

Public

# NESO Operational Transparency Forum

8 July 2026

## 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

Slido code #OTF

- **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](mailto: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](mailto: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

- None

Slido code #OTF

## Future

- 15<sup>th</sup> July
  - NESO Year-Ahead Constraint Cost Forecast
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July
  - June Balancing Costs
- 29<sup>th</sup> July
  - No OTF (run fortnightly over summer break)



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](mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy)

# Open letter to industry on DER Participation in NESO Reactive Power Markets

Publication – 6 July 2026

NESO recently published an Open letter to industry on DER Participation in NESO Reactive Power Markets, along with supporting slides and recording.

At this time NESO will not allow Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) and DNO/DSOs to participate in NESO Reactive Power Markets. The reasoning behind this decision explained in the letter.

We will keep this decision under review and welcome further views from stakeholders.

**We will be holding an industry Q&A call on 22 July 14:00-15:00.**

Please use the links/QR Code on the right to register.

We would encourage you to submit any questions via email to [box.voltage@neso.energy](mailto:box.voltage@neso.energy), however there will be the opportunity to ask questions on the day.

We'd love to hear your feedback!

**Open Letter, slides and recording – see 'Latest news' section**

- [NESO Reactive Power Market](#)
- [Open Letter to Industry](#)
- [Supporting slides](#)
- [Recording](#)



**22<sup>nd</sup> July – 14:00-15:00**

**Industry Q&A call: DER in NESO Reactive Power Markets**



To register for the webinar:

- [Use this link](#)

or

- Scan the QR Code

# RNP Balancing, Settlement and Dispatch Call for Input – Summary of Responses

Slido code #OTF

**Register for our Call for Input Playback session on 16 July 10:00–11:30** to hear from the Reformed National Pricing (RNP) team on the feedback received through the Balancing, Settlement and Dispatch Call for Input.

The session will share key insights, outline next steps, and provide an opportunity to ask questions. Questions can be submitted in advance on Slido using **#CFIPLAYBACK**

To register for the webinar:

- [Use this link](#)

or

- Scan the QR Code



# Response Reform Webinar: Dynamic Response

**Join us for the Response Reform webinar on 28 July 14:00–15:00**

This webinar will provide an update on NESO's current thinking of moving towards 30-minute service windows rather than EFA blocks for the Dynamic Response Services. Including NESO's preferred options on how providers should manage their State of Energy (SoE) and how performance will be assessed.

To register for this webinar, please sign up [here](#).

Please submit any questions via email: [box.futureofbalancingservices@neso.energy](mailto:box.futureofbalancingservices@neso.energy)

# BM Registration news: SORT Date Checker Tool is now available online

Link to tool: [SORT Date Checker](#)

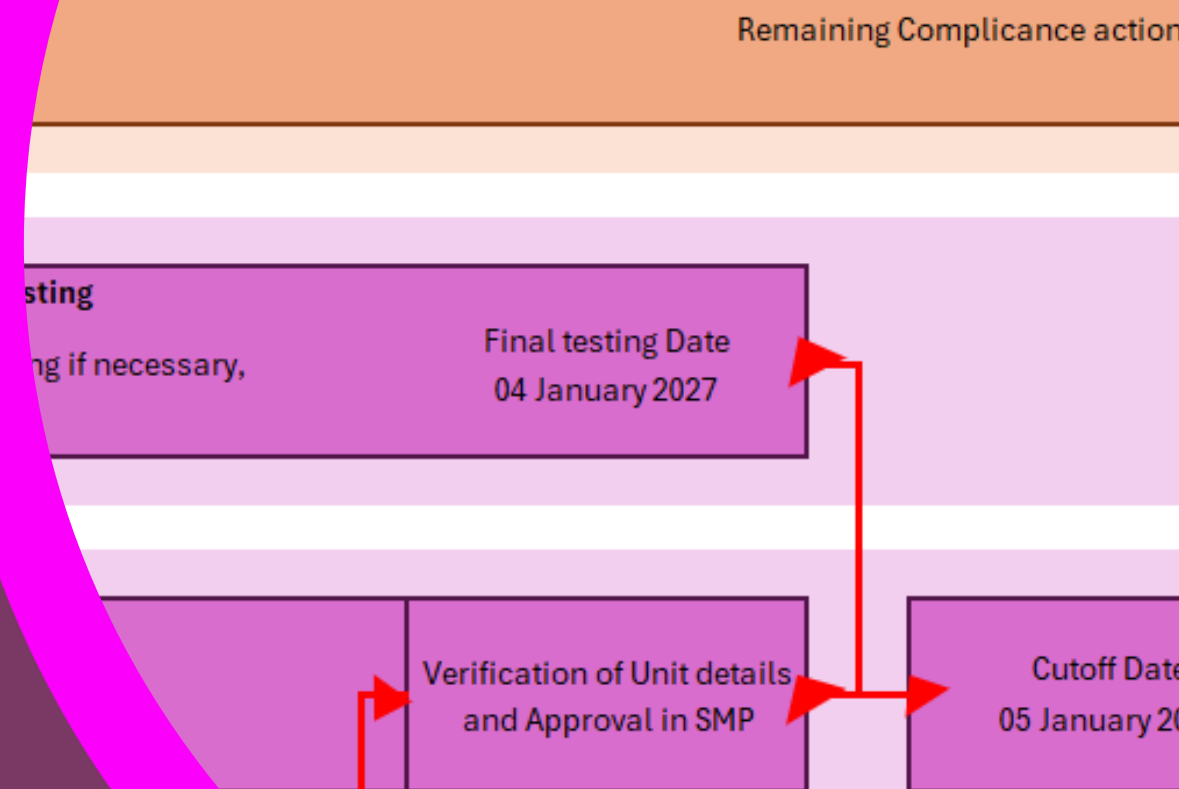
To use:

- click the link
- download your own copy
- open in the **desktop** version of Excel

See the notes tab for useful information and NESO contact details.

The tool is designed to identify key dates and support project planning for **all** units registering for the Balancing Mechanism (BM). This version was refined following feedback from the Customer Compliance Seminar in Glasgow and from this Forum on 20 May 2026.

For further information about registering for the BM go to: [Balancing Mechanism Wider Access | National Energy System Operator](#) or contact the team at: [bmu.registration@neso.energy](mailto:bmu.registration@neso.energy)



# Future Event Summary

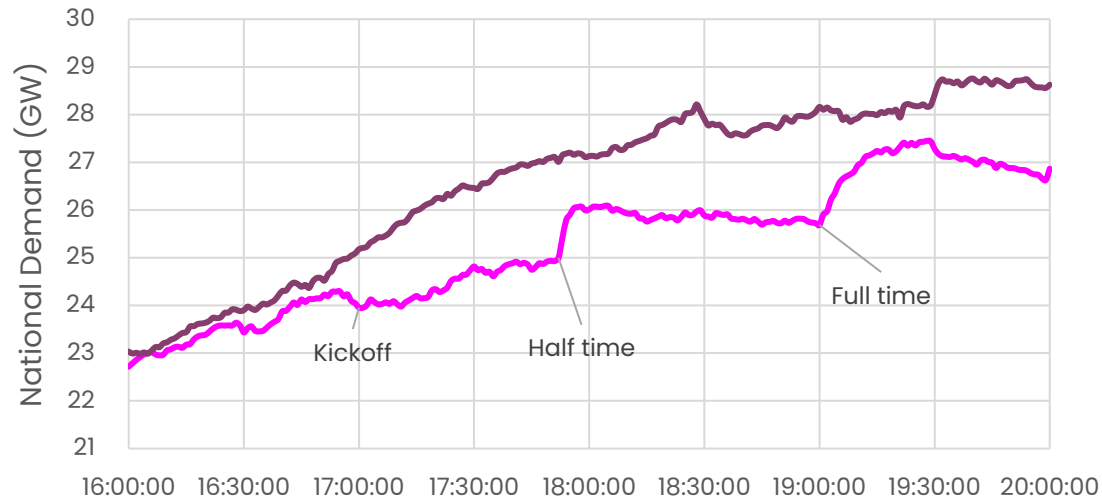
Slido code #OTF

Event	Date & Time	Link
South West Reactive Power 2026 Consultation	Close date: 10 July	<a href="#">Response Form here</a>
RNP Call for Input playback session	16 July (10:00-11:30)	<a href="#">Register here</a>
DER Participation in NESO Reactive Power Markets webinar	22 July (14:00-15:00)	<a href="#">Register here</a>
Response Reform: Dynamic Response webinar	28 July (14:00-15:00)	<a href="#">Register here</a>

