



CP1516 'New Interconnector Fuel Type Categories: Eleclink & IFA2

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About This Document

The purpose of this Change Proposal (CP) 1516 Consultation is to invite Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Parties, Party Agents and other interested parties to provide their views on the impacts and the merits of CP1516. The BSC Panel will then consider the consultation responses before making a decision on whether or not to approve CP1516.

There are four parts to this document:

- This is the main document. It provides details of the solution, impacts, costs, and proposed implementation approach. It also summarises the Imbalance Settlement Group's (ISG's) initial views on the proposed changes.
- Attachment A contains the CP1516 Proposal Form.
- Attachment B contains the proposed redlined changes to deliver the CP1516 solution.
- Attachment C contains the specific questions on which we seek your views. Please use this form to provide your response to these questions, and to record any further views or comments you wish to be considered.

1 Why Change?

What is the issue?

Two new High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Interconnectors (Eleclink and Interconnexion France – Angleterre 2 (IFA2)) are currently being constructed, and are due to go-live in December 2019 and June 2020. It is necessary to make BSC Central System changes to the [Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service](#) (BMRS), to include the two new Interconnector fuel types, before the Interconnectors become operational, in order that the Interconnector data can be published in a transparent manner.

Background

Eleclink and IFA2 will both be 1000MW (1GW) Interconnectors between Great Britain (GB) and France carrying electricity to and from the France Bidding Zone.

The existing arrangements, as set out in [BSC Section Q 'Balancing Services Activities'](#), require a separate 'Fuel Type Category' to be defined for each Interconnector, for data reporting purposes. These fuel types are then published on the BMRS platform, and recognised within the documents [New Electricity Trading Arrangements \(NETA\) Interface Definition and Design \(IDD\) Document Part 1 – Interfaces with BSC Parties and their Agents](#) and [NETA IDD Part 1 spreadsheet](#).

BSC Section Q Paragraph 6.1.8 requires National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) as the National Electricity Transmission System Operator (NETSO) to send to the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Agent (BMRA) the data relating to the Interconnector Fuel Type Categories for publication on the BMRS.

BMRS

The BMRS is the primary channel for providing operational data relating to the GB Electricity Balancing and Settlement arrangements in a prompt manner. Market participants utilise the data BMRS portrays to inform trading decisions and understand market dynamics, as well as being a means of accessing historic data.

BMRS receives, stores and publishes data relating to the Interconnectors to GB. This information is made available to BMRS users via several graphs, tables and XML / CSV downloads, along with API, Data Push services and TIBCO services. The BMRS contains information and data on generation by Interconnector. This generation data can be subsequently separated by 'Fuel Type Category', with the list of required fuel types recorded in BSC Section Q.

Addition of New Fuel Type Categories

BSC Modification P244 'Provision of BritNed flow data to the BMRS' introduced provisions to allow the BSC Panel to approve new external Interconnector flows, as further Fuel Type Categories, without the need for a BSC Modification. This was progressed on efficiency grounds to remove the need for a Modification to be raised for each Interconnector that would subsequently be commissioned. Prior to P244, Fuel Type Categories were required to be introduced into BSC Section Q.



What are Interconnectors?

Electricity Interconnectors are the physical links which allow the transfer of electricity across country borders. There are currently operational Interconnectors linking the GB System to Ireland, France and the Netherlands.



What is a Bidding Zone?

A bidding zone is the largest geographical area within which market participants are able to exchange energy without capacity allocation.



What is the Data Push Service?

A near real-time information publication Capability from the BMRS system to industry participants.



What are Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)?

A set of programming instructions for participants to access BMRS data directly from their systems outside of the firewall.

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Therefore, A CP is required to gain approval for the system changes to the BMRS to enable the publication of the interconnector data through a fuel type category, for which such fuel type category is approved without a CP by the BSC Panel. These provisions were utilised in 2012 to add the East-West Interconnector (EWIC) to the BMRS ([Panel 194/04](#)), and again in 2018 to add the Nemo Link Interconnector (approval gained as part of the CP1506 Assessment Report) ([Panel 280/09](#)). BSC Panel approval was gained for the inclusion of the Nemo Link Interconnector through CP1506 as one paper on grounds of efficiency, with this approach also being used for this CP1516, with further detailed outlined in section two of this paper under 'Governance'.



