ISG216-SPAR

REPORTING ON MARCH 2019

ISSUE 41 – PUBLISHED 23 APRIL 2019

SYSTEM PRICE ANALYSIS REPORT

The System Prices Analysis Report (SPAR) provides a monthly update on price calculations. It is published by the ELEXON Market Operations Team to the Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG), and on the ELEXON Website ahead of the monthly ISG meeting.

This report provides data and analysis specific to System Prices and the Balancing Mechanism[1]. It demonstrates the data used to derive the prices. The data is a combination of II and SF Settlement Runs.

On 1 November 2018, the second part of Modification P305 went live. This reduced the Price Average Reference (PAR) volume to 1MWh, introduced a 'dynamic' LoLP function and increased the Value of Lost Load (VoLL) to £6,000/MWh.

In this month's edition, additional analysis of the 2018 parameter reviews of the De Minimis Acceptance Threshold (DMAT) and the Continuous Acceptance Duration Limit (CADL) is shown in section 4. Changes to these parameters were made on 1 April 2019, and so this analysis will not be included in future reports.

1 SYSTEM PRICES AND LENGTH

This report covers the month of March. Where available, data uses the latest Settlement Run (in most cases 'II' or 'SF'). In this report, we distinguish between a 'long' and a 'short' market when analysing System Prices, because the price calculation differs between two scenarios.

	System Price (Long)				
Month	**Min**	**Max**	**Median**	**Mean**	**Std Dev**
March 2019	-70.24	55.50	32.75	29.08	14.81

	System Price (Short)				
Month	**Min**	**Max**	**Median**	**Mean**	**Std Dev**
March 2019	36.80	152.30	59.94	62.28	11.62

1.1 System Price summary by month (£/MWh)

When the market is long, System Prices are based predominantly on the System Operator's 'sell' actions such as accepted Bids. When the market is short, System Prices are based predominantly on the System Operator's 'buy' actions. **Table 1.1** gives a summary of System Prices for March 2019, with values shown in £/MWh.

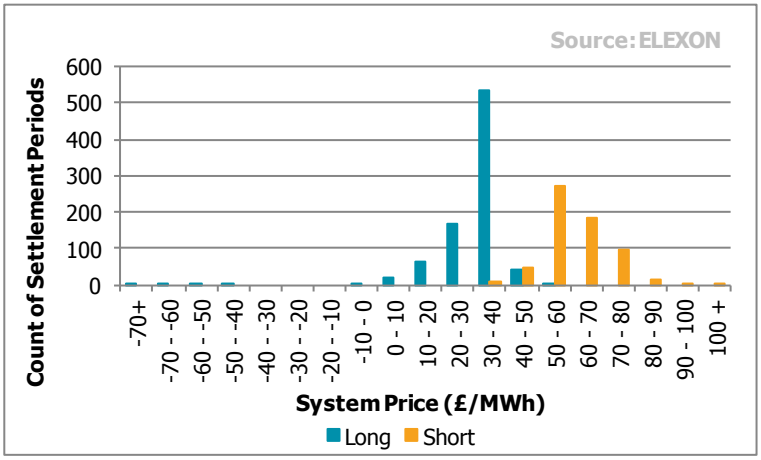
Graph 1.2 shows the distribution of System Prices across Settlement Periods in March 2019 when the market was long and short.

85% of System Prices were between £20/MWh and £70/MWh, regardless of system length. When the system was long, 83% of prices were between £20/MWh and £40/MWh. When the system was short, 95% of prices were between £40/MWh and £80/MWh, and 1% of prices were over £100/MWh.

