

Public

NESO Operational Transparency Forum

30 September 2026

Slido code #OTF

Welcome to the Operational Transparency Forum!

You are in listen-only mode with your camera turned off.

Live Captioning Available. To enable live captions in Microsoft Teams:

Click on the 3 dots icon / 'More'

Click 'Turn on live captions'

Key Points

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- **Ask Questions and give feedback:** Use **Sli.do event code #OTF**.
- **Submit early:** Ask questions early to give our experts time to answer.
- **No Edits:** Don't edit questions after submission; submit a new question, if needed.
- **Identify Yourself:** Provide your name or organization. Anonymous questions won't be answered live. If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, please use the advance question or email options below.
- **Report Concerns:** Report concerns to the Market Monitoring team at marketreporting@neso.energy.
- **Question Order:** Questions are answered in upvoted order. Some may be taken away or answered later.
- **Sli.do Open:** Sli.do remains open **until 12:00** for maximum question opportunities. After that please use the advance questions or email options below.
- **Q&A:** All questions are recorded & published. Unanswered questions will be included in the next slide pack.
- **Ask questions anytime** whether for inclusion in the forum or individual response through our [Advance Questions form](#) or at: box.nc.customer@neso.energy.
- **Stay Updated:** Visit our webpage at: <https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum> for updates and previous OTF material.

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

Focus Topics

Today

- 30 September
 - Strategic Spatial Energy Planning Pathway Options Report

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Future

- 14 October
 - Auction Process (EAC) for Balancing Services
- 21 October
 - September Balancing Costs
- 28 October
 - RNP Update



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

Operational Review & Whistleblower investigation

External Whistleblowing investigation

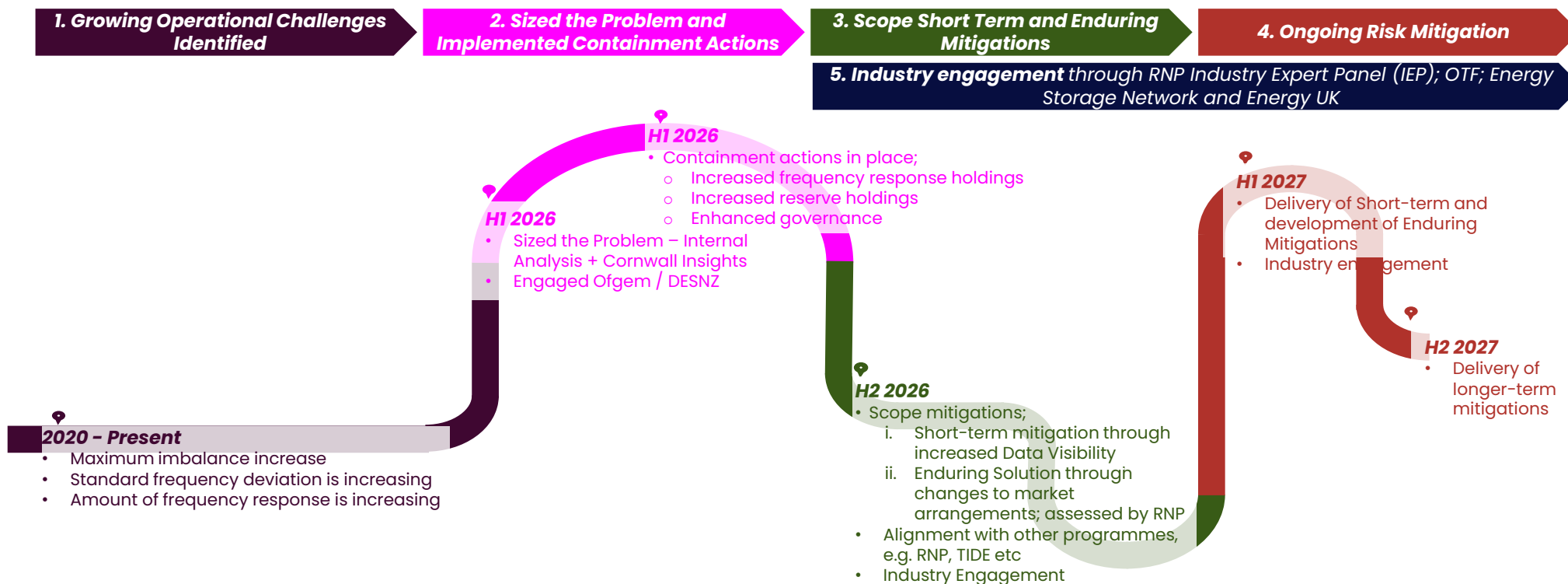
- Following whistleblower allegations regarding operational decision-making and record-keeping within NESO, an independent external investigation has been launched led by Eversheds Sutherland International which will report to an independent panel
 - Full details of the terms of reference for this investigation are published on NESO's website which you can find here: <https://www.neso.energy/news/terms-reference-now-published>

Post-event regulatory review:

- Ofgem has used its regulatory powers to formally commission NESO to deliver a separate post-event review of the incidents of system stress during extreme heat across the week commencing 22 June.
 - The Terms of Reference for this review have been published on the Ofgem website: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/transparency-document/regulatory-review-operation-and-management-electricity-system-during-june-heat-event>
- The Focus Topic on margins during the week commencing 22 June will be delayed until this Ofgem commissioned review concludes

Power Requirement – Engagement Plan

- The way the modern electricity system operates is changing, with a growing number of assets responding to market and operational signals in different ways
- Increasing levels of demand-side flexibility and Non-BM generation are an important part of maintaining stable system operation, but can create operational challenges when behaviour is not visible in advance to NESO
- NESO has been investigating these challenges through both the Reformed National Pricing (RNP) Programme and the Power Requirements Programme
- Our approach combines short-term mitigation through the Data Visibility Project with assessment of longer-term market arrangements through RNP, supported by ongoing industry engagement;



Next Steps:

- We will present a Deep Dive on our proposed Power Requirement Short Term Mitigation (Data Visibility Project) at an upcoming Operational Transparency Forum; talking through the operational challenges, the modelling and analysis completed to date and how this aligns with the wider work happening in RNP

NESO Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group

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Date: 16.11.2026

Time: 12:30 – 14:00

Format: Microsoft Teams Online

Join our Optimisation Focus Group to hear the latest updates on the development of balancing optimisation capabilities delivered into the Control Room. During the session, we will:

- Recap on where we are in our journey to improve optimisation capabilities.
- Provide an update on the Future State of Energy (FSOE) model, including the development roadmap and key milestones.
- Share insights from data analysis on how Maximum Delivery Offer (MDO) & Maximum Delivery Bid (MDB) are being used in the Control Room.
- Explore the logic behind the 'Optimisation within a Constraint' capability, including how it operates today and how it is evolving to support additional asset types.

If you are not signed up to our Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group and would like to attend this session, please register [here](#) – a calendar invite will be sent to you within 48 hours of signing up.

If you have any questions, please contact the team at:
box.balancingprogramme@neso.energy



Scan to sign up

C1.17 Net Transfer Capacity(NTC) derogation – Ofgem decision

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The request

Two documents were submitted by NESO to Ofgem in July 2026 for consideration:

1. A request for an extension to the current derogation from ESO Licence Condition C1.17.
This was last granted to NESO in September 2023 for permit the use of NTC restrictions on interconnector capacity without market-based procurement
2. A consultation report on proposed updates to the NTC Commercial Compensation Methodology
The Methodology outlines how interconnectors are compensated when NTC restrictions are set

The decision

Ofgem published their decision letter and two direction letters on 21 September 2026 via [the Ofgem website](#).

Ofgem's decision has been to grant the extension to the derogation for four years, expiring 30 September 2030, unless the derogation is no longer needed within that time.

Ofgem expects continued work to reduce reliance on non-market-based balancing options and improve transparency around NTC use.

Two direction letters were published along with the decision:

1. To review the NTC Calculation Policy by 30 September 2027, referencing a need for industry consultation on this document
2. To review the NTC Commercial Compensation Methodology by 30 September 2027, referencing further assessment of approaches to compensating interconnector owners when they are restricted

Next steps:

- The consulted upon Methodology and consultation report is due to be published in the coming weeks
- Timelines for both reviews are being mapped. This will involve external stakeholder input so NESO will share timings in due course for input from interested parties.

Skips Behind Thermal Constraints: webinar materials and upcoming drop-in sessions

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Thank you to everyone who joined our Skips Behind Thermal Constraints webinar on **17 September**. The slides, recording and Q&A are now available: [View webinar materials](#)

Upcoming drop-in sessions: Skip Rates Behind Active Thermal Constraints

13 October: [Register here](#)

* Please note that we will not be presenting any material during these drop-in sessions, as they are designed to be interactive discussions focused on answering your questions and encouraging two-way conversation.

Settlements Updates

Exelon DCP pause

EL04799: temporary pause on new MSID and AMSID pair submissions

Submissions are paused following an incident affecting Exelon's Data and Calculations Platform (DCP).

Impact – NESO cannot submit ABSVD (Applicable Balancing Services Volume Data) for NBM providers.

Next Steps – Make retrospective updates alongside future settlement runs once the pause is lifted.

Reserve corrections

Status: **Adjustments delayed**

Impact

- IBOD and tender-file adjustments are delayed.
- I014 remediation is now the priority.

Next steps

- Recalculate Reserve after the I014 correction.
- Include provider adjustments in a future invoice cycle.

I014 processing issue

Status: **Fix implemented and Re-calculations required**

Impact

Data processed since May may be shifted by one hour.

- Affected services: Reserve, Hydro, Mandatory Frequency Response and Reactive.
- August data is prioritised for final invoicing.

Next steps

- Re-run the last three months, issue adjustments and investigate provider-reported anomalies.

box.settlement.queries@neso.energy

Future Event Summary

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Event	Date & Time	Link
NAP OC2 Forum	1 October (10:00–12:30)	Register Link
BSUoS Draft Tariff Webinar	1 October (14:00– 15:00)	Register here
C9 Ad Hov Review	Closes: 13 October (17:00)	Consultation document
Skips Behind Thermal Constraints: drop-in sessions	13 October (11:00–12:00)	Drop-In sessions: Skip Rates Behind Active Thermal Constraints
Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group	16 November (12:30–14:00)	Register here

Check out the [NESO Events Calendar](#) for more...

Public

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Strategic energy planning update

SSEP Pathway Options Report

Robert Gibson

SSEP Senior Analysis Manager

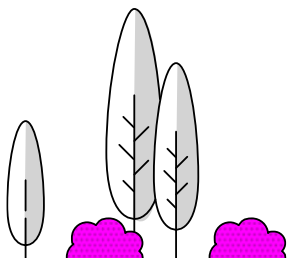
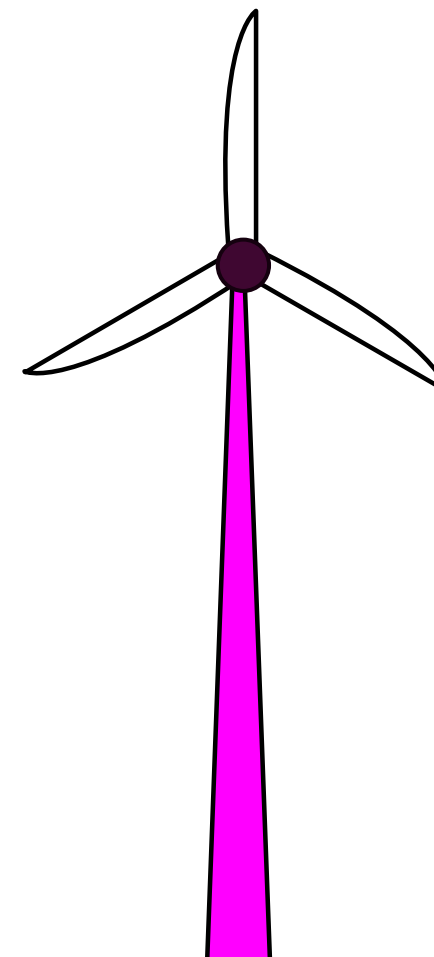
Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP)

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The SSEP will accelerate **clean, affordable and secure energy** through greater certainty.

