

Weekly Operational Constraints Update

Applicable from 31 December 2018 to 6 January
2019 (Week 1)

03 January 2019

Disclaimer

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Explanatory Notes

- The purpose of this Weekly Operational Constraints Update is to provide information on any forecasted significant network congestion or other issues that could potentially restrict dispatchable generation in a particular area or to flag if dispatchable generation is required in a particular area. These constraints are in addition to those presented in the monthly [Operational Constraints Update](#) document which should be read in conjunction with this document.
- In the analysis, a suite of N-1 contingencies are applied to the base case powerflow, and the resulting flows and voltages are compared against the Operational Security Standards. The N-1 contingencies include the tripping of each item of transmission plant and each generator transformer. Groups of generators / demand / wind etc. can be scaled up or down to determine a secure region of operation (known as transfer analysis or transaction analysis).
- The cases incorporate the latest generation and transmission outage information at the time of the study. This information is published on the EirGrid and SONI websites.
- Typically, from a dispatchable generation perspective the worst thermal constraints occur at peak system demand, and therefore only peak system demand scenarios are studied using transfer analysis. If required, other studies are performed, such as system demand valley where high voltages may be an issue.
- The wind levels in the various scenarios assume a flat profile across Ireland or Northern Ireland. We do not test Ireland wind levels above 1500 MW as, typically above these levels, constraints on dispatchable generation are not as binding due to the availability of the wind generation.
- The binding constraints on the flow on the North-South Tie Line from a thermal and voltage perspective tend to be due to thermal constraints on the Ireland side, save for specific Northern Ireland outages. This is why the Inter-Area Flow (North-South Tie Line Flow) Constraints Forecast below is only studied against Ireland wind generation.
- There may be other reasons, apart from voltage and thermal limits that lead to constraints, such as frequency, transient stability and adverse weather conditions. These are usually observed and dealt with close to real-time.
- Moyle Interconnector is limited to 80 MW export due to constraints on the Scotland side. National Grid Electricity Transmission plc performs daily studies to ascertain if this can be increased. Please note that the figures below in relation to interconnectors pertain to the Ireland/Northern Ireland side only.
- Should any of the study assumptions materially change during the week, due to a forced outage for example, we will endeavour to perform new studies and publish results on the next working day.

Study Assumptions

Generator and Transmission Outages

Generator and transmission plant outages as per published here:

[All-Island Generator Outages](#) – Under REMIT Publications

[Ireland Transmission Outages](#)

[Northern Ireland Transmission Outages](#)

Demand

All studies are performed at Weekday Peak System Demand unless otherwise stated.

Jurisdiction	Weekday Peak System Demand (MW)	Weekend Peak System Demand (MW)
Ireland	5100	4600
Northern Ireland	1550	1400

Initial Interconnector and Tie Line Flows

	Flow (MW)
EWIC	250 MW Import (Great Britain to Ireland)
Moyle	N/A
North–South Tie Line Flow	0 MW Northern Ireland to Ireland / Ireland to Northern Ireland

Constraints

The forecast constraints below are at Weekday Peak System Demand.

South Generation Constraints Forecast (TCG Type: MW; Limit Type B) as per Operational Constraints Update

Ireland Wind Generation (MW)	Minimum South Generation (MW)	Maximum South Generation (MW)
0	550	1350
750	350	1400
1500	250	1400

Cork Generation Constraints Forecast (TCG Type: MW; Limit Type B) as per Operational Constraints Update

Ireland Wind Generation (MW)	Minimum Cork Generation (MW)	Maximum Cork Generation (MW)
0	150	950
750	50	950
1500	0	950

Inter-Area Flow (North-South Tie Line Flow) Constraints Forecast

Ireland Wind Generation (MW)	Maximum Ireland to Northern Ireland flow (MW)	Maximum Northern Ireland to Ireland flow (MW)
0	400	450
750	400	450
1500	400	450

Interconnectors

Ireland Wind Generation (MW)	Maximum EWIC Import (MW)*	Maximum EWIC Export (MW)*	Maximum Moyle Import (MW)*	Maximum Moyle Export (MW)*
0	500	530	450	300
750	500	530	450	300
1500	500	530	450	300

* Values pertain to the Ireland/Northern Ireland side of the interconnectors only

Coolkeeragh C30 Running

Northern Ireland Wind Generation (MW)	Northern Ireland Demand (MW) above which C30 must be running with GT8 off	Northern Ireland Demand (MW) above which C30 must be running with GT8 operating as a synchronous compensator	Northern Ireland Demand (MW) above which C30 must be running with GT8 operating as a generator
0	1125	1290	1385
450	1125	1290	1385
900	1125	1290	1385

Other Constraints/Notes/Risks

Jurisdiction	Constraint/Note	Reason
Ireland / Northern Ireland	System Operator trading on Interconnectors is currently not being employed operationally.	<p>Due to transition to new market arrangements, TSO setting a high bar to trade for anything other than security of supply.</p> <p>This remains under review and in the near future when TSO considers prudent trading consistent with all our statutory duties will be phased in.</p>

Ireland	<p>Moneypoint TCG – Update</p> <p>Applicable Units MP1, MP3, TYC</p>	<p>There must be at least one unit on load at all times. Required to support the 400kV network.</p>
Ireland	<p>At times, particularly overnight, the Dublin Generation constraint, S_NBMIN_Dub_NB is set to 3 units.</p>	<p>To mitigate high voltages in the Dublin area during low loads over the holiday period combined with forced outages of the two reactors at Poolbeg.</p>
Ireland	<p>Possibility TP1 or TP3 constrained on for up to six hours on 04/01/2018.</p>	<p>To force power down Bellacorick-Castlebar 110 kV circuit for Thermovision test.</p>

**Small trades to prove our trading capability in the live environment are taking place.