



Minutes of Meeting of WG Energy Solutions on December 16th

Meeting
Date 16/12/2024

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Organiser Alexandre Torreele

Participants		Attended	Excused
Aconterra	Dewaele Stefaan		
Ardosolar	Vanquickenborne Tom	\boxtimes	
Aug-e	Dhont Michiel	\boxtimes	
Ахро	Barbieux Sebastien	\boxtimes	
Ахро	Limpens Tanguy	\boxtimes	
BASF	Waelkens Tom	\boxtimes	
Bnewable	Ben Sassi Hamza	\boxtimes	
BOP Belgian Offshore Platform	Canière Hugo	\square	
BStor	Fieuws Arthur	\square	
Centrica	Adigbli Patrick	\square	
Centrica	Mashlakov Aleksei	\boxtimes	
Centrica	Van Gompel Jonas	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Centrica	Zobiri Fairouz		
COGEN Vlaanderen	Vandersyppe Hans		
CREG	Maenhoudt Marijn	\square	
Danske Commodities	Agernem Anders	\square	
Dexter Energy	Pieck Maarten	\square	
dxt commodities	Barenghi Silvia	\boxtimes	
dxt commodities	Simon Nils		
Ecopower	Hermans Raf	\boxtimes	
Eneco	Williame Jean-Francois	\boxtimes	
Energy Pool	Moreira Débora	\boxtimes	
Eneris	Tiben Niels	\boxtimes	
ENGIE	Donnay de Casteau Loïc	\square	
ENGIE	Laleman Ruben	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Eniris	Gokhale Gargya	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Epon Energy	Winckelmans Loïc		
Flexcity	Vande Cavey Mats	<u> </u>	
Flexide	Gresse Pierre-Henri	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Green Energy 4 Seasons	Daene François	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
LUCON/ONO	Samii Omid	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Luminus	Mast Pauline	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Luminus	Van Engeland Sam	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
Luminus	Harlem Steven	$\overline{\square}$	一一





Next Kraftwerke	Hubert Benjamin	
Next Kraftwerke	Joye Robbert	\square
Next Kraftwerke	Van den Berghe Laura	
Octave	Snick Maxime	\boxtimes
Opteco	Meijsen Eva	\boxtimes
Powernaut	Morel Serge	\boxtimes
RWE	Lazarescu Anca Manuela	\boxtimes
Scholt Energy	Demeyer Valentijn	\boxtimes
Smappee	Coudenys Andreas	
Smart Vision	Langer Yves	
smartEn	Varfi Tzeni	
SPF Economie - FOD Economie	Brasseur François	
Synergrid	Glorieux Jacques	
TotalEnergies	Hofman Hannah	\boxtimes
TotalEnergies	Van Buylaere Lionel	
Volta	Vannoppen Bart	
VREG	Cousein Cyril	
Yuso	Arora Abhiram	
Yuso	Debaere Elias	
Yuso	Delerue Thijs	
Yuso	Rosseau Jan	
Yuso	Vermandere Jasper	

Participants		Attended	Excused
Elia	Annoscia Valentina	\boxtimes	
Elia	Aulanier Elise	\boxtimes	
Elia	Bosschaerts Caroline	\boxtimes	
Elia	Ciciriello Elodie	\boxtimes	
Elia	Debray Arnaud	\boxtimes	
Elia	Koelman Nicolas	\boxtimes	
Elia	Levecq Charles	\boxtimes	
Elia	Mathieu Antoine	\boxtimes	
Elia	Mettens Sybille	\boxtimes	
Elia	Pellegrin Cécile	\boxtimes	
Elia	Pierreux Nicolas	\boxtimes	
Elia	Poncelet Kris	\boxtimes	
Elia	Serrarens Simon	\boxtimes	
Elia	Torreele Alexandre	\boxtimes	
Elia	Van der Vorst Thomas		
Elia	Vandenbroucke Jan		
Elia	Verbeeck Michiel		





