

ELIA TRANSMISSION BELGIUM

RULES FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE QUARTER-HOURLY IMBALANCES

**(Hereafter also referred to as the “Balancing
Rules”)**

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Table of content

TITLE 1	General Provisions	5
	Article 1. Subject matter and scope	5
	Article 2. Publication and implementation of the Balancing Rules	5
	Article 3. Definitions and interpretations	6
TITLE 2	Balancing resources	11
	Article 4. List of balancing resources	11
	Article 5. FCR	12
	Article 6. aFRR and Imbalance Netting	12
	Article 7. mFRR	13
	Article 8. Additional resources in exceptional circumstances	13
TITLE 3	The use of the balancing resources	14
	Article 9. Merit order list concept	14
	Article 10. CRI filtering of balancing Energy Bids	14
	Article 11. Activation of FCR	16
	Article 12. Selection and activation of aFRR Energy Bids	16
	Article 13. Selection and activation of mFRR Energy Bids	18
	Article 14. Activation of additional resources in exceptional circumstances	20
TITLE 4	The impact of the use of the balancing resources on the imbalance tariffs	21
	Article 15. General	21
TITLE 5	Publication of information	21
	Article 16. Publication on ENTSO-E Transparency Platform	21
	Article 17. Publication on the ELIA web site	21
TITLE 6	Reporting and Monitoring	22
	Article 18. Capacity bids	22
	Article 19. Secondary market	23
	Article 20. Energy Bids in ELIA's LFC Block	23
	Article 21. European Platforms	24
	Article 22. Balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block	25
	Article 23. Imbalance Prices	26
	Article 24. Financial monitoring of the balancing mechanism	26
	Article 25. Monitoring of the use of the mechanism by the BRPs	26
TITLE 7	Final Provisions	27
	Article 26. Language	27

THE BELGIAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATOR, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE FOLLOWING:

Whereas:

- 1. Article 212 §1 of the Code of Conduct of the CREG of 20 October 2022¹ (hereafter referred to as “**Code of Conduct**”) requires ELIA Transmission Belgium S.A./N.V., (hereafter referred to as “**ELIA**”) to develop a set of market rules for the compensation of the quarter-hourly imbalances (hereafter referred to as “the **Balancing Rules**”).*
- 2. The reserve capacity for FCR to be procured by ELIA is determined by all Transmission System Operators (hereafter referred to as “**TSOs**”) of the synchronous area in application of the provisions of article 153 of the Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 of 2 August 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity transmission system operation (hereafter referred to as “**SOGL**”) and specified in the Synchronous Area Operational Agreement (hereafter referred to as “**SAOA**”).*
- 3. The LFC Block Operational Agreement (hereafter referred to as “**LFCBOA**”) referred to in article 119 of SOGL specifies the dimensioning rules for Frequency Restoration Reserves or “**FRR**” (being the total of aFRR and mFRR) and the methods to fulfil the obligations of load-frequency control in execution of article 213 of the Code of Conduct.*
- 4. Pursuant to article 213 of the Code of Conduct ELIA establishes and submits for approval to the CREG a proposal regarding the methodology for determining the volumes of balancing capacity for aFRR and mFRR for the ELIA LFC Block (hereafter referred to as the “**LFC Means**”). The determination of the volumes of balancing capacity takes into account the volume of reserve sharing and non-contracted balancing energy bids.*
- 5. ELIA is granted an exemption formulated in accordance with article 32(3) of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/2195 of 23 November 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity balancing (hereafter referred to as “**EBGL**”) for the obligation to purchase separately upward and downward balancing capacity for aFRR that has been approved by the CREG in the decision (B)2299 of 9 December 2021. The exemption has been granted until 15 December 2024.*
- 6. Article 145(4) of SOGL describes the automatic frequency restoration process according to which aFRR is activated in the ELIA LFC Block.*
- 7. Article 242 of the Code of Conduct determines the available active power for upward and downward regulation that must be put at the disposal of ELIA on generation units*

¹ “Gedragscode van 20 oktober 2022 tot vaststelling van de voorwaarden voor de aansluiting op en de toegang tot het transmissienet en van de methoden voor het berekenen of vastleggen van de voorwaarden inzake de verstrekking van ondersteunende diensten en de toegang tot de grensoverschrijdende infrastructuur, inclusief de procedures voor de toewijzing van capaciteit en congestiebeheer” / “Code de bonne conduite du 20 octobre 2022 établissant les conditions de raccordement et d'accès au réseau de transport et les méthodes pour le calcul ou la détermination des conditions en ce qui concerne la dispense de services auxiliaires et d'accès à l' infrastructure transfrontalière, en ce compris les procédures pour l'attribution de capacité et la gestion des congestions ».

- and asynchronous storage parks of types C or D (in accordance with article 35 §2 and §4 of the Federal Grid Code) whose nominal power is higher than or equal to 25MW.*
- 8. Articles 12 to 12quinquies of the law of 29 April 1999 concerning the organization of the electricity market (hereafter referred to as the “**Electricity Act**”) provide the principles to which the tariff proposal shall comply.*
 - 9. The tariff for maintaining and restoring the individual balance of the Balance Responsible Party (“**BRP**”) is included in the tariff proposal, in accordance with articles 12 to 12quinquies of the Electricity Act.*
 - 10. The methodology for the harmonisation of the main features of imbalance settlement in accordance with article 52(2) of EBGL has been fixed by the ACER Decision 18-2020 on the imbalance settlement harmonisation methodology (hereafter referred to as “**ISH**”).*
 - 11. The impact of the activation of the balancing reserves on the balancing perimeter(s) of the BRPs concerned is described in the BRP Contract.*
 - 12. Article 17 of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets (hereafter referred to as “**Transparency Regulation**”) requires each TSO to provide information to ENTSO-E relating to balancing of the TSO’s LFC Block.*
 - 13. Article 12 of EBGL requires each TSO to publish information relating to balancing at least through the information transparency platform of ENTSO-E.*
 - 14. ELIA has to monitor the availability of balancing services in the LFC Block according to article 163 of SOGL.*
 - 15. Should differences and/or contradictions exist between the Balancing Rules and any of the European and/or regional regulatory methodologies coming from EBGL and Transparency Regulation, the later shall prevail.*

SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING FOR APPROVAL TO THE CREG:

TITLE 1 General Provisions

Article 1. Subject matter and scope

1. In accordance with article 212 §2 of the Code of Conduct, the underlying Balancing Rules contain the following:
 - a. The list of balancing resources available to the TSO and the detailed modalities according to which the TSO uses them to ensure the balance of the LFC Block, as respectively described in TITLE 2 and TITLE 3;
 - b. The modalities for the timely publication of the relevant information for the balancing of the LFC Block, as described in TITLE 5;
 - c. The modalities for monitoring the operation of the balancing market and the creation of the related reports for the CREG, as described in TITLE 6.
2. Only the use of the balancing resources in the context of the balancing of the ELIA LFC Block is described in the Balancing Rules. The use of such resources in the context of congestion management is not part of the Balancing Rules.