# Demand | England TV Pickups

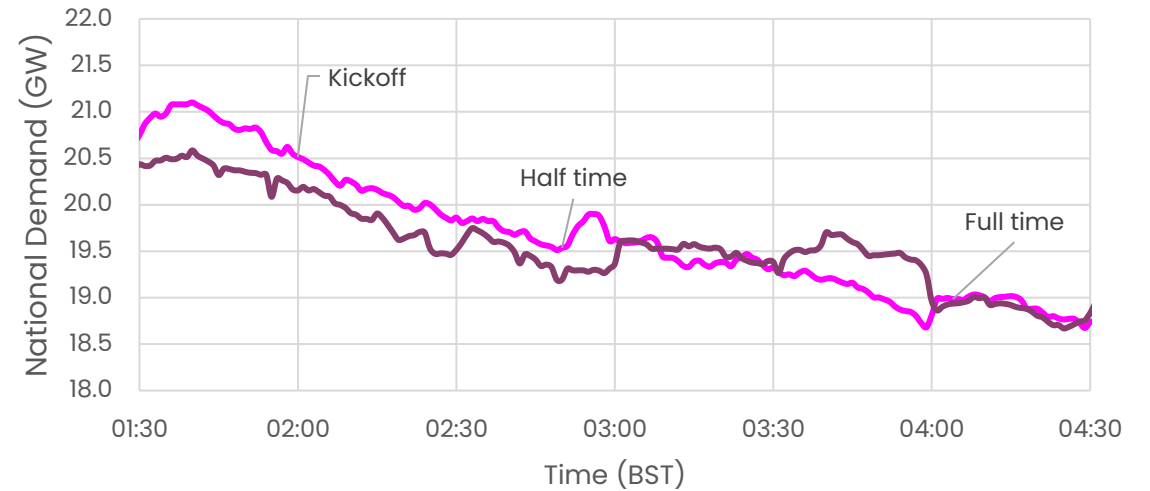
Slido code #OTF

World Cup 2026  
**England vs DR Congo**  
 Electricity demand trace



Break	Pickup
Half-time	1075 MW
Full-time	1460 MW

World Cup 2026  
**England vs Mexico**  
 Electricity demand trace

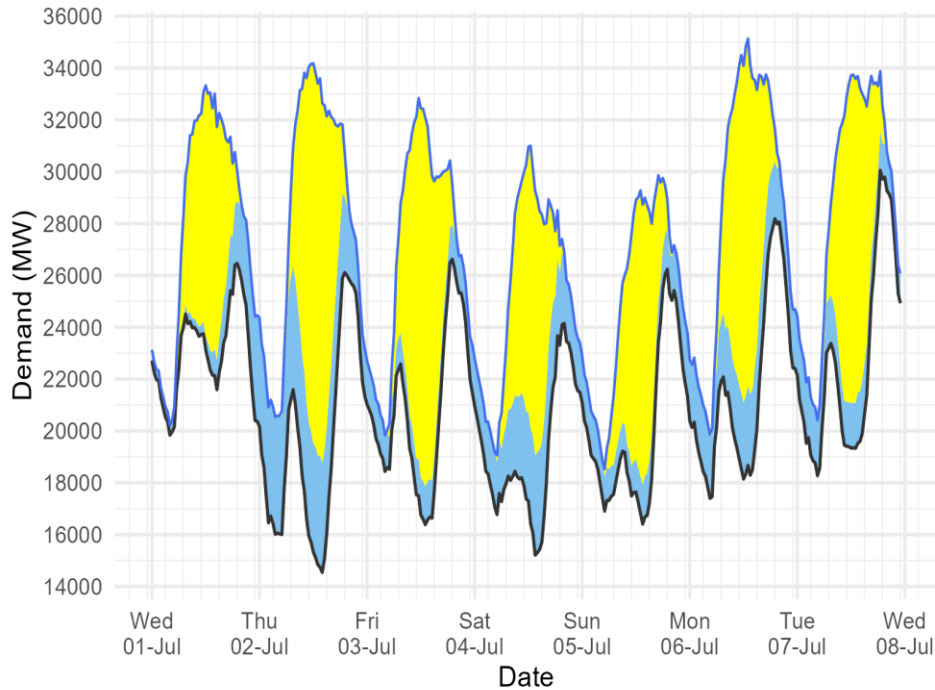


Break	Pickup
Half-time	388 MW
Full-time	50 MW

# Demand | Last week demand out-turn

Slido code #OTF

NESO National Demand outturn 01 - 07 July 2026



- Demand type**
- National Demand (ND) transmission connected generation requirement within GB
  - ND + est. of PV & wind at Distribution network
- Renewable type**
- Distributed\_PV
  - Distributed\_Wind

## Distributed generation Peak values by day

Date	OUTTURN	
	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
01 Jul 2026	10.0	4.0
02 Jul 2026	14.7	4.8
03 Jul 2026	14.4	1.8
04 Jul 2026	10.9	3.9
05 Jul 2026	11.0	2.4
06 Jul 2026	13.5	3.2
07 Jul 2026	12.7	2.4

## National Demand Minimum Demands

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 01 Jul)			OUTTURN		
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
01 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	22.4	1.1	8.5	21.6	1.1	9.0
02 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	16.2	4.4	0.0	16.0	4.5	0.2
02 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	15.4	3.5	13.4	14.5	4.2	13.9
03 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	18.9	1.2	0.2	18.4	1.4	0.0
03 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	16.5	1.8	13.4	16.4	1.5	14.2
04 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	16.7	2.3	0.5	16.8	2.0	0.3
04 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	14.2	2.9	10.9	15.2	3.9	10.2
05 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	15.8	1.8	2.1	16.9	1.3	0.3
05 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	14.7	2.3	11.4	16.4	1.5	10.8
06 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	18.0	2.0	0.0	17.4	2.4	0.0
06 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	21.6	1.7	9.1	18.1	2.9	13.0
07 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.8	1.2	0.0	18.3	2.1	0.0
07 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	22.2	1.2	10.4	19.3	1.7	12.5

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](#)

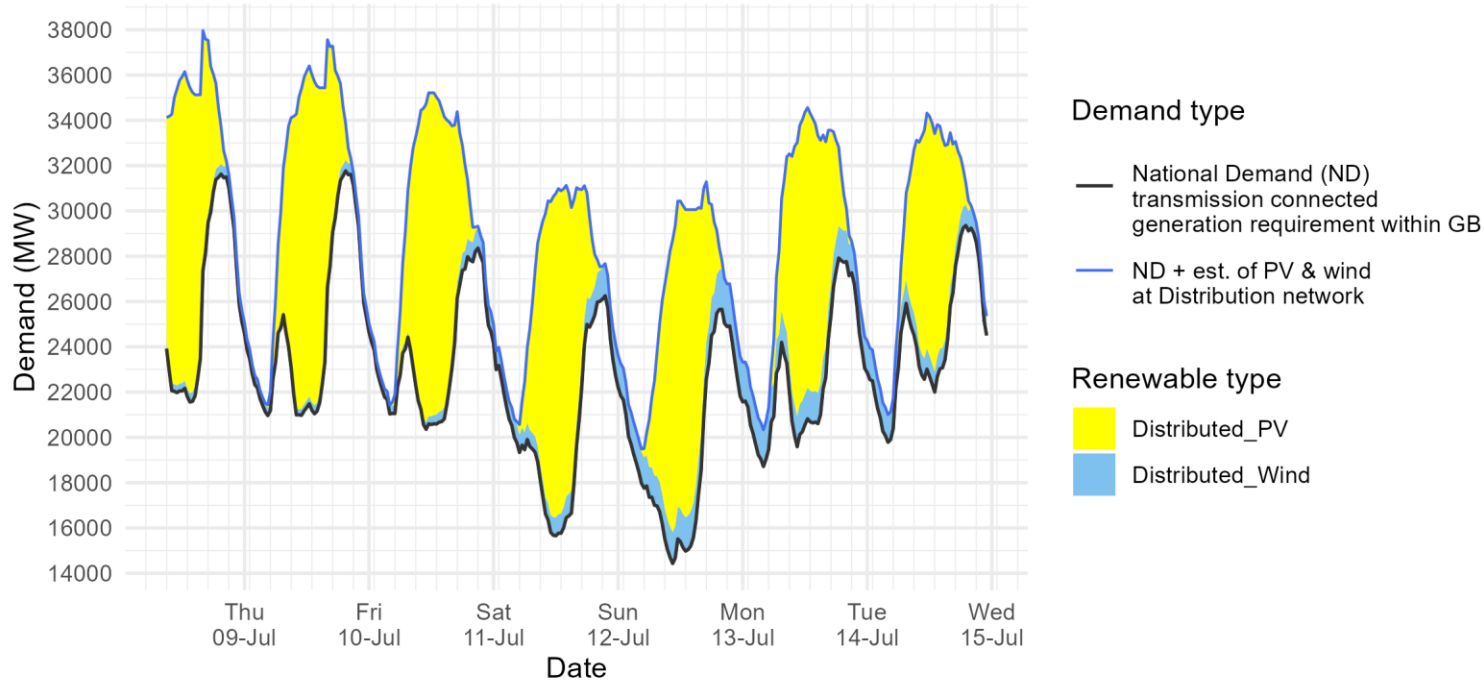
From March to October, the table will display overnight minimum (between 00:00 and 07:30) and daytime minimum (between 07:30 and 16:30) as well as an additional column: distributed PV.



# Demand | Week Ahead

Slido code #OTF

NESO Demand forecast for 08 - 14 July 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.

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.

