

# Meeting report

## Grid WG

<b>Date</b>	12/12/2024
<b>Organiser</b>	Walter Geelen (ELIA), Benjamin Genêt (ELIA)

Participants	Attended	Excused
<b>Elia representatives</b>		
Benjamin Genêt (ELIA) - Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walter Geelen (ELIA) - Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guillaume Valentin (ELIA) - Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jean-Michel Reghem (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stefano Meneghello (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bernard Malfliet (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Viviane Illegems (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Antoine Weynants (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carsten Bakker (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harold Guisset (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Silvio Ferreira (ELIA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Members</b>		
Sebastien Barbieux (Axpo)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hugo Canière (Belgian Offshore Platform)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steven Harlem (EDF Luminus)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pauline Mast (EDF Luminus)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruben Laleman (Engie)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loïc Donnay de Casteau (Engie)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Van Den Kerkhove Olivier (Engie)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michaël Van Bossuyt (Febeliec)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valentine Faucon (Parkwind)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lieven Van De Keer (BSTOR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Report

Author	Guillaume Valentin (ELIA)		
Function	EU System Concepts		
Date report	21/01/2025		
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final version	

## 1 Agenda

	Domain	Agenda topic	From	-	Till	Presenter	Time (min)
1	General	Welcome & intro	8:30	-	8:35	<i>Chairs</i>	5
2	General	Approval of MoM & status action points	8:35	-	8:40	<i>Secretary</i>	5
4	EM	MTU transition overview for DA & ID timeframe	8:40	-	9:00	<i>Jean-Michel Reghem</i>	20
5	EM	Electricity trading arrangements with UK: status MRLVC and need for return to price coupling	9:00	-	9:30	<i>Stefano Meneghello</i>	30
6	EM	IDCC_C: status update	9:30	-	9:50	<i>Bernard Malfliet</i>	20
7	SSD	GUFlex: Highlights from the workshops	9:50	-	10:10	<i>Antoine Weynants</i>	20
8	SSD	MVA: Highlights from the workshop of 10/12	10:10	-	10:20	<i>Carsten Bakker</i>	10
9	SSD	ICAROS: Highlights from the OPA design workshops	10:20	-	10:30	<i>Viviane Illegems</i>	10
10	SSD	CREG incentive on Future System Restoration	10:30	-	10:40	<i>Harold Guisset</i>	10
11	O	Winter Outlook	10:40	-	10:55	<i>Silvio Ferreira</i>	15
12	General	AOB & conclusions	10:55	-	11:00	<i>Chairs/Secretary</i>	5
Total							<b>2:30</b>

## 2 Report & status of action points

W. Geelen & B. Genêt (Elia) open the meeting by welcoming all participants. The minutes of the meeting from the last Grid WG meeting are approved.

## 3 MTU transition overview for DA & ID timeframe

J-M. Reghem (Elia) presents MTU transition overview for DA & ID timeframe.

S. Harlem (EDF Luminus) thanks for the presentation of the planning and asks about the impact of the commercial contracts as many of them relate to the DA price. J-M. Reghem (Elia) clarifies that the 60min DA price indices will likely be published by Belgian NEMOs and will be an average of the 15min prices, which are the official prices calculated by the algorithm. He suggests checking this with the respective NEMOs.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) remarks that the DA price resolution of the formulas referring to the restoration price in case of blackout and TSO central dispatch should be checked. Many other contracts also refer to hourly price. J-M. Reghem (Elia) confirmed that the restoration prices as defined in the tariffs are using MTU definition and are then already compatible with DA prices in 15minutes.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) asks if the performance problems of the day-ahead algorithm in a 15min setup have been solved. J-M. Reghem (Elia) replies that the problem has been solved, noting that performance testing showed the enhancements implemented in the algorithm over the last 2 years were sufficient to remove decoupling risks (linked to no solution found in the 30 min allocation time).

B. Genêt (Elia) adds that the 15' MTU will increase liquidity, help with balancing and reduce costs. He notes that this is a significant change for the operation of the system. The next major change will be the move to the 30' ID Gate Closure Time. Internal Elia alignments are being finalized and discussions will be initiated with CREG regarding the timing.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) asks to be informed about the timing as it impacts on the ongoing discussions with real-time pricing. B. Genêt (Elia) replies that this will be followed up shortly in WG Grid.