Article 2. Publication and implementation of the Balancing Rules

1. The Balancing Rules will enter into force for an undetermined period after their approval by the CREG and after the approval by the CREG of the T&C BRP, and as of the entry into force of the T&C BSP mFRR developed in the context of the accession to the mFRR-Platform.
2. As further detailed in these Balancing Rules, some articles will apply only during specific periods. Three periods are distinguished:
 - i. The period before Elia becomes a Participating TSO of the mFRR-Platform;
 - ii. The period when ELIA is a Participating TSO of the mFRR-Platform but is not yet a Participating TSO of the aFRR-Platform; and
 - iii. The period when Elia is a Participating TSO of both the mFRR-Platform and the aFRR-Platform.
3. The Balancing Rules will enter into force for an undetermined duration.
4. In accordance with article 212 §1 of the Code of Conduct, ELIA will publish the Balancing Rules after approval by the CREG.
5. Pursuant to article 212 §1 of the Code of Conduct, all future evolutions of the Balancing Rules will be publicly consulted and the consequent proposal will be submitted to the CREG for approval.

Article 3. Definitions and interpretations

1. Except where there is further specification aimed at application for the purposes of the Balancing Rules, and without ignoring the stipulations of public order, the concepts defined in the Electricity Act, the electricity decrees and/or ordinances in relation to the organization of the electricity market and/or the various applicable Grid Codes and EU network codes and guidelines, as amended from time to time, are also included for the purposes of the Balancing Rules in the sense of these statutory or regulatory definitions.
2. In the Balancing Rules, unless the context requires otherwise:
 - the singular indicates the plural and vice versa;
 - references to one gender include all other genders;
 - the table of contents, titles and headings are for convenience only and do not affect their interpretation;
 - the word “including” and its variations are to be construed without limitation;
 - any reference to legislation, regulation, directive, order, instrument, code or any other enactment shall include any modification, extension or re-enactment of it then in force.
3. For the purposes of these Balancing Rules, the following definitions shall also apply:

ACER	EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators;
aFRR Implementation Framework or “aFRR IF”	The Implementation framework for the European platform for the exchange of balancing energy from frequency restoration reserves with automatic activation, Cf. ACER Decision N°02/2020 of 24 January 2020;
aFRR-Platform	The European platform for the exchange of balancing energy from aFRR;
aFRR Requested	As defined in article II.1 of the T&C BSP aFRR;
aFRR Satisfied Demand	The part of ELIA’s aFRR demand that is satisfied by the aFRR-Platform. This excludes the part of ELIA’s demand that is covered by the IN-Platform. This value is expressed in MW;
Area Control Error or “ACE”	As defined in article 3(19) of SOGL. For ELIA’s LFC Block, the ACE is equal to the FRCE;
Automatic Frequency Restoration Reserve or “aFRR”	As defined in article 3(99) of SOGL;

Balancing Services	As defined in article 2(3) of EBGL;
Balance Responsible Party or "BRP"	As defined in article 2(7) of EBGL and listed in the register of Balance Responsible Parties;
BRP Contract	The contract concluded between ELIA and the BRP pursuant to article 119 of the Code of Conduct;
Balancing Service Provider or "BSP"	As defined in article 2(6) of the EBGL;
Capacity Contracting Time Unit or "CCTU"	As defined in article II.1 of the T&C BSP FCR, article II.1 of the T&C BSP aFRR and article II.1 of T&C BSP mFRR;
Code of Conduct	The code of conduct, approved by the CREG by decision (B) 2409 of October 20, 2022, and as amended from time to time, establishing conditions for connection and access to the transmission grid and methods for calculating or setting conditions for the provision of ancillary services and access to cross-border infrastructure, including the procedures for capacity allocation and congestion management;
Common Merit-Order List or "CMOL"	A list of balancing energy bids received by the aFRR-Platform (respectively mFRR-Platform) from all participating LFC Areas, sorted in order of their bid prices and used by the aFRR-Platform (respectively mFRR-Platform) to optimise the selection of the balancing energy bids;
Congestion Risk Indicator or "CRI"	As defined in the Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management;
Cross-Border Marginal Price or "CBMP"	As defined for each relevant type of reserves in the Methodology for pricing balancing energy and cross-zonal capacity used for the exchange of balancing energy or operating the imbalance netting process, Cf. ACER Decision N°01/2020 of 24 January 2020;
CREG	The federal regulatory authority of gas and electricity markets in Belgium;

Delivery Point or “DP”	As defined in article II.1 of the T&C BSP mFRR;
Electricity Act	The Belgian law of 29 April 1999 concerning the organisation of the electricity market (“Loi du 29 avril 1999 relative a l'organisation du marché de l'électricité, M.B. 11.05.1999” / “Wet van 29 april 1999 betreffende de organisatie van de elektriciteitsmarkt, B.S. 11.05.1999”), as amended from time to time;
ELIA Grid	The electricity grid to which ELIA holds the property right or at least the right of using and operating it, and for which ELIA has been appointed as system operator;
Energy Bid	A combination of a volume (in MW) and a price (in €/MWh), submitted by the BSP to ELIA for activation;
ENTSO-E	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity;
Federal Grid Code	The provisions of the Royal Decree of 22 April 2019, as amended from time to time, establishing a federal technical regulation for the management of and access to the transmission grid;
Frequency Containment Reserve or “FCR”	As defined in article 3(6) of SOGL;
Frequency Restoration Reserves or “FRR”	As defined in article 3(7) of SOGL;
Grid Codes	The Federal Grid Code for Transmission (adopted in the form of royal decree on the basis of article 11 of the Electricity Act – currently the “Arrêté royal du 22 avril 2019 établissant un règlement technique pour la gestion du réseau de transport de l'électricité et l'accès à celui-ci, M.B. 29.04.2019” / “Koninklijk besluit van 22 april 2019 houdende een technisch reglement voor het beheer van het transmissienet van elektriciteit en de toegang ertoe, B.S. 29.04.2019”), as amended from time to time, and the grid codes for local and regional transmission, as amended from time to time;
Imbalance Netting	As defined in article 2(40) of EBGL;