The plan will assess the **best locations for generation and storage of electricity and hydrogen** on a zonal basis.

This will provide **a government and Ofgem-endorsed plan** that firmly sets the context for the nation's energy requirement.



Delivery

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Stakeholder
engagement



Environment



Assurance



Governance

Pathway Options Report submission

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Submitted to co-commissioners in August 2026.

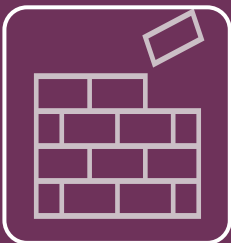
The most significant milestone for spatial energy planning to date.



*Dates subject to the timing of the UK Energy Secretary's decision on the preferred pathway

Key messages

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Common foundation

All six pathways deliver a secure, net zero energy system and share a common direction of travel, including substantial renewable generation, network development, system flexibility and firm low-carbon generation.



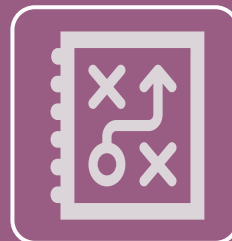
Every pathway has impacts

All pathways are deliverable, but none are without impact, reflecting different balances between cost, environmental, societal, spatial and delivery considerations.



Proceed with confidence

The common direction of travel across pathways provides confidence that many decisions can be progressed now, while preserving flexibility in areas where uncertainty remains.



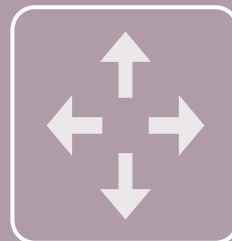
From strategy to delivery

The SSEP is a strategic plan that will be implemented through market, connection, and planning processes and will provide the strategic direction needed for network planning.



Strategic choices remain

Important strategic choices for government remain, particularly regarding the future role and scale of onshore renewables, offshore wind, and nuclear power, which will influence future costs, delivery risks and the range of available options.



Designed to evolve

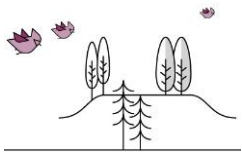
A three-year refresh cycle will reflect developing evidence, maturing technologies and changing local, regional and national priorities.

Breadth of engagement



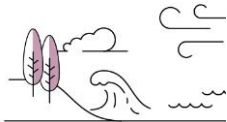
Energy Industry Working Group

Energy system and infrastructure expertise



Environmental Working Group

Environmental expertise and statutory consultation requirements



Land and Marine Use Working Group

Spatial planning, land use and marine use expertise



Societal Forums

Public views, values and sector-specific expertise



Community Representative Engagement

Public views, values and sector-specific expertise

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Stakeholders shared different perspectives, challenged assumptions and built our evidence base.

Their evidence, alongside technical analysis means more robust, representative pathway options.

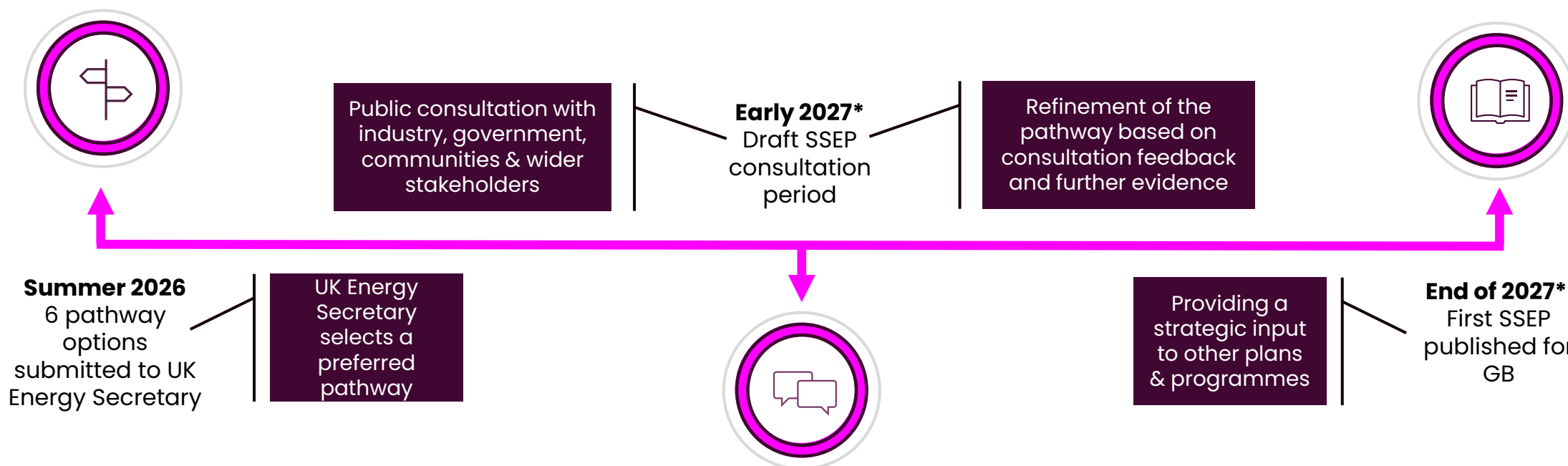
Supported by wider engagement

- Public webinars
- Energy Developer workshops
- Spatial assessment workshops
- Societal surveys
- Societal focus groups
- Strategic planning forums – 13 across GB

Beyond the Pathway Options Report: What's next for the SSEP?

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The POR is the start of the next phase, not the end of the process. The selected pathway will be consulted on, refined, and used to inform future spatial energy planning.



The SSEP pathway selected and consulted on, will help shape future Spatial Energy Planning, inform wider strategic energy system plans, and provide a key input into future network planning and investment decisions.

Links to useful resources



NESO strategic energy planning links

[Strategic energy planning: a summary](#)

[SSEP final methodology](#)

[SSEP final methodology appendices](#)

[CSNP methodology principles](#)

External links

[Clean Power 2030 Action Plan](#)

[Transmission Acceleration Action Plan](#)

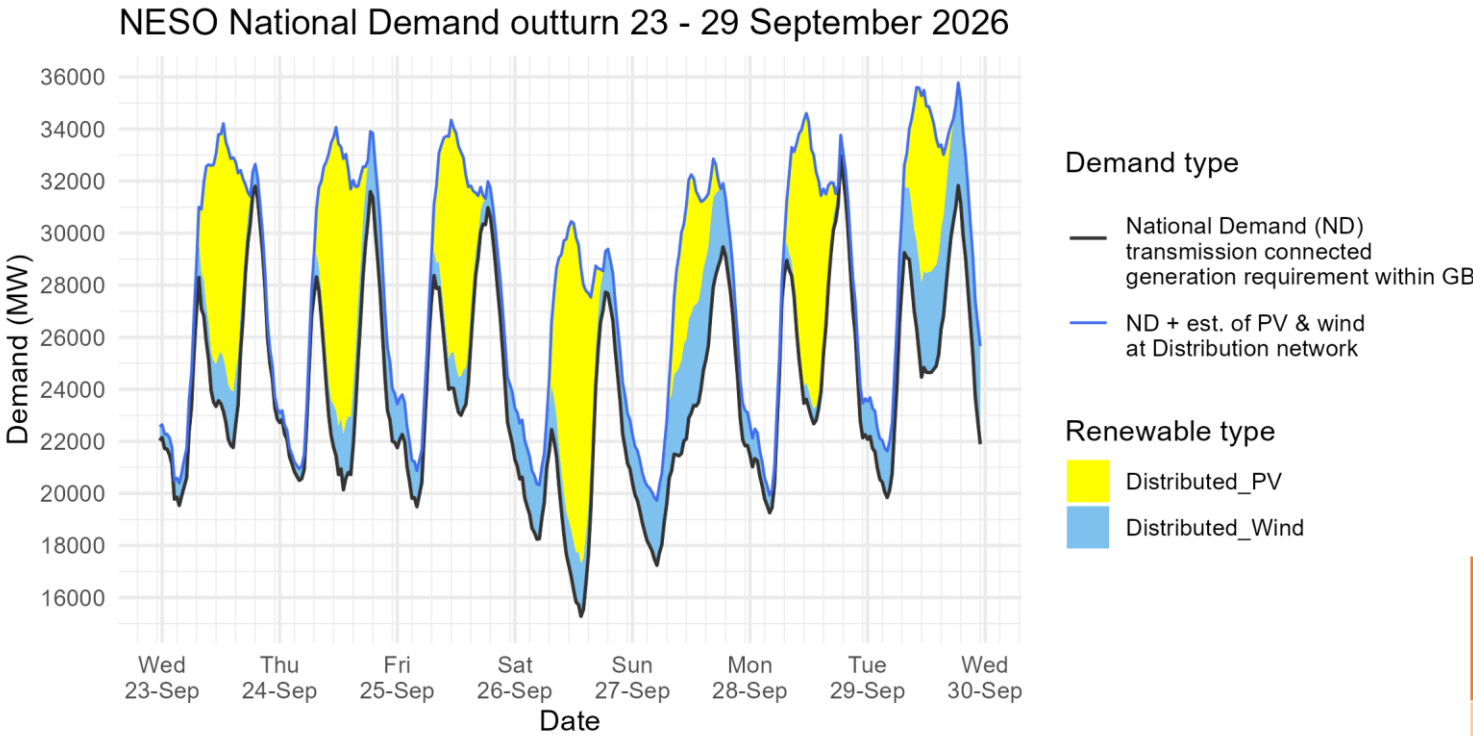
[SSEP Commission from UK, Scottish and Welsh governments](#)

[Ofgem RESP page](#)



Demand | Last week demand out-turn

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Distributed generation
Peak values by day

OUTTURN		
Date	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
23 Sep 2026	9.0	2.1
24 Sep 2026	10.9	2.7
25 Sep 2026	9.0	1.9
26 Sep 2026	12.2	2.2
27 Sep 2026	5.3	3.9
28 Sep 2026	10.3	1.3
29 Sep 2026	7.2	4.0

National Demand
Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 23 Sep)			OUTTURN		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
23 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	22.8	1.8	6.2	21.8	2.1	9.0
24 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	20.2	0.4	0.0	20.5	0.4	0.0
24 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	20.9	2.1	8.9	20.1	2.1	10.6
25 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	19.4	1.4	0.0	19.5	1.4	0.0
25 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	22.8	0.9	8.1	23.0	1.5	8.6
26 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	18.1	1.7	0.0	18.2	2.1	0.0
26 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	18.0	1.7	8.6	15.3	2.0	11.3
27 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	16.5	2.4	0.0	17.2	2.5	0.0
27 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	19.0	2.5	0.8	19.6	2.9	0.3
28 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	19.0	1.0	0.0	19.3	0.7	0.0
28 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	26.0	1.0	6.9	22.7	0.6	9.7
29 Sep 2026	Overnight Min	18.9	2.1	0.0	19.8	1.8	0.0
29 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	23.0	3.5	7.0	24.5	3.6	7.2

