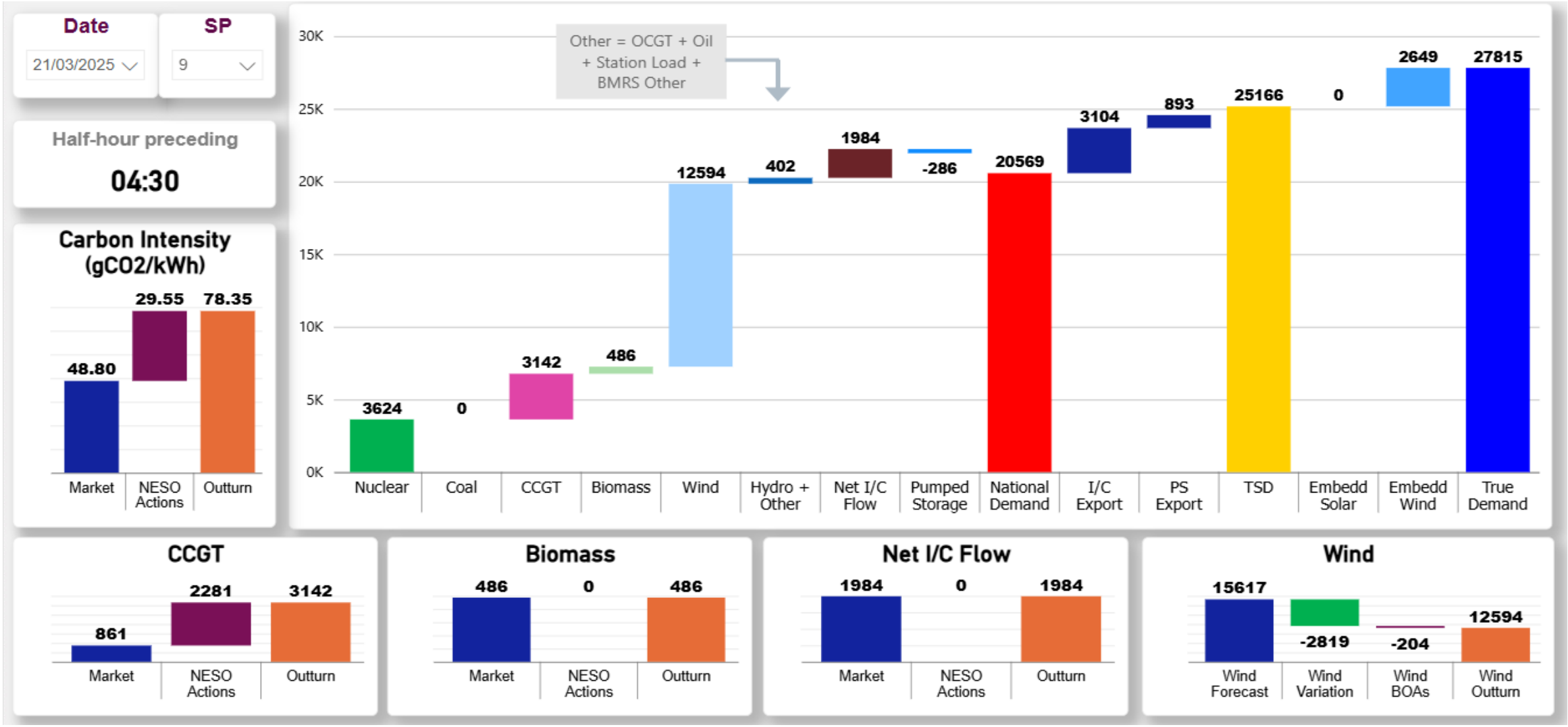
NESO Actions | Peak Demand – SP spend ~ -£9k
Monday 17th March