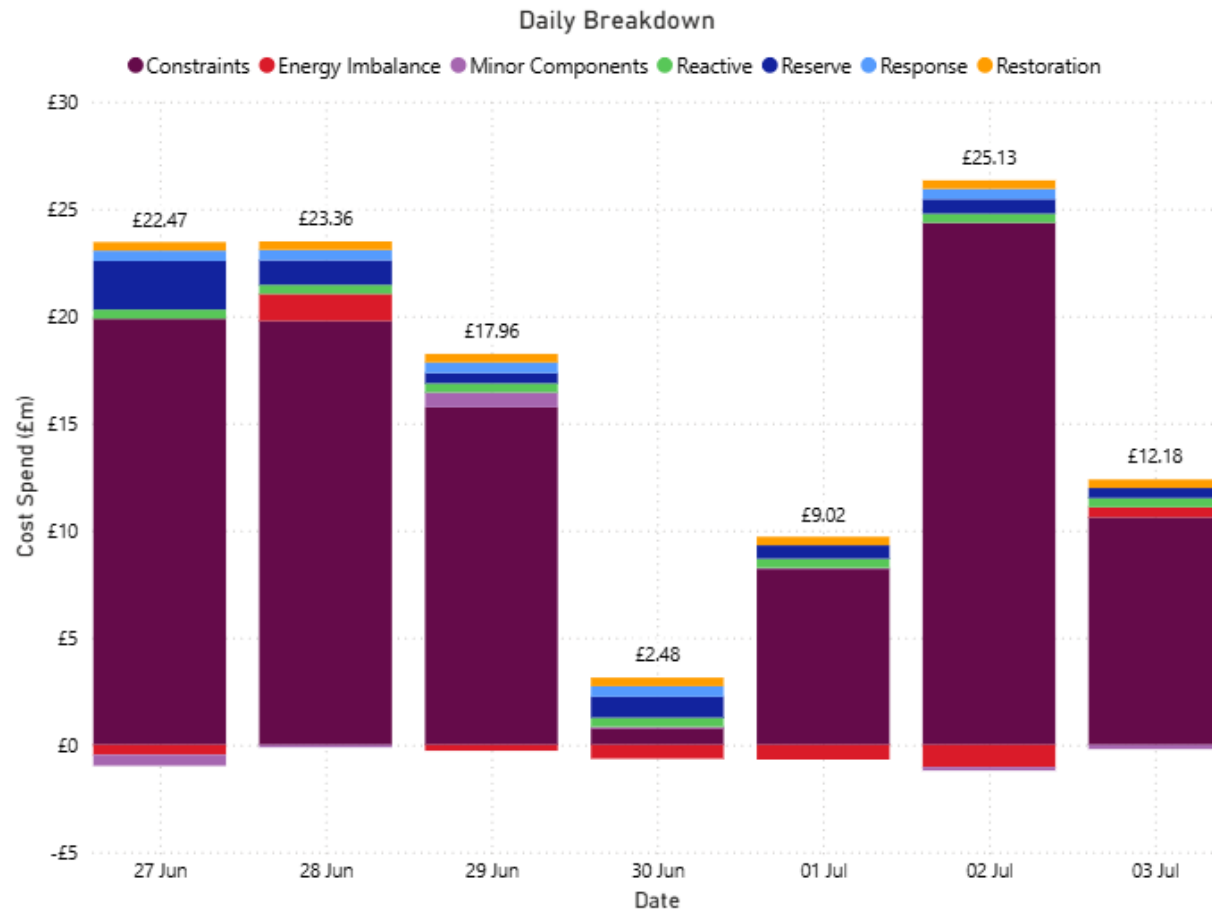
## National Demand Minimum Demands

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 08 Jul)		
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
08 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	21.6	0.4	13.5
09 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	21.0	0.3	0.1
09 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	21.0	0.3	14.2
10 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	21.0	0.4	0.0
10 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	20.4	0.3	14.0
11 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.3	0.8	0.4
11 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	15.7	0.8	14.3
12 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	17.4	1.3	2.1
12 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	14.4	1.4	12.9
13 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	18.7	1.6	0.0
13 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	19.6	1.4	12.1
14 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.8	1.2	0.0
14 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	22.0	0.9	10.5



# NESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown

Slido code #OTF



Current Week Total (£m)

£112.59

Average Daily Cost (£m)

£16.08

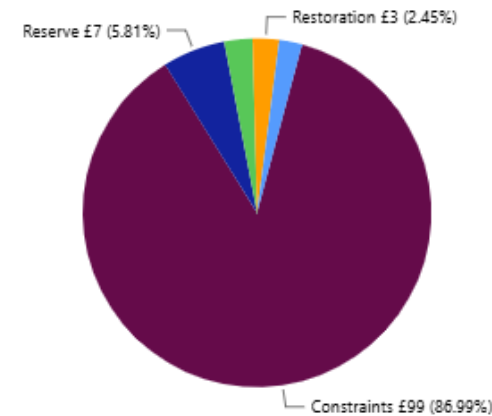
Previous Week Total (£m)

£51.39

Previous 30 Day Average (£m)

£9.00

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](mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy)

# NESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

Slido code #OTF

**Thermal Constraints**

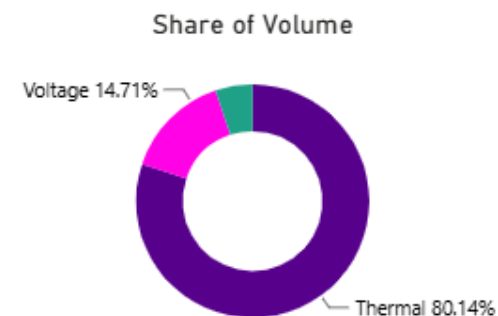
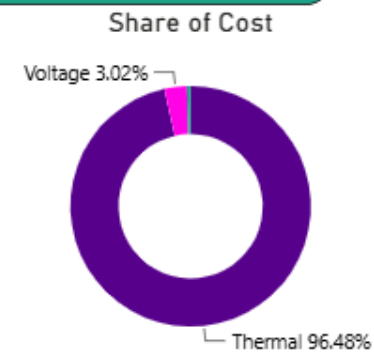
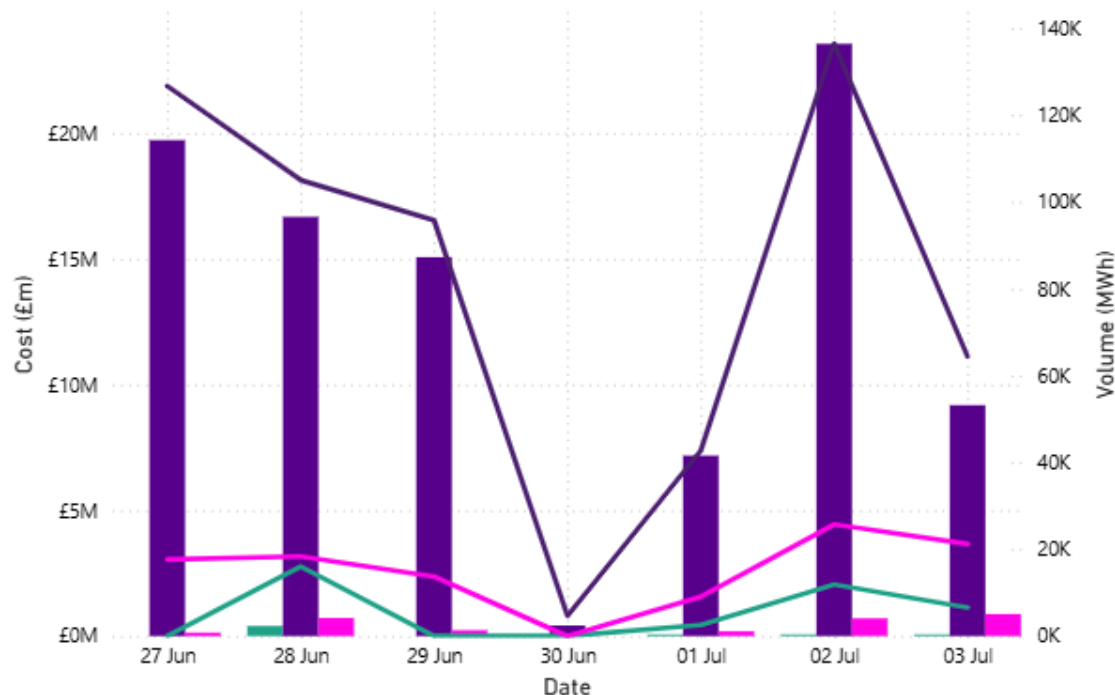
Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
<b>£91.77M</b>	<b>576K</b>

**Voltage Constraints**

Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
<b>£2.87M</b>	<b>106K</b>

**System Inertia**

Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
<b>£472.62K</b>	<b>37K</b>



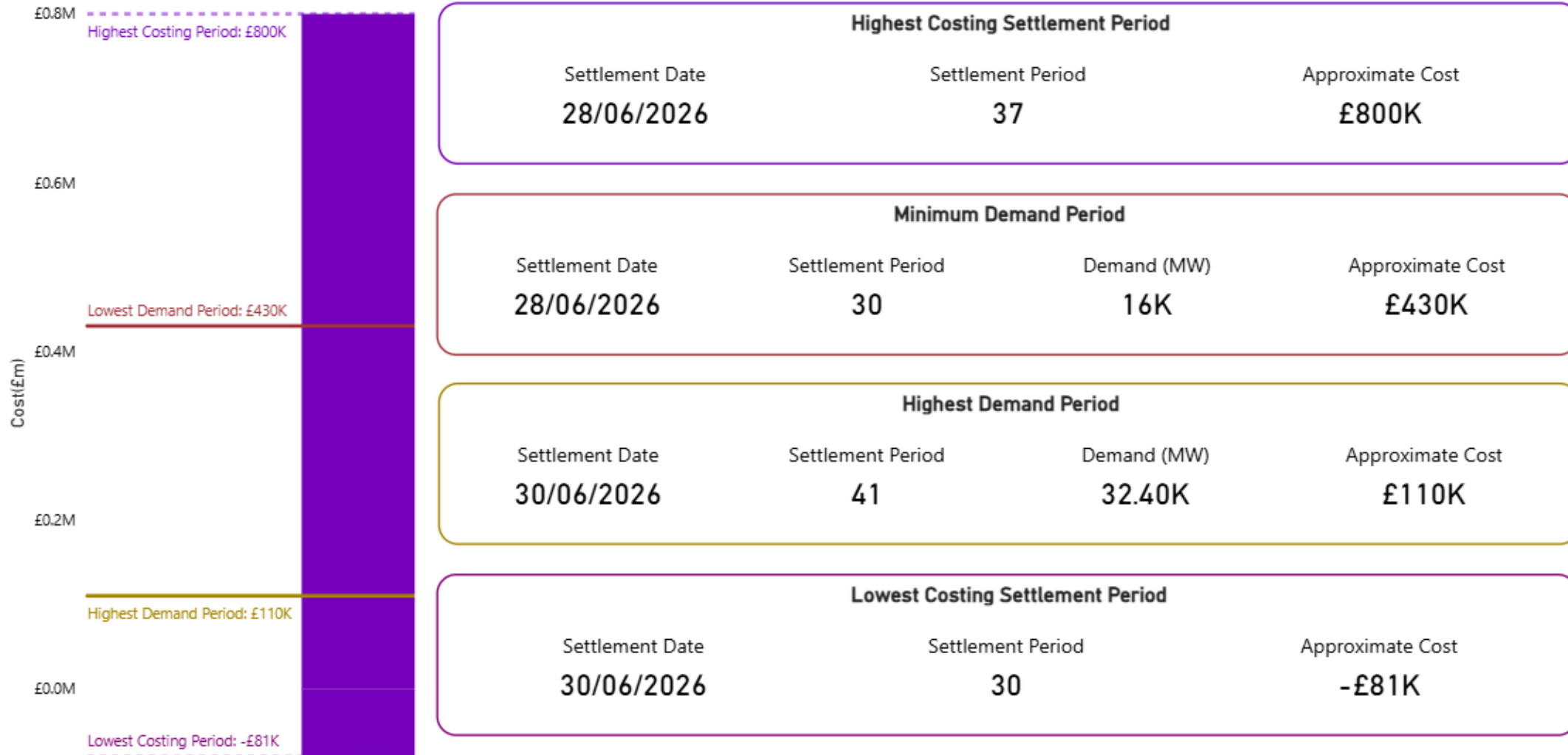
Note: Volume is reported as an absolute figure.