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

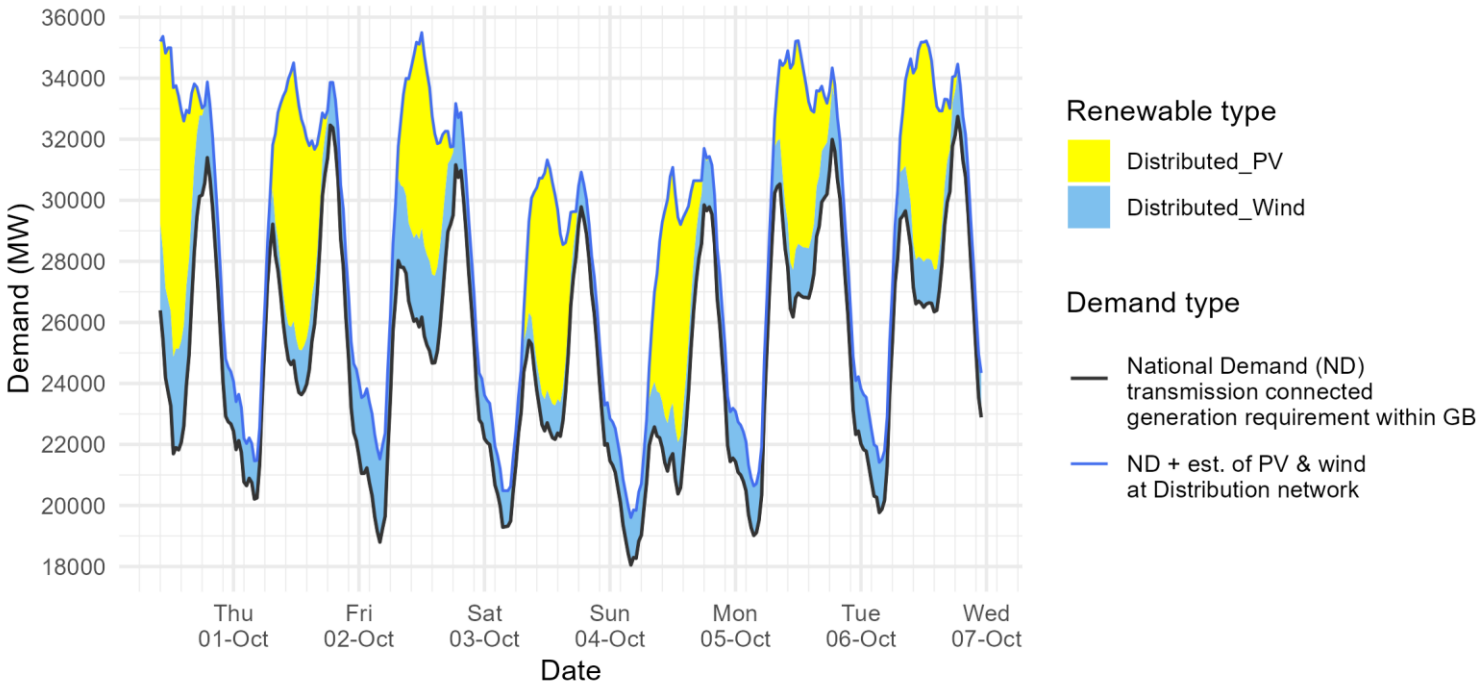
Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real time data.

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

From March to October, the table will display overnight minimum (between 00:00 and 07:30) and daytime minimum (between 07:30 and 16:30) as well as an additional column: distributed PV.

Demand | Week Ahead

NESO Demand forecast for 30 September - 06 October 2026



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.

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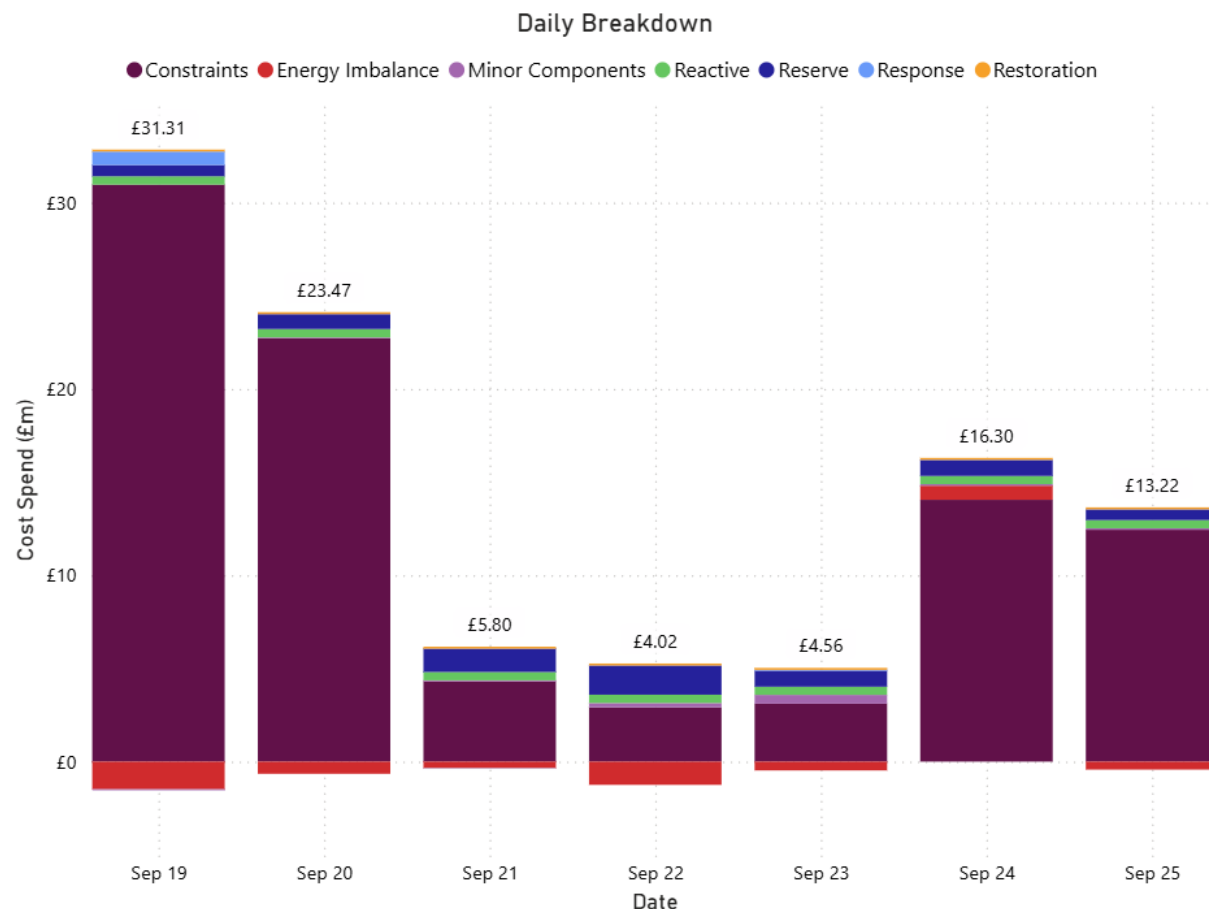
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National Demand Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 30 Sep)		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
30 Sep 2026	Daytime Min	21.7	3.2	8.8
01 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	20.2	1.2	0.0
01 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	23.6	1.5	7.6
02 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	18.8	2.7	0.0
02 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	24.7	2.9	5.2
03 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	19.3	1.2	0.0
03 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	22.2	1.1	6.9
04 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	18.0	1.6	0.0
04 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	20.4	1.7	7.4
05 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	19.0	1.6	0.0
05 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	26.2	1.5	6.8
06 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	19.8	1.6	0.0
06 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	26.3	1.4	6.0

NESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown

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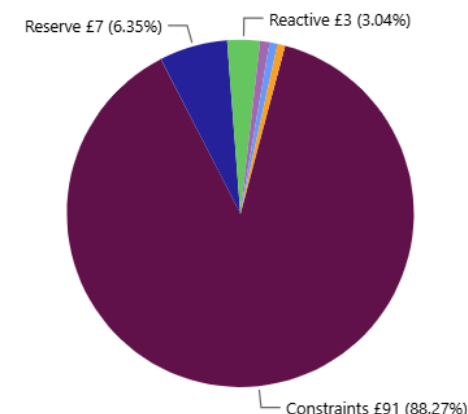
Current Week Total (£m)
£98.68

Average Daily Cost (£m)
£14.10

Previous Week Total (£m)
£111.48

Previous 30 Day Average (£m)
£10.22

Share of Cost Spend (£m)



For more info on constraint costs, and the steps NESO is taking with industry partners to address them, please see our Balancing Costs [website](#).

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

NESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

Slido code #OTF

Thermal Constraints

Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
£91.00M	462K

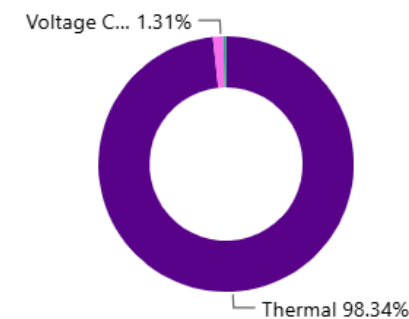
Voltage Constraints

Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
£1.21M	42K

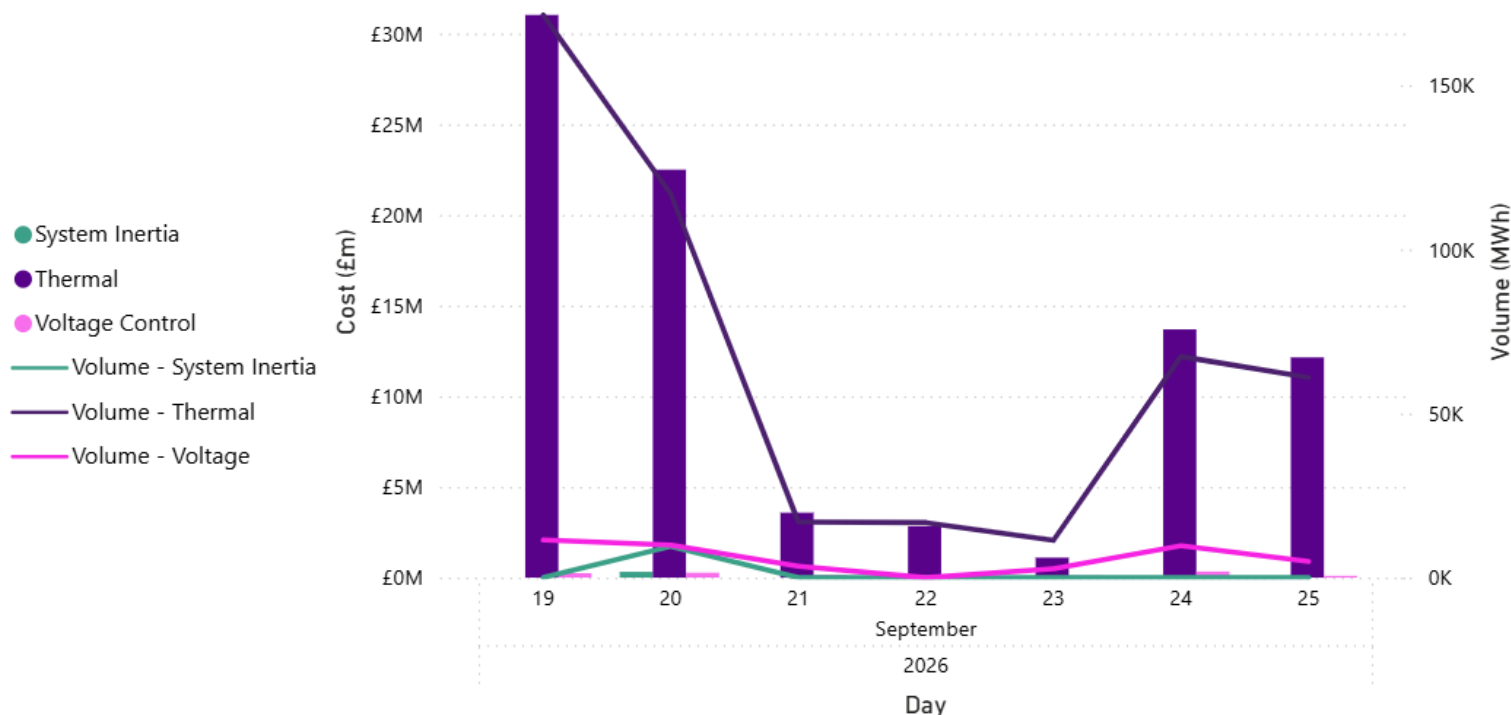
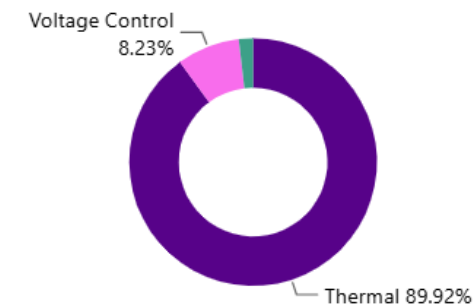
System Inertia

Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
£322.20K	10K

Share of Cost



Share of Volume



Note: Volume is reported as an absolute figure.