Slido code #OTF



NESO Actions | Minimum Demand – SP spend ~ £139k
Friday 21st March

Slido code #OTF



NESO Actions | – Highest SP spend ~ £407k
Friday 21st March

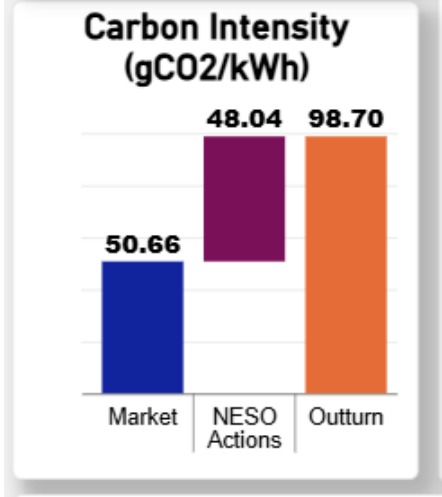
Slido code #OTF

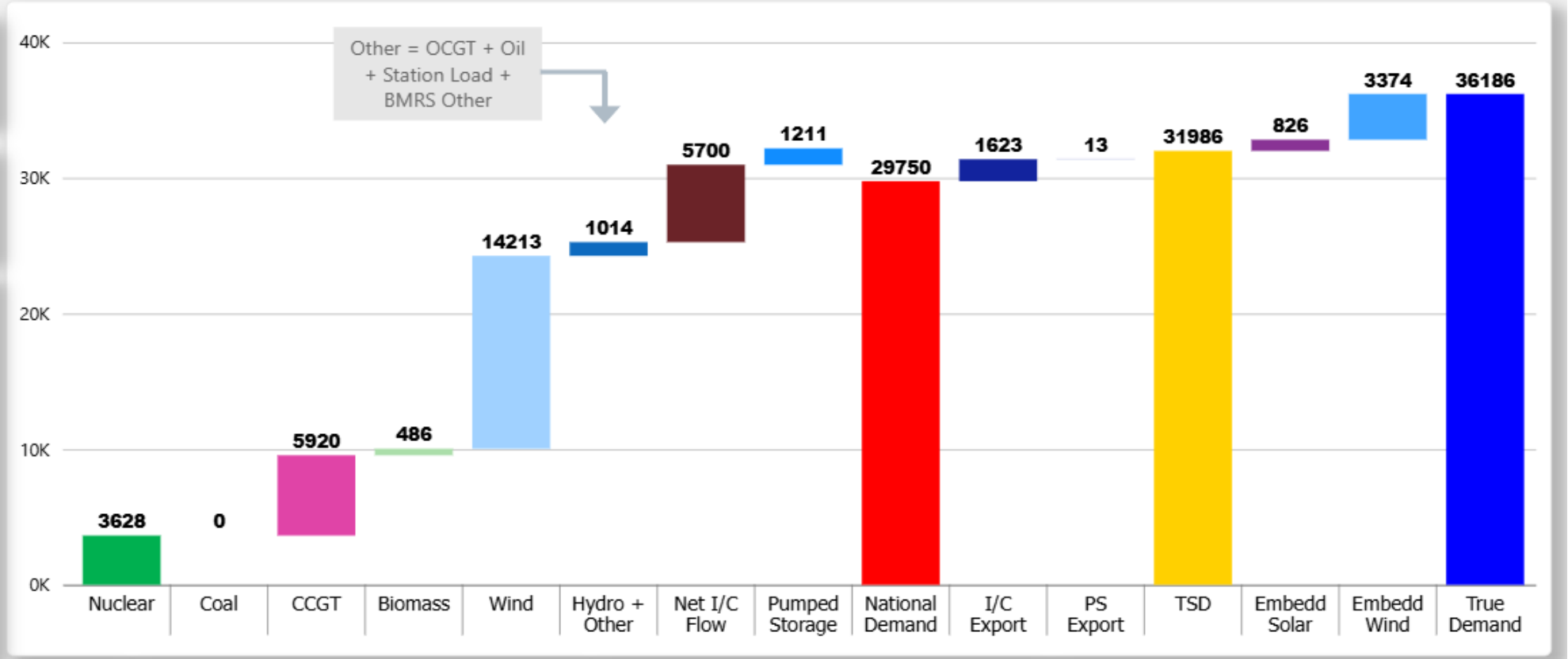
Date 21/03/2025

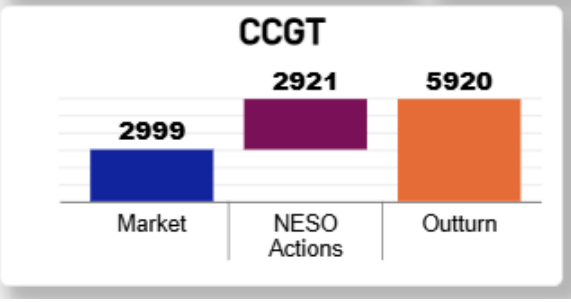
SP 34

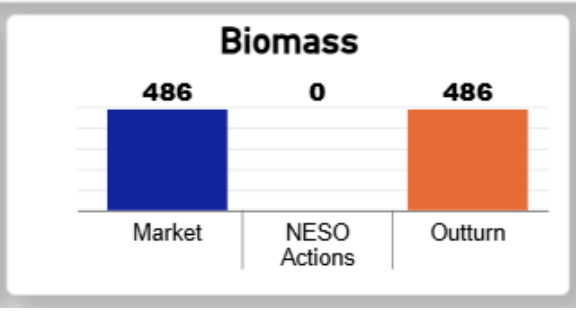
Half-hour preceding

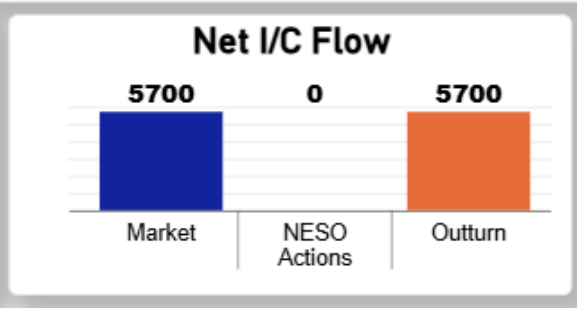
17:00

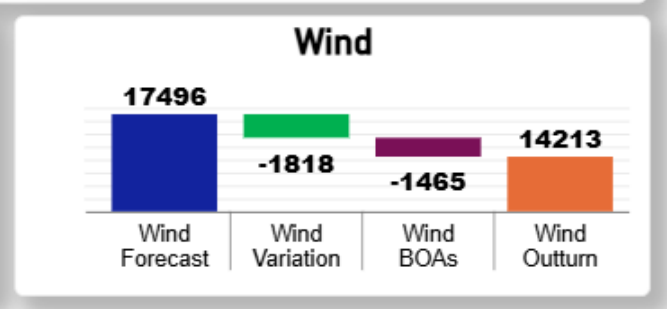




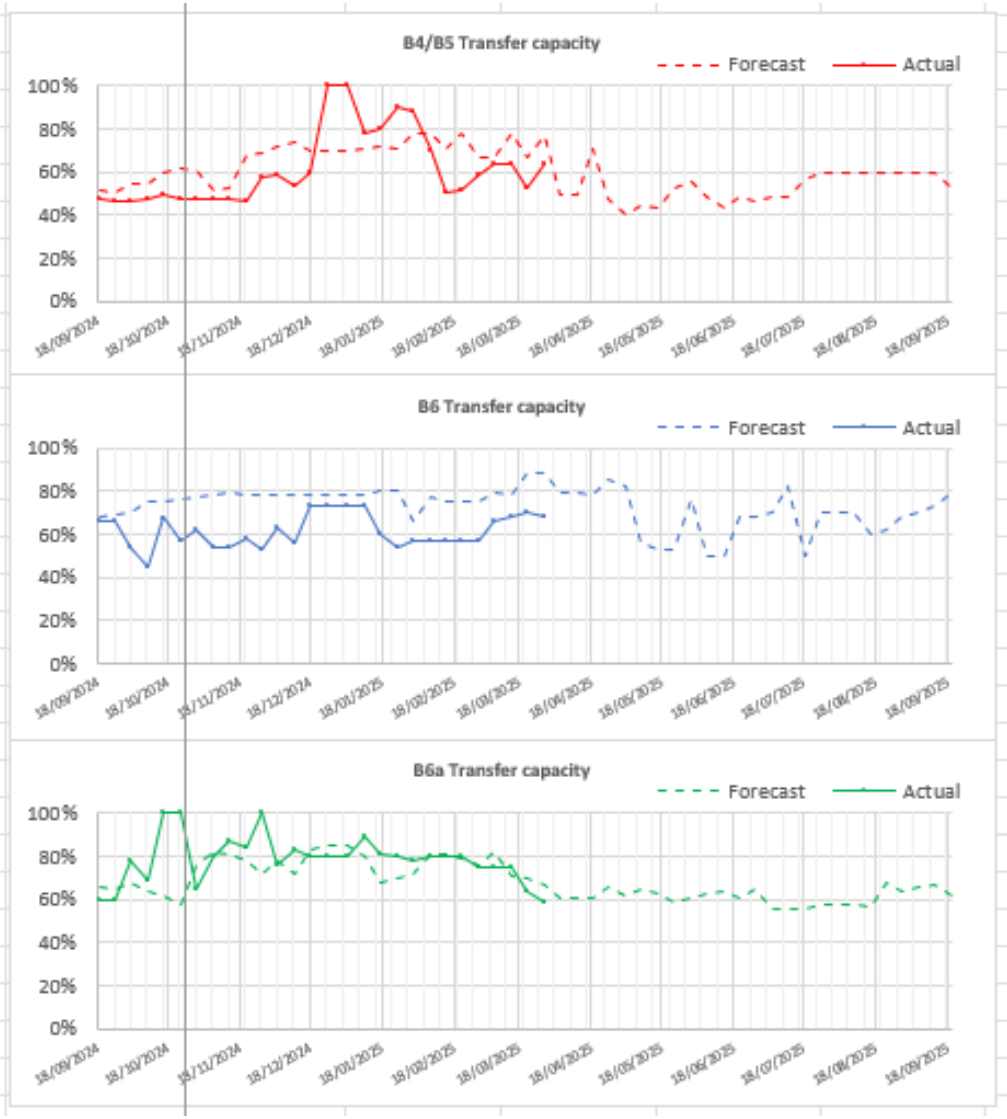






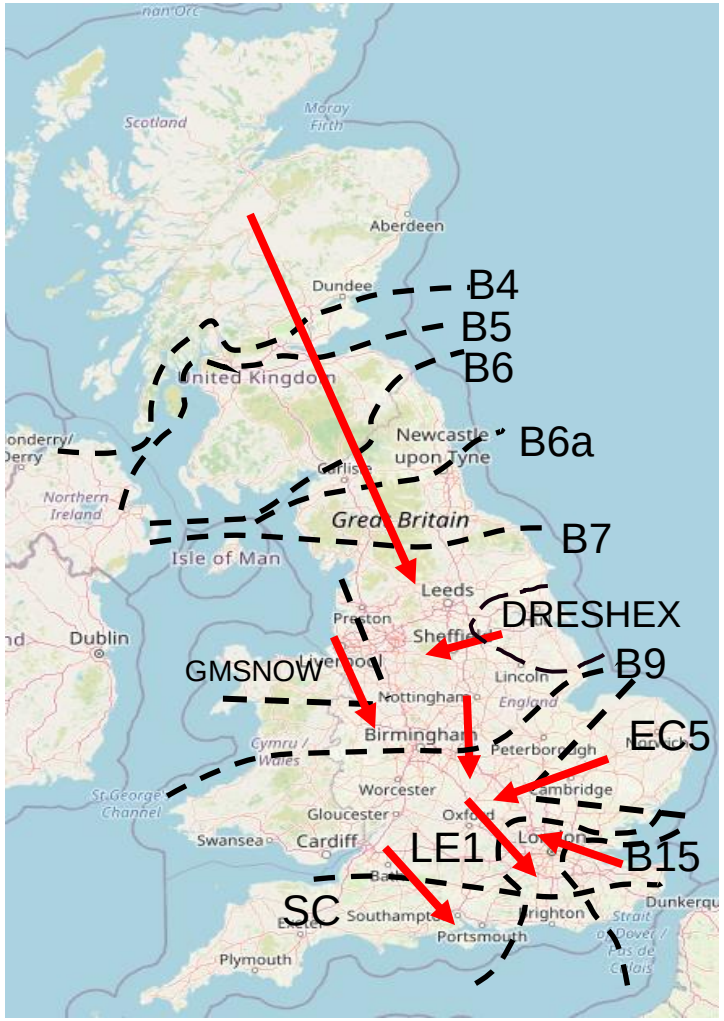


