



CRM Design Note: Prequalification Process

April 2024

0 Table of contents

0 Table of contents	2
1 Purpose of this document	4
2 Introduction and structure of this document	4
3 Out of scope	5
4 Summary of the relevant legal framework	5
5 Terminology	6
5.1 Roles	6
5.2 Unit-related terminology	7
5.3 Volume-related terminology	8
5.4 Types of Prequalification Process	9
6 Interactions with third parties	10
6.1 Prequalification of DSO-connected capacities	10
7 ELIA Prequalification Process	11
7.1 CRM Candidate registration via the submission of an application form	11
7.1.1 Become a CRM Candidate	11
7.2 The CRM Candidate commitment to comply with the legal binding framework	11
7.3 Check of all requirements linked to the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate	12
7.3.1 Generic requirements	12
7.3.1.1 Delivery Point identification & compliance	12
7.3.1.2 Delivery Point volume related information	14
7.3.2 Special requirements for some particular cases	15
7.3.2.1 Low voltage connected capacities	15
7.3.2.2 Capacities connected to the DSO grid	15
7.3.2.3 Capacities connected to a Closed Distribution System	16
7.3.2.4 CMU identification and compliance	16
7.3.2.4.1 Individual or aggregated CMU	16
7.3.2.5 CMU volume related information	18
7.3.3 Additional requirements linked to the Prequalification Process	19

7.3.3.1 Metering / Submetering requirements	19
7.3.3.2 Combination with other Capacity Providers	19
7.3.3.3 Grid connection	21
7.4 Volume determination	21
7.4.1 Nominal Reference Power calculation	21
7.4.2 1 st method – use of historical data	22
7.4.3 2 nd method – Organize a new prequalification test	24
7.4.3.1 Test organization & remuneration	24
7.4.4 Opt-out Volume & Reference Power	25
7.4.5 Eligible Volume calculation	26
7.4.6 Remaining Eligible Volume Calculation	26
7.4.7 Secondary Market Remaining Eligible Volume Calculation	27
7.5 Prequalification results notification	27
8 Fast Track Prequalification Process	28
8.1 CRM Candidate registration via the submission of an application form	28
8.1.1 Become a CRM Candidate	28
8.2 The CRM Candidate commitment to comply with the legal binding framework	28
8.3 Check of all requirements linked to the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate	29
8.4 Fast Track Prequalification results notification	31
9 Timing of the Prequalification Process	32
10 Evolution of a CMU in time	37
10.1 Updates of data linked to the Prequalification Process	37
10.1.1 Update: general principles	37
10.1.2 Possible updates for a Delivery Point	38
10.1.3 Possible updates for a CMU	38

1 Purpose of this document

This Design Note is provided for explanatory purposes only and does not confer any rights or permissions to the reader. The implementation and detailed design of the design concepts outlined in this document may vary based on specific constraints, or evolving design considerations. This document does not serve as a strict instruction manual.

This document does not constitute a legal or binding commitment by Elia Transmission Belgium to undertake any specific design or development activities. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, it is recommended that the reader always relies on the latest available information, such as the CRM Functioning Rules.

By reading and using this Design Note, you acknowledge and accept the terms of this disclaimer. This design note was last updated in April 2024 following Elia's submission of the Functioning Rules to the CREG on February 1st 2024.

The goal of this present note is to present the latest CRM design requirements related to the **Prequalification Process** that has to be followed before participating to the CRM Auction or to the Secondary Market.

2 Introduction and structure of this document

Prequalification Process: what is it all about?

The Prequalification Process of the Capacity Remuneration Mechanism (CRM) is a process to verify if the capacities willing to participate to the CRM/obliged to participate to the Prequalification Process are allowed to do so (CO₂ emissions, technical agreement, permits, ...). Moreover, the Prequalification Process must also assess whether these capacities are capable to provide the required Service for which they want to be contracted in the CRM (Volume, Opt-out, ...)

Prior to the description of the prequalification requirements, an overview of the legal framework establishing the Prequalification Process is provided.

Then, to facilitate the reading of this document, ELIA wants to clarify essential CRM-specific terminology used especially in the context of the Prequalification Process.

It then continues with an overview of ELIA's expected interactions with third parties (DSOs, CREG, FPS...) and goes on with a detailed description of administrative and technical requirements verified by ELIA during this Prequalification Process.

ELIA provides afterwards additional information on the way to determine the contribution of capacities participating to the Prequalification Process (Nominal Reference Power determination)

Finally, an overview of the timing to be followed for the Prequalification Process is presented before briefly explaining the concepts applicable for the evolution of capacities in time (from one Delivery Period to another).

3 Out of scope

With this document, ELIA wants to summarize the principles and key requirements applicable to the Prequalification Process. The related tools, interfaces and operational organization are not discussed yet with market parties nor the processes that follow the Prequalification Process (Auction, Pre-delivery Control) or that are followed in parallel (Financial Securities).

4 Summary of the relevant legal framework

The legal basis for the Prequalification Process of the CRM originates in the Electricity Act where it is defined as follows:

- *“The process aiming at determining the possibility for capacity holders to participate to the auction”*

The following main features related to the CRM Prequalification Process are detailed in article 7undecies of the Electricity Act (particularly §§ 8, 9 & 12):

Eligibility criteria:

- Capacities willing to participate to the CRM must reach a minimum of 1 MW after application of the derating factor. Below that 1 MW derated threshold, capacities can participate but must aggregate to reach it.
 - o The participation to the CRM is allowed for all types of voltage level, including low voltage provided that the minimum participation threshold of 1 MW derated is reached¹.
- Capacities willing to participate to the CRM cannot benefit from another support regime (green certificates, ...). If they want to participate to the CRM, they must renounce to any other support mechanism. This is a prerequisite to be prequalified in the CRM.

Obligation to prequalify:

- All storage and/or production capacities of more than 1 MW of derated capacity located in the Belgian control zone are obliged to participate to the Prequalification Process. Obviously, not all of these capacities will be willing to participate to the CRM, a Fast Track Prequalification Process is foreseen for them (it is explained in more details in section 8).
 - o It can further be highlighted that the obligation to submit a Prequalification File for production & storage electricity capacities targets as well as Additional Capacities:
 - which already obtained their energy production/storage permit and

¹ So far, the participation of DSO-connected capacities (including thus capacities connected to the low voltage grid) is excluded for foreign capacities.

- signed a technical agreement with ELIA;
 - which signed a connection contract with ELIA and for which the connection was not commissioned yet even though the Capacity Holder does not want to participate to an upcoming CRM Auction.
- All other capacities located in the Belgian control zone are authorized to participate to the Prequalification Process.

Foreign participation:

Foreign Capacities (both direct and indirect) are allowed to participate to the Belgian CRM² and by extension require to prequalify themselves. Their participation depends on their potential effective contribution to Belgian Security of Supply.³

Permits requirements:

Any capacity willing to participate to the CRM must prove during the Prequalification Process that it disposes (or will dispose without any possibility to be contested) of all required permits/authorizations to run such capacity.

Roles & responsibilities in the Prequalification Process:

ELIA is the entity responsible for the overall Prequalification Process whereas CREG is responsible for the eligibility to a (potential) pluriannual capacity contract in function of the investments engaged by the CRM Candidate. CREG is also the body responsible for the decision relative to the obtention of an IPC derogation for the CRM Candidate.

5 Terminology

The present section is divided in three categories: roles, units, and volume. To conclude it, an overview is presented in the table below.

5.1 Roles

Specific roles are needed because rights and obligations will differ depending on the stage of the CRM mechanism. Furthermore, some terms are defined in the law. In this way, ELIA identifies the need to have the following 4 roles:

Capacity Holder: According to the Electricity Act, article 2, 74°, every natural person or legal entity that can offer **capacity**, either on an individual or aggregated basis.

CRM Candidate: The Capacity Holder whose application form has been accepted by ELIA.

Prequalified CRM Candidate: The Capacity Holder that is allowed to participate in the Primary

² In line with requirements from EU regulation 2019/943 (Clean Energy Package) on Capacity Mechanisms.

³ More details on Foreign Participation to the Belgian CRM are provided in the Design Note related to XB participation to the Belgian CRM:

Market or the Secondary Market thanks to the prequalification of one or several Capacity Market Unit(s).

Capacity Provider: According to the CRM Act, article 2, 75°, every Capacity Holder selected after closing of the Auction and that will keep available a capacity during the Delivery Period in return for a Capacity Remuneration.

5.2 Unit-related terminology

From the moment a Capacity Holder wishes to participate to the CRM, he needs to fill in an application form to officially become a CRM Candidate (once the form has been approved) and his capacity (generic term) is identified as a Capacity Market Unit (hereafter also “CMU”). This terminology is independent of the stage of the CRM process.