**Conclusions and action points:**

- In 2025, all the borders (except BE-GB) will move to 15min MTU in ID and DA.

## 4 Electricity trading arrangements with UK: status MRLVC and need for return to price coupling

S. Meneghello (Elia) presents the electricity trading arrangements with the UK: status of the MRLVC and the need to return to price coupling.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) enquires if the possibilities of gaming have been considered. He also notes that not everything in the way forward presented has been discussed with them. Febeliec tends not to agree with everything, including the implementation of offshore bidding zones. B. Genêt (Elia) clarifies that Elia has published a technical study for those interested in delving into its contents. The offshore bidding zone appears to be less and less debated at the EU level, with most opinions agreeing that they are needed to ensure the efficient allocation of scarce capacity. Elia is now looking at the best way to allocate the flows.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) clarifies that if Febeliec has not signed the industry-wide letter, it is because of the requests related to CBAM and ETS and also because of governance issues. However, the industry fully supports the return to price coupling with the UK.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) remarks that there is a big political discussion about Serviced Price Coupling. He asks whether the interconnections between the UK and Ireland are also being considered in the algorithm. S. Meneghello (Elia) confirms that they would be considered. B. Genêt (Elia) adds that the optimisation with Euphemia would be the same.

M. Van Bossuyt enquires whether similar discussions are taking place with Switzerland. B. Genêt (Elia) explains that there are similarities, but on the UK side, offshore development is the key need which drives the discussion.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) wonders if a timeline has been announced already. S. Meneghello (Elia) replies that there is no official timeline as currently the TSOs are mandated by the Specialised Committee on Energy to investigate on MRLVC and not to reflect on possible trade agreement alternatives, but they wanted to show on a political level that alternatives to MRLVC could be considered. B. Genêt (Elia) adds that the TSOs want to push together in the same direction. He acknowledges that the EU Commission is defending the TCA, but that the position of each individual Member State is different. The TCA revision in 2026 is an extremely important milestone.

**Conclusions and action points:**

- The topic will be followed up on a need basis in WG Grid.

## 5 IDCC\_C: status update

B. Malfliet (Elia) presents the status update on IDCC\_C

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) asks about the expected implementation date of IDCC\_D. B. Malfliet (Elia) confirms that it normally will be in March 2026. M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) adds that IDCC\_D will be an important milestone as it will provide the capacities for IDA3.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) clarifies that if customers do not participate in the parallel run, it is not because they don't see the added value of an additional IDCC. Their understanding is that the parallel run is really to check that the systems are working properly, not the way to collect the information.

B. Genêt (Elia) makes the link with Jean-Michel Reghem's presentation on 15' MTU and emphasizes that IDCC\_C will be a major improvement for Belgium as we will be able to calculate capacities on a non-congested grid.

**Conclusions and action points:**

- Go-live of IDCC\_C is foreseen in summer 2025

## 6 GUFlex: Highlights from the workshops

A. Weynants (Elia) presents the highlights of the GUFlex workshops.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) describes that Febeliec is not against market-based, they just want to avoid gaming.

B. Genêt (Elia) points out that Elia is very concerned about some design changes introduced by CREG, in particular the Grid User contribution for the imbalance at the DA price instead of a capped imbalance price. This would have a major impact on the location incentive and a major negative impact on tariffs.

B. Genêt (Elia) says that Elia wants to facilitate the process with their draft answer to the consultation on 9 January.

S. Harlem (EDF Luminus) understands that Elia puts a lot of emphasis on the location signal but points out that the initial driver was the early connection. He perceives that Elia is moving towards a different philosophy. B. Genêt (Elia) clarifies that this argument was indeed not so much emphasized and put forward in the past, but it was already there. If there is not enough locational incentive, Grid Users may more easily go to congested places. This will have a double negative impact on tariffs, first when those grid users will be remunerated when Elia activates their flexibility, and second due to an increased need to reinforce the grids (while some other parts of the grid might not be efficiently used yet).

H. Canière (Belgian Offshore Platform) has concerns about the timing of the implementation of the framework if there are final changes to the design. B. Genêt (Elia) understands the concerns and replies that Elia is following the timing set by CREG.