Elia	Verelst Martine	\boxtimes	
Report			
Author	Thomas Van der Vorst		
Function	WG Balancing secretary		
Date report	16/12/2024		
Status	☐ Draft		

1. Agenda

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Imbalance Price Outliers analysis
- 3. Real-Time Price Evaluation Parallel run
- 4. BRP-BSP feedback workshops
- 5. Incentive 2024 BRP Settlement: public consultation report and final designs
- 6. T&C BRP update & final design proposal
- 7. Incentive 2024 & 2025: data provision roadmap
- Feedback on the public consultation of the T&C BSP FCR
 Incentive 2025 Knowledge Management
 Incentive 2025 LV prequalifications

- 11. Incentive 2024 Energy Management Strategies: feedback public consultation
- 12. EU & BE Balancing Program Update (incl. PICASSO first return on experience)
- 13. Working plan 2025
- 14. AOB





2. Report

1. Introduction

No feedback received; MoM of last meeting WG Energy Solutions 26/11/2024 are approved.

2. Imbalance Price - Outliers analysis

- Elia clarifies upon Luminus' request that the analysis is based on historical data from 2023 and uses quarter-hour values of imbalance price.
- Febeliec asks if the analysis also compares how the results would differ if intraday values were used in place of the day-ahead ones. Elia clarifies that day-ahead prices are used because they were the last spot prices available at the time. Nowadays more and more things occur close to real time, hence errors in the forecast may be corrected from day-ahead to intraday. However, for the analysis, Elia believes that the last cleared price signal defining the equilibrium must be used, i.e. the day-ahead price. Febeliec adds that it is important to grasp to what extent some outliers are missing because the day-ahead price is used and not the intraday price, and vice-versa, so that no wrong conclusions are drawn from the analysis. Elia agrees and precises that the analysis will be extended when a reliable indicator of the intraday prices will be available. In addition, in this study, Elia adopted a more tolerant definition of the outliers to mitigate the effect of using day-ahead price.
- Engie asks if Elia assumed that day-ahead is the equilibrium, or spotted in the analysis that BRPs have the right to be imbalanced in day-ahead and in that case, confirmed that this effect is negligible. Elia considers that the positions taken in day-ahead define the equilibrium of what is expected in real-time. According to Elia, taking the day-ahead positions is even more representative as it allows traders to anticipate the real-time conditions and take positions accordingly.
- Answering the question from Dexter Energy, Elia precises that it is not mentioned in the merit order data of the API if a bid is a linked bid.
- Epon Energy asks if a bid being linked or not really matters as ultimately, what matters is availability.
 Elia replies that it is part of a combination of effects, of which the major effect is the steepness of
 the merit order list. Epon Energy asks if the situation shown is explained by the fact that it occurred
 at 5 AM, where there is not so much aFRR down available. Elia replies that it is more a question of
 weather forecast as there could be a lot of wind at 5 AM, available for downward regulation.
- Engie asks what version of the imbalance price formula was used as it has changed several times lately. Elia precises that the formula used at the time did not take into account all optimization cycles and only considers activations in the direction of the system imbalance. Elia highlights the importance of this analysis, as it defines a reference that can be used to evaluate the benefits of the changes brought by PICASSO and the consideration of all optimization cycles for instance, in the frame of the evaluation plan. Elia reminds that the currently used imbalance price formula is not EBGL-compliant, and that Elia has an agreement with CREG to use that formula for one year, but Elia must demonstrate its added value.
- Engie asks what the expected impact of the 5'- FAT is, in particular on the system imbalance
 oscillations. Elia does not expect a substantial impact, as the ramping effect in the new formula is
 eliminated since it considers the control target and not the control request, which takes the ramping
 into account.
- Febeliec comments it is not necessary to have a stable price signal, but rather to have a price signal that reflects imbalances without jumping erratically. Furthermore, Febeliec stresses that, if





everyone relies on the forecast, the jumps in the price signal may be high when it is wrong and would appreciate to see an analysis on how this will be taken into account.