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

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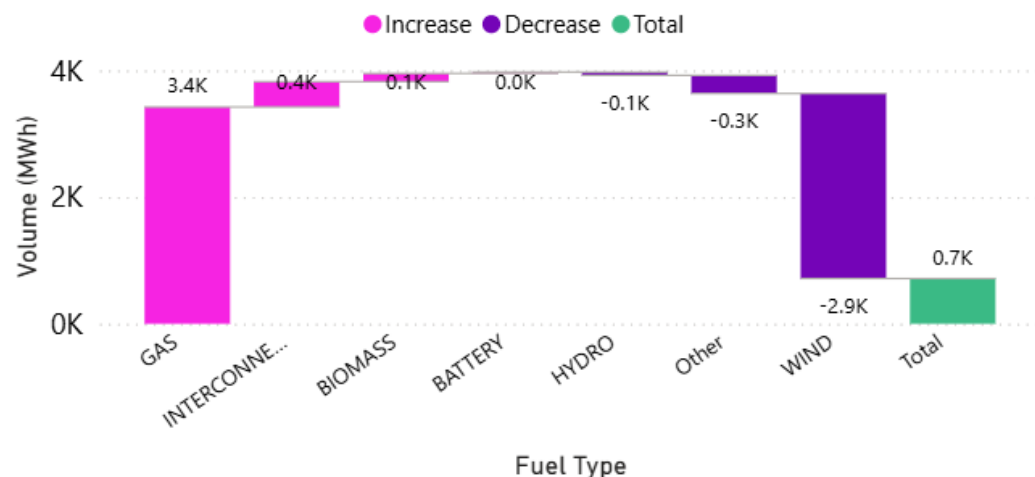
Highest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
19/09/2026	38	£1M

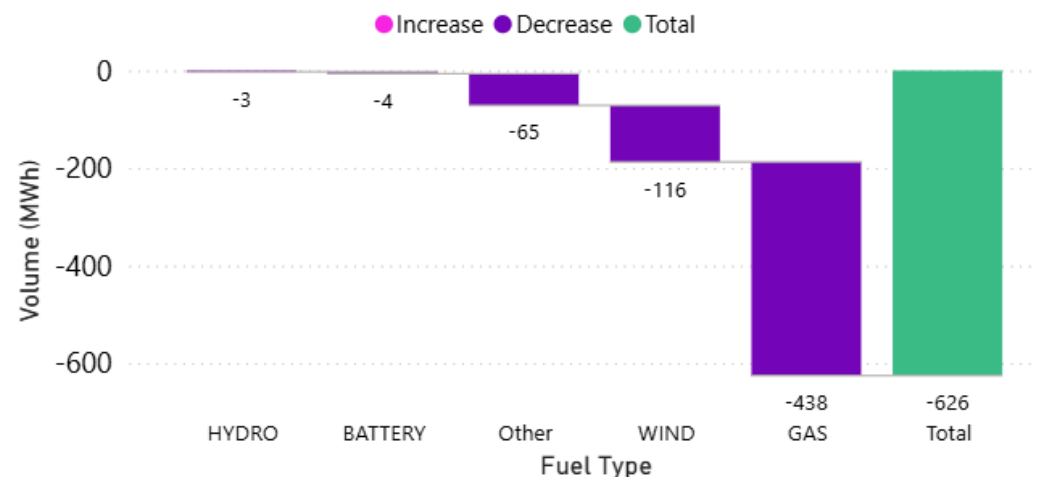
Lowest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
22/09/2026	25	-£57K

Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume shown here is the net volume of actions taken, showing overall increase or decrease in generation from BM units of these fuel types.

NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

Slido code #OTF

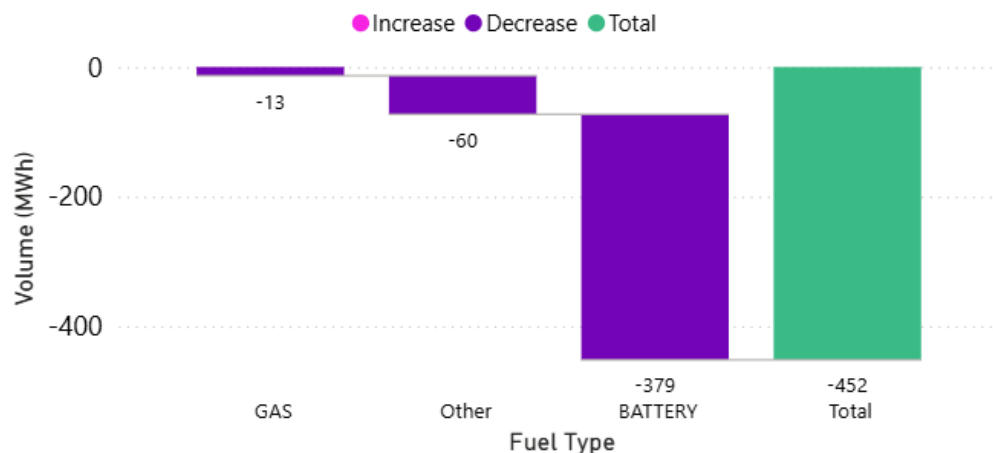
Highest Demand Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period
23/09/2026	40
Demand (MW)	Approximate Cost
35K	£20K

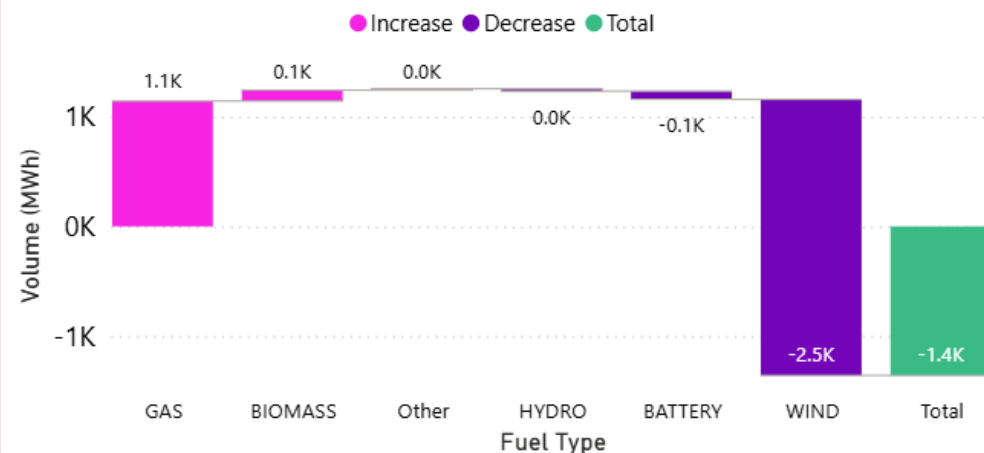
Minimum Demand Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period
20/09/2026	30
Demand (MW)	Approximate Cost
17K	£440K

Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume shown here is the net volume of actions taken, showing overall increase or decrease in generation from BM units of these fuel types.

