Minutes of Meeting Taskforce: "Implementation of Strategic Reserve" August 31st, 2020

MEETING LOCATION: SKYPE MEETING MEETING DATE: August 31, 2020 - 10H00 UNTIL 12H00

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Last Name	First Name	Organization
Matthys-Donnadieu	James	Elia – chairman
Van Thielen	Elmo	Elia - Secretary
Buijs	Patrik	Elia
Pirlot	Yunus	Elia
Willems	Sander	Elia
Anciaux	Pauline	FPS Economy
Baugnet	Christophe	Engie
Debrigode	Patricia	CREG
De Waele	Bart	CREG
Harlem	Steven	EDF
Mortier	Jo	RWE
Van Bossuyt	Michael	Febeliec
Van De Keer	Lieven	T-Power
Verrydt	Eric	BASF
Waignier	Jean-François	FEBEG

Agenda

- Public consultation input data – volume assessment winter 2021-2022

Introduction

The chairperson (Mr. James Matthys-Donnadieu) opened and presented the agenda of the meeting. No comments or remarks were received on the agenda.

Public consultation input data – volume assessment winter 2021-2022

Febeliec commented that for 2018-19 the numbers for wind onshore are lower than Elia data from last year even though it concerns historical data. Elia replied that this correction was made in discussion with regional authorities.

Febeliec asked why the Elia PISA database contains higher capacity for Biomass and Waste than the regions know exists. Elia replied that in the past, the capacity reported in PISA has always been higher than the data received from the regions. However, the point has been noted and Elia will look into the discrepancy.

FEBELIEC asked if for biomass the evolution is just an extrapolation and not unit-specific. Elia commented that the details of this decrease are not known at this point, but aligned with the regions. Febeliec stated that for CIPU, per-unit data should be known. CREG agreed with Febeliec's remark. Elia noted the point and will provide more detail in the public consultation report.

Febeliec remarked that the comparison with the Excel file for profiled thermal production, gas and other data does not correspond. Elia explained that the Excel contained an error where this data was shifted by one year. It will be corrected and an updated Excel will be circulated to all stakeholders (TF ISR).

Febeliec asked which nuclear availability Elia takes into account in the following 2 or 3 winters considered in the strategic reserves time horizon. Engie asked to clarify the data used, as REMIT already contains data on nuclear availability in 3 years. Elia replied they give a more profound view on data used and get back to stakeholders on this. For clarification, Elia bases itself for Belgium on published planned outage on REMIT, as stated in the methodology, when no data are available, no planned outage is taken into account.

Febeliec asked if there is an effect on nuclear availability once older plants are decommissioned and only newer, more reliable plants remain. Elia replied that there is in any case an effect since it's based on historical availability and so once those units are decommissioned they will not be part of the dataset anymore. Febeliec asked if the decommissioned plants could instead be excluded as soon as they are out of service. Elia replied that this may be complicated, as it creates different forced outage rates for each considered time horizon, but could look into the remark for the public consultation or for future studies.

T-Power asked how FO is defined. Elia clarified that it is the difference with scheduled versus real availability. T-power commented that it seems high for CCGT. Elia replied that the methodology to calculate those is the same as in the Adequacy & Flexibility study 2020-30. FO are expressed by technology and calculated over a time span of 10 years (this to have enough observations to be representative enough) but the concern has been noted. T-Power further requested if the variance of the CCGT FO rate could be shared. Elia noted the request.

Febeliec asked if non-hydro storage is included and if so where. Elia replied that today only limited battery capacity is foreseen and it's mainly active in balancing, so outside of the market response categories, no batteries are considered. Febeliec commented that balancing capacity should also be considered as available for adequacy. Elia has added a battery trajectory in the updated Excel.

Febeliec asked how they should read the value of the minRAM for a certain year. Elia replied that the value at the end of the year is always taken.

Febeliec asked if the projected demand presumes only 2% GDP growth. Elia replied that the input from the report from the Federal Plan Bureau was used as basis for the GDP growth after COVID. Febeliec stated they would like to see more, because decrease seems low and rise seems steep. According to Febeliec, the national bank seems to furthermore question V-shape recovery. Elia commented that they can provide additional information on this curve, but stand by it as a realistic projection based on the latest info from Planbureau taken into account in the Climact methodology which has been discussed with stakeholders on previous occasions. Febeliec commented that they never formally approved the Climact methodology for forecasting macro-demand.

For the market response, Febeliec stated that this year increase was more than 20%, so recent trends are even steeper and thus the 8% was for them a minimum. Elia replied that the increase should also be seen in light of the addition of block orders and Nordpool spot as an operator to the methodology for assessing market response, which is a one-time evolution.

Febeliec asked to clarify how the market response and balancing volume compare to one another. Elia replied that they are explicitly presented this way because both categories are modelled and assessed differently.

Engie asked to clarify the timeline for the volume assessment. Elia replied that an advice will be submitted to the minister by the 15th of November, based on which the FPS economy will also submit their advice to the minister, who will, after having received an advice of the FPS Economy, in turn decide on the volume of strategic reserves for the next winter. Though the study covers 3 winters, it will only be used for the decision of the strategic reserves volume for winter 2021-2022.