- Elia clarifies that the goal is to stabilize the system, not the price. Febeliec agrees. Elia adds that another goal is to stabilize the price signal *within* the quarter-hour.
- Engie asks if there are defined milestones for the evaluation plan. Elia replies that the full evaluation
 will start one year after entry into force of the imbalance formula but that, in the meantime, Elia will
 share quarterly "statistics-only" reporting. Elia will communicate these reportings to the WG
 members.

3. Real-Time Price - Evaluation Parallel run

- Febeliec remarks that in 14% of the cases the forecast is in the wrong direction and asks in what
 proportion this error is due to unforeseen events versus to bad forecasts. Elia replies that it has not
 been analyzed yet. Febeliec also suggests analyzing the quality of the forecast of ATC, the
 importance being to bring awareness on the quality of Elia's forecast.
- Luminus asks if Elia fears that, in case the forecast is wrong, many actors will react in the wrong
 direction consequently. Elia replies it will investigate this question, but highlights the importance of
 updating the Imbalance Price forecast every minute, so that if the reaction is too strong, the market
 can react accordingly. Elia adds that this forecast is not meant to replace the ones used by market
 parties.
- Epon Energy asks what model is used to train the model. Elia clarifies that the forecast only results from the application of the imbalance price formula on the system imbalance forecast.
- Yuso remarks that the economic impact of imbalances for BRPs do not have a normal distribution but a rather extreme distribution, i.e. being wrong in a few quarter-hours in a month can be very impactful for a BRP. Elia replies this is an ongoing analysis, based on simple use cases. Engie suggests considering in the analysis the case where only forecasts with a high confidence indicator are used. Elia confirms it will investigate.
- Febeliec asks what needs to be done by the regulator. Elia replies that it will depend on the formula proposed, therefore a full year is foreseen for the regulatory process. Elia confirms it also look at European level.
- Elia announces that Jan Vandenbroucke shall take over the role of Product Owner for the Real-Time Price as of January 2025.

4. BRP-BSP - feedback workshops

- Febeliec comments that it is difficult to follow the workshop with MIRO on a small screen and that design topics are not meant to be discussed in such a workshop.
- Febeliec remarks that attention received by the bank guarantees topic highlighted the need to discuss it further. Elia welcomes those discussions, but at the right forum.

5. Incentive 2024 - BRP Settlement: public consultation report and final designs

 Answering a question from Luminus, Elia precises there were three non-confidential answers and one anonymous.





- Luminus asks if the conclusion differs from the initial design note. Elia precises it does not, and the final design includes a decrease in the financial guarantee as well as a reduction of payment term to 14 calendar days. Febeliec comments that in this final design, the exposure of Elia is higher. Elia precises it is higher in relative terms, but rather equivalent to the other options in absolute terms, as the settlement term being shorter, there is less outstanding amount to be covered. Febeliec comments that the tariff is covering it, not Elia, and that the exposure risk must remain acceptable. Elia adds that the goal should be to further increase the maturity of the provisional allocation and to go to a settlement system where settlements happen closer and closer to delivery.
- Luminus is concerned that the maximum bank guarantee on a monthly basis is expected to be higher than today, which leads to additional costs when negotiating credit limits with banks. Elia replies that it is a consequence of the design, as the goal is for the guarantee to follow risk in the market more closely. This means increasing if required, perhaps higher than today, but also releasing faster if it can be lowered again. To avoid to many minor changes, a threshold of 30% either way is indeed proposed.
- Febeliec asks if there are any changes to regulatory documents foreseen to implement it. Elia confirms the T&C BRP must be amended, and entry into force is foreseen for fall 2025.