[1] For further detail of the Imbalance Price calculation, see our imbalance pricing guidance: https://www.elexon.co.uk/operations-settlement/balancing-and-settlement/imbalance-pricing/

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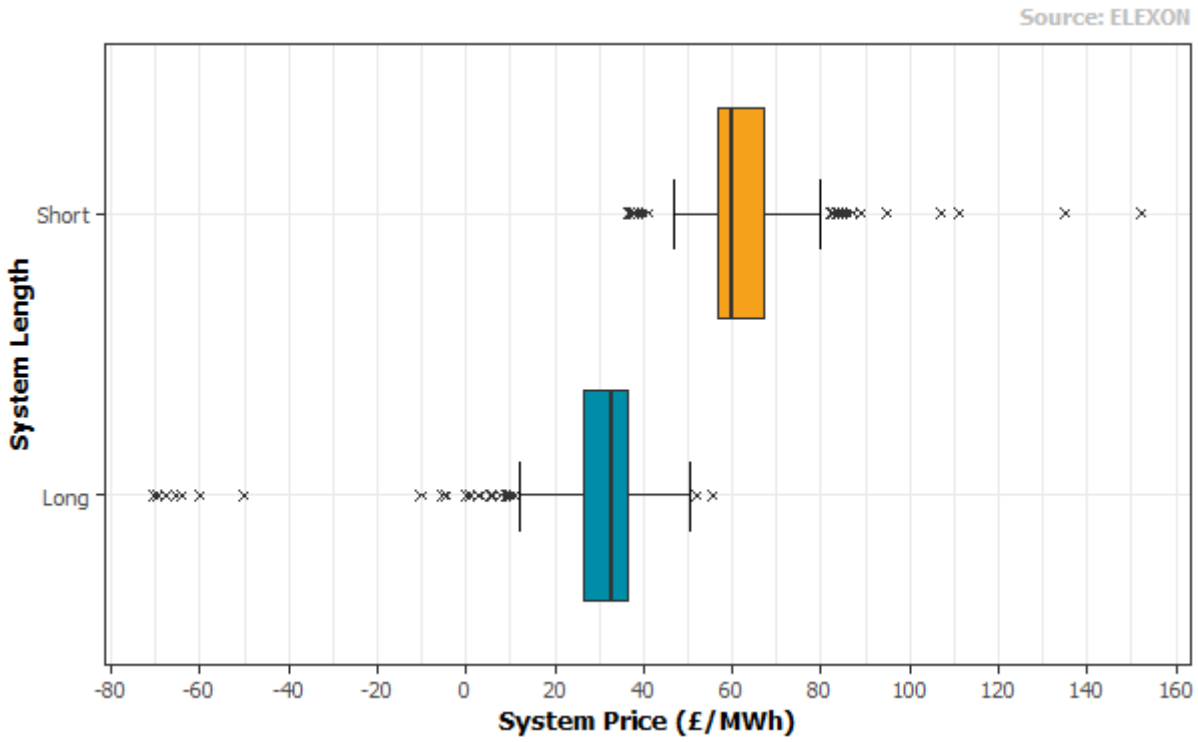
System Prices were £100/MWh or more on six occasions in March 2019, compared to 24 times in February 2019. The highest System Price of the month, £152.30/MWh, occurred in Settlement Periods 35, 37 and 38 on 18 March 2019. This price was set by four Buy Actions from a CCGT BMU in Settlement Period 35 and 37. In Settlement Period 38, the System Price was set by a Coal BMU. The Buy Price Price Adjuster (BPA) in these periods was £42.30/MWh.



1.2 Frequency of System Prices over the last month

There were 19 Settlement Periods where the System Price was less than £0/MWh in March, with the lowest System Price of -£70.24/MWh occurring in Settlement Periods 28 and 29 on 24 March. This was set by two Sell actions from one Wind BMU in each Settlement Period. On 24 March 2019, a negative System Price occurred in 13 consecutive Settlement Periods (from Settlement Period 21 to 33). You can read more about the System Prices on 24 March 2019 in ELEXON'S latest Insight Article here.

Graph 1.3 displays the spread of System Prices in March 2019 as a box plot diagram, split between a short and long system. The middle line in each box represents the median System Price of the month, which is £59.87/MWh for short Settlement Periods and £32.83/MWh for long Settlement Periods. Each box edge represents the lower and upper quartiles (25th and 75th percentile respectively), with the Interquartile Range (difference between the Upper and Lower quartiles) being £10.00/MWh for short System Prices and £9.99/MWh for long System Prices.