Transparency | Network Congestion

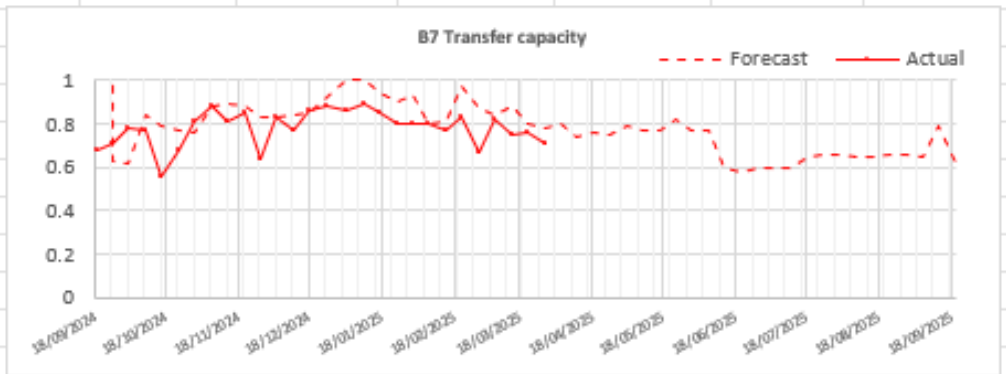


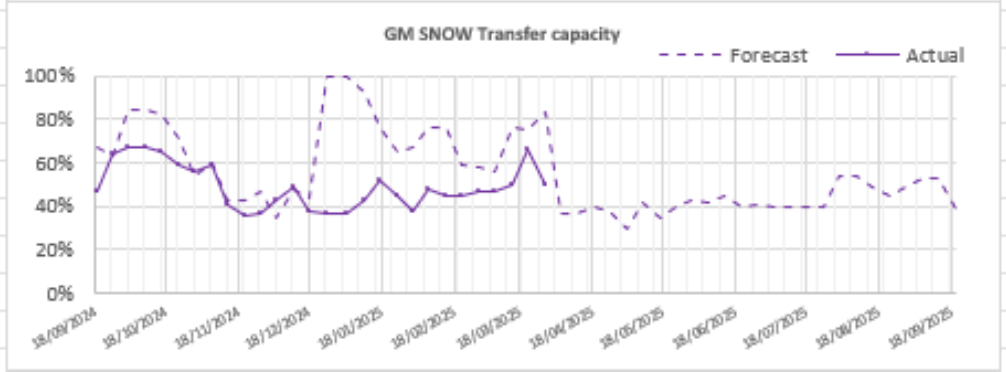
Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	64%
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	68%
B6a	8000	59%
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	71%
GMSNOW	5800	50%
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	84%
DRESHEX	9675	67%
EC5	5000	100%
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	70%
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	99%
SC1	7300	70%