Contact us on [box.nc.customer@neso.energy](mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy)



# NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

Slido code #OTF



# NESO Actions | Highest Costing Day

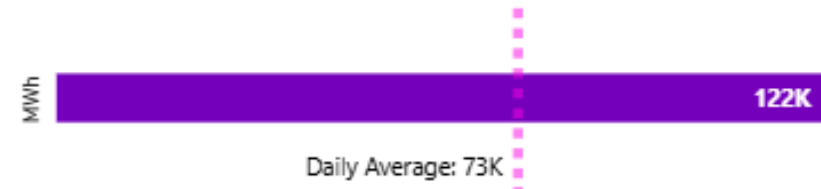
Share of Action Cost Spend

● BID ● OFFER



Settlement Date	Cost (£m)
<b>02 July 2026</b>	<b>£25.13</b>

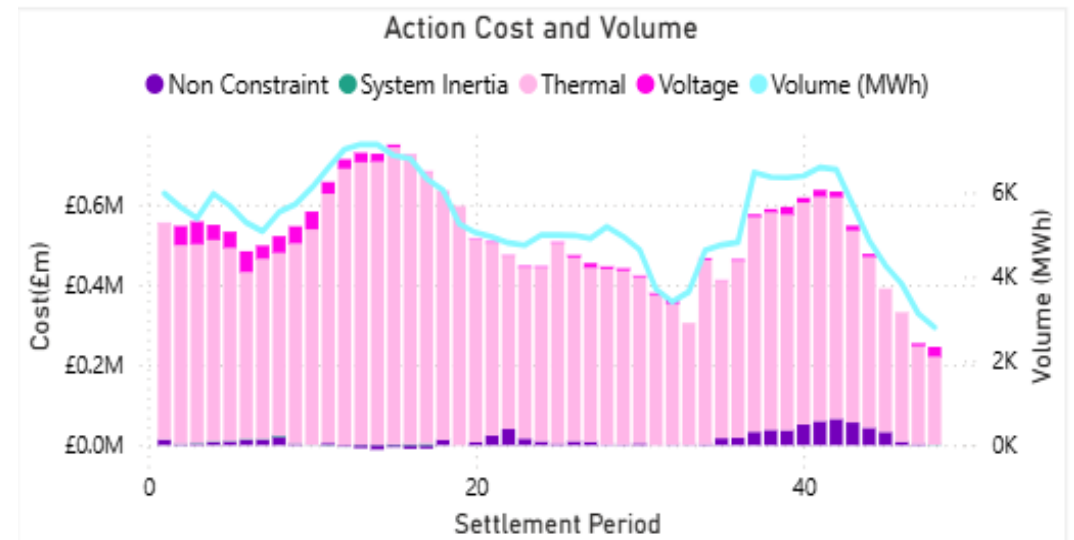
Highest Costing Day Wind Curtailment Vs Daily Average



Bid Spend (£) by GSP



Offer Spend (£) by GSP

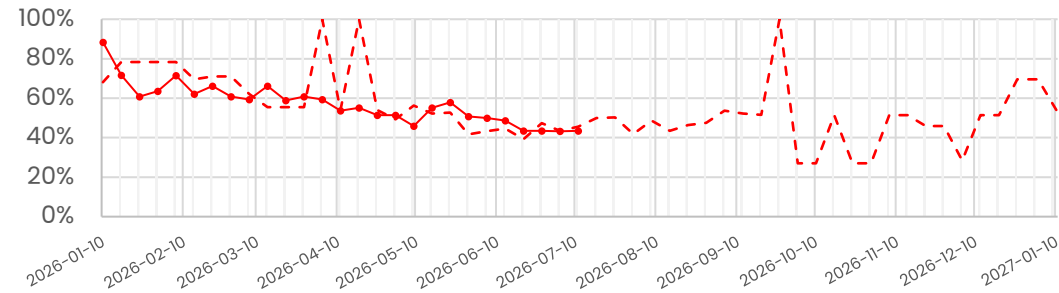


# Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF

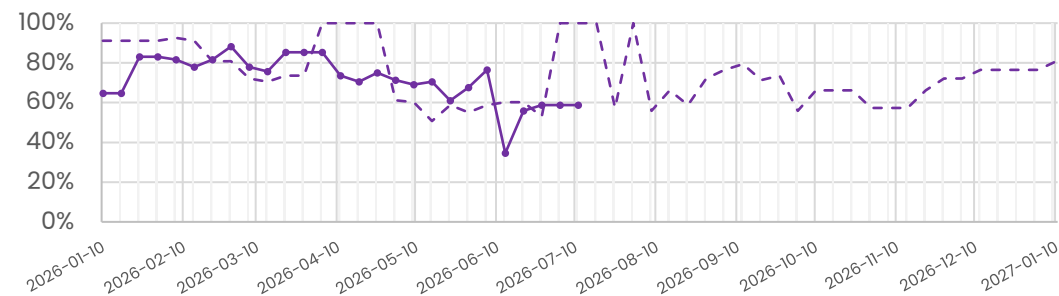
**B4/B5 Transfer capacity**

--- Forecast    ● Actual



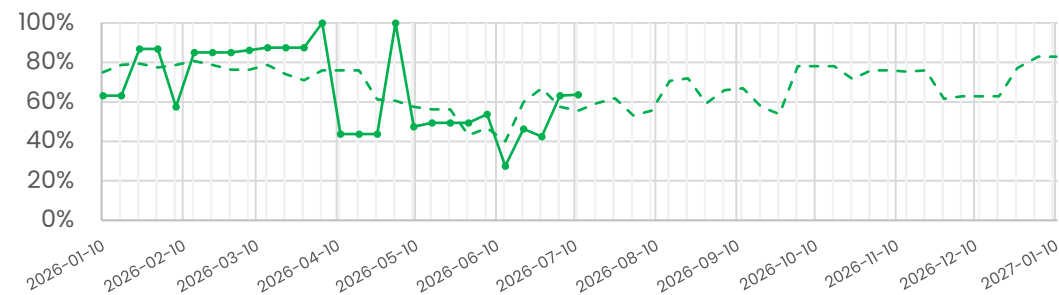
**B6 Transfer capacity**

--- Forecast    ● Actual

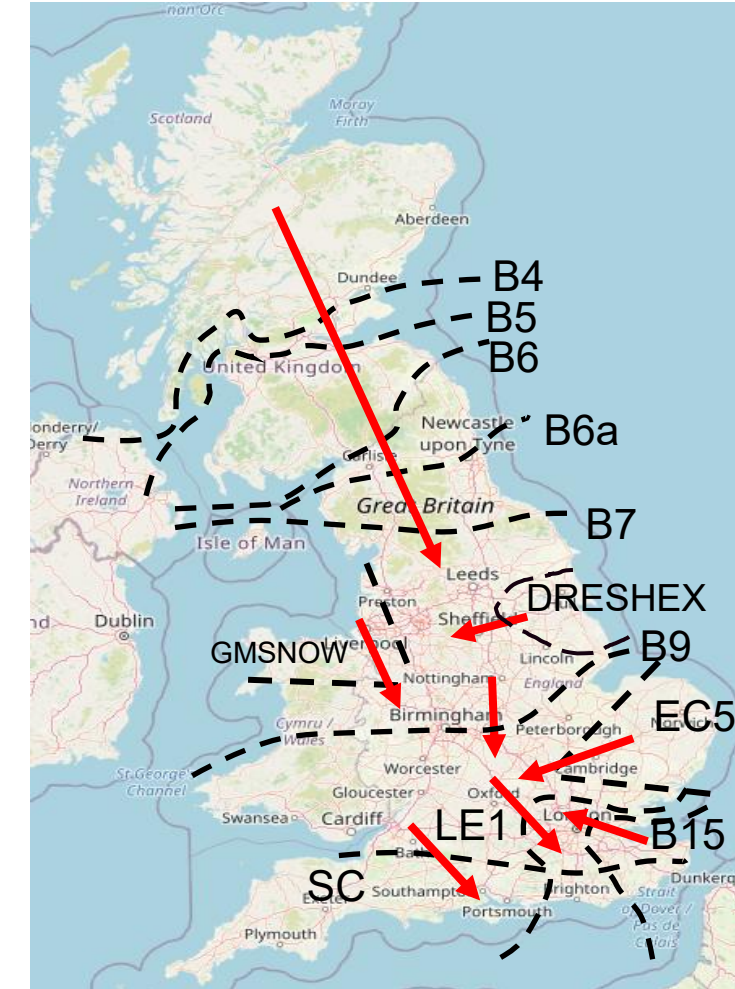


**B6a Transfer capacity**

--- Forecast    ● Actual



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	43
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	64
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	74
GMSNOW	5800	39
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	78
DRESHEX	9675	63
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73
SC1	7300	47



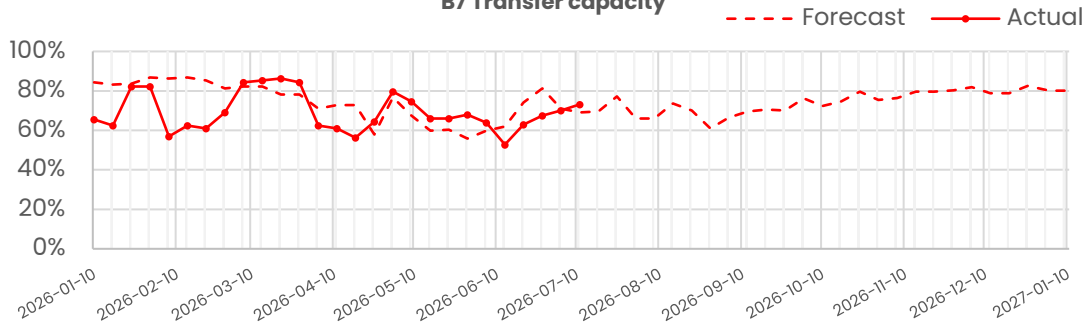
The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.



