

28/03/25

# Future Power Markets Design Authority Update

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# Future Power Markets Design Authority

The Future Power Markets team is focused on how the ambition of up to 80% renewable energy share in electricity (RES-E) will be facilitated through the market.

The team's work spans across a number of core project areas, including:

- Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)
- Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP)
- Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

Additional workstreams include:

- Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)
- Energy Market Policy (EMP)



# Future Arrangements for System Services- March 2025

The design and implementation of Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS) includes:

- “To deliver a competitive framework for the procurement of System Services, that ensures secure operation of the electricity system with higher levels of non-synchronous generation”, in line with the Single Electricity Market Committee (SEMC) request
- The implementation of a Day Ahead System Service Auction (daily auction/DASSA), Layered Procurement Framework and Fixed Term Contracts
- The creation of a System Services market code and updates to relevant codes and licenses.

- All-Island System Services Supplier Charge Decision Paper [SEM-25-007](#) was published along with the TSOs’ All-Island System Services Supplier Charge Recommendations Paper at [EirGrid](#) and [SONI](#) websites on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.
- Volume Forecasting and Methodology Decision Paper [SEM-25-011](#) was published on 24<sup>th</sup> March. This decision should be read in conjunction with the TSOs’ [DASSA Volume Forecast Methodology Recommendation Paper](#), which is published alongside it.
- The DASSA Top-Up Mechanism (i.e. the FAM Alternative) Consultation Paper was published on 24<sup>th</sup> March and is available at the following links: [EirGrid](#) and [SONI](#). The consultation period will be open for 6-weeks until 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- The Industry webinar on the DS3 SS Tariffs to FASS “The Gap” Consultation was held on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Webinar slides with Q&A from the session are published on the TSOs’ websites: [EirGrid](#) and [SONI](#). The consultation period will be open for 6-weeks until 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- The System Services Code Working Group Session was held on 12<sup>th</sup> March to review initial drafting of Agreed Procedures. Dependency on timely SEMC decisions to maintain momentum.
- Early design activities for Non-Reserve Services are underway. RA/TSO engagement on design considerations in progress, however RAs agreement on Analysis of options for Non-Reserve Procurement is delayed against baseline PIR.
- Development of Parameters and Scalars proposals and drafting of the Consultation Paper are in progress.

**Key TSO publications this month: All-Island System Services Supplier Charge and DASSA Volume Forecasting Methodology Recommendations Papers and the DASSA Top-Up Mechanism Consultation Paper.**



# Scheduling and Dispatch Programme

The Scheduling and Dispatch programme aims to:

- To enhance the scheduling and dispatch systems and processes in Ireland and Northern Ireland
- To bring about compliance with the Clean Energy Package (CEP) and the treatment of variable Non-Priority Dispatch Renewables (NPDR)
- Facilitate low/zero carbon grid technologies such as Batteries, Synchronous Condensers in support of the broader goals of renewables and System Non-Synchronous Penetration (SNSP) penetration targets.

- RAs and SEMC are assessing Mod\_13\_23 Treatment of NPDRs and SEM-24-044 Definition of Curtailment, Constraint and Energy Balancing related to SEM-13-011.
- Vendor System Build and Test Complete is complete for Tranche 1. On site System Test is in progress.
- Cutover planning for SDP-02 Energy Storage Power Stations is in progress. Participants with Energy Storage Power Stations will be contacted shortly regarding Participant Interface Test and cutover activities.
- An updated version 3 of the TS&C modification Mod\_01\_25 related to SDP-06 Synchronous Condensers was presented to the Mod Committee at Committee meeting 127b. A decision was taken by the committee to postpone a vote on the modification to a later date. System design for Tranche 2 is continuing with the programmes system vendors.
- Updated Release N ISEM Technical Specification (ITS) published and is available on the SEMO website. Updated ITS contains minor clarifications /amendments based on industry feedback, as highlighted at the February Future Power Markets Industry Workshop.



# Strategic Markets Programme

SMP has a wide scope, a significant portion of which are changes required for Celtic Interconnector Go-Live and enabling increased flexible technology incorporating:

- **Full EU Integration:** The Celtic Interconnector, that is due to go-live in Q4 2026, requires the SEM Markets and Operational Systems to be compatible with European standards, which includes re-coupling the day-ahead market but also new arrangements for coupled intraday markets and participation on the EU balancing platform
- **Post-Brexit Trading Arrangements:** Changes to the trading of electricity between the SEM and GB to increase market efficiency
- **Balancing Market Reform:** Changes to the balancing market to enable flexible technology.

## ➤ EU Integration:

- EU Re-integration requires the EirGrid/SONI to adhere to EU & Regional rules which are referred to as methodologies (TCMs). Discussions are underway with EU TSOs regarding adhering or in some cases amending the existing rules to accommodate integration of SEM-FR border.
- Detailed Requirements for EU Integration under development - requiring changes to market rules and schedules, operating processes and system scheduling;
- Current Celtic Interconnector go-live is planned for Q4 2026, and integration with EU markets will need to be in place for this date.

## ➤ Balancing Market Reform Updates:

- Detailed requirements for Balancing Market Reform initiatives are under review and moving to the next phase, these are also currently under assessment for code and system changes required and put into project delivery plans. Detailed requirements for DCU and MNA is completed. The team continues to engage with industry stakeholders to put the market arrangements in place.



# Additional Market Developments

## Long Duration Energy Storage

Work is continuing on the Ireland LDES procurement consultation, including ongoing engagement with CRU.

Consultation now expected for publication by the end of April.

## Energy Market Policy

The EC has announced the adoption of the Affordable Energy Action Plan which builds on the Competitive Compass which was published in January.

The action plan aims to save €260bn annually on energy alone by 2040. It includes measures to lower energy bills in the main price components: energy, network and taxes/levies.

The EC is supporting a broad uptake of energy efficient solution in order to increase renewable energy which is the key to lowering prices. The Action plan forms part of the [Clean Industrial Deal](#).



# Contact Information

If you require further information on what has been published in this update, please email:

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