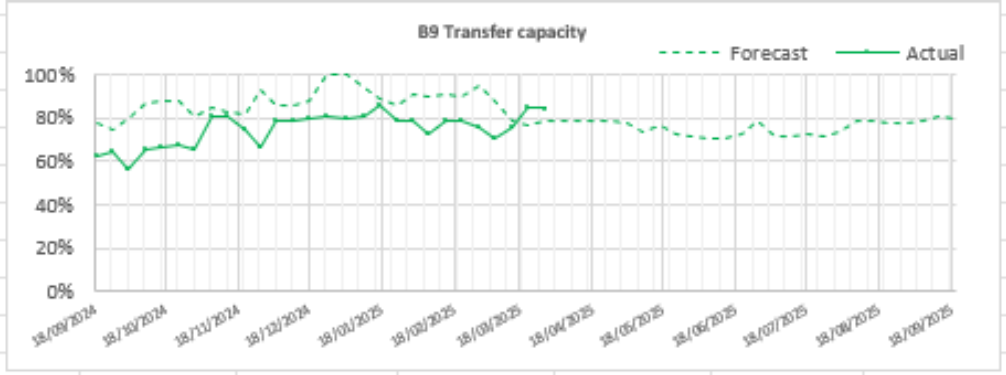
Slido code #OTF



Transparency | Network Congestion







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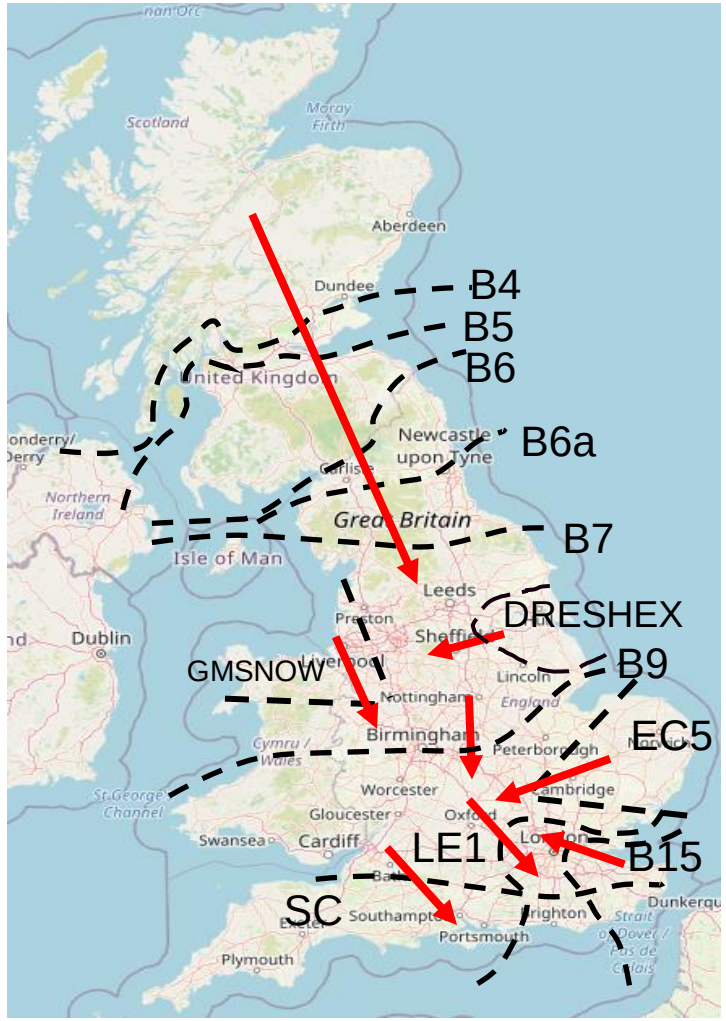
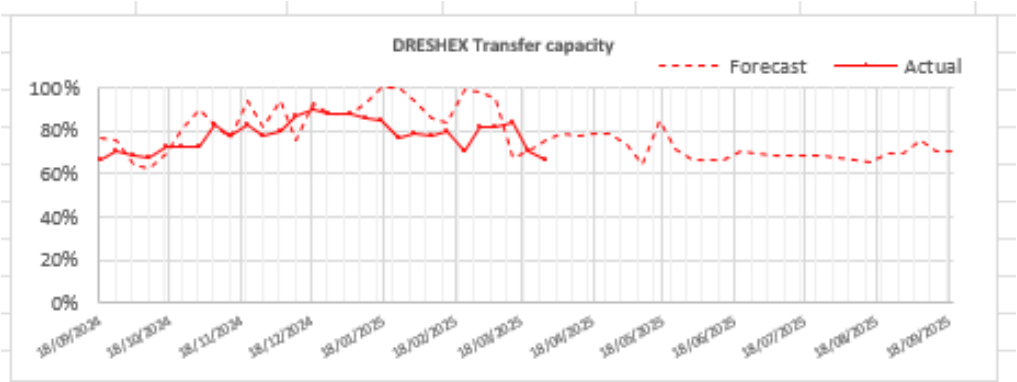