What is the TIBCO messaging service?

A third party software and provides the mechanism for automated publication of BMRS data to market participants via a dedicated line.



What is the BMRA?

The Balancing Mechanism Reporting Agent (BMRA) collects and publishes information about the electricity system in Great Britain. Balancing Mechanism and System Related Information is sourced from National Grid, and Registration Information from the Central Registration Agent.

**What is the NETA IDD Part 1 document?**

This document contains the definition and design of all interfaces related to all BSC Parties and their Agents between the BSC Service Systems and other Systems. It includes the specification of file formats and structure of electronic files.

Proposed solution

CP1516 will incorporate the IFA2 and ElecLink Interconnector data on the BMRS through an interim solution, which aggregates the existing IFA data, alongside forthcoming ElecLink and IFA2 interconnector values into the existing IFA field in BMRS (INTFR). As a result, there will be no visibility of the disaggregated French interconnector flows or availabilities through existing BMRS content e.g. graphs, tables and XML / CSV downloads, along with API, Data Push services and TIBCO services.

To mitigate the impacts of this disaggregated data not being available through existing BMRS feeds, the [ELEXON Portal](#) will be utilised to process the disaggregated interconnector data. This disaggregated data will be published on a new webpage on the BMRS website, linked from the existing interconnector content. Users of TIBCO/Data Push/APIs will be able to access the disaggregated data from a new API, at the same frequency that Interconnector data can currently be accessed.

The Interconnector mapping table, which is managed by ELEXON's service provider, and the NETA IDD Part 1 Document and Spreadsheet documentation will require updating with two new Fuel Type Categories. These will be designated as **INTELEC** for ElecLink and **INTIFA2** for IFA2.

BMRS data submission/receipt

National Grid ESO will need to amend its Balancing Mechanism (BM) Systems and EBS to include the relevant new Interconnector data in the flows submitted to the BMRS.

ELEXON will amend its flow loaders, which is the coding that reads the flows incoming from National Grid ESO, to include the two new Interconnectors' data in BSC Central System databases. Therefore, flow loaders for FUELINST, FUELHH, FOU2T14D, FOU2T52W, UOU2T14D, UOU2T52W (as displayed on the table below) will be modified to recognise the INTELEC and INTIFA2 Interconnector fuel types and add their values to the INTFR fuel type prior to data loading.

Flow Type ID	Flow Description	Receipt Frequency
FUELINST	Instantaneous Generation by Fuel Type	Every 2 minutes
FUELHH	Half-Hourly Generation by Fuel Type	Every 30 minutes
FOU2T14D	National Output Usable by Fuel Type, 2-14 days ahead	Every weekday
FOU2T52W	National Output Usable by Fuel Type, 2-52 weeks ahead	Once a week

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UOU2T14D	National Output Usable by BM Unit and Fuel Type, 2-14 days ahead	Every weekday
UOU2T52W	National Output Usable by BM Unit and Fuel Type, 2-52 weeks ahead	Once a week

The BMRS website will be modified to:

- Present information text on pages displaying fuel type breakdowns and the main site help page, informing users of the inclusion of INTELEC and INTIFA2 data into INTFR.
- Include a link to a new page on the BMRS website, which will display the disaggregated interconnector data sourced from the ELEXON Portal.

Why is there an interim solution?

[P344 'Project TERRE implementation into GB market arrangements'](#), [P384 'The publication of European Electricity Balancing Guideline \(EB GL\) balancing data by BMRS'](#) and this CP1516 all require changes to BMRS for implementation in the November-December 2019 time period. The delivery of these changes over the same timeframe has created constraints, that if not addressed would impact the delivery of P344.

As a result, an alternative CP1516 solution, reducing the impact on BMRS, has been adopted, to ensure it can be delivered in November 2019, without impacting the delivery of P344 or P384.

It is intended that this interim solution will remain in place until at least November 2020, and until further interconnector data changes are made to the BMRS.