NESO Actions | Highest Costing Day

Share of Action Cost Spend

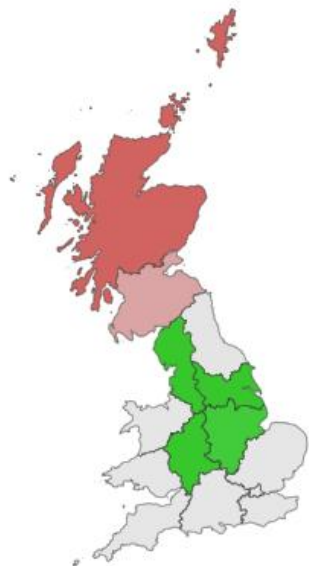
● BID ● OFFER



Settlement Date
19 September 2026

Cost (£m)
£31.31

Bid Spend (£) by GSP

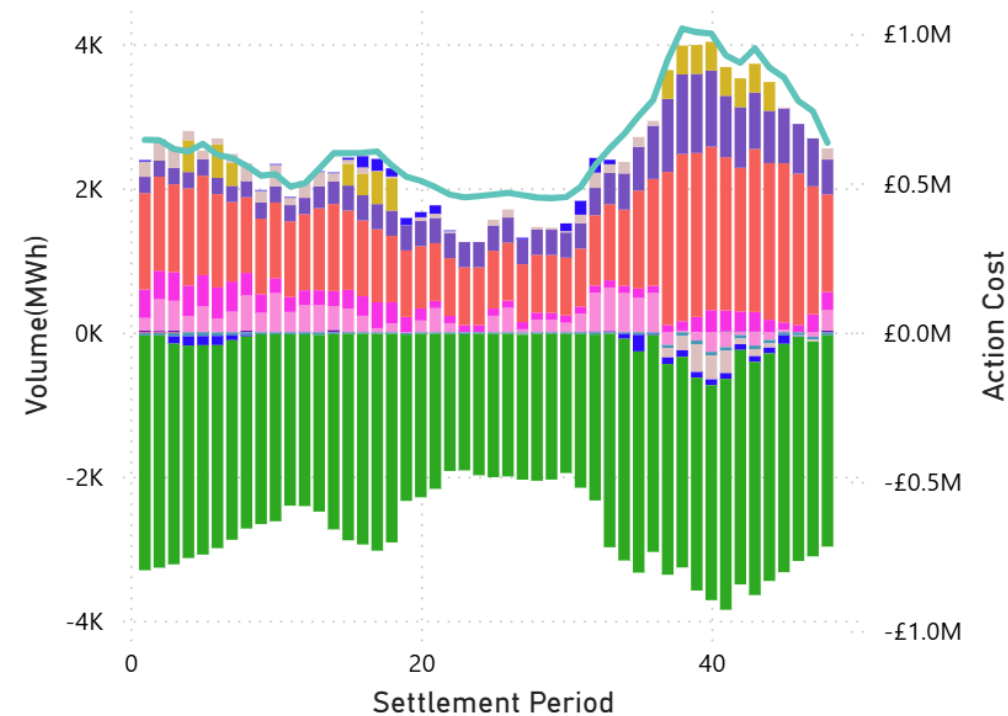


Offer Spend (£) by GSP



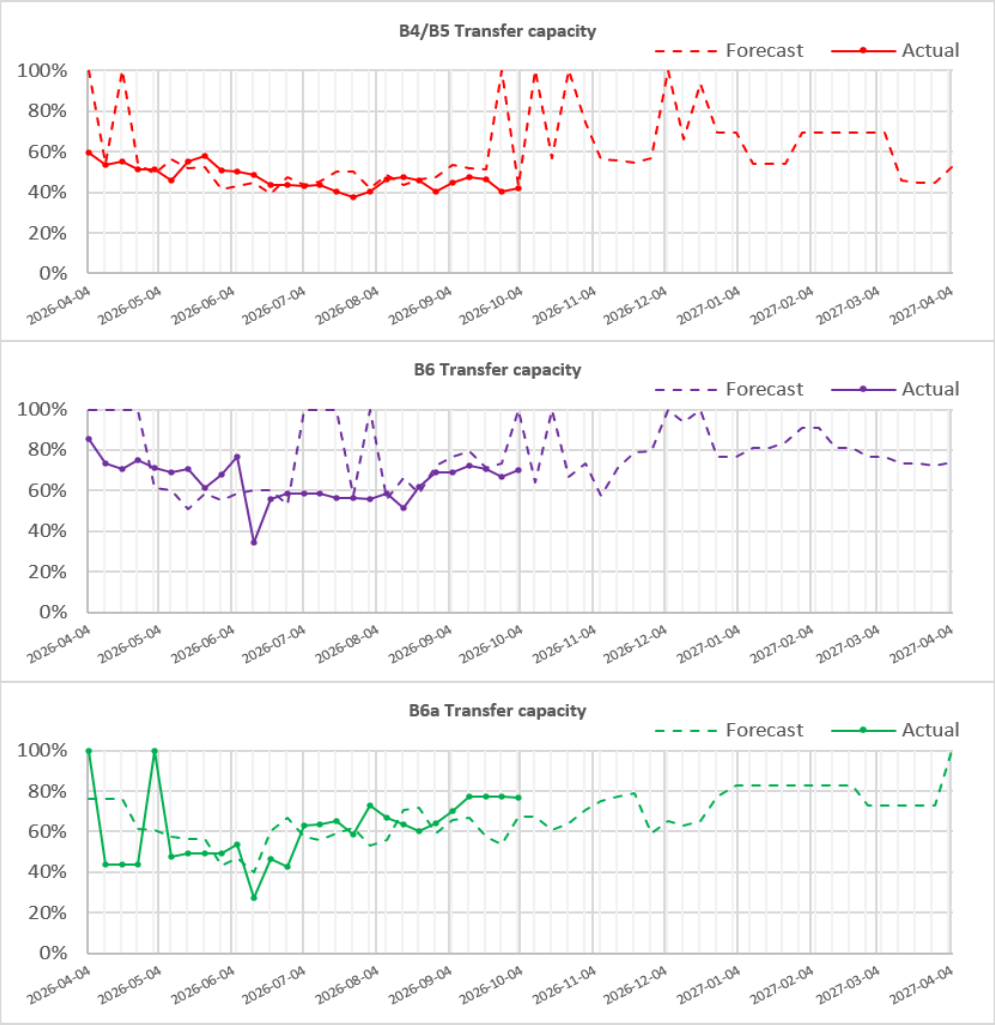
Action Cost and Volume

- AGGREGATED
- BATTERY
- BIOMASS
- CCGT
- CMM
- GAS
- INTERCONNECTOR
- LOAD RESPONSE
- NPSHYD
- OTHER
- PUMP STORAGE
- WIND
- Action Cost

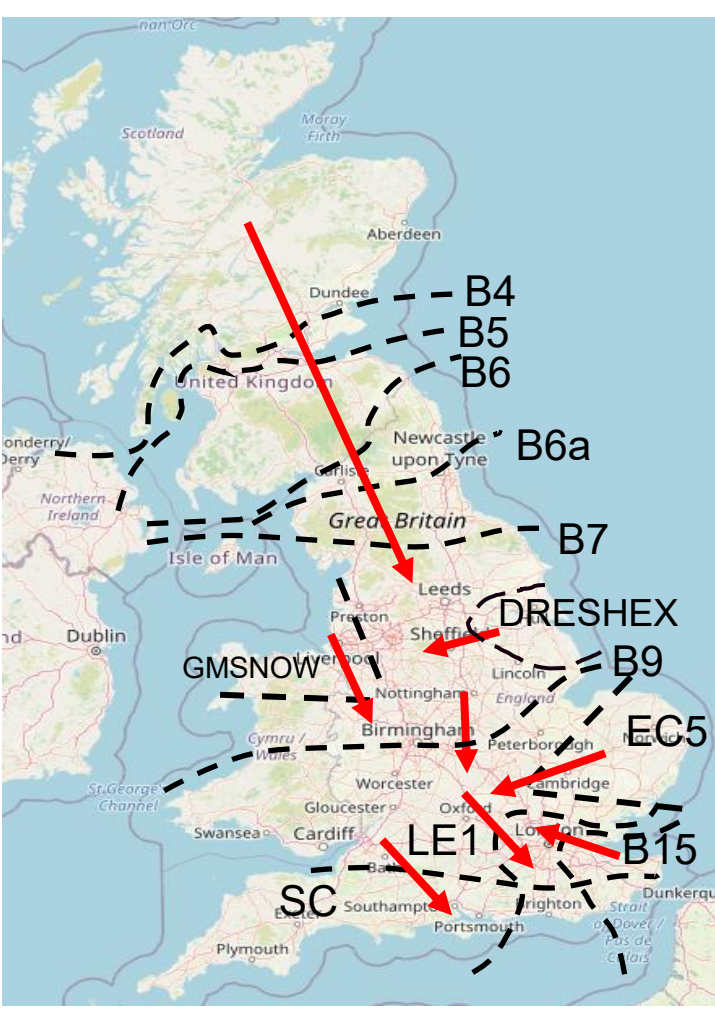


Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	42
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	70
B6a	8000	77
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	79
GMSNOW	5800	14
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	59
DRESHEX	9675	79
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	70
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100

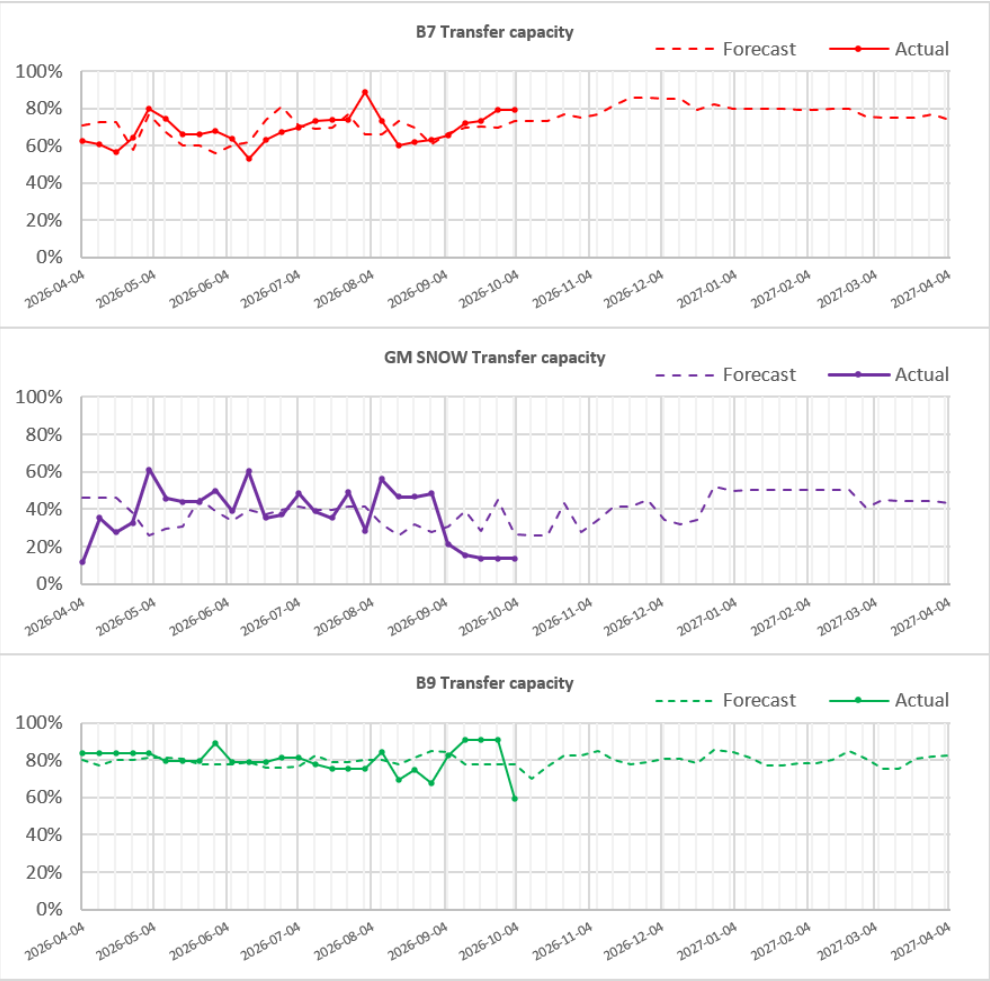


The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

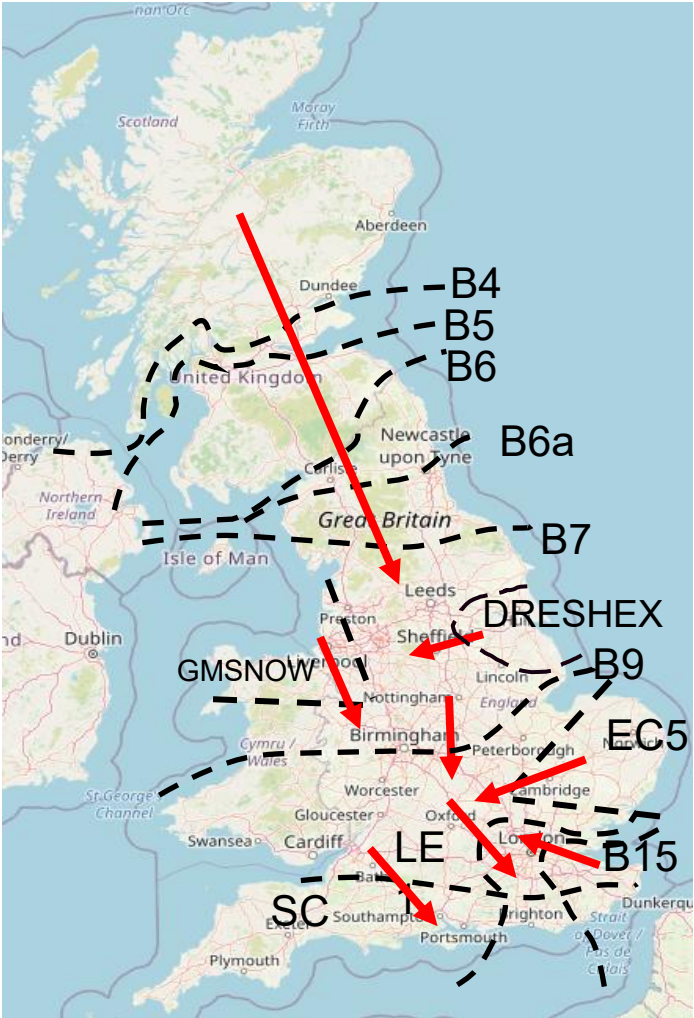


Transparency | Network Congestion

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LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	70
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100