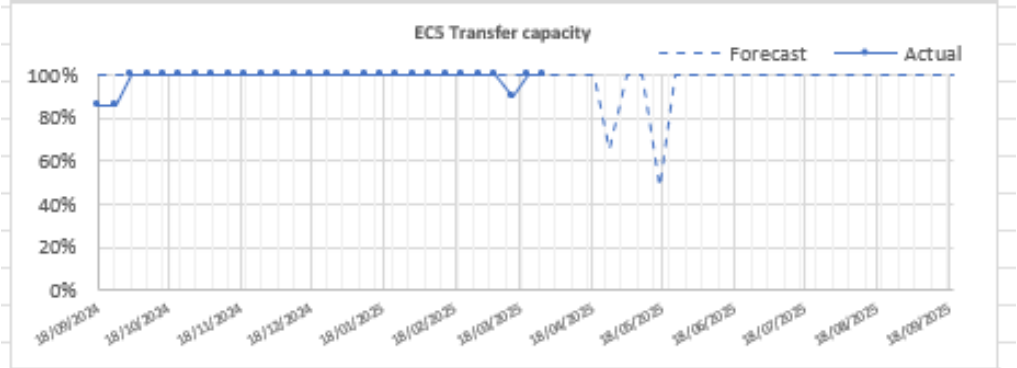
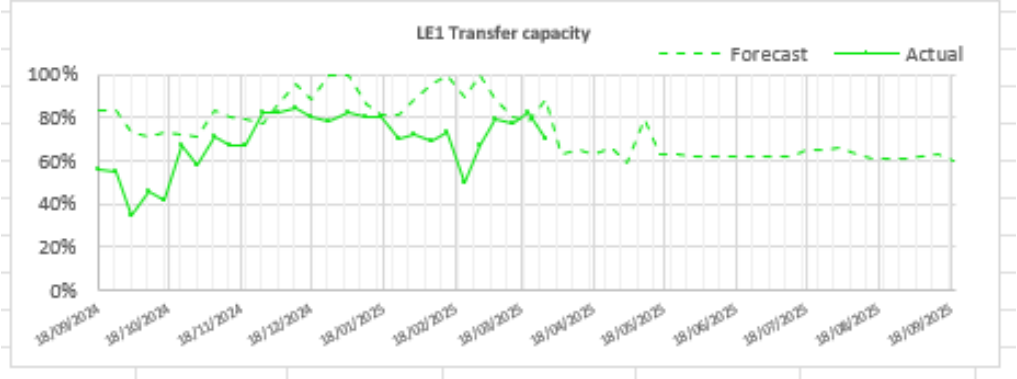


Transparency | Network Congestion







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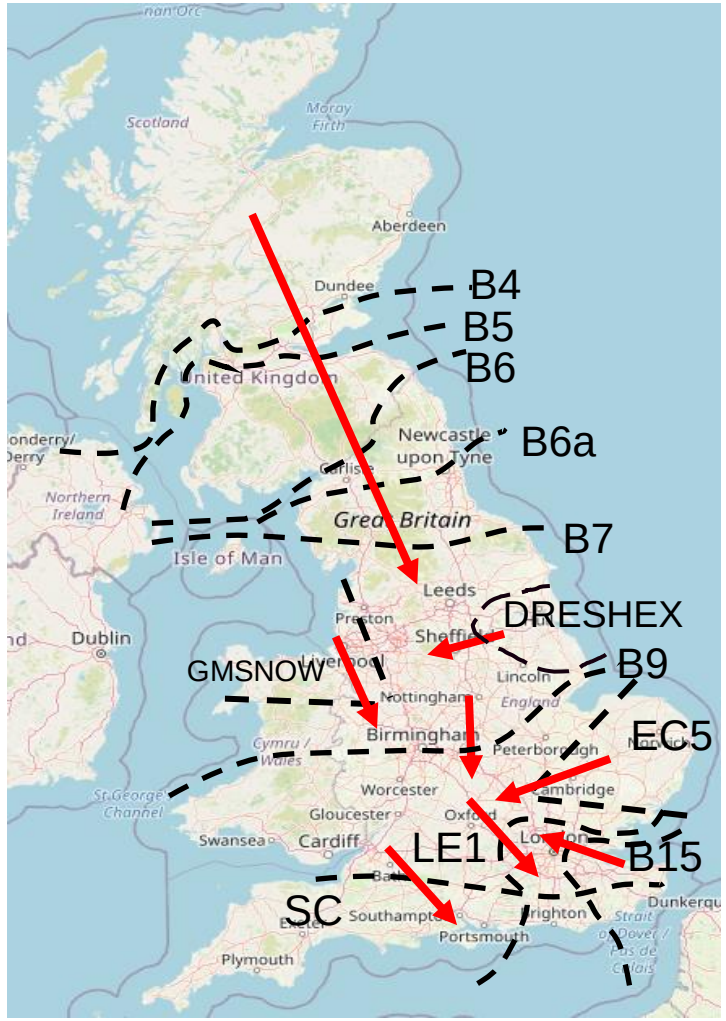