## 7 MVAR: Highlights from the workshop of 10/12

C. Bakker (Elia) presents the highlights from the workshop of 10/12.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) remarks that during COVID, industry was requested to take extreme measures to control the voltage. The industry doesn't want to be obliged to participate to the tender based on the extreme measures that were required during COVID to support Elia. Otherwise, the industry will not have any incentive to help the system again. It's important to bring this into the discussions with CREG. This needs to be clarified in the legal framework.

V. Illegems (Elia) remarks that Clara Verhelst (CREG) indicated during the workshop of 10/12 that the CREG has some homework to check whether the obligation to participate for demand sites if provided the service once can be limited to the situations where the demand site has requested a repayment of an investment.

## 8 iCAROS: Highlights from the OPA design workshops

V. Illegems (Elia) presents the highlights from the iCAROS workshops on OPA design.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) remarks that the timeline for release 3 (extension of the OPA design for small units and demand sites) is very challenging. Discussions are ongoing to reach out to all demand sides. It is important to ensure that all the requirements of demand sites are captured this remains a big challenge. V. Illegems (Elia) confirms that it is a big challenge to reach the new market parties targeted by the enlargement of the scope in iCAROS phase 2 but indicates that the objective for this release 3 is to have a common DSO-TSO design and as such also alignments are taking place with DSOs in the framework of Synergrid. Elia expects that the DSO colleagues and/or Synergrid will be helpful in reaching out towards these new impacted market parties. M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) adds that it is important that the delivery of information should be as easy as possible for all generation and storage facilities above 1 MW.

S. Harlem (EDF Luminus) appreciates that Elia has organized a Return on EXperience regarding iCAROS phase 1 as well as Elia's creativity in finding short-term solutions for design clarifications and implementation modifications that are needed. This is confirmed by other market parties present.

## 9 CREG incentive on Future System Restoration

H. Guisset (Elia) presents the CREG's incentive for Future System Restoration.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) asks if the restoration of the system will also be evaluated from the consumer side. H. Guisset (Elia) explains that the grid will evolve with new technologies including batteries, and Elia will make sure this is included.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) understands that Elia will mainly be looking at the "how": how to build the system from the distribution, how to make sure that generation and batteries can provide black start services and help Elia build the grid.

W. Geelen (Elia) clarifies that the focus is on future restoration possibilities and less on system defence.

R. Laleman (Engie) is interested in being involved in this study. He is particularly interested in low carbon fuel technologies.

W. Geelen (Elia) clarifies that the analysis will be carried out on some theoretical scenarios projecting ourselves to possible grid configurations and technologies in the time horizon 2040 – 2050.

### Conclusions and action points:

- Elia calls on all market parties to express their interest in taking part in the study.

## 10 Winter Outlook 2024-25

S. Ferreira (Elia) presents the winter outlook of 2024-25. W. Geelen (Elia) clarifies that this is about an adequacy perspective to identify mainly risks of scarcity during winter, hence we are not doing an economic study to estimate energy prices during winter.



M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) questions the high level of gas storage. This storage in mid-November in Europe is lower than last year and it's one of the big drivers of the high price. S. Ferreira (Elia) clarifies that the actual gas storage level is indeed lower than the previous year 2024 which was a relatively smooth winter (no significant long cold period). Therefore, the level of gas storage is still considered secure from an adequacy perspective.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) reacts to the expected demand for electricity as many industrial closures have been announced for the coming months. Febeliec sees a negative outcome for industrial demand. Industrial demand could be overestimated as the outlook is very bad.

M. Van Bossuyt (Febeliec) enquires when the summer outlook will be presented. S. Ferreira (Elia) replies that Elia targets to finalize its local summer outlook by early April while the ENTSO-E summer outlook will be concluded by mid-May.

**Conclusions and action points:**

- No specific action to be taken for adequacy in the winter.

## 11 AOB

G. Valentin (Elia) invites the participants to join the next Grid WG on February 19

G. Valentin (Elia) asks the market participants if they agree to receive an Outlook invitation for the next Grid WG meetings. It may be that their email addresses are no longer hidden. The market parties approve it.

## 12 Action points concluded during the meeting.

Please find below the overview of closed and new actions discussed during the WG.

Action	Responsible	Date Raised	Due date	Status
Elia to present topics on co-optimisation and decoupling for a next Grid WG.	Elia	04/10/2024	/	Open