6. T&C BRP - update & final design proposal

- Answering a question from Febeliec, Elia confirms that the responsibility of inconsistencies remains by the BRP and Elia only provides the tool.
- Febeliec asks if the value of reduction factor for external inconsistencies in day-ahead is common
 or per BRP. Elia precises it is a common value and adds that if one BRP fails to submit correct
 nominations, bilateral discussions will take place before increasing the reduction factor. Elia recalls
 that failing to submit correct nominations is a breach of the contract which may lead to suspension
 of the BRP.
- Luminus asks if a penalty should still be paid in case an error in nomination in day-ahead is
 corrected by the intraday nomination. Elia confirms that if there will be an invoice in case of incorrect
 nomination in day-ahead (i.e. if the reduction factor is different from zero), then a BRP will receive
 an invoice for missing the day-ahead deadline whether the correction is made or not in intraday.
 Besides, if the BRP does not correct its nomination in intraday, there will be a second invoice for
 inconsistency in intraday.
- Febeliec asks if implementation work is required. Elia confirms there is a change to implement on Elia side, but nothing on BRP side. Febeliec highlights the importance of notifying all actors when this starts applying.
- Engie asks about the baseline used when curtailment is applied, in particular for solar power. Elia
 recognizes the design has its limitations but decided in the interest of society not to invest in a
 complex implementation that hopefully will rarely be used. Engie comments that, if such cases were
 to occur regularly, Elia should re-open the design and consider letting it evolve towards something
 more complex but more robust. Elia confirms that, in that case, it would be re-evaluated in dialogue
 with the market.
- Luminus asks how the BRP knows what asset is curtailed and for how long. Elia replies that discussions with the DSOs are still ongoing and confirms that informing the BRP (if required) is the responsibility of the DSO.
- Engie asks how DSOs determine which delivery point to curtail. Elia replies that in SOK, procedures per DSO will be explained, as discussions are still currently ongoing with DSOs.





7. Incentive 2024 & 2025: data provision roadmap

• Epon Energy asks what the difference is between the ENTSO-e platform mentioned and the new one. Elia clarifies that, as the current platform is not working well, the purpose is to transfer it to the new one. Epon Energy further asks whether the data from PICASSO that can be retrieved from the SFTP server concerns only the Belgian market or covers all PICASSO. Elia precises the goal is to publish the data for which Elia is data provider only, so the Belgian market only. Elia adds there are rules defining the responsibilities of ENTSO-e and TSOs, available by demand to the KAM Team.

8. Feedback on the public consultation of the T&C BSP FCR

• Febeliec asks how the reserve mode would apply to a reserve providing group including demand response. Elia explains that demand response would have to continue delivering the service since it is not a LER resource. It is clarified that the Reserve Mode requirements only apply to FCR.

9. Incentive 2025 - Knowledge Management

- Concerning the design notes, Febeliec insists on the need to maintain such documentation up to date.
- Febeliec reacts that maintaining informative documents up to date should be part of business-asusual activities. Elia agrees but explains that the goal of the incentive in 2025 is to take a step back and redefine the type of material that the market needs (e.g. developing for all balancing products a design note similar to what exists for mFRR). Elia also insists that the objective is to demystify complex topics for new and potential market participants.
- Febeliec asks to develop similar material for other products, such as congestion management products which are closely linked to balancing products. The links between balancing and congestion should also appear clearly in this documentation.

10. Incentive 2025 - LV prequalifications.

- Elia invites market participants to reach out and explain the entry barriers to which they are confronted, in particular in LV. Elia will also take bilateral contacts but may not be exhaustive when contacting market parties.
- Parties interested to participate to a Proof-of-Concept, or having suggestions for the selection of a Proof-of-Concept or recommendation of a potential partner are invited to inform Elia via their KAM.
- Febeliec insists that MV should also be considered, not only EVs and home batteries, as is often
 encounters the same problems as LV. Febeliec considers that the discussions would be more
 fruitful if they included MV.
- Engie invites Elia to contact EV Belgium that may already have very valuable feedback on capabilities and challenges related to flexibility of EVs.

11. Incentive 2024 - Energy Management Strategies: feedback public consultation

Engie requests Elia to elaborate on the minimal information related to the use of the DP with LER
for non-contracted services is needed in case such services could be provided together with the
contracted service. Elia precises it is the information contained in the Energy Management Strategy,





that would allow Elia to monitor if the BSP is potentially taking more risks in practice than approved and validated in the EMS.