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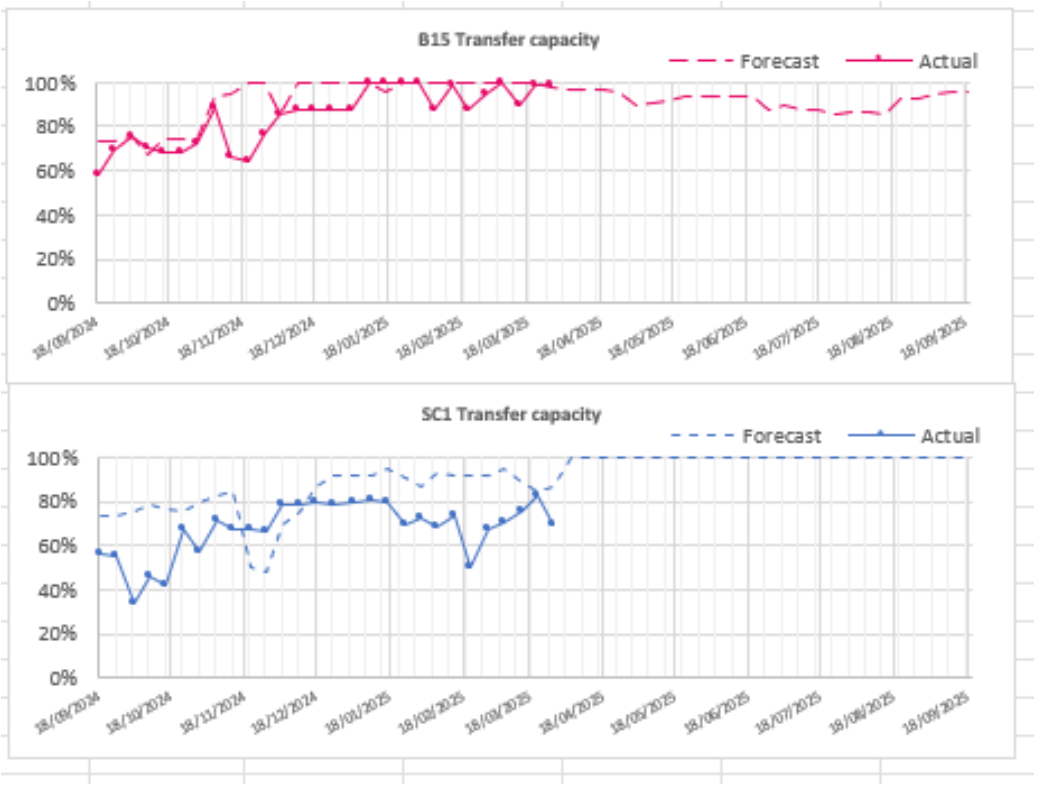

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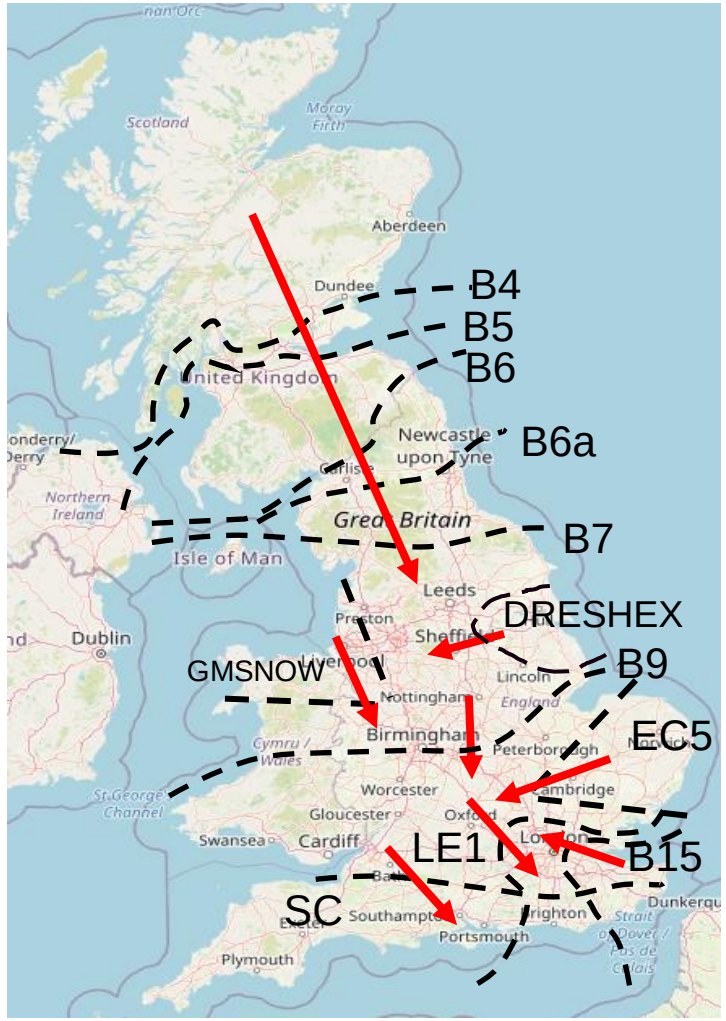

Skip Rates

Slido code #OTF

We are now sharing the summary skip rate data on a rolling 4-week basis. We welcome your comments on if you find this valuable and feedback on how we present this data.