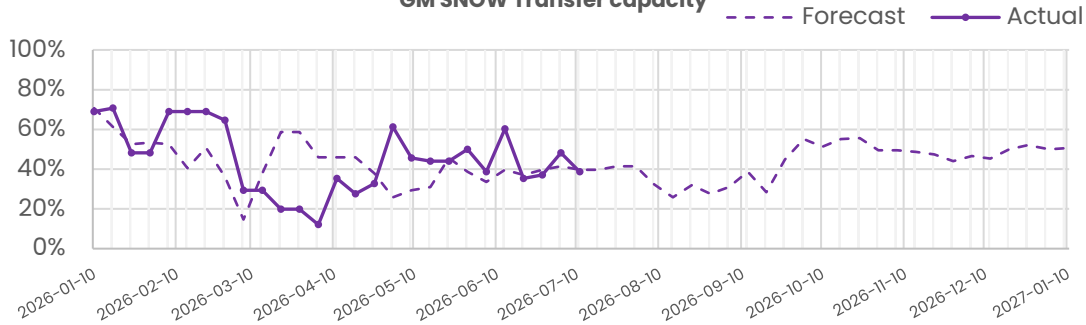
# Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF

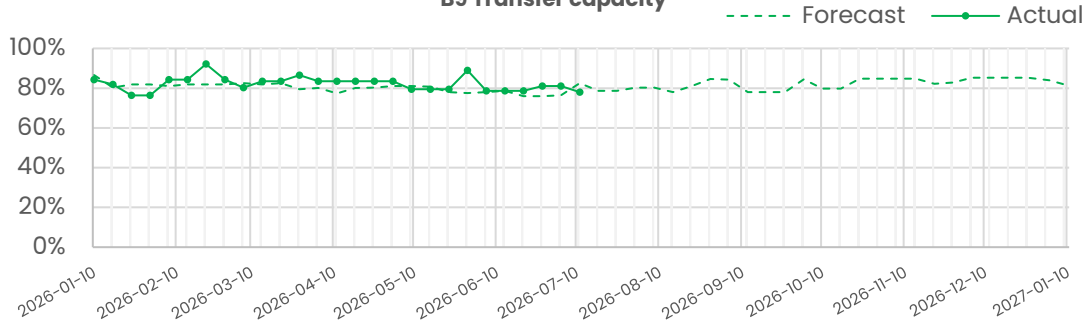
**B7 Transfer capacity**



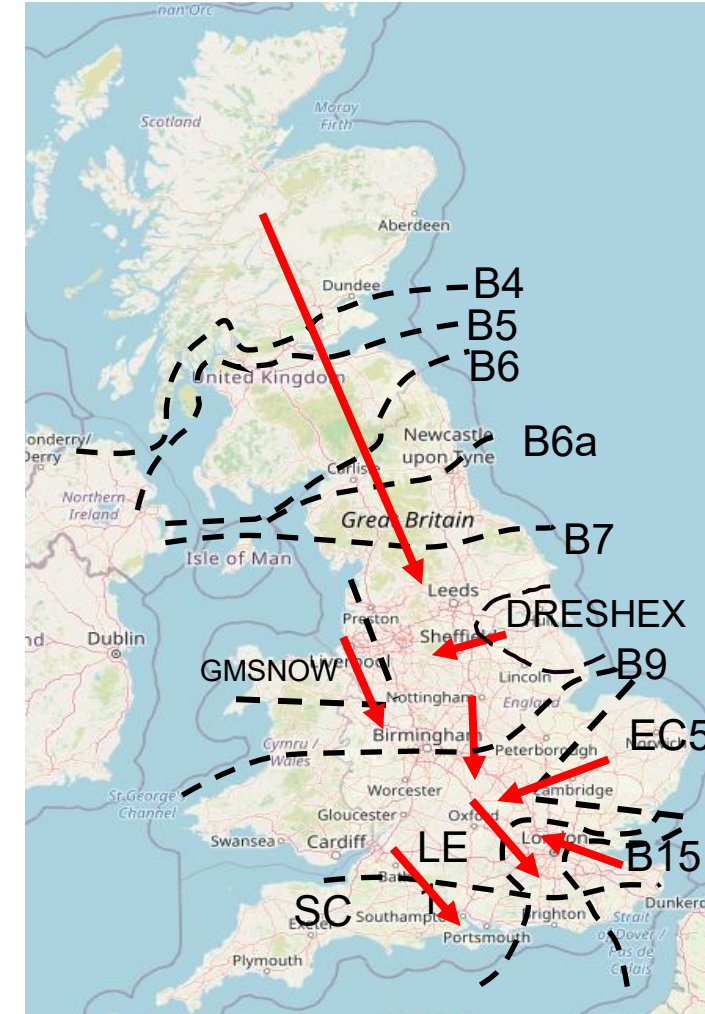
**GM SNOW Transfer capacity**



**B9 Transfer capacity**



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	43
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	64
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	74
GMSNOW	5800	39
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	78
DRESHEX	9675	63
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73
SC1	7300	47

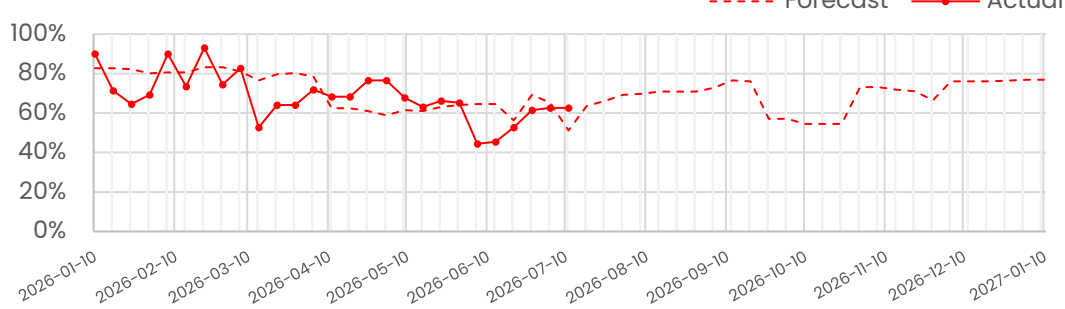


The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

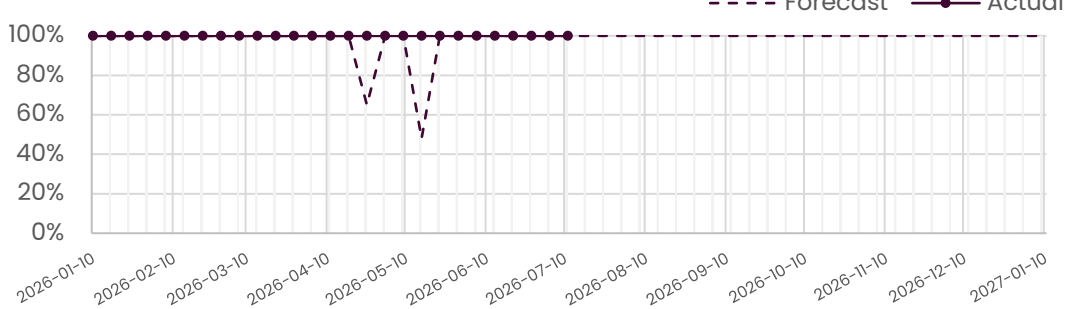
# Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF

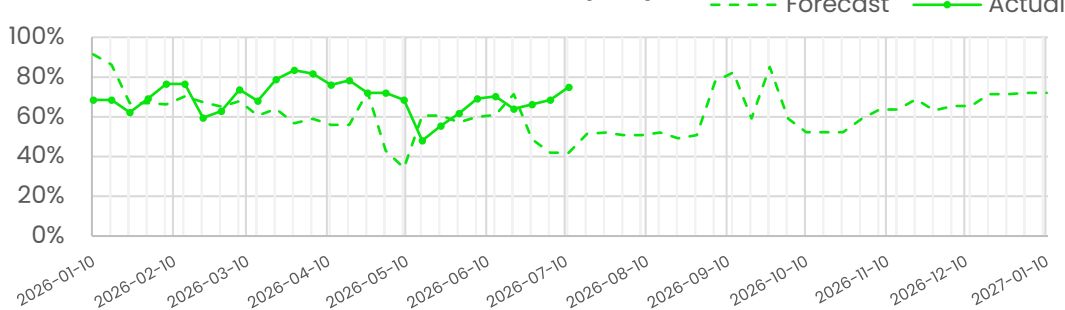
DRESHEX Transfer capacity



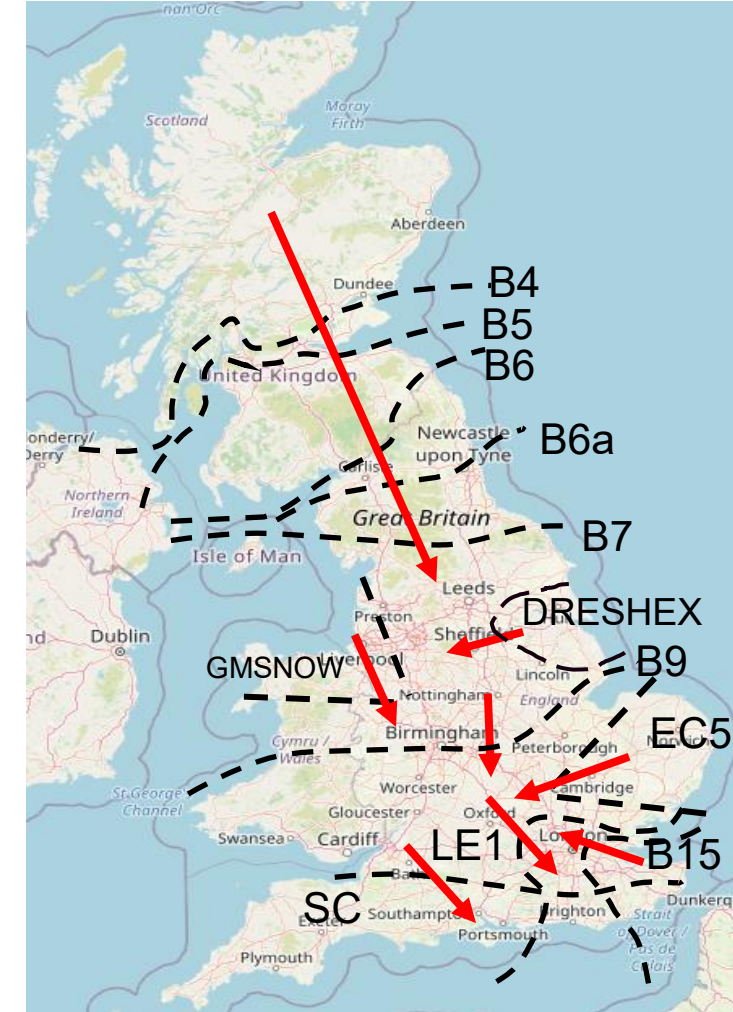
EC5 Transfer capacity



LE1 Transfer capacity



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	43
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	64
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	74
GMSNOW	5800	39
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	78
DRESHEX	9675	63
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73
SC1	7300	47