- Engie asks further if this is an exercise to be done along with prequalification. Elia precises that the process does not change, but the new template explicitly requests to provide this information, in case this DP is used simultaneously for a contracted and a non-contracted service.
- Febeliec asks if the EMS must be updated on a yearly basis. Elia clarifies that the EMS should be submitted once and the BSP is responsible for updating it when necessary to ensure that a DP is at all times operated according to the EMS. Febeliec suggests that the EMS owner may have to confirm each year that it still uses the EMS, and that Elia gets the possibility to run some tests instead of doing continuous monitoring, which may address part of Elia's concerns and may further limit the burden for new entrants.

12. EU & BE Balancing Program Update (incl. PICASSO first return on experience)

- Replying to Engie's request, Elia confirms that all changes needed on BSP side were done at the
 moment of the local go live and that there is therefore no change needed in terms of implementation
 or in terms of contractual changes for the connection to MARI. Detailed planning of the MARI
 connection will now be reviewed in order to confirm the target go live window.
- Febeliec asks how often close-to-zero ATC is observed. Elia replies that cases have occurred, however most of the time there is more than 200MW ATC. Febeliec would like to understand to what extent the unsatisfied demand is due to a lack of ATC or to another reason, when enough data is available. Febeliec remarks that this would be a useful information in the context of the cooptimization discussions at European level. Elia adds that the number of TSOs connected to PICASSO is today lower than the number of TSOs participating in imbalance netting, therefore the process still happens in two steps.
- Eneco asks if the ATC values are published. Elia confirms the ATC available are published on opendata after the intraday last gate (link). Note that this data corresponds to the data sent by Elia related to these borders, and is not necessarily in all moments identical to the volumes effectively considered by the platform. This because i) In case the TSO on the other side of the border would send a different value, the aFRR- and IN-platform consider the lowest of the received values and ii) the values sent and published do not consider any cross-border capacity limitations that could be sent pursuant to Article 4(2)(d) of the aFRR implementation framework. In addition, the dataset is currently updated on a daily basis only.
- Luminus asks information on the persistence of a tag on quality of the publication of imbalance price. Elia replies that firstly, the issue about the queuing and missing 4 seconds timestamps is solved, secondly, near real-time publication is never the last version, and there will always be small variations in the values, and thirdly, the data quality rules are too strict causing the "Data Issue"-flag to appear while there is no real underlying data issue. Elia will work to solve this in 2025.
- Febeliec asks if the values presented are all the volumes activated on the platform. Elia precises
 that they are all volumes activated in Belgium, with an aFRR Requested signal, i.e. volumes
 activated because of a demand in Belgium, or because the platform sent a signal to satisfy demand
 from another TSO.
- Flexcity asks whether Elia observed an evolution on the aFRR bidding from the first week to the second week after connection. Elia did not observe an evolution but cannot exclude of course some changes in the future.





- Febeliec thanks Elia for the presentation which is considered very useful and asks Elia to give an
 update of this analysis when more data is available, after winter and also during summer when
 incompressibility issues arise. Elia agrees to present such results and mentions that RTE
 connecting to the platform and Elia connecting to MARI can impact the results, hence there will not
 be a long stable period in the coming months.
- Engie asks if the connection date of RTE is known. Elia replies that, in accordance with the
 published accession roadmap, it is foreseen for Q1 2025 and that the last version of the accession
 roadmap is always accessible on ENTSO-e webpage.
- Eneco asks if IGCC will disappear when all countries will have connected to the platform. Elia
 precises that it will rather be integrated in the same optimization step, while IGCC and PICASSO
 work currently in two consecutive steps. Elia adds that the relevance of IGCC is reduced as more
 TSOs join the PICASSO platform.
- Flexcity asks if Elia already has a view on the impact on activation costs since the connection. Elia
 replies that the data is not available yet but mentions several elements influence this result, such
 as the move to paid-as-cleared and the lower volume of unsatisfied demand.
- Engie asks to clarify when ENTSO-e will strengthen the L1 and L2 criteria in the FRCE target parameters. Elia indicates that it will take place in several steps and refer to information published in the synchronous area operational agreement for central Europe as available on ENTSO-e website.
- Eneco asks if the merit order used by PICASSO is published. Elia confirms that individual bids are published on ENTSO-e transparency portal.