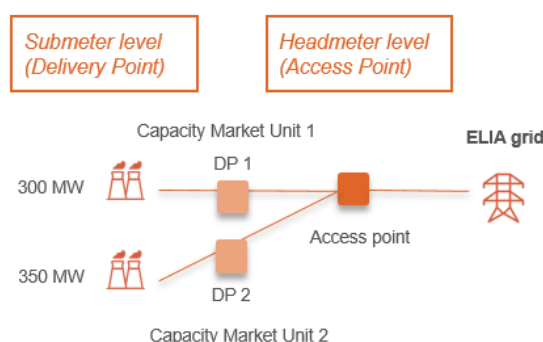
A Capacity Market Unit consists in **one or several Delivery Points** and corresponds to the physical localization of the certified metering device used by ELIA to verify the effective Service (or the relevant DSO, Foreign TSO) delivery.

A difference is made between an individual Capacity Market Unit (which consists in only **one Delivery Point**) and an aggregated Capacity Market Unit (which consists in **more than one Delivery Point**). ELIA reminds the obligation for some capacities to participate as one individual Capacity Market Unit if they are subject to a Daily Schedule Obligation.

A Delivery Point can either corresponds to a metering point behind an Access Point (i.e.: a “Submeter”) or to the Access Point (i.e.: “Head Meter”). Two examples are provided below to illustrate it.

In a first example, 2 capacities (one of 300 MW and one of 350 MW) are connected behind an Access Point. Both are equipped with a valid metering device (respectively, DP1 and DP2) and fall under the obligation to participate individually to the Prequalification Process.

During the CRM Prequalification Process, the CRM Candidate will therefore introduce a Prequalification File for CMU 1 (related to the capacity of 300 MW) and a second one for CMU 2 (related to the capacity of 350 MW).

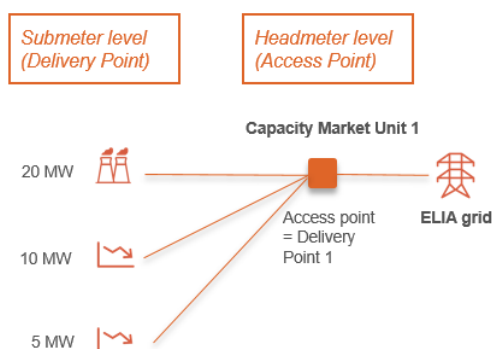


In the second example, three capacities (20 MW, 10 MW and 5 MW) are connected behind the same Access Point. As each individual capacity has a Nominal Reference Power lower than the threshold from which an individual participation in the CRM mechanism is required, the CRM Candidate has **the possibility to choose** between two configurations:

- 1) Propose a Capacity Market Unit using the metering device of the Access Point in the

CRM prequalification. The Capacity Market Unit is then the aggregation of these 3 capacities (total of 35 MW) and will be considered as one entity in the CRM mechanism (illustration below).

- 2) Propose one Capacity Market Unit for each individual capacity, provided that they are equipped with a valid metering device (as explained in section 7.3.3.1). In such configuration, the CRM Candidate prequalifies 3 independent CMU (following same illustration than in example 1).



In the CRM, a distinction is made between **Existing** and **Additional** capacities. The requirements/information to be provided during the Prequalification Process in function of this status.

Existing Capacity: The Capacity for which, at the time of Prequalification File submission, a representative Nominal Reference Power can be calculated based on quarter-hourly measurements.

Additional Capacity: The Capacity for which, at the time of Prequalification File submission, no representative Nominal Reference Power can be calculated based on quarter-hourly measurements or that is subject to a technical agreement in accordance with the connection process as defined in the Code of Conduct.

Both Additional & Existing Capacities must follow the Standard Prequalification Process. However, a third kind of capacity is allowed to prequalify:

Unproven Capacity: Capacity which, at the time the prequalification file is submitted, cannot be associated with a specific delivery point.

Unproven capacities must follow the Specific Prequalification Process.

5.3 Volume-related terminology

ELIA identifies the need to define with specific terms the volume related to a capacity. Indeed, these terms are used all along the CRM mechanism and are related to specific obligations. In this way, the following 4 terms are proposed:

Nominal Reference Power: The maximal nominal power that a capacity can provide to the system at any given moment, as declared by the CRM Candidate or as determined by ELIA or the applicable DSO during the volume determination as part of the Prequalification Process (expressed in MW- injection and/or offtake).

Reference Power: The Nominal Reference Power of a CMU minus the Opt-out Volume (if applicable).

Eligible Volume: The Reference Power of an Existing CMU or Additional CMU multiplied by the Derating Factor as determined during the Prequalification Process.

Contracted Capacity: The Capacity of a CMU associated to a Transaction on the Primary Market or on the Secondary Market.

5.4 Types of Prequalification Process

Different types of Prequalification Process exist in order to cope with the different market actors participating to the CRM:

Standard Prequalification Process: the process to be followed by a CRM Candidate who wants to prequalify an Existing CMU or an Additional CMU to be able participate to the CRM with this related CMU.

Specific Prequalification Process: the process to be followed by a CRM Candidate to prequalify a Virtual CMU (Unproven Capacity) to participate to the Primary Market with this related VCMU. It is important to add that the total amount of capacities that can prequalify themselves as Unproven capacities by following the Specific Prequalification Process is limited by the Ministerial Decree instructing each auction (and thus each Prequalification Process)⁴.

Fast Track Prequalification Process: the process to be followed by a CRM Candidate who does not wish to participate in either the Primary Market or the Secondary Market but has the legal obligation to submit a Prequalification File according to the rules defined in article 7undecies, § 8, paragraph 2, of the Electricity Act and in the Royal Decree on “Eligibility Criteria”.

⁴ Example of Ministerial Decree for the last Y-4 auction linked to the Delivery Period 2027-28 for which the maximum amount of Unproven Capacities was equal to 200 MW derated ([Moniteur belge \(fgov.be\)](#)).

6 Interactions with third parties

As foreseen in the Electricity Act, the CRM Prequalification Process is not solely ELIA's responsibility. Indeed, third parties (FOD, regulator, DSOs, CDSO ...) have their role to play and will contribute all along the process.

Before further detailing the steps of this Prequalification Process and the requirements applicable to any Capacity Market Unit willing to participate, ELIA highlights the (potential) different interactions in the figure below and in this section.

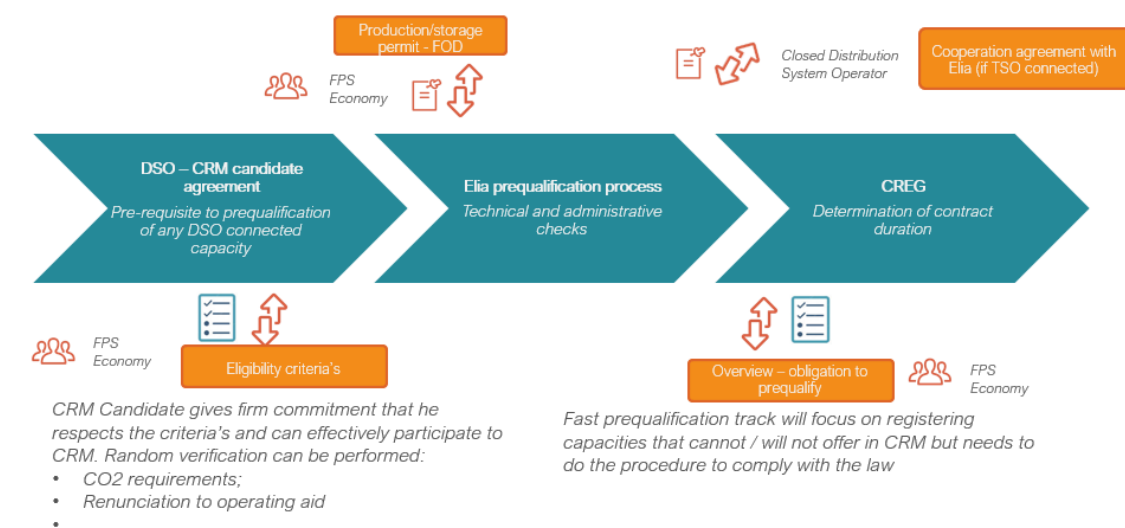


Figure 1 – Prequalification Process and interactions with third parties

6.1 Prequalification of DSO-connected capacities

DSO connected capacities already participated and are expected to participate even more to the BE CRM, either as individual or aggregated CMUs.

This participation triggers some additional exchanges and actions between Elia, the relevant DSO and the CRM Candidate.

Here are some of the actions required for the prequalification of DSO connected capacities in the CRM:

- As foreseen also in Balancing Services, the first step to fulfill the Prequalification Process **the CRM Candidate is to obtain a signed “DSO-CRM Candidate Agreement” between the CRM Candidate and the concerned DSO(s)**. Of course, this pre-condition only concerns DSO connected Delivery Points. ELIA would like to highlight that the content of this specific agreement is out of scope of this design document and was subject to a specific public consultation launched by Synergrid early 2024 that has been submitted to the regulators for approval.
- The relevant DSO is responsible for different tasks before and during the Prequalification Process (depending on the voltage level of the capacity(ies) willing to participate to the

Prequalification Process):

- Onboarding of Delivery Points in the Flexhub (for low voltage connected capacities);
- Determination of the Nominal Reference Power for Existing Delivery Points and communication to ELIA;
- Communication of the Declared Nominal Reference Power to ELIA for Additional Delivery Points.