Imbalance Netting Implementation Framework or “IN IF”	The Implementation Framework for a European platform for the imbalance netting process, cf. ACER Decision N°13/2020 of 24 June 2020;
IN-Platform	The European platform for the Imbalance Netting process;
Imbalance Price	As defined in article 2(12) of EBGL;
Load-Frequency Control area or “LFC area”	As defined in article 3(12) of SOGL;
LFC Block Operational Agreement or “LFCBOA”	LFC Block Operational Agreement of ELIA, in accordance with article 119 of SOGL;
LFC Means	A document, approved by the CREG, describing the methodology to determine the volumes of balancing capacity for aFRR and mFRR for the ELIA LFC Block, pursuant to article 213 of the Code of Conduct;
Load Frequency Control Block or “LFC Block”	As defined in article 3(18) of SOGL;
Local Merit Order List or “LMOL”	A list of balancing energy bids submitted in ELIA’s LFC Block and sorted in order of their bid prices, used for the activation of those bids;
Manual Frequency Restoration Reserve or “mFRR”	Frequency Restoration Reserve (FRR), as defined in article 3(7) of SOGL, that can be activated manually;
mFRR Implementation Framework or “mFRR IF”	The Implementation framework for the European platform for the exchange of balancing energy from frequency restoration reserves with manual activation, Cf. ACER Decision N°03/2020 of 24 January 2020;
mFRR-Platform	The European platform for the exchange of balancing energy from frequency restoration reserves with manual activation;

mFRR Requested	As defined in article II.1 of the T&C BSP mFRR;
mFRR Satisfied Demand	The sum of the part of ELIA's mFRR demand that is satisfied by the mFRR-Platform (excluding mFRR demanded by ELIA on request of another TSO in application of an mFRR Reserve Sharing Agreement) and the part of ELIA's mFRR demand that is covered by mFRR Sharing Agreements. This value is expressed in MW;
mFRR Sharing Agreement	A bilateral contract between ELIA and a neighbouring TSO established in accordance with Title 8 of SOGL for the sharing of mFRR. As of ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform, this definition shall disregard sharing agreements between ELIA and other participating TSOs of the mFRR-Platform.
Optimisation Cycle or "OC"	An Optimisation Cycle of the Activation Optimisation Function (AOF) of the aFRR-Platform and of the IN-Platform;
Participating TSO	For the aFRR Service: as defined in aFRR IF article 2(1)(m); For the mFRR Service: as defined in mFRR IF article 2(1)(u); For the Imbalance Netting: as defined in IN IF article 2(1)(l);
Reserve Type	Is a type of active power reserve, as defined in article 3(16) of SOGL and included in the list of balancing resources in Article 4;
Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management	A document, approved by the CREG, describing the operating rules, followed by ELIA, to ensure security and reliability of the ELIA Grid and to manage congestion, pursuant to article 59 (10) of the Electricity Directive, and article 122 of the Code of Conduct;
System Imbalance	As defined in the T&C BRP, in accordance with ISH;
Technical Unit	A device or aggregation of devices connected directly or indirectly to the electrical grid that produces and/or consumes electricity;

Terms and Conditions for Balance Responsible Parties or “T&C BRP”	The terms and conditions for balance responsible parties in accordance with article 18 of EBGL;
Terms and Conditions for Balancing Service Providers or “T&C BSP”	The terms and conditions for balancing service providers in accordance with article 18 of EBGL;
Terms and Conditions for the Scheduling Agent or “T&C SA”	Terms and Conditions for the Scheduling Agent in accordance with article 131 of the Code of Conduct;
Time Step	As defined in article II.1 of the T&C BSP aFRR;
Transparency Regulation	Regulation EU 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending annex I to Regulation (EG) No. 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council;
Zonal Active Power Cap	As defined in the Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management.

TITLE 2 Balancing resources

Article 4. List of balancing resources

1. The balancing resources available to ELIA to ensure the balance of the ELIA LFC Block are:
 - a. Frequency Containment Reserve;
 - b. §b.i applies until ELIA’s connection to the aFRR-Platform. §b.ii enters into force as of ELIA’s connection to the aFRR-Platform:
 - i. Automatic Frequency Restoration Reserve, including Imbalance Netting via the IN-Platform;
 - ii. Automatic Frequency Restoration Reserve, including Imbalance Netting via the IN-Platform and aFRR exchange via the aFRR-Platform;
 - c. §c.i applies until ELIA’s connection to the mFRR-Platform. §c.ii enters into force as of ELIA’s connection to the mFRR-Platform:
 - i. Manual Frequency Restoration Reserve, including mFRR Sharing Agreements.

- ii. Manual Frequency Restoration Reserve, including mFRR Sharing Agreements, and mFRR exchange via the mFRR-Platform.

Article 5. FCR

1. The terms and conditions relating to FCR products are described in the T&C BSP FCR.
2. According to article 163 §2 and annex VI of SOGL, all TSOs involved in the exchange of FCR within a synchronous area shall ensure that at least 30% of their total combined initial FCR obligations is physically provided inside their LFC Block, meaning that at maximum 70% of its initial FCR obligations can be physically provided outside the ELIA LFC Block and taking into account this constraint set by SOGL, ELIA participates in the Regelleistung Service for the FCR procurement.

Article 6. aFRR and Imbalance Netting

1. The terms and conditions related to aFRR products are described in the T&C BSP aFRR.
2. ELIA activates contracted and non-contracted aFRR in accordance with Article 12.
3. As a Participating TSO of the IN-platform, ELIA performs the Imbalance Netting process pursuant to article 22(5) of EBGL:
 - a. The article 146(1) of SOGL states that the control target of Imbalance Netting process shall aim at reducing the amount of simultaneous counteracting FRR activations of the different Participating TSOs by Imbalance Netting power interchange.
 - b. Pursuant to article 22(3) of EBGL, the IN IF includes the minimum content for the European platform for the Imbalance Netting process.
4. This paragraph enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform.

