

Minutes of meeting Working Group Balancing 21/09/2017

List of participants:

Name	First name	Company/association	Present	Excused
Aertgeerts	Arnout	Actility	X	
Benquey	Romain	REstore	X	
Braecke	Pascal	Virtual-Power	X	
Busschaert	Joost	Virtual-Power	X	
Camps	Guido	Rent a Port Green Energy company	X	
Coppin	Xavier	Engie	X	
Debrigode	Patricia	Creg	X	
Detollenaere	Alice	Ode Be	X	
Demeyer	Valentijn	Electrabel		X
Fasel	Kristian	Airliguide		X
Gilbert	Donald	REstore	X	
Gouverneur	Bruno	Synergrid	X	
Harlem	Steven	Febeg	X	
Kreutzkamp	Paul	Next-Kraftwerke		X
Leroy	Xavier	EDF Luminus	X	
Libert	Brice	Creg	X	
Loos	Rob	Teamwise	X	
Maenhoudt	Marijn	Creg	X	
Ottoy	Pauline	Vreg	X	
Platbrood	Ludovic	Eni	X	
Pycke	Bart	Yuso	X	
Selderslaghs	Katrien	FOD	X	
Soens	Joris	Eandis	X	
Taverniers	Hans	Power Pulse	X	
Van Bruwaene	Mattijs	EDF Luminus	X	
Van Bossuyt	Michaël	Febeliec	X	
Vandevenne	Alain	Energy-Pool		X
Verrydt	Eric	Basf	X	
Williame	Jean-François	Eon-benelux	X	
Wilmart	Gilles	Creg	X	
Matthys-Donnadieu	James	Elia	X	
Hebb	Bob	Elia	X	
Cattrysse	Jean-Christophe	Elia	X	
Van den waeyenberg	Sofie	Elia	X	
Pitsaer	Alexandre	Elia	X	
Leroux	Amandine	Elia	X	

Minutes of meeting:

All agenda items were supported by presentations prepared by Elia. The slides serve as background for these minutes and can be found on the Elia website under http://www.elia.be/en/users-group/Working-Group_Balancing/Agenda-ad-hoc-werkgroep-balancing

Agenda of the WG Balancing meeting on 22/06/2017

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 22/06/2017
2. Status updates:
 - 2.1. R1
 - 2.2. R2 non CIPU
 - 2.3. Feedback Task Force iCAROS
3. R3 future evolutions
4. Presentation by DSOs
 - 4.1. R1 from low voltage grid users: update
 - 4.2. Participation of distribution grid users to Bidladder
5. Presentation of study "MVAR Ancillary Services: Organizational Principles in European Countries"
6. European Balancing: status update and stakeholder's involvement
7. AOB

1 Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 22/06/2017

The draft minutes of the previous Working Group were distributed by e-mail prior to this meeting.

No comments were received and the final version is available on the Elia [website](#).

2 Status Updates

Bob Hebb presents a short update of the status of R1 and R2 non-CIPU developments.

- In response to REstore's question Elia stresses that the current project for R2 non-CIPU is only a Proof-of-Concept. The actual redesign of the R2 product will start in 2018, including an impact assessment of the implications on IT-tools etc. Therefore, in 2018 non-CIPU production will not be able to participate in the R2-market yet. Elia has also no intention to set-up a new pilot project for R2 Non CIPU.
- YUSO asks how in the future R2 bids from non-CIPU will be offered and if there is a link with Bidladder. Elia indicates that Bidladder will be the logical place to do so, but that it has not been analysed yet.
- REstore asks what should be understood by 'smart testing' for R1 prequalification. Elia answers that the intention is to define a set of smart indicators in order to test on the right moments, reduce the numbers of tests etc. These indicators are still to be defined.

Sofie Van den waeyenberg presents a feedback of the full-day iCAROS work shop held on September 11th and a summary of the new design proposal.

- Febeliec would like to know in what format stakeholders are expected to provide feedback and to what level of detail.
Elia announces that a report of the work shop will be sent around next week and invites stakeholders to comment on elements that are missing or not worked out enough. More (practical) details will be given with the communication of the report. The feedback does not have to be given in the same format as in case of a formal consultation.
- Febeliec asks when the topic of 'real time information' will be tackled. Elia clarifies that the topic of real time in the context of iCAROS will only be discussed in the context of schedules, but will check if there are other aspects to it which can have an impact.
- Febeliec asks if there is any news from ENTSO-E regarding KORRR. A communication is expected for October/November, but there is no other concrete news to share. So far there are no elements in the KORRR proposal that are contrary to the design currently proposed to the iCAROS Task Force.

Elia is aware of the inconvenience of a consultation that starts mid-December. Stakeholders are asked to contact Elia as soon as possible if this would be an issue.

3 R3 future evolutions

Alexandre Pitsaer presents the planned developments for the mFRR (R3 and free bids) product in 2018.

- EDF asks if, given that nominations R3 non-CIPU will be obligatory as off 1/01/2018, if there will be a transitory period and when a demo of the bidding platform will be available.
Elia stresses that only the volumes (not the prices) are to be nominated as off January 1st and nominations will be fairly simple, i.e. nominations for the whole month can be done at once right after the publication of the auction results. Only in case a BSP participates in the secondary market, a more active management of nominations is required to update nominations in functions of the transactions made on this secondary market. A first training with the new tool will be organized in November.
Further Elia announces that an adapted General Framework Agreement will be published in November with modifications related to the new nomination process for R3 non-CIPU and the extension of the secondary market for reserve.
- In response to a question from FEBEG Elia confirms that the advice from the CREG to the Minister on the modification of the federal grid code regarding the merit order activation of mFRR is not yet available.
- EDF asks what the opinion of the User's Group on R3 Merit Order was.
Elia specifies that the User's Group did not take a position on the actual design of the R3 Merit Order, but they agreed to transfer the rules from the Federal Grid Code to the Balancing Rules.
- EDF indicates that today there is a lack of visibility how certain units, e.g. pump/turbine units will be activated in the merit order.