Weekly Average w/e	Offers - All BM	Offers - PSA	Bids - All BM	Bids - PSA
02/03	24%	34%	6%	49%
09/03	12%	29%	4%	36%
16/03	21%	27%	7%	50%
23/03	15%	35%	20%	51%

Monthly Average	Offers - All BM	Offers - PSA	Bids - All BM	Bids - PSA
January	18%	34%	11%	53%
February	15%	33%	5%	49%
March (MTD)	15%	29%	7%	47%

Note: due to size issues, both 'In Merit' datasets now have a separate file for each month. Based on feedback we intend to maintain this method of publishing the data. We endeavour to publish by 5pm each day.

17th March: High skipped bid volume due to interconnector & solar volatility, which meant some units were bid down to provide additional headroom. There were also no active constraints.

Skip rate data and more info on skip rates and battery storage including methodology.

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PSA: Post System Action

Skip Rates & Dispatch Transparency

Slido code #OTF

Note: The Dispatch Transparency dataset will no longer be published after end of March.

Dispatch Transparency

This dataset is a component of the Forward Plan 2020-21 commitment to increase the transparency of our operational decision making in the Balancing Mechanism (BM). It includes the publication of actions taken in the BM, reasons for them and includes a methodology document for the process.

NOTE: This dataset will not be published after the 31st March 2025 as the methodology and datasets have been superseded by the new Skip Rates methodology. The new datasets can be found here Alternative BOA data can be accessed via the Elexon website here. If these datasets do not meet your needs then please contact us at opendata@nationalenergyso.com

We are hosting another drop-in session on the Skip Rate methodology and datasets on 15th April 16:00-16:45. Please register here.

We will not be presenting any new information. Please come with your questions/feedback on the information presented on the 27th February. the webinar recording and slides.

Please consider filling out this feedback form to let us know how you are using the data and how we can improve it.

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Previously Asked Questions

Q: How do you envisage the system will handle a trip from HINP given 2 x 1.6gw? (3.2gw total?)

A: The instantaneous loss of 2x1.6 GW is not a credible fault and current policy does not recommend to secure the loss since the likelihood of this type of event to happen is very rare and the full mitigation is not economically beneficial for GB consumers.

However, the consequence of this type of event is significant. This potential risk is covered from system design stage, in their Bilateral Agreement, and via the compliance route to ensure multiple units do not trip for a common mode failure.

Q: System Inertia during Drax's 1877MW trip was very high at 237GVA.s which would have helped lots to arrest the quick drop in Frequency. What would have happened if inertia level was at your min. 102GVAs being proposed (e.g. high renewables day)?Would freq. have been contained >48.8hz in your opinion?

A: The simulation looking into lower inertia level including 102 GVA.s is included in the presentation. Furthermore, our simulation suggests, if everything stays the same and inertia drops from 276.4 GVA.s to 102 GVA.s, the frequency drop would be contained by 49.54 Hz. Worth noting that, one of the key factors to determine the Dynamic Containment (DC) requirement is the level of inertia. If the inertia would be 102 GVA.s then more DC will be procured in this case.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q: Can you clarify how much of the BOA volume sent on the frequency event on Mar 14th was sent to units that had cleared in Quick Reserve?

A: On 14th March, we had 320 MWs of contracted Positive Quick Reserve for the period 08:30 – 09:00. During this period we dispatched 121 MWs from these units. However, it must be noted that this doesn't necessarily mean the unit was dispatched for Quick Reserve reasons, the control room will dispatch units to operate the system securely and economically using all the options available.

Q: I also asked what increase in frequency response products holding levels is envisaged?

A: For the calculation of response requirement, 1) the infeed loss is considered as the loss to the transmission network, hence station load is incorporated into the infeed loss. 2) the inertia value is the post-fault inertia where the inertia loss from the infeed will be incorporated (if applicable).

The accurate frequency response increases are determined by a series of system parameters. However, a very rough estimation could be round 2 MW of fast response for 1 GVA.s inertia reduction.

Q: Largest Infeed loss in SQSS (security Standards) is 1800MW but it seems Drax 1877MW loss surpassed this so does this mean SQSS will have to be reviewed/ changed again to cater for such a large loss?

A: No, as we mentioned in the presentation this trip was a simultaneous loss which is not a credible trip according to SQSS or FRCR policy. The 1800 MW cap is for a single unit (which would make the cap on a 3 unit simultaneous loss 5400 MW).

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Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q: It looks like large generators represent a cost to NESO, who has to procure additional reserve/response daily to be able to manage rare large trips. Is this cost somewhat passed through to these large generators, at least partially? If not, is this something NESO could consider for the future?

A: Reserve and Response services are procured to immediately respond to significant variations in frequency. An increasingly volatile system, requires the need for more reserve and response, but the introduction of specific markets for these products, and the optimisation of this procurement has seen a significant reduction in the cost of procuring these services.

It is true that NESO purchases reserve - or margin - to be able to recover from the largest loss of generation. This is currently an interconnector, not a large generator. However, reserve also provides available capacity to deal with variations in demand, generation from other intermittent fuel types, or loss of generation/demand from network disruptions. It is not a single purpose service in the sense described in the question.

In this sense, these large generators are often the generators providing the reserve in these situations as they are able to be dispatched upwards, unlike other intermittent sources of generation.

The cost of procuring reserve and response is recovered through BSUoS charges, which is ultimately recovered through suppliers, and therefore consumers.

Outstanding Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q: (29.01.25) NESO only send IPs to the BMU – this is a limitation of EDL - was this not meant to be resolved in the EBS1 2010 system refresh parties paid for?

Q: Is the procurement of more services from non BM providers not just going to increase the issue highlighted by Celyn earlier regards publication of incorrect imbalance prices. Do NESO consider this before contracting more services or just say 'it's an Elexon issue' ?