As a Participating TSO of the aFRR-Platform, ELIA performs the cross-border aFRR activation process pursuant to Part IV of SOGL:

- a. The article 147(1) of SOGL states that the control target of the cross-border FRR activation process shall aim at enabling a TSO to perform the frequency restoration process by frequency restoration power interchange between LFC areas.
 - b. Pursuant to article 21(3) of EBGL, the aFRR IF includes the minimum content for the European platform for the exchange of balancing energy from aFRR.
 - c. It is to be noted that the aFRR-Platform will supersede the IN-Platform when all Participating TSOs of the IN-Platform become Participating TSO of the aFRR-Platform.
5. The impact on the Imbalance Price of activations of contracted or non-contracted aFRR or Imbalance Netting is described in the T&C BRP.

Article 7. mFRR

1. The terms and conditions related to mFRR product are described in the T&C BSP mFRR.
2. ELIA activates mFRR Energy Bids and the mFRR available through mFRR Sharing Agreements in accordance with Article 13.
3. ELIA may conclude mFRR Sharing Agreements with neighbouring TSOs for the exchange of energy for the regulation of the ELIA LFC Block in both the upward and downward direction.
 - a. The availability of mFRR in the form of these mFRR Sharing Agreements is done on a bilateral, symmetrical and voluntary basis between ELIA and neighbouring TSOs. The availability of the corresponding mFRR reserves is neither remunerated nor guaranteed.
 - b. When ELIA activates mFRR Energy Bids on request of a neighbouring TSO, the mFRR Energy Bids are settled according to the modalities described in the T&C BSP mFRR.
 - c. The price and settlement process between the concerned TSOs of the activated energy in the context of the mFRR Sharing Agreements are agreed bilaterally between ELIA and the relevant TSO.
4. This paragraph enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform.

As a Participating TSO of the mFRR-Platform, ELIA performs the cross-border mFRR activation process pursuant to Part IV of SOGL.

 - a. The article 147(1) of SOGL states that the control target of the cross-border FRR activation process shall aim at enabling a TSO to perform the frequency restoration process by frequency restoration power exchange between LFC areas.
 - b. Pursuant to article 20(3) of EBGL, the mFRR IF includes the minimum content for the mFRR-Platform for the exchange of balancing energy from mFRR.
5. The impact on the Imbalance Price of activations of mFRR Energy Bids or the activation of mFRR Sharing Agreements on the request of ELIA is described in the T&C BRP.

Article 8. Additional resources in exceptional circumstances

1. In exceptional circumstances and in compliance with Article 14, ELIA may use additional resources as described in §21.
2. Units that cannot be activated via the FRR processes
 - a. In accordance with article 7, 12 and 13 of the LFCBOA ELIA may, under exceptional circumstances, activate units that cannot be activated via the FRR processes, via a separate measure as described in Article 14(Article 14).
 - b. ELIA can make use of:

- i. units subject to the T&C SA, in line with article 130 of the Code of Conduct, and that cannot be activated via the FRR processes;
- ii. units that do not provide MW schedules in the context of the T&C SA, that cannot be activated via the FRR processes and that offer their available active power on a voluntary basis.

The activation of units that cannot be activated via the FRR processes, as referred to in b.i, is settled via the modalities of the T&C SA.

TITLE 3 The use of the balancing resources

Article 9. Merit order list concept

1. Per quarter-hour, the Energy Bids for aFRR and for mFRR in the ELIA LFC Block can be selected for activation based on a Local Merit Order List (“LMOL”) concept, per reserve type and per direction, in which the Energy Bids are ranked, from lowest to highest activation price for upward Energy Bids and from highest to lowest activation price for downward Energy Bids, and following the rules set out in Article 12 for aFRR Energy Bids and in Article 13 for mFRR Energy Bids.

Article 10. CRI filtering of balancing Energy Bids

1. For reasons of grid security and as part of congestion management, ELIA avoids activating balancing energy in an electrical zone if that would create or aggravate a congestion in the concerned electrical zone. The Congestion Risk Indicator (“CRI”) represents the level of congestion risk in an electrical zone as defined in the Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management.
2. The level of CRI and the associated Zonal Active Power Cap are calculated by the CRI determination process for each electrical zone as described in the Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management, for both energy directions (i.e. positive and negative), for a specific period. The level of CRI and the associated Zonal Active Power Cap impact the availability of the balancing Energy Bids as follows:
 - a. Low level of CRI (i.e. there is no Zonal Active Power Cap in the electrical zone for the considered direction): all activations of balancing Energy Bids are permitted in that direction.
 - b. Medium level of CRI (i.e. a Zonal Active Power Cap (different from 0 MW) is determined by ELIA for the electrical zone for the concerned direction): before sending the balancing bids to the respective EU platforms, ELIA will apply a filtering of balancing bids, selecting the balancing bids which remain available for activation following rules described in §3 for mFRR and §4 for aFRR.

- c. High level of CRI (i.e. the Zonal Active Power Cap is equal to 0 MW) :before sending the balancing bids to the respective EU platforms, ELIA will apply a filtering of balancing bids, following rules described in §3 for mFRR and §4 for aFRR.
3. In an electrical zone with a High level or a Medium level of CRI, ELIA applies a filtering process on mFRR Energy Bids which include at least one DP in the concerned electrical zone. Due to the possibility of mFRR Energy Bids to be activated in Direct Activation, the process of filtering starts on the first quarter-hour before a High level or a Medium level of CRI is determined. In an electrical zone with a High level of CRI, it is not allowed to activate mFRR Energy Bids in the direction of the congestion and all concerned mFRR Energy Bids (i.e. mFRR Energy Bids having a DP in the electrical zone) will be automatically filtered and rendered unavailable for activation for the concerned quarter-hour. In an electrical zone with a Medium level of CRI, mFRR Energy Bids are automatically filtered according to the following rules:
- a. Starting from the value of the Zonal Active Power Cap as determined by the CRI determination as described the Rules for Coordination and Congestion Management, ELIA determines the effective Zonal Active Power Cap for the electrical zone and per quarter-hour by taking into account the available volume of aFRR Energy Bids in the concerned direction and the netted volume of mFRR Energy Bids activated in Direct Activation (denoted by “DA” in the formulas below) in the previous quarter-hour:

$$\text{effective Zonal Active Power Cap}_{QH} [MW] = \max\{\text{Zonal Active Power Cap}_{QH} - \text{available volume aFRR}_{QH} + \text{netted volume mFRR}_{DA,QH-1}; 0\}$$

Where the netted volume mFRR_{DA} is negative (resp. positive) if the computed value goes in the same (resp. opposite) direction of the congestion.