Elia confirms to be aware of this and invites stakeholders to share their thoughts so that this can be tackled in the design of the Merit Order implementation.

Elia highlight, as explained on the slides, that R3 Flex can difficultly be considered the same way as R3 Standard and Free Bids on a combined merit order. The reason being inherent to the specific energy limitations of R3 Flex; e.g. a limited number of activations per month (8 activations / month), activation of maximum 2 hours and minimum time between two consecutive activations (12 hours).

- Febeliec asks how a product like R3 Flex with its specific characteristics can have a place in the future European platform.
Elia explains that R3 Flex could be considered as a 'specific product' relieving it from the obligation to be exchanged on the European platform.
Elia also stresses that our current and future design will keep on evolving in function of decisions on the design of the European platforms, changes in the timing of procurement etc. In this respect Elia refers to a profound R3 product design project that will be undertaken in the course of 2018 and that will focus on the necessary evolutions of the R3 product (including the need/opportunity/possibility to keep the mix standard and flex) in light of the future EU balancing market integration and a possible evolution towards shorter term (daily) procurement.
Elia further confirms that dedicated meetings with Belgian stakeholders to discuss the design of the European platforms can be organized.
- EDF asks for what period of time the start-up cost will be integrated in the activation price of a bid.
Elia clarifies that this will only be for the first Qh of activation, but that there exist specific conditions under which it will not be taken into account, e.g. when the unit behind the bid is already running or is scheduled to be started according to the last program nominated.
- Febeliec asks what is meant with 'regulatory track'.
Elia refers to the drafting, consultation and approval of the ToE rules, as well as the necessary change procedures regarding the balancing rules and the GFAs.

4 Presentation by DSOs

Bruno Gouverneur (Synergrid) presents an update on the participation of LV-connected grid users to R1 and participating to Bidladder by distribution grid users.

Regarding R1 participation by LV grid users following points were discussed additionally:

- ENGIE asks if the General Framework Agreement is prepared for this.
Elia replies that the GFA is indeed in line.
- In response to a question from FEBEG, Synergrid indicates that it is still to be clarified if and how the privacy commission will be consulted: in parallel of the approval of the contract or after approval.
- TeaMwise would like to know if it is an option to start with companies connected on LV-grids only if the participation of households would prove to be

an issue.

Synergrid replies that this could be an option, but it has not been looked at yet.

- VREG points out that their letter referred to in slide 44 is available on their website (MEDE-2017-03). VREG also points out in the current grid code regulation they do not approve the FSP-DSO contracts, but only give comments.
- REstore acknowledges the timelines presented but asks if a transition period, possibly with a temporary contract, would be possible. Synergrid does not see any objection if the DSO and regulator would agree, but needs to analyze it before giving a conclusive answer.

Regarding the participation to Bidladder by distribution grid users the WG Balancing confirmed there is no objection to not have a formal consultation for the minor changes to the FSP-DSO contract as proposed in slide 45. Febeliec agrees to this under the condition that it does not set a precedent for other changes to contracts without formal public consultation.

5 MVAR Ancillary Services: Organizational Principles in European Countries

Alexander Ladermann (Consentec) presents the conclusions of the study "MVAR Ancillary Services: Organizational Principles in European Countries", a study commissioned by Elia and performed by consultancy firm Consentec.

- VREG asks to clarify how the Swiss system is organized. Consentec confirms that it is organized through bilateral contracts with a price determined in the tariffs. DSOs themselves have to undergo prequalification tests first and in operation need to react to a signal distributed by the TSO.
- Eandis asks if Swiss DSOs participating in the service have own means or contract it with their grid users. Consentec answered that the respondent of the survey (Swissgrid) did not have a view on this, but both are possible.
- FOD Energy asks how the selection of the consulted TSOs was done. Consentec specified that it were the neighboring countries of Belgium, complemented by a list of TSOs proposed by Consentec and agreed with Elia.

6 European Balancing: status update and stakeholder's involvement

Benjamin Genêt presents a status update of the ongoing European balancing projects in the context the Guidelines on Electricity Balancing.

- Actility asks if all TSOs will have to participate to the European balancing platforms. Elia replies that in general it is the case, but there are some nuances: e.g. for the aFRR platform it are 'all TSOs performing the aFRR process' while for mFRR all TSOs are obliged without condition.
- YUSO asks why TSOs cannot participate in 'local Bidladders of other TSOs'.

Elia clarifies that the European platforms will be similar to the Bidladder concept at European level, however they will operate in a TSO-TSO model as required by the Guidelines on Electricity Balancing.

- VREG asks if the required European harmonization of imbalance settlement will impact the Belgian system strongly.
Elia replies that the Belgian system is already quite compliant and most European discussions are going in the direction of where we already are.
However, it cannot be excluded that there will be some changes to be made.

As requested by the WG Balancing, Elia confirms that dedicated workshops with Belgian stakeholders to discuss the consultations from the projects PICASSO and MARI will be organized.

7 AOB

No further questions or remarks where received.