13. Working plan 2025

- Luminus asks if the workplan has been aligned with Synergrid's and if there is a common
 understanding on who does what. Elia confirms that it is the purpose to be aligned, and that the
 roles are clear based on the documents that are being consulted. Febeliec asks for a specific effort
 on ensuring transparency between amendments and consultations organised at Synergrid/regional
 level and Elia level.
- For ToE, Febeliec asks if "roll-out" refers to implementation or design. Elia indicates that it refers to implementation. Febeliec questions the feasibility of the planning considering the early stage of the design and the potential difficulties to have it finalised and approved by Q3 2025. Elia indicates that the consultation on document release 3 will start before the end of 2024 but acknowledges that the planning is ambitious and assumes a smooth process with the market and regulators.
- Elia clarifies after a question from Febeliec that the Settlement/metering/energy shares element concerns the visualisation of the exact data taking into account the existing mechanisms, such as supply split. Elia adds that supply split and multiple BRPs refer to the same mechanism.
- Elia clarifies on Luminus' request that HV is referring to Elia grid and MV/LV is referring to DSO grid.
- On the lifting of the T&C BRP, Febeliec comments that reading the document in track changes as
 it is usually done will be difficult, as there will be new designs on the one hand and contract lifting
 on the other hand. Febeliec also asks if the contract will be aligned with the connection and access
 contracts, for which a lot of work has been done already on the definitions and liabilities for example.
 Elia notes the feedback.





14. AOB

On Watts.happening

- Febeliec remarks that most of its members probably do not know about the tool. Febeliec also questions how realistic the numbers provided by the simulation of potential market value, pointing to very high, probably too optimistic values. Febeliec requests additional transparency on the computation made by Elia. Elia proposes to organise a workshop on this but reminds that Watts.happening is not meant to be used for making investment decisions. Elia is open to explain what dataset is used and to show the models, and their limitations.
- Febeliec reacts that some disclaimers are missing and considers that penalties and risks should also be mentioned to provide an unbiased information.
- Next Kraftwerke asks how the match with BSPs/BRPs would be made. Elia indicates that Elia will remain non-discriminatory and will only provide a list of the registered BSPs and BRPs.

On LFCBOA public consultation:

- Answering a question from Luminus, Elia clarifies that the frequency trigger is not needed in the LFCBOA, but well in the Synchronous Area Framework Agreement.
- Eneco asks if assets providing balancing services will be ruled out from the units to be curtailed.
 Elia precises that they will not be impacted, as they will be activated before the exceptional technical measures are applied.
 Eneco asks how the technical measures would interact of units below 25 MW that have to run at Pmin to deliver aFRR.
 Elia will come back to Eneco on this.
- Luminus asks how Elia will activate technical measures and request transparency. Elia explains that some rules have been worked out describing how much is curtailed at each DSO; the settlement will be based on a baseline and actual measurement. An operational meeting with market participants and DSOs is foreseen to clarify some elements of the design (e.g. when a signal is sent to restart an asset).

3. Date for next meeting

WG Energy Solutions 06/02/2025 09:00 – 17:00

4. List of abbreviations

ACE	Area Control Error
ATC	Available Transfer Capacity
BRP	Balance Responsible Party
BSP	Balancing Service Provider
DR	Demand Response
EMS	Energy Management Strategy
EV	Electrical Vehicle
FAT	Full Activation Time
HV	High Voltage
ID	Intraday
IGCC	International Grid Control Cooperation
LFCBOA	Load Frequency Control Block Operational Agreement
LV	Low Voltage





MV	Medium Voltage
Pmin	Minimum Power
RT	Real-Time
SDAC	Single Day-Ahead Coupling
SIDC	Single Intraday Coupling
ToE	Transfer of Energy