7 ELIA Prequalification Process

In this section, ELIA zooms on the part of the Prequalification Process that falls under its responsibilities. To start with, ELIA details the **Prequalification Process** (section 7) before highlighting which steps of this process should be followed in the case of a “**Fast Track**” **Prequalification Process** (section 8) .

In the Prequalification Process, ELIA determines the technical and administrative requirements applicable to any CRM Candidate willing to provide the Service with a CMU as well as the possible methodologies to calculate the Nominal Reference Power. Whenever relevant, ELIA makes the distinction in terms of requirements in function of the type of Capacities that has to be prequalified.

The Prequalification Process consists in several steps, as explained below:

- I. The **CRM Candidate registration via the submission of an application form**;
- II. The CRM Candidate **commitment to comply with the legal binding framework**;
- III. **The check of all requirements linked to the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate**. It is at this stage that ELIA verifies the technical and administrative requirements related to the Delivery Point(s) that compose each CMU.
- IV. **The Volume determination and calculation**. In this step, ELIA calculates the maximum volume of capacity (in MW) for each CMU participating to the Prequalification Process and then determines the different volumes related to the Nominal Reference Power.
- V. **The notification of the results at the end of the Prequalification Process**.

7.1 CRM Candidate registration via the submission of an application form

7.1.1 Become a CRM Candidate

Prior to becoming a CRM Candidate, a Capacity Holder must fill in an application form in which legal & contact information are provided. Filling this application form enables each contact person to become officially a CRM Candidate able to access the CRM IT Interface as such.

7.2 The CRM Candidate commitment to comply with the legal binding framework

In order to be able to participate to the Prequalification Process, a CRM Candidate must indicate that he agrees with the legal framework applicable to the CRM. This set of legal principles to comply with differ in function of the kind of Prequalification Process the CRM Candidate is willing

to participate to:

- Standard or Specific Prequalification Process:
 - o The latest Functioning Rules
 - o The Capacity Contract
 - o The eligibility criteria to participate to the CRM
 - o The requirements to operate the facility targeted
 - o CO2 emissions limits
 - o ...

- Fast Track Prequalification Process
 - o For a participation in a Fast Track Prequalification Process, the CRM Candidate only declares that it will comply with the provisions related to the Fast Track Prequalification Process detailed in the Prequalification chapter of the CRM Functioning Rules approved by Royal Decree.

7.3 Check of all requirements linked to the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate

One of the main steps of the Prequalification Process results in the check of all the information/requirements to be provided by the CRM Candidate and verified by ELIA. At this stage, the CRM Candidate identifies the capacity(ies) that he intends to prequalify and delivers the required technical and administrative information detailed in the sections hereunder.

It is important to highlight the fact that all these information are provided by the CRM Candidate through the tool developed by Elia specifically for the Prequalification Process of the CRM⁵.

During the Prequalification Process (Standard and Specific), if an element provided in the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate is deemed incorrect or uncomplete, Elia provisionally rejects this Prequalification File and the CRM Candidate has to correct it/provide additional feedback in order to complete his Prequalification in line with timing detailed in section 9.

7.3.1 Generic requirements

7.3.1.1 Delivery Point identification & compliance

Various information is to be provided by the CRM Candidate to identify properly the Delivery Points he would like to prequalify. Moreover, additional information is also required in order to make sure that the targeted Delivery Point(s) from the capacity willing to prequalify comply with the eligibility criteria applicable in the CRM framework.

First, Delivery Points need to be identified in a right way by ELIA.

Below, an overview of the information required to do so is provided (all elements listed are relevant for Existing & Additional Delivery Points). Since the Specific Prequalification Process

⁵ [Vue App \(elia.be\)](http://Vue App (elia.be) : link to CRM IT Interface) : link to CRM IT Interface.

implies that no Delivery Points have already been identified at that stage, no information is to be provided on Delivery Point level for capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process (Unproven Capacities).

Main requirements for the identification of Delivery Points	
Name	The CRM Candidate must provide a name for each Delivery Point.
Technology	A technology has to be indicated for each Delivery Point participating to the Prequalification Process. The technology will be linked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fact that the capacity is energy constrained or not. It will impact its Derating Factor and Service Level Agreement (SLA). More information are provided on this in the table linked to Delivery Point Volume determination. - The level of CO2 that is emitted by this Delivery Point (if any).
Type of Delivery Point	The CRM Candidate must indicate whether the Capacity is connected to the TSO grid, the DSO grid or to Closed Distribution System (CDS).
Single Line Diagram	Provides more information about the specific identification of the location of the Delivery Point.
EAN Code of the Delivery Point	Unique identification number used to identify the metering device of the Delivery Point.
EAN Code of the Access Point	Unique identification number used to identify the metering device of the Access Point related to the Delivery Point.

Then, ELIA also needs to ensure that these Delivery Points are compliant with the legal framework and should be allowed to be prequalified to participate to the CRM. An overview of different checks to be realized is provided in the table below:

Main requirements for the compliance check of Delivery Points	
Linked Capacities	Capacities established on the same geographical site, between which there is a link of necessity and technical consistency and which cannot be aggregated, due to their obligation to introduce a daily schedule (as explained earlier in the document) should be prequalified as such.
CO2 emissions	If the Delivery Point concerns a production capacity using fossil fuels, its emissions must be calculated and provided to check whether

	they comply with the relevant EU regulation ⁶ .
Grid User Declaration	Similar to the verification done by ELIA in the balancing services prequalification procedures, a signed declaration from the grid user (in case the grid user differs from the CRM Candidate) concerned by the offered capacities (in the CMU) – giving the permission to the CRM Candidate to offer the capacity Service to ELIA – is a standard verification in the CRM Prequalification Process.
Information related to production or energy storage permit	<p>Following the Belgian Law, such permit must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either already by available for the CRM Candidate at the moment of the Prequalification Process; - Either a request has been introduced. <p>*Existing capacities already have such permit at their disposal.</p>

7.3.1.2 Delivery Point volume related information

Next to the information used to identify the Delivery Point(s) that the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify, additional information needs to be provided as well in order to meter the capacity he's willing to prequalify and offer later in the CRM.

Main requirements for the volume determination of Delivery Points	
Expected Nominal Reference Power	The CRM Candidate needs to provide what he expects as Nominal Reference Power for his Delivery Point(s) when they are Existing Delivery Point(s).
Declared Nominal Reference Power	The CRM Candidate must declare the Nominal Reference Power for his Delivery Point(s) when they are Additional Delivery Point(s).
Non-representative days for Nominal	The CRM Candidate can indicate which days

⁶ Opinion no 22/2019 of the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators of 17 December 2019 on the calculation of the values of CO₂ emission limits referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 22(4) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity (recast).

Reference Power determination	he deems non-representative on the past 13 months that will be discarded when determining a Nominal Reference Power that is not based on injection only.
Unsheddable Margin	The minimum amount of power offtake that cannot be curtailed for the Delivery Point(s) concerned.

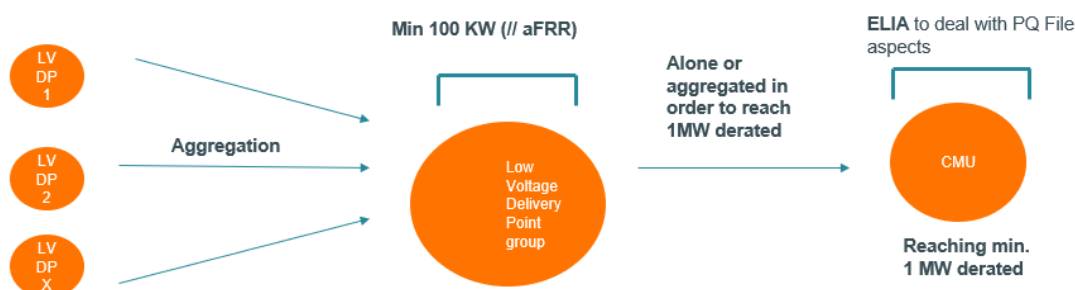
More information on the process of the volume determination and the translation from a Nominal Reference Power to other volume concepts is provided at a later stage in this design note.

7.3.2 Special requirements for some particular cases

7.3.2.1 Low voltage connected capacities

In order to reach the eligibility threshold of 1 MW derated to participate to the CRM, low voltage connected capacities must aggregate in a specific format. Low voltage Delivery Points must be aggregated within a Low Voltage Delivery Point Group (reaching a minimum of Nominal Capacity of 100 kW).

The principle is highlighted in the figure below:



The relevant DSO from which these low voltage Delivery Points are coming will double check them in the Flexhub before the start of the Prequalification Process launched by ELIA.

Nothing prevents a Low Voltage Delivery Point Group to aggregate with medium or high voltage capacities as long as the CMU reaches the minimum threshold set by the Electricity Act.

7.3.2.2 Capacities connected to the DSO grid

A DSO – CRM Candidate Agreement is an agreement between the CRM Candidate and the DSO allowing him to provide the Service to ELIA with Delivery Points connected to its grid. The CRM Candidate must provide such document signed to the relevant DSO prior to the Prequalification Process launched by ELIA. In this file, the CRM Candidate will deliver the required technical information to the concerned DSO(s) so the specific verifications detailed in this contract can be performed.