Proposer's rationale

The Eleclink and IFA2 Interconnectors must be incorporated into the BMRS before they become operational. BSC Section Q Paragraph 6.1.8 outlines the obligation for National Grid to send to the BMRA the data relating to the Interconnector Fuel Type Categories for publication on the BMRS. BSC Section V Paragraph 2.3.3 outlines the subsequent obligation that such data shall be made available on the BMRS.

This CP ensures market participants will continue to have access to market data relating to Interconnectors, with specific reference to the two new Interconnectors Eleclink & IFA2. It also ensure compliance by ensuring such data is published upon the BSC Panel approving the two new Interconnectors as additional Fuel Type Categories.

CP Consultation Question
Do you agree with the CP1516 proposed solution? <i>Please provide your rationale.</i>
We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

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Proposed redlining

Attachment B contains the proposed redlining to the NETA IDD: Part 1 Documentation – Interfaces with BSC Parties and their Agents.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree that the draft redlining delivers the CP1516 proposed solution?

If 'No', please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

Governance

BSC Section Q reserves the right for the Panel to approve Fuel Type Categories relating to further Interconnectors without making changes to the BSC itself.

However, as BSC Central System changes are required to enable the BMRS to publish data relating to the new Interconnectors, along with changes to associated documentation, a CP must also be progressed.

BSC Panel approval will be sought for both the addition of the Interconnectors as Fuel Type Categories, and for this CP1516, as part of the CP1516 Assessment Report for efficiency purposes. The impacted Configurable Items under CP1516 usually require approval solely by the ISG. However, as the BSC Panel is required to make the determination on the Fuel Type Category, and has oversight of the ISG as one of its sub-Committees, the Assessment Report will be presented directly to the BSC Panel at its meeting on 13 June 2019. This joint approval approach was previously utilised for [CP1506 'New Interconnector fuel type'](#).

3 Impacts and Costs

Central impacts and costs

Central impacts

Changes are required to the BMRS and ELEXON Portal to receive and validate the data received from National Grid ESO, subsequently making this available to market participants.

The NETA IDD: Part 1 Document and Spreadsheet will be updated with the proposed Fuel Type Category names for the EleLink (INTELEC) and IFA2 (INTIFA2) Interconnectors.

Please note that the NETA IDD: Part 1 spreadsheet is not being consulted upon as part of this CP consultation. Due to design and development work that must be undertaken before the IDD can be produced, this document will be drafted by the BSC Agent to reflect the solution as described in the CP, and will be sent for industry consultation as part of a Release Circular prior to the Implementation Date.

Central Impacts	
Document Impacts	System Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NETA IDD Part 1 Documentation• NETA IDD Part 1 Spreadsheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BMRS• ELEXON Portal

Central costs

The central implementation costs for CP1516 will be approximately £80,000. This includes the costs to amend the BMRS, ELEXON Portal and to implement the changes to the IDD documentation.

BSC Party & Party Agent impacts and costs

Participant impacts

Market participants can currently access Interconnector data at 5-minute intervals through TIBCO/Data Push/APIs to provide early indication of a trip on specific Interconnectors. Whilst the proposed solution will not be available in the same manner as present, it will be available to market participants in equivalent timescales through the proposed solution as detailed in section two of this paper. We note that market participants may need to amend systems to access the disaggregated Interconnector data via new API.

Through this CP Consultation, we are seeking to clarify the potential impacts and costs arising from the proposed solution for BSC Parties and Party Agents.

BSC Party & Party Agent Impacts	
BSC Party/Party Agent	Impact
BMRS Users	Market Participants consuming the data from BMRS will need to be aware of the addition of the new Interconnectors, and may need to create new APIs if they wish to pull the disaggregated Interconnector data from the new BMRS webpage.

National Electricity Transmission System Operator (NETSO) Impacts

The NETSO has indicated through Impact Assessment its configuration costs to add the Eleclink and IFA2 Interconnectors to be approximately £20,000.

CP Consultation Questions

Will CP1516 impact your organisation?

If 'Yes', please provide a description of the impact(s) on your organisation and any activities which you will need to undertake between the approval of CP1516 and the CP1516 Implementation Date (including any necessary changes to your systems, documents and processes). Where applicable, please state which of the roles that you operate will be impacted and any differences in the impacts between each role.