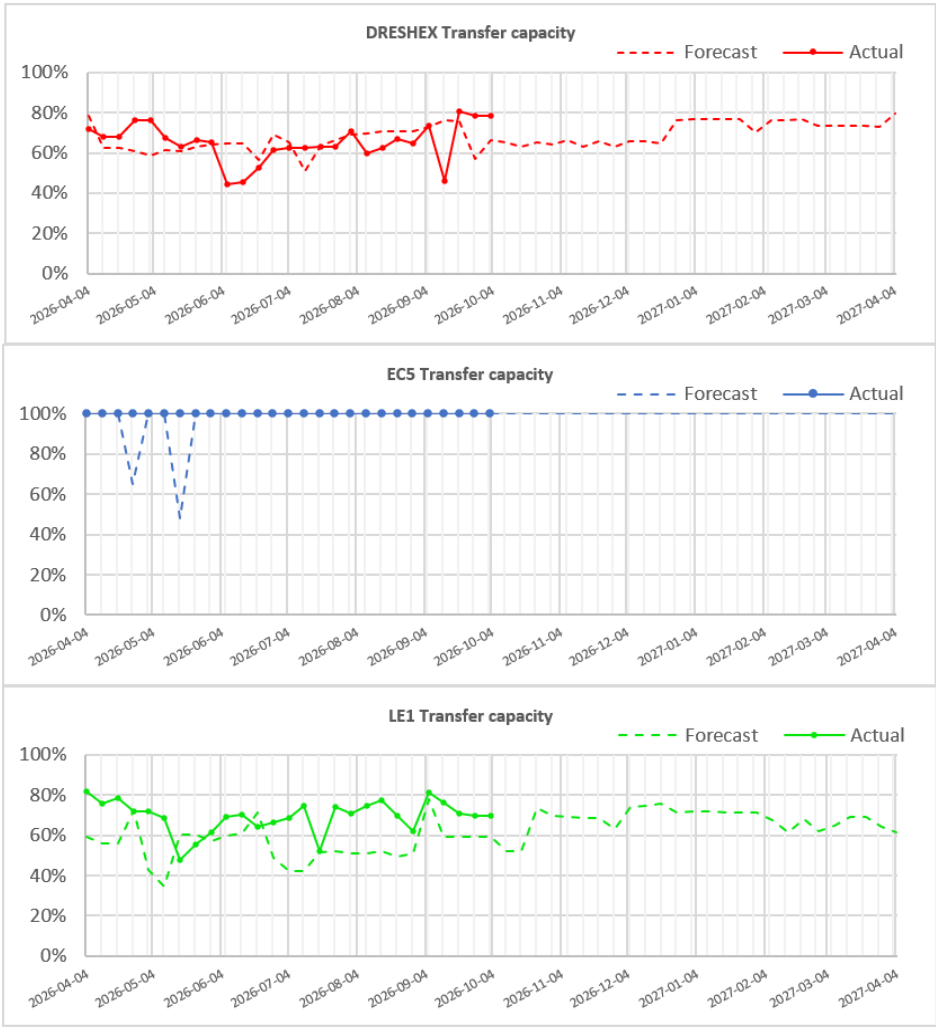


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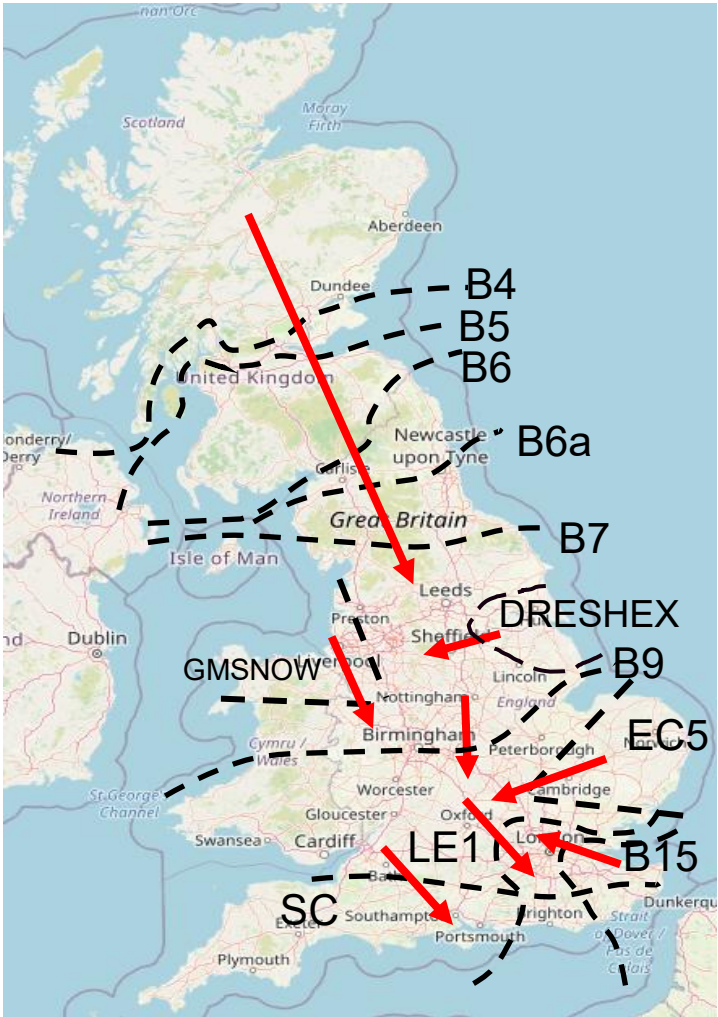


Transparency | Network Congestion

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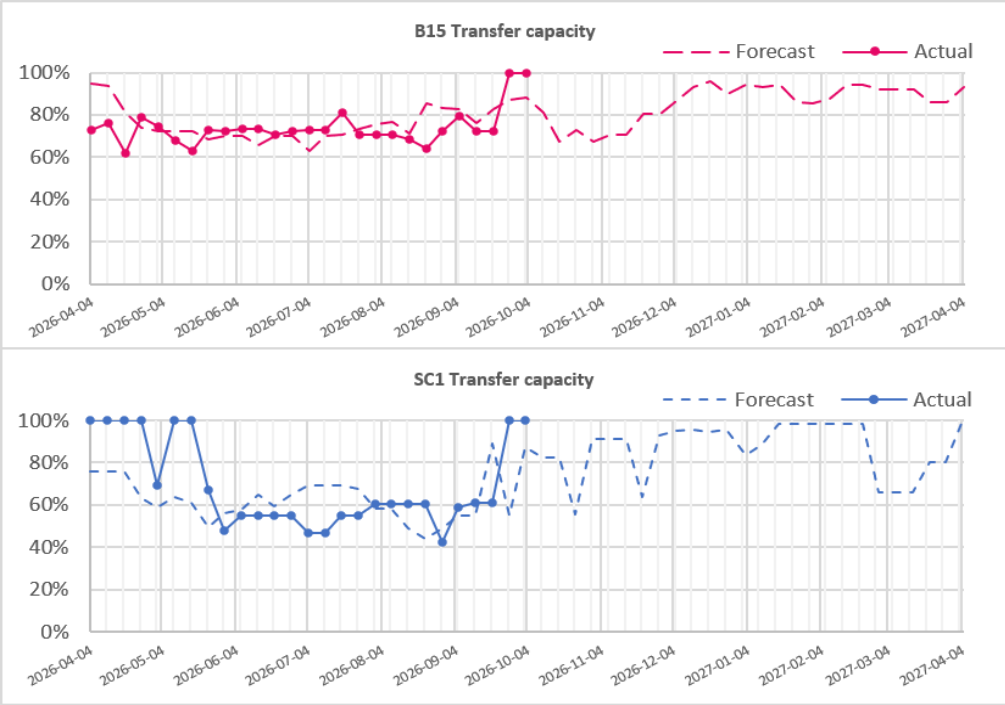
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GMSNOW	5800	14
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	59
DRESHEX	9675	79
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	70
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100



The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF



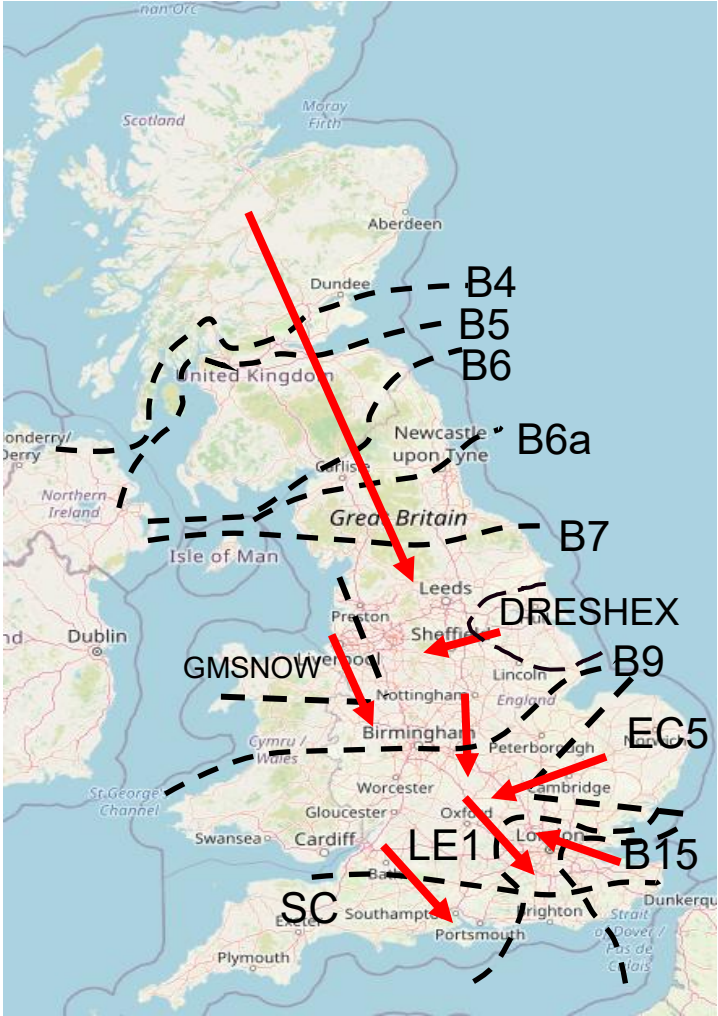
The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the NESO Data Portal: [Constraints Management](#)

The dataset presented in the Network congestion is published on the NESO data portal . [Operational Transparency Forum – Network congestion data | National Energy System Operator](#)

(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes.

Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	42
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	70
B6a	8000	77
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	79
GMSNOW	5800	14
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	59
DRESHEX	9675	79
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	70
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100



Energy Skip Rates – Bids & Offers Combined

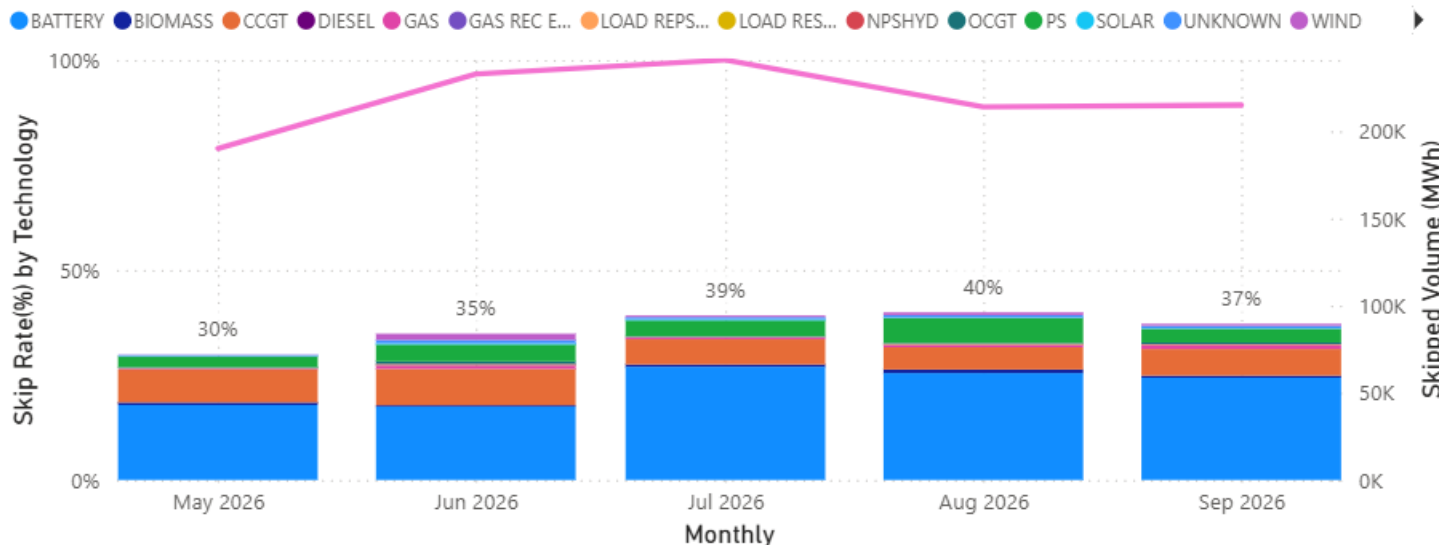
Slido code #OTF

We welcome your comments and feedback on these figures and how we present this data.

These graphs are based on stage 5 of the Post System Action definition.

Weekly Average w/e	PSA Skip Rate (%)
06/09	43%
13/09	34%
20/09	33%
27/09	38%

Relative Technology Skip Rate

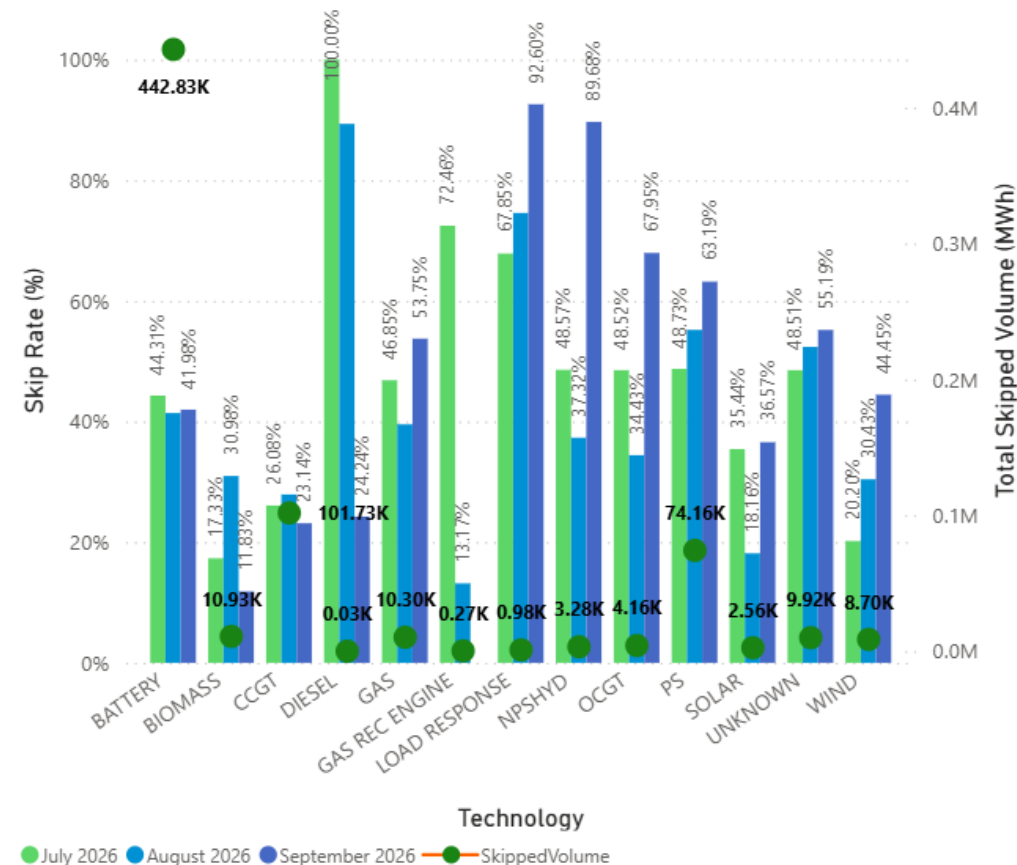


Skips behind constraints [webinar recording](#) and [powerpoint slides](#)

Contact us on box.SkipRates@neso.energy

[Skip rate data](#) and more info on [skip rates](#) including methodology can be found on our website

Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months

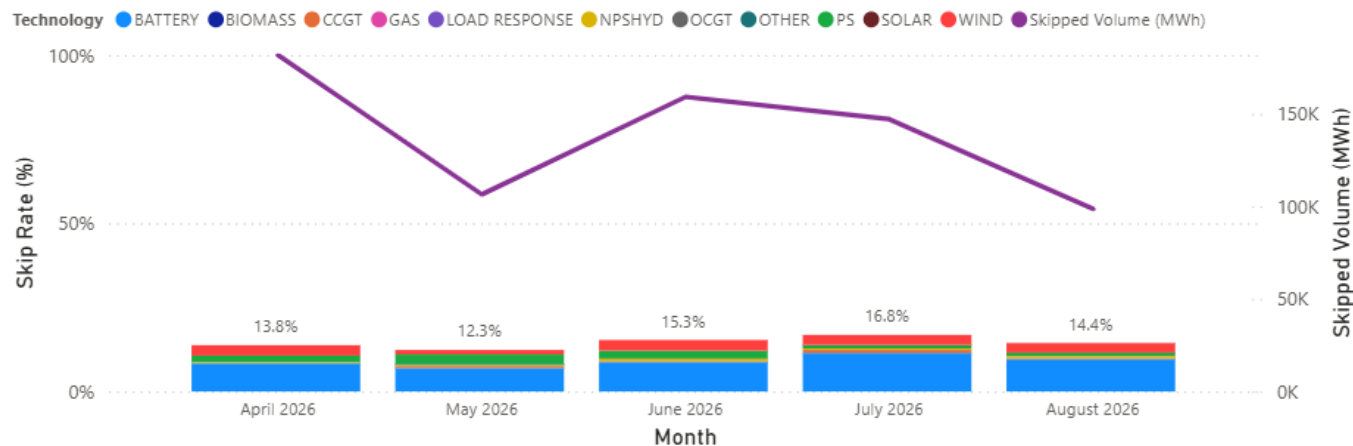


Gas: Gas reciprocating units
NPSHYD: Non-Pumped Storage Hydro
PS: Pumped Storage

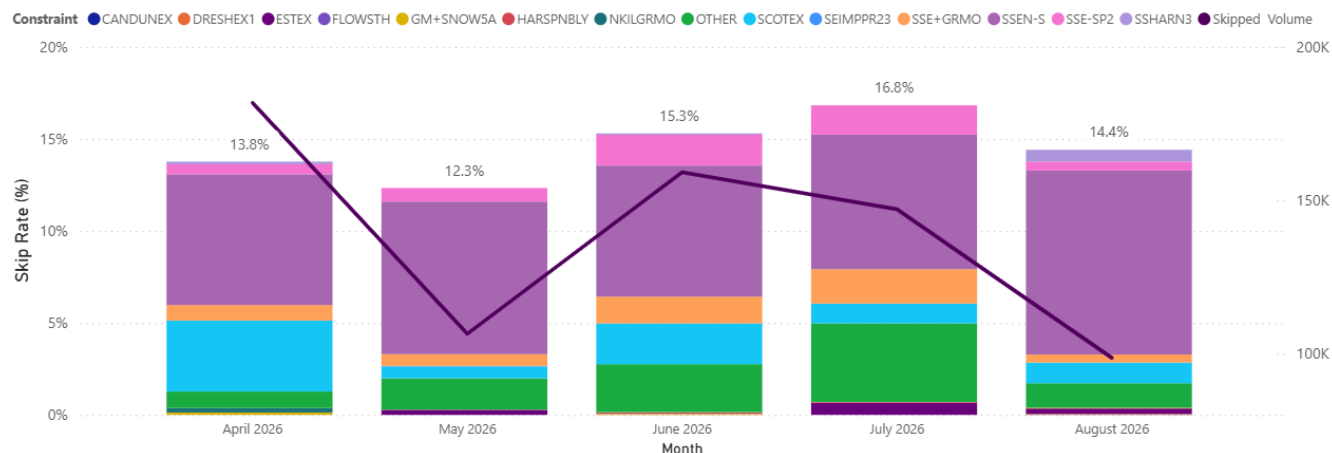
Constraints Skip Rate- Bids & Offers Combined

Slido code #OTF

Relative Technology Skip Rate



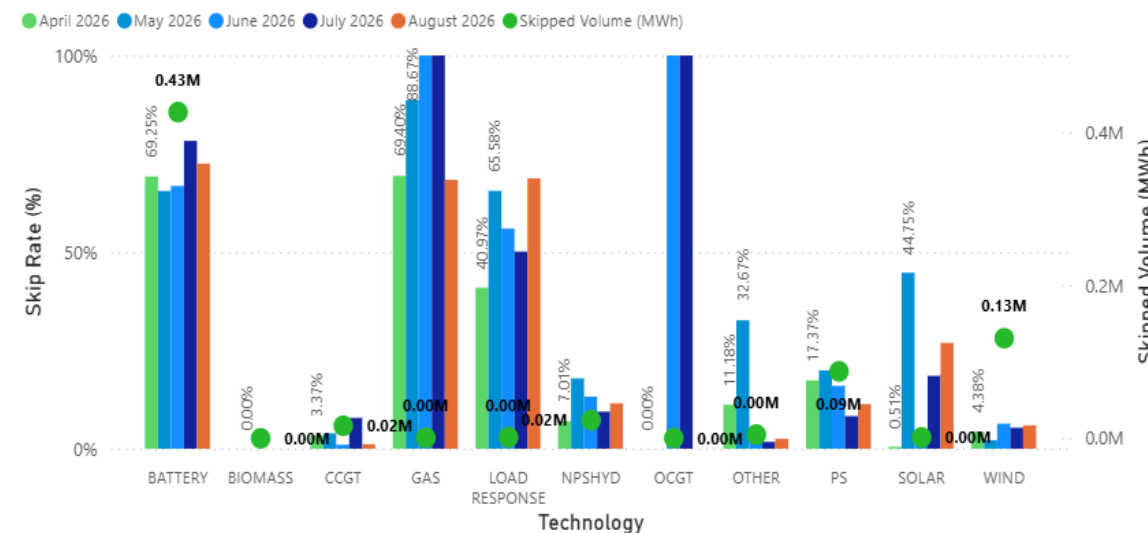
Relative Constraint Skip Rate



Monthly Average	Skip Rate (%)
May	12%
June	15%
July	17%
August	14%

Datasets are published monthly, once the relevant month is complete

Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months



Gas: Gas reciprocating units
NPSHYD: Non-Pumped Storage Hydro
PS: Pumped Storage

Skips behind constraints [webinar recording](#) and [powerpoint slides](#)
Contact us on box.SkipRates@neso.energy

31 [Skip rate data](#) and more info on [skip rates](#) including methodology can be found on our website

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Slido Q (23.09.26) Robbie Messenger: Is there any update on the planned "Capacity Reallocation under Appendix G" policy which is under development? When might we expect to see some guidance on this?