ELIA will not consider valid a Delivery Point connected to a DSO grid that has not been verified and confirmed by this DSO.

7.3.2.3 Capacities connected to a Closed Distribution System

All Existing Delivery Points going through the Prequalification Process that are connected to the Elia grid must provide a signed cooperation agreement with ELIA. In such case, a Closed Distribution System Operator (CDSO) grants approval for the targeted Delivery Point(s) to participate to the Service provided that the cooperation agreement has been signed.

7.3.2.4 CMU identification and compliance

7.3.2.4.1 Individual or aggregated CMU

The CRM Candidate informs ELIA about the Delivery Point(s) that composes each CMU he intends to prequalify. Indeed, several possibilities are offered to the Capacity Provider and ELIA must make sure that the following conditions are respected:

1. Any Delivery Point with a Nominal Reference Power lower than the threshold determined by Royal Decree cannot be considered as an individual CMU but may participate as part of an aggregated one;
2. Any Delivery Point subject to the obligation to introduce to ELIA an individual MW schedule (obligation coming from the System Operation Guidelines and already being respected in the energy market) is prohibited to be part of an aggregated CMU (currently, the threshold is 25 MW).

It is also important to remind that there are **no technology related constraints** in the set-up of an aggregated CMU (several technologies can be gathered together as long as the above-mentioned conditions are respected) and that one Delivery Point can only be part of one CMU, in the portfolio of one CRM Candidate.

Various information is to be provided by the CRM Candidate to identify properly the CMU(s) Points he would like to prequalify. Moreover, additional information is also required in order to make sure that the targeted CMU(s) from the capacity willing to prequalify comply with the eligibility criteria applicable in the CRM framework.

First, CMUs need to be identified in a right way by ELIA. Below, an overview of the information required to do so is provided. All elements listed are relevant for Existing & Additional CMU(s) but not all of them are required for capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process (Unproven Capacities). When the information is not required for Unproven Capacities, it is highlighted in the table below.

Main requirements for the identification of CMU(s)	
Name of the CMU	The CRM Candidate must provide a name for each CMU
Project ID linked to the CMU	The CRM Candidate must provide an ID for his CMU(s) in order to be able to link it (them) with their investment file being treated by the CREG in case he was applying for being eligible to obtain a pluriannual contract in the CRM (if selected in the Auction)
Project Execution Plan	The CRM Candidate must provide to ELIA a description of the steps to reach the final and concrete establishment of his project (e.g. key dates, strategy, infrastructure works planned, ...). This is only applicable for Additional Capacities.

Then, ELIA needs also to ensure that this (these) CMU(s) is (are) compliant with the legal framework and should be allowed to be prequalified to participate to the CRM. An overview of different checks to be realized is provided in the table below:

Main requirements for the identification of CMU(s)	
Renunciation to operating aid	<p>Following the EU regulation on State Aid Support, no market actor can benefit from multiple support scheme at the same time. By willing to engage to the CRM, a CRM Candidate has to renounce to any type of other operating aid during the period for which he will be contracted.</p> <p>*This is not applicable to capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process.</p>
New Build status	<p>If a CRM Candidate is willing to prequalify an electricity production or storage facility in the CRM for which he will be considered as a Connection applicant (meaning that he's engaged to a certain extent with Elia to connect to the Grid), he must indicate it for his CMU(s). This is only (potentially) applicable for Additional CMUs.</p> <p>*This is not applicable to capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process.</p>
Waiver declaration	<p>When a CRM Candidate wants to prequalify New Build Capacities, he must fill in this document in which it is acknowledged that there is risk of losing his capacity and/or connection reserved/allocated on the grid in case his Capacity(ies) is (are) not selected in the CRM Auction.</p> <p>*This is not applicable to capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process.</p>
Declaration of commitment to the energy transition	<p>The CRM Candidate willing to prequalify a CMU comprising fossil fuel-fired electricity production for a pluriannual contract must engage to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study the technical and economic feasibility of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by not later than 31 December 2027 for the targeted CMU(s); - Establish by 31 December 2028 a greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan how the CMU will contribute to carbon neutrality by 2050 (with interim objectives in 2035 and 2045) for the targeted CMU(s); - Reach zero or negative emissions by 2050 at the latest for the targeted CMU(s). <p>*This is not applicable to capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process.</p>
Permit requirement(s)	<p>Following the Electricity Act (and as explained before), the CRM Candidate must demonstrate that he was awarded in last administrative instance all required permits by the relevant regional regulation (construction, environment, ...). This aspect is foreseen in order to avoid prequalifying and then selecting capacities in the</p>

	<p>Auction that would not be able to run for any permitting reasons.</p> <p>*This is not applicable to capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process.</p>
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7.3.2.5 CMU volume related information

Next to the information used to identify the CMU(s) that the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify, several information needs to be provided as well in order to meter the capacity that he's willing to prequalify and offer later in the CRM.

Main requirements for the identification of CMU(s)	
Derating Factor & SLA	<p>After selecting the technology of his Delivery Point(s), the CRM Candidate selects the appropriate derating factor applicable to his CMU(s). This derating factor represent the part of the time during which the capacity of the CRM Candidate will be expected to be contributing to Security of Supply. The different derating factors available for a Prequalification Process (and their values) are always published in a Ministerial Decree on March 31 of the year during which the Auction is taking place.⁷</p> <p>As an important feature, some CMUs might be subject to energy constrains meaning that they cannot be expected to delivery their full power during every single moment of a day during the Delivery Period of the CRM. These CMUs must therefore select a Service Level Agreement (SLA) representing the amount of hours during which they will be expected to deliver their full capacity during the Delivery Period.</p> <p>All different SLA levels are linked to derating factors in the Ministerial Decree mentioned above.</p>
Opt-out Volume	<p>Each capacity participating to the CRM can notify for his CMU(s) an Opt-out Volume during his Prequalification Process. A CRM Candidate can decide to opt-out for a part or the entire capacity he intends to prequalify meaning that he's not willing to offer that capacity in the auction. The decision to opt-out for part or for its full capacity is left to the discretion of the CRM Candidate. However, the rules of the CRM foresee a way to treat such volume not participating to the CRM Auction in order to determine whether this volume should be considered as contributing to Security of Supply or not. More details are provided on the treatment of this Opt-out</p>

⁷ Example of Ministerial Decree for the Y-4 Auction linked to the Delivery Period 2027-28: [Moniteur belge \(fgov.be\)](https://moniteur.belge.fgov.be)

	volume in the section covering the volume determination below.
Degradation factor	CRM Candidates opting for the technology 'energy storage' and going for a pluriannual bidding in the CRM Auction can provide a degradation factor that specifies the degree of degradation of the storage asset over time (up to 15 years depending on the length of the contract targeted). This factor will impact the amount of Contracted Capacity over time of that storage capacity.

7.3.3 Additional requirements linked to the Prequalification Process

7.3.3.1 Metering / Submetering requirements

All Existing Delivery Points (TSO-, DSO-, CDS- connected) willing to prequalify for the CRM must dispose of one or several meters installed which must be Automatic Meter Readers (AMR). This implies that such meters should be able to provide quarter-hourly values of active power in both directions (injection or offtake) for the targeted Delivery Point(s).

The requirements in terms of data exchange and metering requirements applicable via the CRM are similar to the ones applicable to the mFRR service: they consist of data exchanges of 15-minute measurements between the Capacity Provider and ELIA. This process was implemented in cooperation with the DSOs and concerned market parties, via a common data exchange platform (Flexhub).

7.3.3.2 Combination with other Capacity Providers

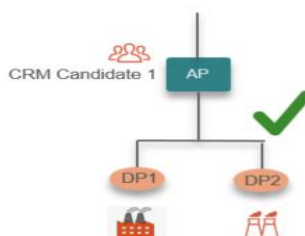
In parallel to what is done in balancing services, the following principles apply to determine the possible competition between CRM Candidates behind an Access Point.

In this way:

- 1) **There can only be one CRM Candidate per Delivery Point** (an Access Point may be equal to a Delivery Point).

The example below gives a practical illustration of that principle, with an Access Point behind which there are two specific capacities: a small production unit (DP2) and an industrial consumption site (DP 1). In the example, the CRM Candidate proposes the Access Point for the prequalification. He is allowed to do so as the Nominal Reference Power of each Delivery Point is lower than the threshold setting the daily scheduling obligation (currently 25 MW).