- b. In case an mFRR Energy Bid is offered for Direct Activation, the Zonal Active Power Cap for the consecutive quarter-hour of the direct activation needs to be taken into account in the filtering:

$$\text{effective Zonal Active Power Cap}_{DA,QH} [MW] = \min\{\text{effective Zonal Active Power Cap}_{QH}; \text{effective Zonal Active Power Cap}_{QH+1}\}$$

Where effective Zonal Active Power Cap_{QH} is computed according to a.

- c. Only the mFRR Energy Bids that are not marked as unavailable for the quarter-hour for other reasons than grid security and as part of congestion management, are considered in the filtering.
- d. ELIA follows the LMOL for mFRR considering the above, in the direction of the congestion, until the effective Zonal Active Power Cap or the effective Zonal Active Power Cap for Direct Activation, depending on the activation type, is reached in order to allow this selection of mFRR Energy Bids to participate to the balancing market. Other mFRR Energy bids above the Cap are withheld by Elia.

After filtering, the mFRR Energy Bids not withheld by Elia according to d. are available for activation. On the other hand, the filtered mFRR Energy Bids are unavailable for activation. If it is connected to the mFRR-Platform, ELIA sends the LMOL for mFRR with updated availability status due to the CRI filtering process to the mFRR-Platform.

4. In an electrical zone with a High level or a Medium level of CRI in a given direction, ELIA applies a filtering process on aFRR Energy Bids of that direction which include at least one DP in the concerned electrical zone. aFRR Energy Bids will be filtered when following conditions are met:
 - The electrical zone of one of the DPs included in the aFRR Energy Bid is defined as High (or Medium CRI); and
 - The Real-Time Security Analysis based on measurements (every 5min) identified an overload on a network grid element due to aFRR activation in the electrical zone

The aFRR Energy Bids including DPs in the considered electrical zone are then filtered and unavailable for activation until the end of the Medium or High CRI. If it is connected to the aFRR Platform, ELIA sends the LMOL for aFRR with updated availability status due to the CRI filtering process to the aFRR Platform.

Article 11. Activation of FCR

1. FCR is automatically activated based on the frequency deviation with respect to 50Hz. As a consequence, all BSPs providing FCR are activated simultaneously, and proportionally to the frequency deviation in accordance with the T&C BSP FCR.

Article 12. Selection and activation of aFRR Energy Bids

1. Each quarter-hour, before the creation of the LMOLs for the aFRR Energy Bids as described in Article 9, ELIA may mark the aFRR Energy Bid(s) as unavailable for activation as described in 1 of the present Balancing Rules and in the T&C BSP aFRR and mark them as such in the LMOLs.
2. Each quarter-hour, the LMOLs for the concerned quarter-hour and the next 95 quarter-hours are sent to the aFRR controller by ELIA, which overwrites the LMOLs of the first 95 quarter-hours and adds the 2 new LMOLs for the 96th quarter-hour in the aFRR controller.
3. This paragraph enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform.

At the latest 10 minutes before the start of the quarter-hour, ELIA sends the corresponding LMOL of each direction to the aFRR-Platform. Based on the LMOLs received from each Participating TSO, the aFRR-Platform will generate a CMOL for each direction for the concerned quarter-hour, used to optimise aFRR activations among those TSOs.

4. §4.a applies until ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform. §4.b enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform:

- a. In real-time, aFRR demand of each Participating TSO is continuously reported to the IN-Platform, which returns correction signals to each respective TSO after each Optimisation Cycle of the platform. These corrections signals are taken into account in the input of the aFRR controllers. In this sense, the counter-activation of aFRR balancing energy is avoided and therefore the use of aFRR is optimised.
 - b. In real-time, aFRR demand of each Participating TSO is continuously reported to the aFRR-Platform and to the IN-Platform, which return correction signals to each respective TSO after each Optimisation Cycle of the platforms. These correction signals are taken into account in the input of the aFRR controllers. In this sense:
 - i. The counter-activation of aFRR balancing energy is avoided and therefore the use of aFRR is optimised.
 - ii. The available aFRR Energy Bids with the lowest price for positive activation (with the highest price for negative activation) are selected by the aFRR-Platform and therefore the cost of activations is optimised.
5. On this basis, aFRR in the ELIA LFC Block is activated pursuant to article 145 (4) of SOGL and in accordance with the following:
- a. The aFRR controller determines the global control target and selects, according to a merit order activation mechanism based on the LMOLs as defined in Article 9, each Time Step the aFRR Energy Bids that need to be activated and the control target (i.e. the selected volume) per aFRR Energy Bid.
 - b. Every Time Step, the aFRR controller calculates the volume per aFRR Energy Bid to be activated (i.e. the aFRR Requested per bid). This calculation is based on the aFRR Energy Bids selected by ELIA's aFRR controller, the control target per aFRR Energy Bid, the linking of aFRR Energy Bids, the ramping rate of the aFRR Energy Bids and the volume of the aFRR Energy Bids requested for activation during the previous Time Step as described in the T&C BSP aFRR.
 - c. This paragraph enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform.
In case ELIA is disconnected from the aFRR-Platform, the following fallback procedure will be used:
 - i. ELIA applies a volume cap by limiting the LMOLs (created as described in Article 9) to the aFRR Energy Bids first available up to the level of the dimensioned need, as defined in the LFCBOA;
 - ii. When possible, ELIA will still participate to the Imbalance Netting process.
 - d. In case the situation described in the §5.a and 5.b cannot be followed due to technical constraints, the following fallback procedure will be used:
 - i. This paragraph enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform.