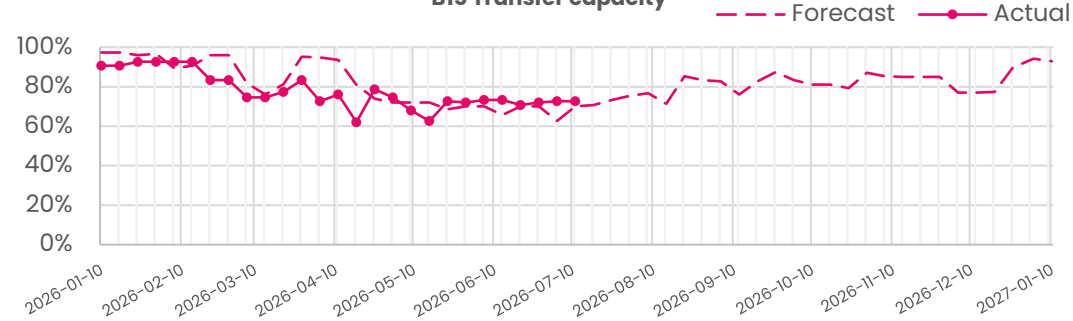
The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.



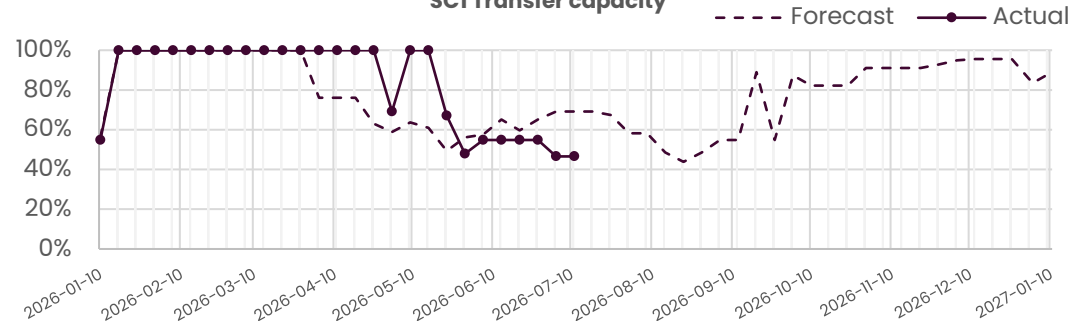
# Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF

B15 Transfer capacity



SC1 Transfer capacity



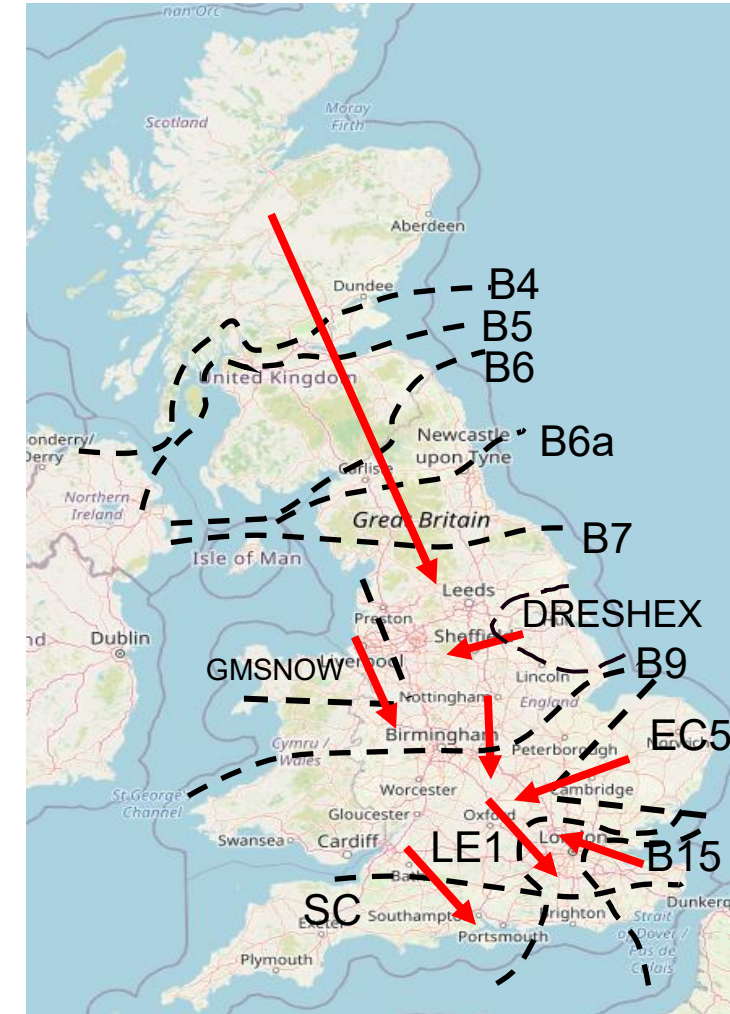
The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

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	43
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	64
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	74
GMSNOW	5800	39
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	78
DRESHEX	9675	63
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73
SC1	7300	47



# PSA Skip Rates – bids & offers combined

Slido code #OTF

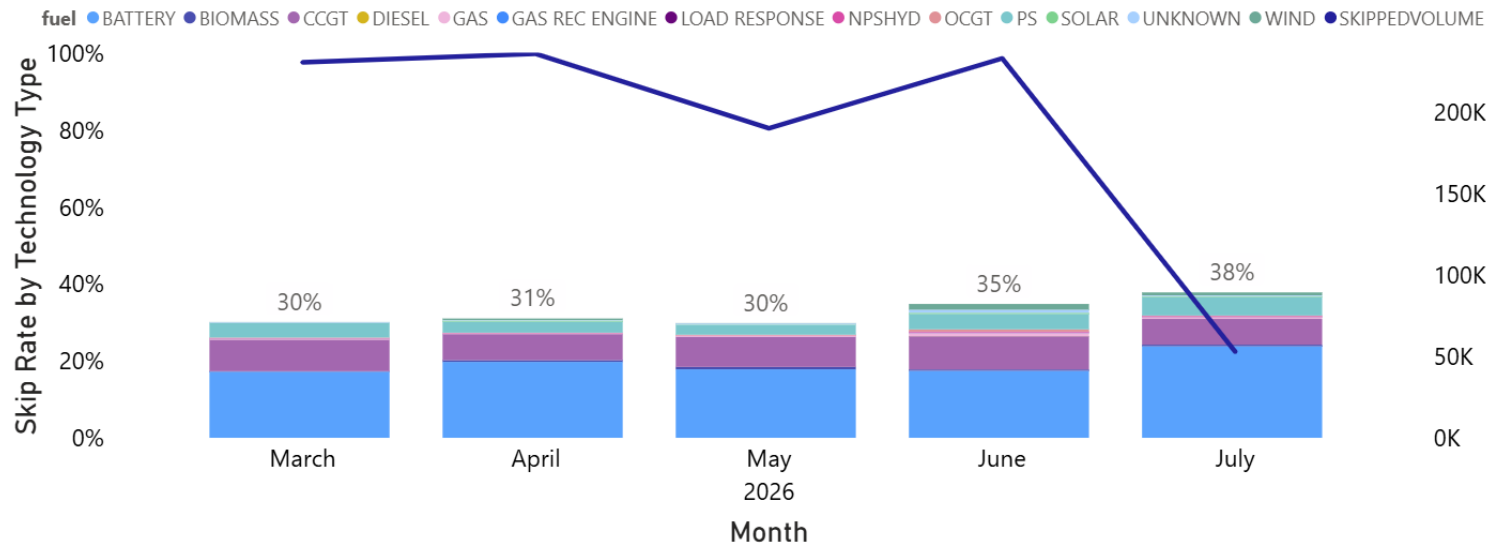
The current skip rate methodology only considers energy actions within the BM