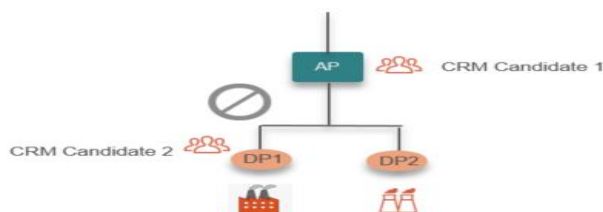
1 There can only be one CRM candidate per Delivery Point



2) **One Delivery Point cannot influence another one.**

In other words, there exists no combination possible between a Service delivery on the Headmeter and a Submeter behind or with two Submeters with hierarchy (one Delivery Point above another one). Indeed, in such configuration the Delivery Point downstream (Delivery Point 1 in the example below) influences the one upstream (Access Point in the example below) and might negatively influence the control of the Service delivery;

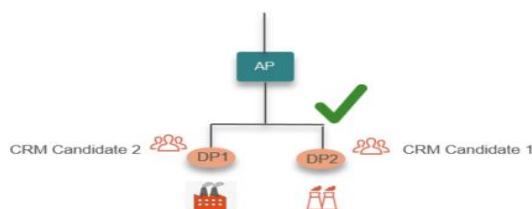
2 One Delivery Point cannot influence another one (no "cascade" effect)



3) **More than one CRM Candidate can deliver a Service behind an Access Point as long as these Delivery Points are not influencing each other.**

In the example below, 2 different CRM Candidates can offer the Service as the concerned Delivery Points (DP1 and DP2) are not influencing each other and as no CRM Candidate offers the Service on the Access Point.

3 More than one CRM candidate can deliver the service behind the access point as long as they do not influence each other (principle 2)



7.3.3.3 Grid connection

Prior to any possible offer in the CRM Auction, capacities not connected yet to the grid (or stated otherwise Additional capacities) must comply with the grid connection process as foreseen in the Code of Good Practice. This procedure gives the confirmation to ELIA that the proposed Delivery Points (in the CRM Prequalification Process) can effectively be connected to the grid before the start of the Delivery Period and details to the CRM Candidate both the technical and financial elements related to their connection. This confirmation is formalized via the **signature of a technical agreement** between the grid user and ELIA and **is a pre-requisite** verified at this stage **of the CRM Prequalification Process**. In this way, the technical agreement must at least be valid until the communication of the Auction results (at latest on 31/10 according to CRM law).

The information gathered in the technical agreement will be used by ELIA in the Auction clearing algorithm as input for the determination of grid constraints.

7.4 Volume determination

In parallel of all the requirements to be checked in the Prequalification File review, the volume of the capacity(ies) that the CRM Candidate intends to prequalify must be determined as well during the Prequalification Process.

As highlighted above, a real volume determination only occurs for Existing capacities during the Prequalification Process. Additional capacities are asked to provide a Declared Nominal Reference Power since ELIA or the (C)DSO are not capable of metering these capacities in a proper way at the moment of their first Prequalification. This declared volume will be used by ELIA as input to determine later the Eligible Volume of the targeted capacity and will be specifically monitored in the pre-delivery control phase period.

Unproven capacities must directly provide a Declared Eligible Volume representing the exact volume that will participate to the Auction.

Following the determination of the Nominal Reference Power, other relevant volumes can be derived and are determined by ELIA during the Prequalification Process (Reference Power, Eligible Volume, (Secondary Market) Remaining Eligible Volume).

The following sections detail how these respective volumes are calculated.

7.4.1 Nominal Reference Power calculation

In this step, ELIA determines the Nominal Reference Power. This volume corresponds to the

maximal capacity that can be delivered by the CMU, before consideration of Derating Factors and / or any additional correction required by the CRM Candidate (Partial or full opt-Out as detailed in section 7.4.4).

To determine the Nominal Reference Power, two different methodologies are available. The CRM Candidate can select his preferred one and confirm it to ELIA at this stage of the process.

Elia recently published on its website an online tool allowing market actors to estimate their Nominal Reference Power before participating to the Prequalification Process⁸. This tool is also accompanied by a manual explaining how to proceed with the NRP calculation⁹.

7.4.2 1st method – use of historical data

This method **only applies to Existing Capacities already connected to the grid** and which respect the metering requirements set above (see section 7.3.3.1). moreover, the use of historical requires a minimum of at least 14 full calendar days of data to be assessed in a correct way.

In this approach, ELIA (or the DSO) analyzes the historical 15 minutes measurement data of each moment **over the last 12 months** to calculate the Nominal Reference Power of the targeted capacity(ies).

The period of determination of the Nominal Reference Power starts at the first moment of injection/offake into the grid, at the earliest 12 months before the end of the period used for the volume determination. The period ends 5 working days before the last day of the month before the submission of the Prequalification File.

As an example, the period for the Nominal Reference Power determination of a targeted Delivery Point submitting a Prequalification File on May 16th of year Y will end around April 25th of year Y and will have started in May of Y-1.

The volume determination will obviously differ in function of the type of Delivery Point:

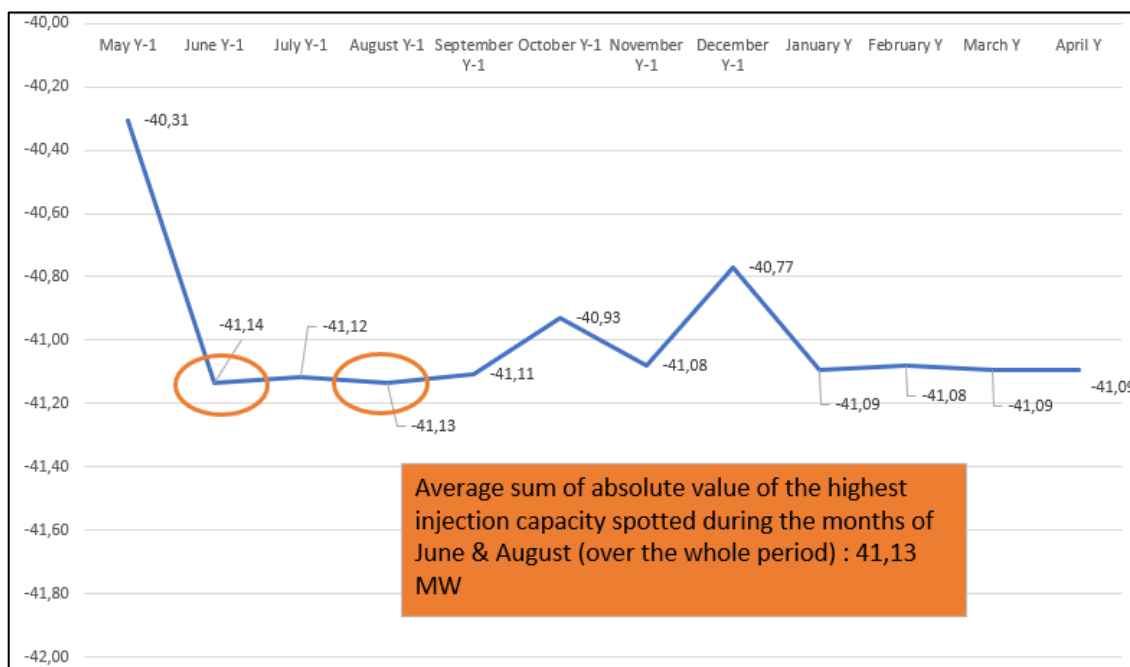
- For the Delivery Point(s) for which the Nominal Reference Power is based on injection, ELIA (or the relevant DSO) will look at the maximum injection moments over the targeted period (being equal to the lowest quarter-hourly measurement since net injection has a negative value).

The provisional Nominal Reference Power of the Delivery Point(s) is then equal to the absolute values of the average of the lowest values determined per month.

The graph below illustrates this methodology:

⁸ https://www.elia.be/-/media/project/elia/elia-site/electricity-market-and-system/adequacy/crm/2024/20240409_be_crm_nrp_calculation_tool_en.xlsx

⁹ https://www.elia.be/-/media/project/elia/elia-site/electricity-market-and-system/adequacy/crm/2024/20240408_be_crm_nrp_calculation_tool_manual_en.pdf



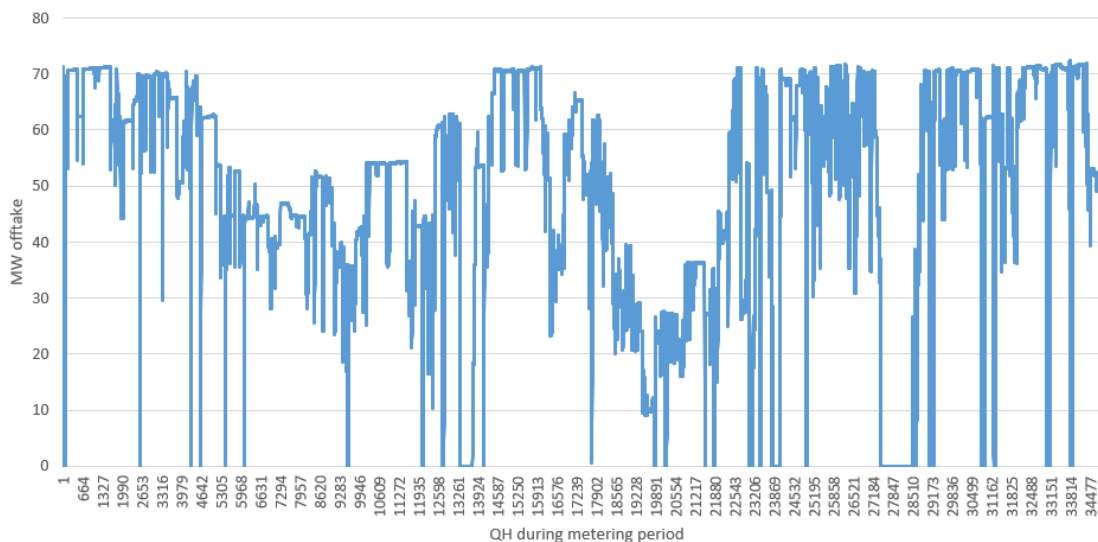
- For the Delivery Point(s) for which the Nominal Reference Power has to be determined based on offtake, ELIA (or the relevant DSO) has to calculate a baseline to establish how much this Delivery Point would have consumed in other circumstances and up to which level.