ELIA disconnects from the aFRR-Platform;

- ii. The aFRR controller determines each Time step the volume to be activated per BSP according to a pro-rata mechanism based on the aFRR Energy Bids selected by ELIA's aFRR controller (see previous step). The volume requested for activation per BSP is based on the control target of the BSP, the linking of aFRR Energy bids, the ramping rate of the aFRR Energy Bids and the volume of the aFRR Energy Bids requested for activation during the previous Time step as described in the T&C BSP aFRR.
6. In case ELIA is not able to send the LMOLs in time to the aFRR controller, ELIA will activate the aFRR Energy Bids according to the latest available information in the aFRR controller. If no information is available for the concerned quarter-hour, the aFRR controller uses the information of the last quarter-hour that is available (see §1).
 7. In the situation described in §6, ELIA will perform an ex-post correction of the selection of the aFRR Energy Bids and the activated volume per aFRR Energy Bid (based on the information submitted by the BSP on the bidding platform) for the settlement process which is described in the T&C BSP aFRR.

Article 13. Selection and activation of mFRR Energy Bids

1. ELIA will determine its mFRR demand for Scheduled Activation based on its best estimate of the System Imbalance of the ELIA LFC Block for the next quarter-hour in order to bring the ACE back to zero and/or to relieve aFRR. ELIA takes therefore into account all relevant data such as generation, load forecast errors, renewable energy production forecast errors, prequalification and availability tests, redispatching actions and related compensation actions that would already been taken, and variations of cross border energy exchanges for the relevant periods.
2. Any deviation towards the best estimate of the System Imbalance of the ELIA LFC Block, as mentioned in §1 or any variation within the quarter-hour will lead to an aFRR demand.
3. ELIA may determine an mFRR demand for Direct Activation in case of unexpected System Imbalance within the quarter-hour that may prolong to the next quarter-hour.
4. If deemed necessary, Elia may deviate from the rules under §1. In case of structural deviation from these rules, Elia shall justify such deviation towards Belgian market parties and the CREG.
5. When needed and when available, mFRR is activated in the following order and according to the following rules:
 - a. §a.i applies until ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform. §a.ii enters into force as of ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform:

- i. mFRR Energy Bids according to a merit order activation mechanism, meaning based on the economic LMOL as defined in Article 9, while also taking into account technical properties of the mFRR Energy Bids as defined in the T&C BSP mFRR.
 - ii. mFRR energy bids exchanged by all Participating TSOs with the mFRR-Platform, according to §9.
 - b. In case of exhaustion of the mFRR means in §b, ELIA activates mFRR Sharing Agreements.
6. Each quarter-hour, ELIA may take the following into account in order to finalize the creation of the LMOL:
 - a. Mark the mFRR Energy Bid(s) as unavailable for activation as described in 1 of the present Balancing Rules and in the T&C BSP mFRR.
 - b. The respect of the operational security limit, meaning ELIA may set an mFRR Energy Bid to unavailable for Scheduled Activation² in case ELIA considers that the activation of the mFRR Energy Bid may lead to violations of the frequency limits due to insufficiency of required reserve capacity for Direct Activation³.
 - c. The need to maintain a minimum level of production on certain Technical Units delivering other ancillary services or voltage regulation in order to ensure the security and reliability of the system at all times.

Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 enter into force as of ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform. Prior to this connection, mFRR is selected and activated locally according to the procedure outlined in §9.b.ii.

7. At the latest 12 minutes before the start of the quarter-hour, ELIA sends the corresponding LMOL of each direction, in accordance with Article 9, to the mFRR-Platform. Based on the LMOLs received from each Participating TSO, the mFRR-Platform will generate a CMOL for each direction for the concerned quarter-hour, used to optimise mFRR activations among those TSOs.
8. Every quarter-hour, each participating TSO reports its mFRR demand for Scheduled and/or Direct Activation to the mFRR-Platform, which returns the results of each optimisation to the respective TSO.
9. mFRR in the ELIA LFC Block is activated pursuant to article 145(5) of SOGL. mFRR Energy Bids are selected in accordance with the following:
 - a. For each optimisation, the AOF selects the mFRR Energy Bids that need to be activated and the requested power per mFRR Energy Bid (i.e. mFRR Requested).

² In such a case, the mFRR Energy Bid remains available for Direct Activation.

³ Changes of bids to respect operational security limits shall only be possible for the most expensive mFRR Energy Bids having an impact on the concerned operational security limit(s) and taking into account their relative impact on the concerned operational security limit(s).

The relevant optimisations take into account the properties of the mFRR Energy Bids, as defined in the T&C BSP mFRR.

- b. In case the procedure described in §99.a cannot be followed, including because ELIA is unable to send and/or receive the relevant data, the following fallback procedure will be used:
 - i. ELIA might disconnect from the mFRR-Platform⁴;
 - ii. For each quarter-hour for which ELIA has an mFRR Demand for Scheduled Activation and/or Direct Activation(s) and in case ELIA is disconnected from the mFRR-Platform:
 - ELIA performs an optimisation for Scheduled Activation: ELIA selects, according to a merit order activation mechanism based on the LMOLs as defined in Article 9, the mFRR Energy Bids that need to be activated and the requested power per mFRR Energy Bid (i.e. mFRR Requested). The activation takes into account the properties of the mFRR Energy Bids, as defined in the T&C BSP mFRR.
 - ELIA performs one or more optimization(s) for Direct Activation: the LMOLs are first updated to take into account the impact of the previous selection round. Then, ELIA selects, according to a merit order activation mechanism based on the updated LMOLs as defined in Article 9, the mFRR Energy Bids that need to be activated and the requested power per mFRR Energy Bid (i.e. mFRR Requested). The activation takes into account the properties of the mFRR Energy Bids, as defined in the T&C BSP mFRR.

10. Each time an available mFRR Energy Bid is not activated in respect of the LMOL/CMOL (according to the connection status) and in respect of its own properties, ELIA sends within 3 weeks a report to the CREG with the description of the concerned mFRR Energy Bids and the justification for the deviation from the rules above.

Article 14. Activation of additional resources in exceptional circumstances

1. ELIA may activate additional resources, as described in Article 8, in exceptional circumstances. The different processes enabling the use of additional resources, and the corresponding triggers, are specified in article 7, 12 and 13 of the LFCBOA.

⁴ ELIA's decision to stay connected or to disconnect from the mFRR-Platform is based on the potential impact of either option on grid security.