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

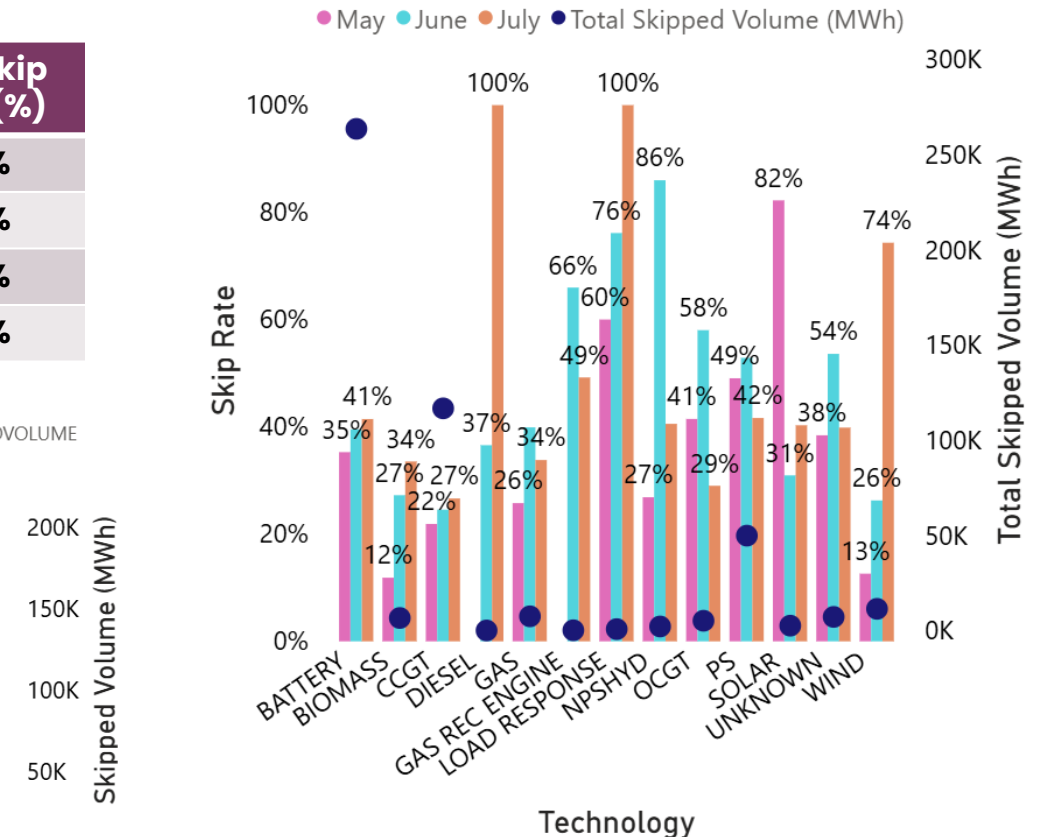
These graphs are based on stage 5 of the Post System Action definition.

Weekly Average w/e	PSA Skip Rate (%)
14/06	33%
21/06	35%
28/06	39%
05/07	38%

## Relative Technology Skip Rate



## Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months



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

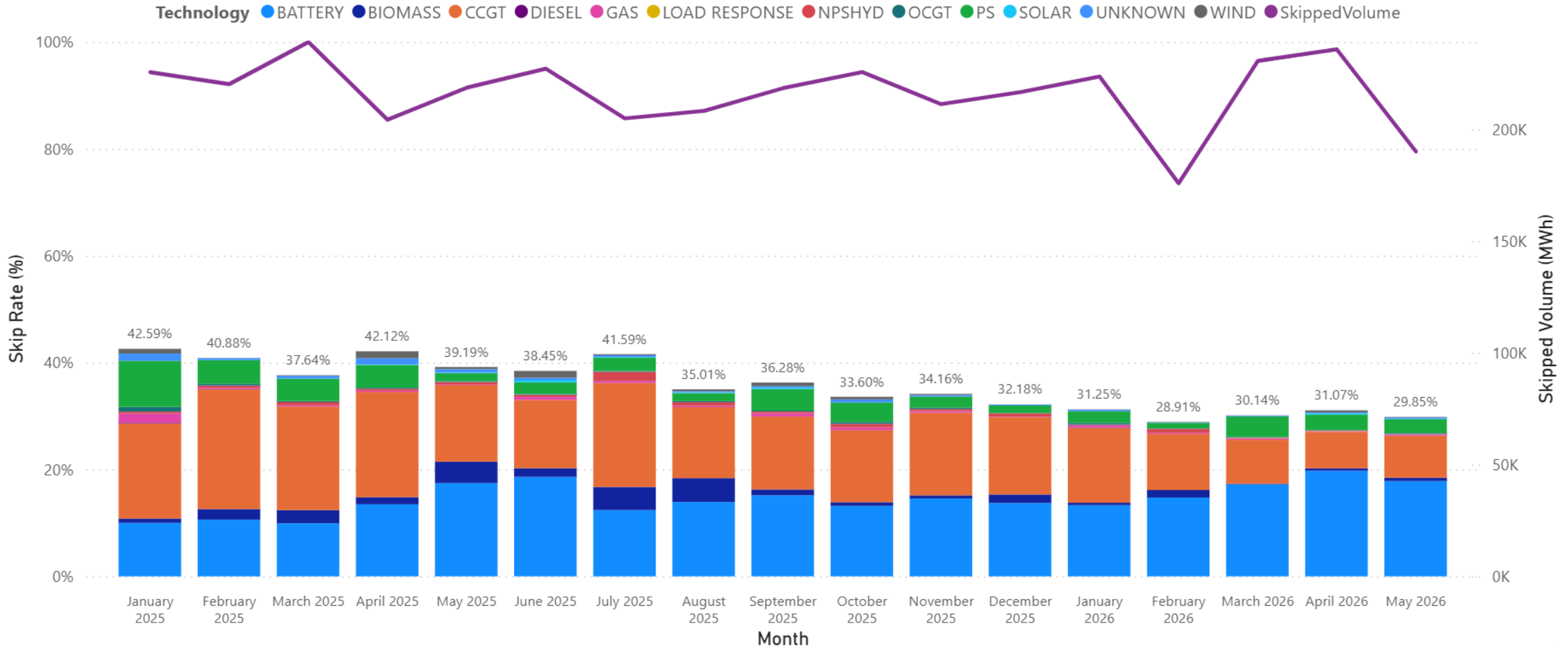
Contact us on [box.SkipRates@neso.energy](mailto:box.SkipRates@neso.energy)

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

Rerecorded deep dive can be found on our webpage: [here](#)

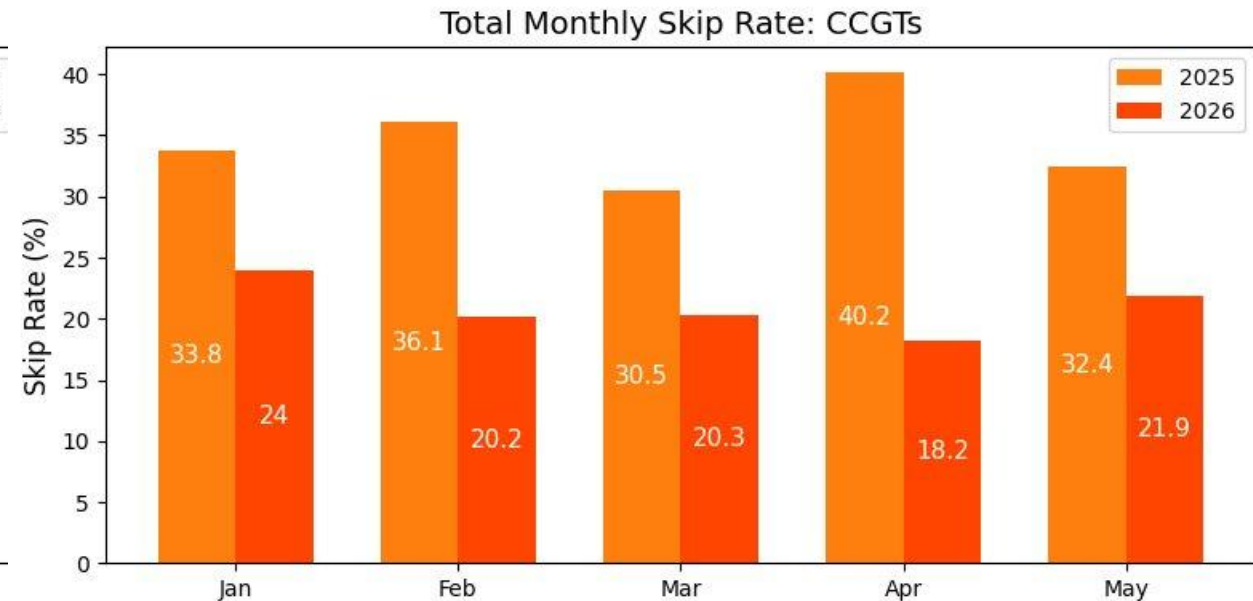
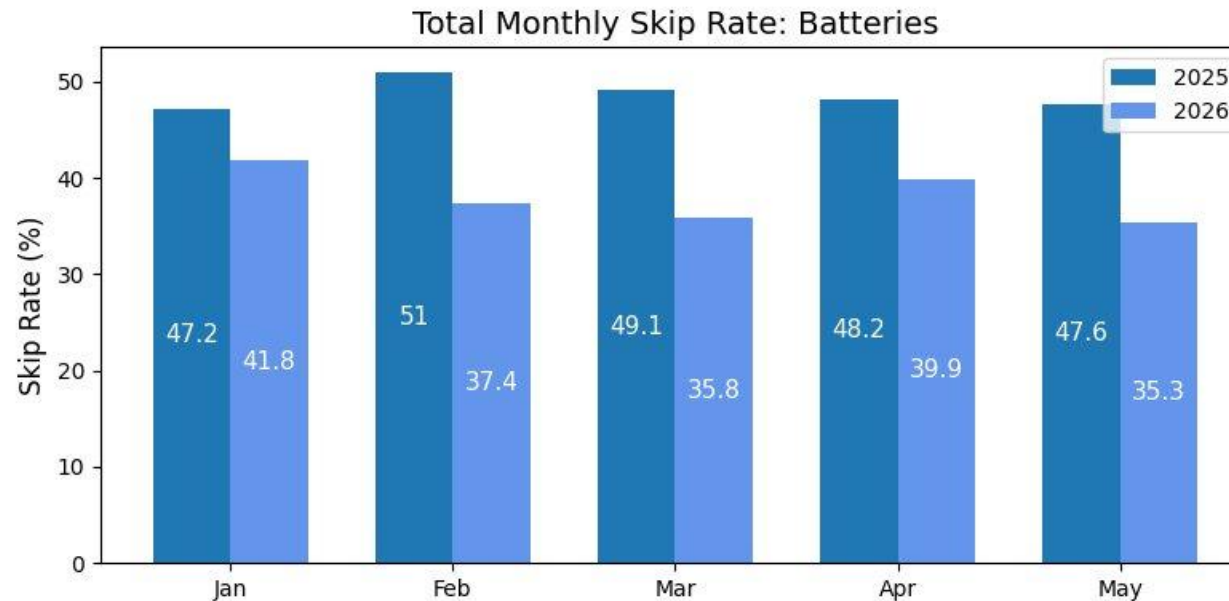
# Batteries and CCGTs continue to make up most skipped volume and have the largest in-merit volumes

Slido code #OTF



# Battery-specific skip rates have remained constant this year with more batteries in-merit and accepted

Slido code #OTF



**Battery-specific skip rates have remained constant, confirming that more batteries are in-merit and we are accepting more batteries**

Battery skip rates have remained relatively constant (with February–May staying below January). Despite the rising skipped volume, in-merit volume is increasing at the same (if not greater) rate.