For such baseline determination, ELIA will determine based on the input from the CRM Candidate at a set of representative days used to calculate its Nominal Reference Power. Within that set of representative days, the Nominal Reference Power of that Delivery Point is calculated for a specific quarter hour by comparing its consumption pattern in time with similar quarter hours from similar days coming from the set of representative days (or with its Unsheddable margin whichever is the highest).

Based on the type of representative day considered, ELIA will determine the Nominal Reference Power of the Delivery Point as:

- ➔ If it's a working day, the highest offtake value (being equal to the highest quarter-hourly measurement since net offtake has a positive value) observed over one quarter hour coming from the 4 quarter hours being the most representative out of the 5 selected.
- ➔ If it's a weekend day/bank holiday, the highest offtake value (being equal to the highest quarter-hourly measurement since net offtake has a positive value) observed over one quarter hour coming from the 2 quarter hours being the most representative out of the 3 selected.

Again, the graph below illustrates the methodology explained:



The profile of offtake of that capacity is observed for a period of 12 months. During that period, a baseline is determined for every single quarter hour based on the methodology explained above. The moment where the difference between the baseline determined and the consumption pattern observed over the entire metered period is the highest is retained as Nominal Reference Power for that offtake delivery point. In this case, the Nominal Reference Power exceeds 71 MW and is thus equal to the actual difference between what is actually consumed during the targeted quarter hour (0 MW) and what is usually consumed following the baseline determined (around 71 MW).

7.4.3 2nd method – Organize a new prequalification test

In various cases, a CRM Candidate can require organizing test to determine his Nominal Reference Power. Some examples can be (non-exhaustive list) :

- The CRM Candidate does not have enough historical data to calculate the Nominal Reference Power of his Delivery Point(s).
- A CRM Candidate is unhappy about the results of the Nominal Reference Power determination for his Delivery Point(s) based on historical data (available in sufficient quantity) and wants to contest the first calculation.

In this section, ELIA details the modalities of such test.

7.4.3.1 Test organization & remuneration

The CRM prequalification test is scheduled in advance between ELIA and the CRM Candidate. The Capacity Provider informs ELIA on beforehand and communicates the following information:

- Which Delivery Point(s) are being tested;
- The preferred test date, which must respect the overall timing of the Prequalification Process at the same time.

The test is scheduled to last a full quarter hour during which the Nominal Reference Power of the targeted Delivery Point(s) is expected to be observed. The logic followed by ELIA to determine the Nominal Reference Power from a test result is the same than the one described in the first methodology above (based on historical results).

The costs related to the organization of a CRM prequalification test are at the CRM Candidate's charge. No remuneration is foreseen by ELIA. Furthermore, no energy compensation is expected from ELIA (in opposite direction to compensate possible imbalance) as the test is foreseen by the CRM Candidate in advance and should be compensated accordingly by him.

As a short conclusion for the Nominal Reference Power determination, a summary dealing with different kinds of Prequalification Processes, types of capacities and CRM Candidates of is presented in the table below:

			Standard Prequalification Process	Fast Track Prequalification Process
Existing Delivery Point	ELIA Grid-connected or CDS-connected when the CDS is connected to the ELIA Grid	Delivery Point with Daily Schedule	Determined by ELIA	
		Delivery Point without Daily Schedule	Determined by ELIA	Determined by ELIA if the 1 st method referred to in section 5.4.1.1.1.1.1 is possible, otherwise declared by the CRM Candidate
	DSO-connected or CDS-connected when the CDS is connected to the DSO Grid	Expected NRP ≥ 5 MW	Determined and communicated to ELIA by the DSO	
		Expected NRP < 5 MW	Determined and communicated to ELIA by the DSO	Determined by the DSO if the 1 st method referred to in section 5.4.1.1.1.1.1 is possible, otherwise declared by the CRM Candidate and communicated to ELIA by the DSO
	Foreign TSO-connected		Determined by ELIA based on information provided by the Foreign TSO	NA
Additional Delivery Point	ELIA Grid-connected, Foreign TSO-connected, or CDS-connected when the CDS is connected to the ELIA Grid	Delivery Point with Daily Schedule	Declared to ELIA by the CRM Candidate	
		Delivery Point without Daily Schedule		
	DSO-connected or CDS-connected when the CDS is connected to the DSO Grid	Declared or Fast Track NRP ≥ 5 MW	Declared by the CRM Candidate and communicated to ELIA by the DSO	
		Declared or Fast Track NRP < 5 MW		

7.4.4 Opt-out Volume & Reference Power

As foreseen by the CRM Act and raised earlier, a CRM Candidate may decide not to offer (part of) its prequalified capacity into an Auction towards a Delivery Period, provided that the CRM Candidate notifies ELIA of such decision. This related volume is called “Opt-Out Volume” and communicated to ELIA right before the Auction.

An important element is the way this Opt-Out Volume is considered in terms of contribution to Adequacy although such volume is not participating to the CRM Auction:

- An Opt-Out Volume can be considered as ‘IN’ meaning that despite of not participating to the CRM auction, it is expected to contribute to Security of Supply. This implies that such volume cannot participate to the Secondary Market as it would mean that it is counted twice for Adequacy purpose. All Opt-Out ‘IN’ Volumes are taken into consideration when correcting the demand curve for the auction (cf. design note on Auction).
- An Opt-Out Volume can be considered as ‘OUT’ meaning that it is deemed not contributing generally to Adequacy. Such volume can be traded on the Secondary Market.

It is important to insist on the fact that Opt-Out Volumes are considered by default as ‘IN’ and are thus expected to be contributing to Security of Supply during the Delivery Period. The amount of

cases where an Opt-Out Volume is to be considered as 'OUT' is exhaustive and is presented in the table below:

Y-4/Y-2	Y-1
<input type="checkbox"/> Full opt-out & no signed Connection Contract or based on info in signed Connection Contract, capacity will not be available by the start of the delivery period	<input type="checkbox"/> Full opt-out & no signed Connection Contract or based on info in signed Connection Contract, capacity will not be available by the start of the delivery period
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full opt-out of New Build CMU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full opt-out of New Build CMU
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Definitive commissioning or definitive structural reduction of capacity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Definitive commissioning or definitive structural reduction of capacity
<input type="checkbox"/> Part of non-firm capacity of connection with flexible access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary decommissioning or temporary structural reduction of capacity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No obligation to prequalify (pro rata according to NRP of capacities in case of mix)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part of non-firm capacity of connection with flexible access
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No obligation to prequalify (pro rata according to NRP of capacities in case of mix)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Motivational letter, not contributing to adequacy

Finally, it is worth repeating that an Opt-Out Volume always is provided on CMU level (not on Delivery Point level).

Once the Nominal Reference Power and the Opt-Out Volume (if any) have been determined, ELIA can derive the Reference Power of the related CMU, corresponding to the difference between the Nominal Reference Power and the notified Opt-Out Volume. For Unproven Capacities, there is no possibility to provide an Opt-Out Volume since they must already provide their Declared Eligible Volume during their Prequalification Process directly representing the volume they'd like to participate to the auction with.

7.4.5 Eligible Volume calculation

The Eligible Volume is equal to the multiplication of the Reference Power by the derating factor selected by the CRM Candidate for his CMU(s) during the Prequalification Process. As raised above already, Unproven Capacities going through the Specific Prequalification Process must provide a Declared Eligible Volume at the moment of the Prequalification Process since their Nominal Reference Power cannot be determined and since they don't dispose already of a Derating Factor.

7.4.6 Remaining Eligible Volume Calculation

If a Capacity already engages to a Transaction via the CRM auction or via the Secondary Market, there is a need to calculate the Remaining Maximum Eligible Volume that this Capacity can still offer in the Auction for which it is prequalifying. In other words, the Remaining Eligible Volume is then equal to the maximum volume that that capacity can still offer and be contracted for in the Auction.

It is calculated in the following way, depending on whether the capacity is energy-constrained or not:

- For Non-energy Constrained CMUs:

Remaining Eligible Volume = Maximum {0; Eligible Volume – maximum Total Contracted Capacity over the Delivery Period to which the Auction relates}

- For Energy Constrained CMUs

Remaining Eligible Volume = Maximum {0; Eligible Volume – maximum Total Contracted Capacity over the Delivery Period to which the Auction relates} × (Derating Factor excluding Associated Delivery Points / Derating Factor (CMU,t))

As explained in the Prequalification requirements, derating factors are determined by Ministerial Decree for each Prequalification Process and for each Auction meaning that they can differ from an Auction to another.