TITLE 4 The impact of the use of the balancing resources on the imbalance tariffs

Article 15. General

1. Imbalance tariffs are determined in accordance with the principles described in the tariffs approved by the CREG and as described in the T&C BRP.
2. The marginal incremental price and marginal decremental price are determined and used in the formation of the prices for the compensation of the imbalances, as defined in the tariffs approved by the CREG and as described in the T&C BRP.
3. The System Imbalance, as referred to in the tariffs approved by the CREG and in accordance with ISH, is determined in accordance with the modalities described in the T&C BRP.

TITLE 5 Publication of information

Article 16. Publication on ENTSO-E Transparency Platform

1. ELIA shall publish information via the ENTSO-E Transparency Platform⁵ in accordance with:
 - a. article 17 of the Transparency Regulation, article 12 of EBGL and the IN IF.
 - b. As of ELIA's connection to the mFRR-Platform: article 17 of the Transparency Regulation, article 12 of EBGL, the IN IF and the mFRR IF.
 - c. As of ELIA's connection to the aFRR-Platform: article 17 of the Transparency Regulation, article 12 of EBGL, the IN IF, the mFRR IF and the aFRR IF.

Article 17. Publication on the ELIA web site

1. ELIA shall publish on its website information on System Imbalance, Imbalance Price, balancing capacity and balancing energy. The publications are complementary to the information published on the ENTSO-E Transparency Platform as described in Article 16, with the following added specificities:
 - The publications of Energy Bids for aFRR and mFRR, per quarter-hour and per direction, in both aggregated and individual format, occur starting from day D-1 with hourly updates throughout day D.
 - ELIA publishes information of all offered, individual capacity bids of the BSPs contracted by ELIA, per direction and per CCTU, and not only the capacity bids that were fully or partially procured.

⁵ A detailed description of the published data, known as the "DDD" (Detailed Data Description), has been publicly consulted and will be published on following website as soon as it is approved by ACER: <https://www.entsoe.eu/data/transparency-platform/mop/>

The data, as described in the T&C BRP, on each of the components of the compensation of the quarter-hourly imbalances to be made available to the market are published:

- 15 minutes after the quarter-hour in question on a non-validated manner;
- the first working day following the 15th calendar day following the month of the concerned quarter-hour on a validated manner.

Those quarter-hourly data are also used in the formation of the prices for the compensation of imbalances as described in the tariff proposal.

2. ELIA shall publish on its web site information on balancing capacity to be procured in accordance with the LFC Means.
3. In addition to §1 and 2, ELIA shall publish on its web site the following information:
 - a. The balancing energy volumes activated in ELIA's LFC Block per type of reserves, on a quarter-hourly basis;
 - b. The balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block per type of reserves, on a quarter-hourly basis, including the netted volumes;
 - c. Marginal prices of balancing energy offered in ELIA's LFC Block per type of reserves^{6,7};
 - d. Information per minute, published cumulatively within the concerned quarter-hour and if technically feasible with a maximum delay of 2 minutes, concerning:
 - i. The volume and price components of the compensation of the quarter-hourly imbalances per type of reserves;
 - ii. The alpha;
 - iii. The resulting Imbalance Price;
 - iv. The System Imbalance;
 - v. The ACE.

Per-minute publications are non-validated values.

TITLE 6 Reporting and Monitoring

Article 18. Capacity bids

1. The monitoring report of daily auction includes in a table format:
 - a. the contracted volumes via the daily regional auction, per BSP for FCR;

⁶ As of Elia's connection to the mFRR-Platform, the CBMP is computed for mFRR and can be higher than the prices published for mFRR, as the latter only consider mFRR energy bids offered in Elia's LFC Block. mFRR Energy bids from other LFC Blocks are published on ENTSO-E Transparency Platform.

⁷ As of Elia's connection to the aFRR-Platform, the CBMP is computed for aFRR and can be higher than the prices published for aFRR, as the latter only consider aFRR energy bids offered in Elia's LFC Block. aFRR Energy bids from other LFC Blocks are published on ENTSO-E Transparency Platform.

- b. the contracted volumes via the daily local auction, per BSP and per Reserve Type for aFRR and mFRR;
 - c. the average price contracted through the daily auction in the local auctions per BSP and per Reserve Type for aFRR and mFRR per CCTU;
 - d. the marginal price contracted through the daily auction in the regional auctions per BSP for FCR.
2. ELIA also foresees to daily transmit to the CREG the data detailing the bids for FCR, aFRR and mFRR, according to the procurement period in question.
3. This information, aggregated on a monthly basis, is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 19. Secondary market

1. The monitoring of the secondary market for balancing capacity relates specifically to the follow-up of the transfer of obligations between BSPs. It is included in the statistical report:
 - a. Number of quarter-hours with transfer of obligations per pair of BSPs and per Reserve Type;
 - b. Volume of obligations transferred per pair of BSPs and per Reserve Type.
2. ELIA also foresees transmitting to the CREG the volume of obligations transferred in the secondary market per pair of BSPs and per Reserve Type per quarter-hour.
3. This information is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 20. Energy Bids in ELIA's LFC Block

1. The elements listed below are the subject of indicators and monitoring:
 - a. The availability of aFRR and mFRR.
 - i. The overall availability of the balancing reserves per type of reserve and the extent to which the volumes reserved by ELIA were actually available.
 - ii. The monitoring is carried out using a table and graph showing the minimum, maximum and average monthly availability of the power for upward and downward regulation per type of reserve over the 12 previous months.
 - b. The bid price for aFRR and mFRR.
 - i. The evolution of the Energy Bid price by reserve type.