Will your organisation incur any costs in implementing CP1516?

If 'Yes', please provide details of these costs, how they arise and whether they are one-off or on-going costs.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

4 Implementation Approach

CP1516 is proposed for implementation on **30 November 2019** as part of an ad-hoc November 2019 BSC Release.

The first Interconnector to go-live, ElecLink, is due to go-live in the December 2019-January 2020 period. Therefore, this CP must be implemented before this date in order that the Interconnector data can be transparently provided to market participants on the BMRS platform and ELEXON Portal.

Following this CP1516 Consultation, we will present the CP Assessment Report to the BSC Panel on 13 June 2019 for decision.

As part of the CP Assessment Report, we will additionally request that the BSC Panel approves the two new Interconnectors as BMRA Fuel Type Categories with effect on 30 November 2019 as outlined in Section two of this paper.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree with the proposed implementation approach for CP1516?

Please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

ISG's initial views

CP1516 was presented as a verbal update to the ISG for information on 19 February 2019 ([ISG214/06](#)).

The ISG was informed that CP1516 will follow the same progression route as [CP1506 'New Interconnector fuel type'](#), meaning it will be presented to the BSC Panel for final decision on 13 June 2019 following CP Consultation.

The ISG did not provide any comments or further areas for consideration before CP1516 is published for CP consultation.

Appendix 1: Glossary & References

Acronyms

Acronyms used in this document are listed in the table below.

Acronyms	
Acronym	Definition
API	Application Programming Interfaces
BM	Balancing Mechanism
BMRA	Balancing Mechanism Reporting Agent
BMRS	Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service
BSC	Balancing and Settlement Code
CP	Change Proposal
CPC	Change Proposal Circular
ESO	Electricity System Operator
GB	Great Britain
HVDC	High-Voltage Direct Current
IDD	Interface Definition and Design
IFA	Interconnexion France – Angleterre
IFA2	Interconnexion France – Angleterre 2
ISG	Imbalance Settlement Group
MW	Megawatt
NETA	New Electricity Trading Arrangements
NETSO	National Electricity Transmission System Operator
NG	National Grid
NGESO	National Grid Electricity System Operator

External links

A summary of all hyperlinks used in this document are listed in the table below.

All external documents and URL links listed are correct as of the date of this document.

External Links		
Page(s)	Description	URL
2	Interconnector Definition	https://www.elexon.co.uk/about/interconnectors/
2	ELEXON Portal	https://www.elexonportal.co.uk/
2	Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service	https://www.bmreports.com/bmrs/
2	BSC Section V 'Reporting'	https://www.elexon.co.uk/the-bsc/bsc-section-v-reporting/
2	BSC Section Q 'Balancing Services Activities	https://www.elexon.co.uk/the-bsc/bsc-section-q-balancing-services-activities/
2	NETA Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 1 Documentation	https://www.elexon.co.uk/csd/neta-programme-interface-definition-and-design-part-1-interfaces-with-bsc-parties-and-their-agents/
2	NETA Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 1 Spreadsheet	https://www.elexon.co.uk/csd/interface-definition-and-design-part-1-interfaces-with-bsc-parties-and-their-agents/
3	P244: 'Provision of BritNed flow data to the BMRS'	https://www.elexon.co.uk/mod-proposal/p244-provision-of-britned-flow-data-to-the-bmrs/
3	Panel Meeting 194	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/bsc-panel-194/
3	Panel Meeting 280	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/bsc-panel-meeting-280/
4	CP1367: 'Reporting Data relating to the East-West Interconnector on the BMRS'	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1367-reporting-data-relating-to-the-east-west-interconnector-on-the-bmrs/
5	P344 'Project TERRE implementation into GB market arrangements'	https://www.elexon.co.uk/mod-proposal/p344/
5	P384 'The publication of European Electricity Balancing Guideline (EBGL) balancing data by BMRS	https://www.elexon.co.uk/mod-proposal/p384/
6,9	CP1506: New Interconnector Fuel Type'	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1506-new-interconnector-fuel-type/
9	ISG Meeting 214	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/isg214/