Different Derating Factors can have then an impact on the calculation of the Remaining Eligible Volume if a capacity was already contracted in a previous auction. As highlighted in the formula, a capacity contracted in an Auction comes with a derating factor that was selected during the Prequalification preceding that auction. Then, to calculate the Remaining Eligible Volume that can be offered for the next auction (and which has to be prequalified), the volume that was already contracted is subtracted from the Eligible Volume. However, this capacity contracted to be subtracted must take into account the (potential) evolution of the derating factors from one Prequalification Process/Auction to another.

7.4.7 Secondary Market Remaining Eligible Volume Calculation

For Existing Capacities that were already contracted in the past, a calculation must occur to determine which part of the capacity can still be offered towards Secondary Market. Such volume is only to be calculated for units that have gone through the Prequalified Process and are actually able to trade on the Secondary Market.

In a nutshell, this Secondary Market Remaining Eligible Volume will depend on various elements:

- Is the CMU energy constrained or not?
- Did he notify an Opt-Out Volume and which part of that Opt-Out Volume was considered as 'OUT'?
What were the values of the derating factors to be considered?

7.5 Prequalification results notification

The results of the Prequalification Process (Standard and Specific) are notified to the CRM Candidate at the latest:

- by September 1 if an Investment File was submitted to the CREG;
- by September 15 if no Investment File was submitted to the CREG;
- within seventy Working Days starting from the submission of the Prequalification File in case the CRM Candidate wants to participate to the Secondary Market only.

If by the notification of the Prequalification results, the Prequalification File of a CMU is still provisionally rejected meaning that part of his Prequalification File remains incomplete or incorrect, then he is rejected and cannot access the CRM Auction nor the Secondary Market.

If the Prequalification File was accepted, the CRM Candidate becomes a Prequalified CRM Candidate and will be allowed to bid into the auction and/or participate to the Secondary Market.

8 Fast Track Prequalification Process

As introduced earlier in this document, some Capacity Holders have the legal obligation to submit a Prequalification File to ELIA from the moment their production and/or storage unit(s) exceed(s) the minimum threshold set by the Electricity Act (1 MW). However, not all of these capacities are willing to participate to the CRM Auction.

To facilitate the participation to the Prequalification Process for such Capacity Holders, ELIA has foreseen a “**Fast Track Prequalification Process**”, in which a minimal number of information is to be provided by the Capacity Holder.

For example, for a Fast track Prequalification Process, a Capacity Holder with DSO connected capacity(ies) does not need to sign and provide a DSO – CRM Candidate Agreement.

First, ELIA wants to emphasize again that – consecutive to a Fast Track Prequalification Process – it is **not possible for a capacity to participate to an Auction nor to the Secondary Market**. By default, going through the Fast Track Prequalification Process for a capacity will be considered by ELIA as a full opt-out. Such Opt-Out Volume would be considered as ‘IN’ or in the words as contributing to Security of Supply.

The Fast Track Prequalification Process is not to be followed by capacities connected to the low voltage grid nor by capacities coming from a foreign country. Finally, the Fast Track Prequalification Process does not make sense neither for Unproven Capacities.

Finally, Elia wants to add that capacities going through the Fast Track Prequalification Process will consist in CMUs with only one Delivery Point. Indeed, it does not make sense to aggregate capacities to participate to the Fast Track Prequalification Process since they don’t want to participate to the CRM auction.

8.1 CRM Candidate registration via the submission of an application form

8.1.1 Become a CRM Candidate

Prior to becoming a CRM Candidate, a Capacity Holder must fill in an application form in which legal & contact information are provided. Filling this application form enables each contact person to become officially a CRM Candidate able to access the CRM IT Interface as such. This step is similar to the one foreseen for the Standard Prequalification Process.

8.2 The CRM Candidate commitment to comply with the legal binding framework

For the simplified Fast Track Prequalification Process, the CRM Candidate only declares that it will comply with the provisions related to the Fast Track Prequalification Process detailed in the Prequalification chapter of the CRM Functioning Rules approved by Royal Decree.

8.3 Check of all requirements linked to the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate

Although the Fast Track Prequalification Process is a simplified process, it still requires the provision of certain information of the capacity to be prequalified. Enabling the prequalification of this capacity requires:

- Information to identify the capacity in a right way;
- Volume related information in order to quantify it in a correct way as well.

First, the Delivery Point and the CMU need to be identified in a right way by ELIA. Delivery Point and CMU information are to be provided together as this process is simplified compared to the Standard Prequalification Process.

As for the Standard and Specific Prequalification Process, if an element provided in the Prequalification File of the CRM Candidate is deemed incorrect or incomplete, Elia provisionally rejects this Prequalification File and the CRM Candidate has to correct it/provide additional feedback in order to complete his Prequalification in line with timing detailed in section 9.

Below, an overview of the information required to do so is provided (all elements listed are relevant for Existing & Additional Delivery Points).

Main requirements for the identification of Fast Track CMU	
Name	The CRM Candidate must provide a name for each Delivery Point.
New Build CMU & expected 'in service' arrival	<p>In the framework of the Fast Track Prequalification Process, if a CRM Candidate does not dispose of all the permits in last administrative instance required under regional regulation (for construction, operation ...) for his Additional CMU, then the CMU is considered as New Build.</p> <p>In case of a New Build CMU, in order to be able to assess the potential contribution of an Additional CMU following the Fast Track Process to Security of Supply, the CRM Candidate prequalifying such CMU must provide his expected date of entering in service on the grid.</p>
Technology	<p>A technology has to be indicated for each Delivery Point participating to the Prequalification Process. The technology will be linked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fact that the capacity is energy constrained or not. It will impact its Derating Factor and Service Level Agreement (SLA). More information are provided on this in the table linked to Delivery Point Volume determination. - The level of CO2 that is emitted by this Delivery Point (if any).
Type of Delivery Point	The CRM Candidate must indicate whether the Capacity

	is connected to the TSO grid, the DSO grid or to Closed Distribution System (CDS).
Corresponding DSO	In case his Delivery Point is connected to the DSO grid, the CRM Candidate must indicate to which DSO it is connected.
EAN Code of the Delivery Point	Unique identification number used to identify the metering device of the Delivery Point.
EAN Code of the Access Point	Unique identification number used to identify the metering device of the Access Point related to the Delivery Point.
Grid User Declaration	Similar to the verification done by ELIA in the balancing services prequalification procedures, a signed declaration from the grid user (in case the grid user differs from the CRM Candidate) concerned by the offered capacities (in the CMU) – giving the permission to the CRM Candidate to offer the capacity Service to ELIA – is a standard verification in the CRM Prequalification Process.

Next to the information used to identify the Delivery Point/CMU going through the Fast Track Process, several information need to be provided as well in order to meter the capacity the CRM Candidate is prequalifying.

Main requirements for the volume determination of Fast Track CMU	
Fast Track Nominal Reference Power	The CRM Candidate needs to provide what he expects as Nominal Reference Power for his Delivery Point(s) when they are Existing Delivery Point(s).
Non-representative days for Nominal Reference Power determination	The CRM Candidate can indicate which days he deems non-representative on the past 13 months that will be discarded when determining a Nominal Reference Power that is not based on injection only.
Unsheddable Margin	The minimum amount of power offtake that cannot be curtailed for the Delivery Point(s) concerned.
Derating Factor	After selecting the technology of his Delivery Point(s), the CRM Candidate selects the appropriate derating factor applicable to his CMU(s). This derating factor represent the part of the time during which the capacity of the CRM Candidate will be expected to be contributing to Security of Supply. The different derating factors available for a Prequalification Process (and their values) are always published in a Ministerial Decree on March 31 of the year during which the

	<p>Auction is taking place.¹⁰</p> <p>As an important feature, some CMUs might be subject to energy constraints meaning that they cannot be expected to deliver their full power during every single moment of a day during the Delivery Period of the CRM. These CMUs must therefore select a Service Level Agreement (SLA) representing the amount of hours during which they will be expected to deliver their full capacity during the Delivery Period.</p> <p>All different SLA levels are linked to derating factors in the Ministerial Decree mentioned above.</p>
Opt-Out Notification	<p>In case the Capacity is going through the Fast Track Prequalification Process, it is entirely considered as a Fast Track Volume. More information on the classification of Opt-Out Volumes was provided earlier in the volume determination section.</p>

8.4 Fast Track Prequalification results notification

Similar than for the Standard or Specific Prequalification Process, the results of the Fast Track Prequalification Process are notified to the CRM Candidate at the latest:

- by September 15

As a reminder, it's not because a CRM Candidate successfully fulfills the Fast Track Prequalification Process that he can access the CRM Auction nor the Secondary Market.

¹⁰ Example of Ministerial Decree for the Y-4 Auction linked to the Delivery Period 2027-28: [Moniteur belge \(fgov.be\)](https://moniteur.belge.fgov.be)



9 Timing of the Prequalification Process

First, an overview of the main legal deadlines from the CRM linked to the Prequalification Process is provided

PERIODS	Gate opening time	Gate closure time	Remarks in respect of the forthcoming Auction
MINISTERIAL DECREE	NA	March 31	Last date where Ministerial Decree on "Volume and Parameters" is officially published.
FUNCTIONING RULES PUBLICATION	NA	May 15	Last date where Functioning Rules for a related Auction are officially published.
PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS			
IPC derogation File submission ¹¹	June 15 – 20 WD	Deadline for a future CRM Candidate to submit an IPC derogation File.	
Prequalification File submission	June 15	Last date by which the CRM Candidate may submit his Prequalification File in order to be able to participate to the forthcoming Auction.	