A: Work is currently underway on this; we are engaging with the DNOs to agree a position and to update any documents as may be needed. We will provide updates as this progresses.

Slido Q (23.09.26) Lisa Waters: Under the DESNZ CM proposals NESO will dispatch all CM plants to test them. Any idea how this will work?

A: We understand that the proposal is suggesting that all capacity market units (CMUs) would be required to demonstrate responsiveness through the core winter period, and we believe that the majority of the market should be able to do so through response to a Relevant Balancing Service (RBS) or a Balancing Mechanism (BM) instruction as noted in the consultation.

As further noted in the consultation, this would mean that randomised instructions issued by the Delivery Body between March and April would only be for those that have not yet demonstrated through an RBS or BM instruction.

NESO does not have powers to dispatch units via the Capacity Market, and the proposal does not suggest a change to this. We therefore believe that the instruction would occur via request to the relevant units issued by the Capacity Market Delivery Body.

All of this remains subject to consultation and final government decisions.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Slido Q (23.09.26) Angelo Battistini: It has been some time since Issue 114 regarding ABSVD payments for Secondary BM Units. Could anyone clarify the current position? Are Secondary BM Units now included in ABSVD, or do they remain excluded? Any update on the current treatment of ABSVD would be appreciated.

A: Thank you for raising this – we continue to work with Elexon to progress the actions required as a priority, which include systems changes on the NESO side as well as system stabilisation checks on the Elexon side to ensure that the end to end process will work efficiently once implemented.

Assuming the system improvements progress as planned, and volumes are consistent, we would need to update the C9 statement later this year and would look for the change to go-live to align with the new statement in April next year.

For clarity NESO does continue to send volumes for all BM Units to Elexon but there are inconsistencies in the inclusion of secondary BMUs as part of settlement calculations.

Slido Q (23.09.26) Hamidreza Jahangir: On 21 Sep around 6–8 pm (SP37–SP41), wind was below 5 MW, but NESO still accepted bids from wind farms. Was this due to grid constraints or mainly wind forecasting errors?

A: Wind generation was between 4–5 GW for the time period in question. NESO accepted bids from several wind farms to manage constraints in the B1a and B4 boundary areas, which currently have reduced boundary capacities due to ongoing planned network reinforcement work.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (23.09.26): Further to the question from Michael Langdon Davies, what possible reason does NESO have for bidding down units to trip levels? This also happened to a CCGT on Monday 14th August. Is there any reasonable explanation for this?

(Further details via email provided context to question)

A: Where a unit has redeclared parameters, they may still have some additional flexibility that is in merit. As all BOAs are constructed from and to Final Physical Notifications (FPNs), that may mean some redeclared volume is subject to the BOA. However it is the additional flexibility that is the target of the BOA.

Similarly, when we wish to prevent a unit synchronising which has a MEL rising from zero, we need to ensure that the combination of the FPN, MEL profile and the BOA profile do not leave a non-zero profile that the unit should follow which breaches other parameters (such as Minimum Non-Zero Time). In this case, some of the declared down volume will need to form part of the BOA.

Slido survey (23.09.26) : I would like to develop understanding around how NESO can track and evaluate the contributions of embedded generation on the LV networks and how these are taken account of in the balancing mechanism and process. Can this be covered at OTF?

A: Embedded (non-metered) renewable generation portfolios are compiled and cross-checked from a series of sources (Embedded Capacity Registers, RenewableUK, Sheffield University, etc.). NESO forecasts their daily production levels. The contributions of embedded wind are calculated by NESO, but solar contributions are sourced (purchased) from Sheffield University via the "PV_Live" service. The net effects of the embedded generation are incorporated into National Demand forecasts, which are used by Electricity National Control Centre in the Scheduling & Balancing process. Non-metered Batteries, diesels or small gas engines are not considered at this present time, but their impacts are indirectly factored, through the training of the National Demand models.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (08.09.26): Appendix E of the SQSS “Modelling of Economy Planned Transfer” relates to boundary flows, connections and constraints. SQSS V2.2 5th March 2012 Microsoft Word – NETS SQSS version 2 2 FINAL changes removed.doc (<https://www.neso.energy/document/215581/download>) states that “The NETS SO will review the appropriateness of these factors and revise them where necessary, based on alignment with cost benefit analysis. The period between reviews shall be no more than five years but may be less if required”. The current version V2.12 29th May 2026 NETS SQSS (<https://www.neso.energy/document/382381/download>) states “E.4 The ISOP will review the appropriateness of these factors and revise them where necessary, based on alignment with cost benefit analysis. The period between reviews shall be no more than five years but may be less if required”. The factors concerned are currently set as follows “E.3.1 For nuclear stations, and for coal-fired and gas-fired stations fitted with Carbon Capture and Storage, DT = 0.85 E.3.2 For stations powered by wind, wave, or tides, DT = 0.70. E.3.3 For pumped storage-based stations, DT = 0.5 E.3.4 For interconnectors to external systems regarded as importing into GB at the time of peak demand, DT = 1.0”. These factors are exactly the same as in 2012 and do not appear to include current plant types.

Since 2012, when has NESO carried out reviews with CBAs and where are these published?

A: There is a currently active innovation project working on reviewing the SQSS planning requirements. Here is the project summary page: [Assessment of the MITS planning backgrounds | National Energy System Operator](#)

The project had a delayed start so is around 12 months behind the projected end date.

The previous update under GSR022, which ran for many years, failed to sufficiently develop and agree an update and was withdrawn: [GSR022: Review of Security and Economy Required Transfer Conditions | National Energy System Operator](#)

NESO, together with the TOs has conducted CBA planning review of network investment annually through the Network Options Assessment process. The process is now moving away from NOA to the new Centralised Strategic Network Plan, details of which, together with previous NOA, are available here:

[Centralised Strategic Network Plan \(CSNP\) | National Energy System Operator](#)

[Key documents \(tCSNP\) | National Energy System Operator](#)

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (24.09.26): Can you provide clarification on the interconnector trading restrictions when the day ahead nomination is exactly zero? The market notice on 14th May states that a 300MW limit will be implemented for within day trading in the opposite direction to the Day-Ahead schedule, but it is not clear whether this includes times where the Day-Ahead nomination is exactly 0 MW.

A: The 0MW flow can be treated differently depending on the flow in the hours preceding and following the 0MW.

If NESO needed to trade above the 300MW we would discuss with the relevant TSO to gain clarity on the day.

Advance Q (29.09.26): Hi, could you please provide any indication on when the latest TNUoS Five-Year View will be published?
Thanks

A: This will be published on 8 October. The comms are being sent out today through NESO newsletter:
<https://subscribers.neso.energy/t/d-03B777F50D97B6152540EF23F30FEDED>

Outstanding Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (24.09.26): I recently asked an advanced question on the OTF session on 23rd Sept. See below for my question and your response.

Advance Q (16.09.26) : Following on from Jonathan Leake's OTF question on 9/9/26, I note that the constraint costs for April, May and June 2025 for England & Wales, Cheviot and Scotland (as shown in the MBSS dataset) are missing. Why have they not been published?
<https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/balancing-costs>

A: We've checked this and can't see any missing constraint costs for those months and region categories in the MBSS dashboard & dataset. Kindly confirm which dataset/reports seem to be missing at your end. Please send us an email in our box.nc.customer@neso.energy if you still can't see the dataset for the mentioned months.

I see that the data can be found on the balancing costs dashboard, just above the list of available MBSS datasets on your Balancing Costs page.

However, when going to the subsection titled 'MBSS archive' (see below) and clicking on "Monthly balancing Services Summary 2024/2025", this zip file does not show the latest available spreadsheet, with the latest titled 'MBSS Data March 2025'.

[Screenshots provided]

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (01.07.26) Chris Bocock: Please could you give us an idea of the capacity numbers involved in the response to the EMN? If possible, I'd like to know the absolute and relative contribution of the demand side response he mentioned. Thank you

Q (01.07.2026) Advance: The extreme weather across Europe in the week beginning 22 June was well forecast. From that the challenges of reduced wind, gas, and nuclear power output should have been forecast. So, I'm very surprised that "[when] we approached real time, models moved from using forecasts for interconnector flow to using nominated flows from day ahead auctions" and that led to amber then red margin status, a frequency deviation, and an interconnector emergency instruction. What work is NESO going to undertake to ensure your margin forecast model does not fail to predict reduced margin in these conditions, well ahead of real time, when they next occur?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: On 26/06 NESO issued an EMN until 21:00 despite soft margins and spare CCGT in the stack. It had already procured 1,500MW on ICs, then cut EMN shortfall to 100MW while requesting another 100MW IC. Was the EMN ready to enable more IC MW procurement cheaper than GB, not because NESO lacked margin?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: Would providing a DRM with the inclusion of constraints provide a better reflection of how tight the system is from a control room perspective. The questions today suggest that the last 3 EMNs have not made any sense to the market given a near 10GW DRM on each EMN.

Q (15.07.26) Lisa Waters: Under the recent EMNs NESO was taking over 500MW out of the margin as it was constrained off. 500MW is the fixed CMN margin trigger. Does NESO think we need to review the CMN trigger to account for constrained off margin?

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (15.07.26) Alistair Abbott: Are you able to share the causes behind the latest EMNs? The LoLP on Elexon shows that for EMN notice period last Thursday (09/07), the lowest margin forecast was 5.9GW, slightly greater than the margin forecast on Wednesday (08/07), yet this period had no EMN. Thank you.

NESO OTF Q&A Guidelines

- **Anonymous Questions:** We won't answer questions from unidentified parties live. If you need to stay anonymous, use the advance question or email options.
- **Challenge Concerns:** The OTF isn't the place to challenge actions of individual parties (except NESO). Report such concerns to the Market Monitoring team at: <mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy>.
- **Question Order:** We'll answer questions in the order they are upvoted. If we can't answer a question right away, we'll take it away or address it later.
- **Slido Availability:** Slido will stay open until 12:00, even if the call ends earlier, to give you more time to ask questions.
- **Q&A:** All questions asked through Slido will be recorded and published with answers in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on our webpage: <https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum>
- **Takeaway Questions:** These will be included in the next OTF pack. We might ask you to email us to clarify details
- **Out of Scope Questions:** These will be forwarded to the right NESO expert or team for a direct response. We might ask you to email us to ensure we have the correct contact details. For more information about the OTF's purpose and scope, check the appendix of this slide pack.

slido

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Audience Q&As

① Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

Send us your feedback..

Using the poll in Sli.do after the event.

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

Appendix

Purpose and scope of the NESO Operational Transparency Forum

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

The OTF covers:

- Regular updates, deep dives, and focus topics
- NESO's operational strategies and challenges
- Data published by NESO
- Data and processes from other parties (e.g., BMRS by Elexon, consultations by Elexon, Ofgem, DESNZ)
- Industry questions (answers live or taken away for answering later)

Out of Scope

The OTF does not cover:

- Data owned by other parties
- Specific actions and decisions of the NESO Control Room
- Activities and operations of individual market participants
- NESO's policy and strategic decisions
- Formal consultations (e.g., Code Changes, Business Planning, Market Development)

Skip Rates – ‘In Merit’ datasets

Slido code #OTF

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.

$\text{In Merit Volume} = \text{Accepted Volume} + \text{Skipped Volume}$

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).