- ii. The monitoring is carried out using tables and charts showing the maximum, minimum and monthly average Energy Bid prices for each reserve type over 12 previous months.
 - c. Bid concentration for aFRR and mFRR.
 - i. The control power offered by the different BSPs in the ELIA LFC Block.
 - ii. The monitoring is drawn up on the basis of a table showing the volumes offered (in absolute and relative terms) per BSP over the 12 previous months, all reserves combined. The evolution over these 12 months of the relative volumes offered is shown visually for each BSP by means of a graph.
 2. Bids from units that cannot be activated via the FRR processes.
 3. This information is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 21. European Platforms

1. The elements listed below regarding the use of IN-Platform are the subject of indicators and monitoring:
 - a. Monitoring of the settlement prices at which energy exchanges are settled by the IN-Platform: This is done by means of a table and a graph showing for the 12 previous months the maximum, minimum and monthly average settlement prices of imbalance netting exchanges.
 - b. The quarter-hourly data relating to the volumes exchanged and the prices of the exchanges are also provided to the CREG in the framework of the monthly transmission of the aforementioned quarter-hourly data.
2. As of Elia's connection to the mFRR-Platform, the elements listed below regarding the use of the mFRR-Platform are the subject of indicators and monitoring:
 - a. Monitoring of the CBMP at which energy exchanges are settled by the mFRR-Platform: this is done by means of a table and a graph showing for the 12 previous months the maximum, minimum and monthly average CBMP in the positive and negative directions.
3. As of Elia's connection to the aFRR-Platform, the elements listed below regarding the use of aFRR-Platform are the subject of indicators and monitoring:
 - a. Monitoring of the CBMP at which energy exchanges are settled by the aFRR-Platform: this is done by means of a table and a graph showing for the 12 previous months the maximum, minimum and monthly average CBMP in the positive and negative directions.
4. This information is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 22. Balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block

1. The purpose of monitoring the balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block is to check the functioning of the balancing mechanism.
2. The elements listed below are the subject of indicators and monitoring:
 - a. Article 2.b applies until Elia's connection to the mFRR-Platform. Article 2.c applies after Elia's connection to the mFRR-Platform and until Elia's connection to the aFRR-Platform. Article 2.d applies after Elia's connection to the aFRR-Platform.
 - b. Balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block.
 - i. The evolution of the activated volumes for each type of reserve and the volumes exchanged through the IN-Platform.
 - ii. The evolution of activated/exchanged volumes per type of reserve/for the IN-Platform is monitored over the 12 previous months using a table and a graph showing for each month the total of activated volumes per type of reserve and the total of volumes exchanged via IGCC.
 - c. Balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block.
 - i. The evolution of the mFRR Satisfied Demand
 - ii. The evolution of the activated volumes of aFRR and the volumes exchanged through the IN-Platform.
 - iii. The evolution of the mFRR Satisfied Demand, the activated volumes of aFRR and the imports through the IN-Platform is monitored over the 12 previous months using a table and a graph with a monthly granularity.
 - d. Balancing energy volumes activated for ELIA's LFC Block.
 - i. The evolution of the mFRR Satisfied Demand
 - ii. The evolution of the aFRR Satisfied Demand and of the volumes imported through the IN-Platform
 - iii. The evolution of the mFRR Satisfied Demand, the aFRR Satisfied demand and the imports through the IN-Platform is monitored over the 12 previous months using a table and a graph with a monthly granularity.
 - e. Activation of bids from units that cannot be activated via the FRR processes.
 - f. The System Imbalance

The evolution of the System Imbalance is monitored by means of a graph showing, over the 12 previous months, for each month, the average quarter-hourly power corresponding to this System Imbalance.
3. This information is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 23. Imbalance Prices

1. The components of the Imbalance Price, as specified in the T&C BRP, are part of the monitoring of the functioning of the balancing mechanism as a whole.
2. The components listed below are subject to monitoring through following indicators:

- a. Imbalance Prices

This follow-up is carried out in the form of:

- a graph showing the distribution of prices for compensating the negative quarter-hourly imbalances between 1st of January and the end of the month in question;
- a graph showing the distribution of the prices for compensating the positive quarter-hourly imbalances between 1st of January and the end of the month in question;
- a graph and a table showing for the 12 previous months the average, minimum and maximum prices for the compensation of the negative quarter-hourly imbalances;
- a graph and a table showing for the 12 previous months the average, minimum and maximum prices for the compensation of the positive quarter-hourly imbalances.

- b. The relationship between the Imbalance Prices and the price of the electricity market as well as the evolution of the tariff component α .

This monitoring is carried out over 12 previous months via:

- i. the ratio average Imbalance Price / average reference market price.
- ii. the tariff component α .

3. This information is included in a monthly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 24. Financial monitoring of the balancing mechanism

1. Reporting to the CREG on the costs and revenues of the balancing mechanism takes place within the framework of the financial reports communicated to the CREG in accordance with the applicable provisions, but out of scope of the Balancing Rules.
2. This information is included in a monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG.

Article 25. Monitoring of the use of the mechanism by the BRPs

1. The purpose of this type of monitoring is to monitor the behaviour of BRPs, as well as the use they make of the balancing mechanism.

2. In the context of this monitoring, ELIA provides a quarterly report to the CREG containing the information specified in §3 to §6.
3. A visualisation of the behaviour of each BRP as well as a comparison of the behaviour of all BRPs is carried out on the basis of:
 - a graph showing for each BRP their monthly imbalance invoice
 - a graph showing for each BRP their monthly average absolute imbalance
 - a graph showing for each BRP their monthly median imbalance
 - a graph showing for each BRP their monthly 5th percentile of the highest positive and highest negative imbalances
4. Two versions of each of these graphs are presented: one version containing absolute values and one version where the data is shown relative to the size of the portfolio of the BRP⁸.
5. A visualization of the daily contribution to the BRPs' monthly imbalance invoice. This is shown individually for the five BRPs with the highest monthly imbalance invoice and aggregated for all other BRPs.
6. A description, including information on the observed system imbalance and imbalance tariff, of at least the 6 days of the quarter with the highest imbalance revenues and definitely all days with imbalance revenues exceeding 2 million euro.
7. The graphs in §3 and §4 are drawn up on the basis of the quarter-hourly imbalances of each BRP, of the imbalance tariff for the concerning quarter-hours and of the size of the portfolio of the BRP. The latter representation makes it possible to compare the behaviour of different BRPs irrespective of their size.
8. The information in §3 is included in a quarterly monitoring report of ELIA to the CREG. In order to follow the evolution of the BRP's behaviour over time, the quarterly report contains the information indicated in §3 and §4 for each of the three months of the quarter.

TITLE 7 Final Provisions

Article 26. Language

The reference language for these Balancing Rules shall be Dutch. These Balancing Rules are also published in French and English for information. For the avoidance of doubt, in case of discussion on interpretation, the Dutch version prevails over the French and English version.

⁸ The size of the portfolio of the BRP as described in article 24 of the BRP Contract