¹¹ More details about the different deadlines & deliverables of the IPC derogation process are available via the following link : [LOI - WET \(fgov.be\)](https://loi-wet.fgov.be) (see article 22).

Investment File submission ¹²	June 15	Deadline to submit an investment file to CREG in order to be able to bid for a pluriannual contract in the CRM auction.
Prequalification results notification	September 15	Last date by which the prequalification results are officially notified by ELIA to each CRM Candidate individually.

Although the provision and the check of the of information from the capacities going through the Prequalification Process and the volume determination were presented as separated processes, they are taking place at the same time:

Action	Due Date				Details
	Standard Prequalification Process & Fast Track Prequalification Process		Standard Prequalification Process for Secondary Market participation only	Specific Prequalification Process	
	CMU with Investment file	CMU without investment file			
Application form submission date	A - 5 WD	A - 5 WD	A - 5 WD	A - 5 WD	The CRM Candidate submits to ELIA his application form in order to be allowed to submit a Prequalification File.

¹² More information are able on the process to be assigned to a multiyear category by the regulator in order to bid for a pluriannual contract in the auction via the following link: [LOI - WET \(fgov.be\)](https://www.fgov.be/loi-wet)

Approval/rejection of application form	A	A	A	A	Once the CRM Candidate has submitted his application form, ELIA has 5 WD to approve or reject it.
Prequalification File submission date	A	A	A	A	In order to launch the Prequalification Process, the CRM Candidate submits his Prequalification File via the CRM IT Interface.
Results of the Prequalification File compliance-check#1	August 1	August 15	A + 45 WD	A + 45 WD	The first Prequalification File submission is followed by a compliance check realized by ELIA either by August 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment file) or within maximum 45 WD starting from the Prequalification File submission date in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for Secondary Market participation only. This may trigger a request for additional information in case the Prequalification File is provisionally "rejected".
Finalization of the Prequalification File	10 WD before September 1	10 WD before September 15	A + 60 WD	A + 60 WD	In the event that ELIA requests for additional information, the CRM Candidate needs to come back to ELIA with this additional information by 10 WD before either September 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment file) or by maximum 15 WD starting from ELIA's request in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for

					Secondary Market participation only.
Notification of the provisional Nominal Reference Power for the Existing Delivery Point(s), if applicable	August 1	August 15	A + 45 WD	NA	ELIA may determine the provisional Nominal Reference Power for some Existing Delivery Point and communicates it via the CRM IT Interface to the CRM Candidate either by August 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment file) or within maximum 45 WD starting from the Prequalification File submission date in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for Secondary Market participation only.
Contestation of the provisional Nominal Reference Power(s), if applicable	10 WD before September 1	10 WD before September 15	A + 60 WD	NA	If needed, the CRM Candidate can contest the provisional Nominal Reference Power(s) communicated by ELIA by 10 WD before either September 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment file) either within maximum 15 WD starting from the date of this communication via the CRM IT Interface in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for Secondary Market participation only.
Notification of the final Nominal Reference Power for the Existing Delivery Point(s), if applicable	September 1	September 15	A + 70 WD	NA	ELIA notifies the final Nominal Reference Power for each Delivery Point included in the CMU to the CRM Candidate either by September 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment

					file) or within maximum 70 WD starting from the Prequalification File submission date in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for Secondary Market participation only.
Prequalification results notification	September 1	September 15	A + 70 WD	A + 70 WD	ELIA notifies the results and therefore different volumes (Eligible Volumes, Secondary Market Eligible Volume, Fast Track Volume, etc.) to the CRM Candidate either by September 1 or 15 (depending on the presence of an investment file) or within maximum 70 WD starting from the Prequalification File submission date in case the CRM Candidate wants to prequalify for Secondary Market participation only.

10 Evolution of a CMU in time

In this section, ELIA proposes additional clarifications to determine how a CMU prequalified (and potentially selected into an Auction) evolves over time.

First of all, it should be noted that a prequalified capacity that ends up successfully selected in an auction has to renew its Prequalification File the following year. Indeed, Capacities are expected to renew their Prequalification File following the requirements detailed above in the following cases:

- The Capacity may have some (Remaining) Eligible Volume to offer in an upcoming Auction for which it has to be prequalified. This could happen in case of evolution of the derating factors from one year to another for example.
 - o A capacity selected in a previous auction for a multi-year contract (after having been successfully prequalified) cannot obviously be offered into an upcoming auction if it already contracted. It is important to highlight that the parameters related to a Contracted Capacity remain valid all along the Capacity Contract Duration.
- The Capacity has the obligation to prequalify following the Electricity Act (as detailed in the section 4. Being prequalified remains a must even for capacities that want to follow the Fast Track Prequalification Process (and don't want to participate to the auction) since these capacities will influence potentially the volume to be procured for the next auction(s), for example via an Opt-Out Notification which impacts the demand curve.
- If a Capacity already secured a Secondary Market Transaction for a future Delivery Period, that capacity has to remain prequalified and will thus have to submit a Prequalification File as well.

10.1 Updates of data linked to the Prequalification Process

10.1.1 Update: general principles

A CRM Actor can update elements linked to a Delivery Point and/or a CMU that was prequalified. In case changes are brought to information from a CRM Candidate, the Prequalification File must be resubmitted to Elia in order to be validated. However, these updates will never impact the parameters associated to a Capacity Contract that was already secured. This means also that the fundamental essence of that CMU (eg. status of the CMU) cannot be changed anymore for the Contract that is ongoing.

It is also important to insist on the fact that a change made for a Delivery Point and/or CMU must still comply with the legal binding framework. As an example, a modification linked to a Delivery Point from a CMU that was already prequalified in the past and selected in the auction cannot lead to this CMU not respecting CO2 emissions limits anymore.

It is possible to make changes for a CMU which was contracted already but it will not affect the obligations of the CMU resulting from his Capacity Contract. Whenever a CRM Actor wants to introduce changes to his Prequalification File (Delivery Point, CMU, CMU composition, ...) for a

future Delivery Period, some cases lead to the need to create a new CMU:

- Change the set of Delivery Points of an Aggregated CMU for a future Delivery Period; or
- Change the Derating Factor category applicable to the CMU for a future Delivery Period; or
- Add an Additional Delivery Point to an Existing CMU; or
- Submit a Prequalification File for a Delivery Period with a specific set of Delivery Points that cannot be considered for all other Delivery Periods.

The creation of a new CMU is required for these specific cases as the co-existence of the same CMU with different parameters for different Delivery Periods (Delivery Point composition, Derating Factor to be applied, different CMU status, ..) would otherwise lead to confusion during the future Delivery Periods for which this CMU was contracted.

10.1.2 Possible updates for a Delivery Point

The possible updates for a Delivery Point are the following:

- **Delivery Point addition:** the CRM Actor can add one or more Delivery Point(s) into a CMU without changing the status of the CMU.
- **Delivery Point deletion:** the CRM Actor can delete one or more Delivery Point(s) from a CMU, regardless of its status. If the CMU is related to a Capacity Contract, the deletion of all Delivery Points does not mean that the Contract is deleted and not valid anymore.
- **Delivery Point transfer:** it is possible to transfer a Delivery Point from one CRM Actor to another CRM Actor or to another of his CMUs, the Delivery Point in question is added to the CMU of its new holder or to the CMU in question after having been deleted from the initial CMU.
- **Delivery Point data modification:** the CRM Actor may modify the data related to a Delivery Point without impacting the essence of the CMU. The modification made to a Delivery Point can lead to a need of recalculating the Nominal Reference Power of the Delivery Point and of the CMU.

10.1.3 Possible updates for a CMU

The possible updates for a CMU are the following:

- **CMU archiving:** the CRM Actor has the possibility to archive a CMU by archiving the Prequalification File of the CMU, regardless of its status (Existing CMU, Additional CMU or Virtual CMU). An archiving can be performed even during the review of the Prequalification File by ELIA to interrupt a Prequalification Process.

Archiving a CMU is considered by Elia as if the CMU was going through the Fast Track Prequalification Process.

- **CMU transfer:** if a CRM Actor plans to transfer its Prequalified CMU to another CRM Actor, the latter is required to restart a new Prequalification Process once the CMU has been archived by its original holder. The transfer is therefore the combination of two actions: first the CMU archiving from a Prequalification File and then its re-creation in a new file.

- **CMU data modification:** The CRM Actor may modify the data related to a CMU in a Prequalification File. The CRM Actor also has the possibility to do a Fast Track Prequalification Process with a (Prequalified) Existing CMU or with a (prequalified) Existing Delivery Point. As the Fast Track Prequalification Process can only include one Delivery Point, each Delivery Point part of the CMU that follows the Fast Track Prequalification Process is split into different Prequalification Files.