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Advance Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q: (24.03.25) Could NESO procure more Quick Reserve instead of STOR, whenever QR prices are lower? If units can provide Quick Reserve for a whole SP (and the ones between gate closure and delivery), they can provide slower reserve too.

A: At this stage there are complexities due to different procurement windows and requirements of the services which mean that we want to keep each market focussed on its core operational requirements to send effective market signals. As new services come in with greater co-optimisation possibilities we may keep this under review as an approach.

Q: (18.03.25) Hi. Where can I find operational data relating to the Western Link HVDC link? Specifically availability data and energy transfers.

A: The Western Link HVDC is part of the GB transmission network owned and operated by Scottish Power and National Grid Electricity Transmission. Requests for this type of data about sections of the transmission network need to be directed to the relevant transmission owners.

Reminder about answering questions at the NESO OTF

Slido code #OTF

- **Questions from unidentified parties will not be answered live**. If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, please use the advance question or email options. Details in the appendix to the pack.
- **The OTF is not the place to challenge the actions of individual parties** (other than the NESO), and we will not comment on these challenges. This type of concern can be reported to the Market Monitoring team at: marketreporting@nationalenergyso.com
- **Questions will be answered in the upvoted order whenever possible**. We will take questions from further down the list when: the answer is not ready; we need to take the question away or the topic is outside of the scope of the OTF.
- **Slido will remain open until 12:00**, even when the call closes earlier, to provide the maximum opportunity for you to ask questions.
- **All questions will be recorded and published** All questions asked through Sli.do will be recorded and published, with answers, in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on the webpage: https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum
- **Takeaway questions** – these questions will be included in the pack for the next OTF, we may ask you to contact us by email in order to clarify or confirm details for the question.
- **Out of scope questions** will be forwarded to the appropriate NESO expert or team for a direct response. We may ask you to contact us by email to ensure we have the correct contact details for the response. These questions will not be managed through the OTF, and we are unable to forward questions without correct contact details. Information about the OTF purpose and scope can be found in the appendix of this slide pack

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slido

Audience Q&A

ⓘ Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

Slido code #OTF

Feedback

Please remember to use the feedback poll in Sli.do after the event.

We welcome feedback to understand what we are doing well and how we can improve the event for the future.

If you have any questions after the event, please contact the following email address: box.nc.customer@nationalenergyso.com

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Appendix

Purpose and scope of the NESO Operational Transparency Forum

Slido code #OTF

Purpose:

The Operational Transparency Forum runs once a week to provide updated information on and insight into the operational challenges faced by the control room in the recent past (1-2 weeks) and short-term future (1-2 weeks). The OTF will also signpost other NESO events, provide deep dives into focus topics, and allow industry to ask questions.

Scope:

Aligns with purpose, see examples below:

In Scope of OTF

Material presented i.e.: regular content, deep dives, focus topics
NESO operational approach & challenges
NESO published data

Out of Scope of OTF

Data owned and/or published by other parties
e.g.: BMRS is published by Elexon
Processes including consultations operated by other parties e.g.: Elexon, Ofgem, DESNZ
Data owned by other parties
Details of NESO Control Room actions & decision making
Activities & operations of particular market participants
NESO policy & strategic decision making
Formal consultations e.g.: Code Changes, Business Planning, Market development

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Managing questions at the NESO Operational Transparency Forum

Slido code #OTF

- OTF participants can ask questions in the following ways:
  - Live via Slido code #OTF
  - In advance (before 12:00 on Monday) at https://forms.office.com/r/k0AEfKnai3
  - At any time to box.nc.customer@nationalenergyso.com

- **All questions asked through Sli.do** will be recorded and published, with answers, in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on the webpage: Operational Transparency Forum | NESO
- **Advance questions** will be included, with answers, in the slide pack for the next OTF and published in the OTF Q&A as above.
- **Email questions** which specifically request inclusion in the OTF will be treated as Advance questions, otherwise we will only reply direct to the sender.
- **Takeaway questions** – we may ask you to contact us by email in order to clarify or confirm details for the question.
- **Out of scope questions** will be forwarded to the appropriate NESO expert or team for a direct response. We may ask you to contact us by email to ensure we have the correct contact details for the response. These questions will not be managed through the OTF, and we are unable to forward questions without correct contact details. Information about the OTF purpose and scope can be found in the appendix of this slide pack.

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Skip Rates – 'In Merit' datasets

We recognise that these datasets aren't as intuitive as they could be – specifically the column headings. Please be reassured that we are looking at ways to improve this - we will update the documentation to include this information and will also discuss the datasets in more detail at the webinar on 27th February.

We will use 'accepted' and 'instructed' differently in this context, even though they are normally the same.

These datasets show the units that should have been instructed if decisions were solely based on price, rather than all units that were instructed. Therefore this dataset does not match the total accepted volume datasets in Elexon.

In Merit Volume = Accepted Volume + Skipped Volume

In Merit Volume
- This is the recreated in merit stack showing the lowest cost units that were available to meet the requirement, where the requirement is based on the volume of units that were actually instructed
- Therefore this is the volume that should have been accepted if decisions were solely based on price
- The sum of this column is the total instructed volume in the 5 minute period (subject to the relevant exclusions)

Accepted Volume
- This is the volume that was accepted in merit, as a subset of the 'In Merit Volume' column – i.e. how much volume was accepted in merit
- The sum of this column will be less than the sum of the 'In Merit Volume' column, unless there is no skipped volume
- Note: this column does not list all instructed units

Skipped Volume
- This is the volume that was skipped, as a subset of the 'In Merit Volume' column – i.e. of the volume that we should have instructed, how much was skipped

It's possible that the list of units increases, decreases, or stays the same between stages, but the total 'In Merit Volume' will always remain the same (or no volume is excluded) or decrease (due to exclusions).