The CCGT skip rate also shows a decline, with a notable downwards trend since January.

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Stuart Grant:** For BSUoS rates FT9 & FT10, can you please confirm if there will be an initial view imminently published by NESO or will there be no publications of indicative rates for these periods until September?

**A:** Thanks for the question. As there were no indicative forecasts of tariffs in June, the next tariff publication will be draft tariffs 9 & 10, which are due to be published in September.

We ran a survey earlier this year seeking feedback on the timetable of planned BSUoS publications. There was no positive feedback from industry for us to provide the initial forecast of tariffs publication in June.

**Q (01.07.26) David Bennington:** On 30th June you had a 600MW buy and sell requirement over the IC's in the same hour (HH35/36). Can you explain the reasons for this? (buy requirement was not tagged, sell requirement was SO tagged).

**A:** As you suggested they are two separate requirements for different reasons as you can tell from the tagging. The sell requirement was for a constraint that only the IC's listed could resolve at that time. The buy requirement was for energy and therefore all IC's can meet this requirement and explains why it isn't system flagged.

**Q (01.07.26) Matthew James:** On 30th June SEAB-1 was offered on for energy at an extremely high price relative to other BM actions taken (over twice the price), and with significantly cheaper CCGT & OCGT left spare. Should this have been Sys flagged or was it a mistake by the control room? The consumer pays for this.

**A:** While NESO consistently considers price, system constraints must be adhered to. In this instance, these constraints made the less expensive generation options unavailable.

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter:** Given NESO's preference last week to reverse ICs over using GB MW, why on 28/06 did it take units at £250/MWh despite continental MW £100/MWh cheaper? NESO took 300MW late, well within the 1,500MW limit. Are other TSOs frustrated by NESO lifting continental prices while GB assets sit spare?

**A:** All decisions to run BM plant are taken by the control room. Whilst all decisions are taken in merit order, the specifics of the decisions will be dependent on the prevailing system conditions at the time. We balance the system across all timescales using all available products which themselves have differing lead times and notice requirements. Certain decisions may not always seem the most economic in solution but are the result of detailed assessment involving not only cost and margin but many other system requirements including constraints.

**Q (01.07.26) Lisa Waters:** Skips are up. We are not seeing much progress on getting these down. Does NESO have a plan?

**A:** We acknowledge that the skip rate increased in June to 35%, and we are undertaking further analysis to understand the drivers behind this movement. In the broader context, there has been material progress, with the average skip rate reducing from 41% between January and June 2025 to 31% over the same period in 2026. This represents a significant achievement and demonstrates the real impact of sustained operational focus and delivery by our teams. Our root cause analysis shows that skip rates are complex and are influenced by a range of factors, meaning there is no single action that will deliver further reductions. Where outliers or rate increases are identified, we continue to investigate the underlying causes and assess whether additional targeted interventions are appropriate. We have already delivered the known quick-win actions, and further improvement is expected to be supported by the continued transition to new balancing tools.

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Ryan Goddard:** On 23/06 if NESO did not have any margin available in the BM, why was a CM warning/event not issued? I assume the answer is that the technical parameters required were not met. If so, are these parameters being calculated as needed by the control room? Emergency actions shouldn't be needed in June.

**Q (01.07.2026) Advance:** For the EMN issued last Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, could you explain why that didn't trigger a CMN, particularly as it was cancelled very late?

**A:** Electricity Margin Notice (EMN) is a control room tool. It is designed to notify the market that additional generation capacity may be required and encourage market participants to make any available capacity known. CMN is a market notice driven by capacity market rules and not something the control room issues. The CMN margin is calculated at 4 hours ahead of real time; by then the margin issues had been resolved. The EMN's were initially issued at day ahead. Also, the CMN calculation does not make allowance for any margin behind transmission constraints. Emergency Actions were needed to manage constraint issues, not the national margin.

**Q (01.07.26) Matthew James:** Are EMNs being used to "prove to EU system operators" that there is a system security event in GB, when margins are slacker than historic EMNs?

**A:** No – EMN are used in accordance with the Grid Code to signal to the market that additional generation capacity may be required and encourage market participants to make any available capacity known.

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Mark Meyrick:** Is loss of Operating Margin the same as Loss of Load Probabilities (LOLP)?

**A:** Not directly – LOLP is a probability value between 0 and 1 related to the De-Rated Margin (DRM) forecasts published on Elexon insights. Operating margin is the buffer we require in real time. When the margin is zero, LoLP is 0.5; when we have > +2000MW margin, LoLP is effectively 0; and when the margin is < -2000MW, LoLP is effectively 1. The LoLP calculation methodology is published on ELEXON's website here: <https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/category-3-documents/loss-of-load-probability-calculation-methodolgy-statement>

**Q: (01.07.26) Alastair Martin:** Power Responsive reported very low volumes of available DFS during the EMN-affected days. Is this because the resource is terrible or because NESO neglects non-BM, resulting in customer disengagement and service atrophy? Asking for a friend!

**A:** All eligible providers were notified and made aware of the EMN publication. All were fully engaged with us but as we find with many DFS events, providers have to manage internal circumstances or assess alternative opportunities that mean they are not always able to participate and are under no obligation to do so. However, offered volumes were higher than normal across the EMN impacted days with higher volumes accepted on the 23rd and 24th June.

Details of the volumes offered and accepted are available on the data portal here:

[Demand Flexibility Service | National Energy System Operator](#)

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Eleanor Haynes:** The original EMN notification on the evening of 23rd June said "1300 MW of generation is excluded from the available system margin due to system constraints". Please can you explain what these system constraints were?

**A:** This was curtailed wind generation in the north of Scotland due to the current transmission outage plan (network reinforcement works).

**Q (01.07.26) Ben James:** Please can you explain why published DRM has been so high, yet EMNs are being issued? Are NESO planning on publishing the granular information behind its view of margin?

**A:** One of the drivers will be the volume of constrained MWs on the network driven by TO upgrades and maintenance as is normal at this time of year. The DRM margin calculation does not make allowance for any margin sterilised behind transmission constraints, which was a significant factor the previous week. We publish both data sets and we'll have the definition of DRM in the deep dive.

# Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Paul Rowe Jones:** Increased Balancing Reserve (BR) procurement would have secured reserves without relying on (deliberate) interconnector positioning. When BR was introduced the plan was to raise procurement to circa 1500 MW. BR procurement is still ~600 MW. Why not procure more reserve this way?

**A:** When the Balancing Reserve service was originally launched the end goal was to put the full reserve requirement into the BR auction. Since the launch we have shaped the requirement to better reflect system needs and moved the auction to the afternoon to co-optimize with the other services to allow better participation. We have also introduced the Slow Reserve service meaning we are now looking to procure up to almost 3GW in total of positive reserve. Whilst procurement levels are generally good on tight days overall liquidity across the suite of services is generally lower so buying more may not be possible. We are looking to evolve the service in the future with the DRS and locational procurement projects both in development.

**Q (07.07.26) Benjamin Green:** Having seen the recent posts regarding demand during the England world cup games, I was wondering if it was possible to provide an overlay of a 'normal' demand for the same day, i.e. 02:00 on a Sunday (England vs Mexico) or 16:00 Weds (England vs DR Congo)?

We find these slides useful for training purposes as a clear way of showing what impact generator operations or consumers might have on the wider network. Thanks in advance,

**A:** We understand this was covered in slide 9 by Demand team today.

# Advance Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.2026) Advance:** In which cases can NESO request larger BM profiles than the restricted volumes on the interconnectors?

A: NESO's Control Room continuously assesses system conditions from the day-ahead stage through to real-time delivery, considering factors such as constraints, generation schedules, demand forecasts and interconnector flows. These assessments may identify a need for additional market actions, including interconnector trading, but we cannot comment on specific scenarios or cases.

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

Slido code #OTF

**Q (01.07.26) Chris Bocoock:** 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.

These will be addressed via our margins deep dive and ongoing review

# Outstanding Questions

Slido code #OTF

**Q (27/06/2026) Advance:** In your report Annual Balancing Services Spend Report 2024 / 2025 <https://www.neso.energy/document/371936/download> NESO state:

“In total, NESO spent £92,012,707.72 on Response services this regulatory year.”

In the Spreadsheet <https://www.neso.energy/document/362571/download> on the tab “Response outturn”, the figure for 2024/5 is £197,208,264.10

Can NESO explain the ~£100M difference between these numbers? There appear to be similar mismatches on other costs between these two documents (e.g. Stability, Voltage and others?). Could NESO explain? Can NESO provide a reconciliation spreadsheet showing all figures in both data sets?

**Q (01.07.2026) Advance:** Could you provide some clarity on the process for requesting additional volume on interconnectors above the soft 300 MW limit? Is there a defined process or set of criteria that determines whether one interconnector or country is preferred over another? National Grid have previously said they have no visibility of market prices, which would suggest they shouldn't have a preference for a specific country unless there are other operational factors involved.

When additional volume is required, does National Grid contact each relevant system operator to determine what capacity is available before making a decision, or is there another process that is followed?

# NESO OTF Q&A Guidelines

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- **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.

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## Audience Q&As

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

# Send us your feedback..

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Using the poll in Sli.do after the event.

If you have any questions after the event,  
please contact the following email address:  
**[box.nc.customer@neso.energy](mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy)**

# 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

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

**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).