1.3 System Price spread over the last month

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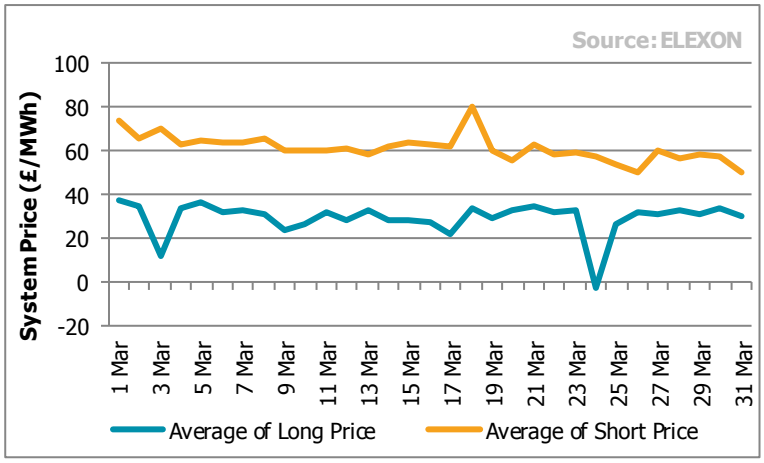
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Outliers are shown on the graph as crosses, and have been defined as being greater than 1.5 times the Interquartile Range (IQR) away from the Upper and Lower quartiles. Under this definition, 56 long and 32 short System Prices for March were outliers. Of the 56 long outliers, 53 were less than the lower outlier boundary. The prices of Long outliers ranged from -£70.24/MWh (the lowest System Price of the month) to £55.50/MWh.

Graph 1.4 shows daily average System Prices over the last month. In March, the average System Price was £29.08/MWh when the system was long and £62.28/MWh when the system was short.

The highest daily average price when the system was short was £79.88/MWh, and occurred on 18 March. The system was short for 31 Settlement Periods on this day.

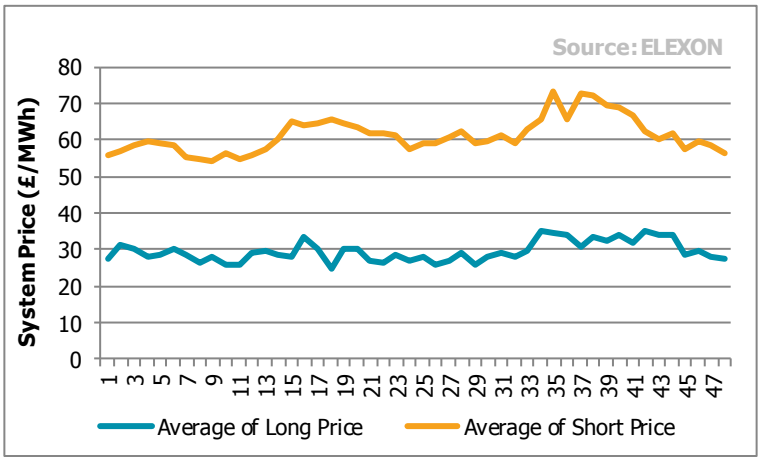
The lowest daily average price when the system was long was -£2.87/MWh on 24 March. The system was long in 41 Settlement Periods on this day. This is the only negative daily average System Price seen since 31 December 2017 (when the average was -£8.20/MWh).



1.4 Daily average System Price over the last month

Graph 1.5 shows the variation of average System Prices across the day. Short prices were highest in Settlement Period 35, with long prices lowest in Settlement Period 18. The lowest average System Price, regardless of market length, occurred during Settlement Period 8, when the System Price was £32.68/MWh.

Average long Settlement Period System Prices ranged between £24.82/MWh and £35.21/MWh. Average short Settlement Period prices varied from £54.20/MWh to £73.14/MWh.



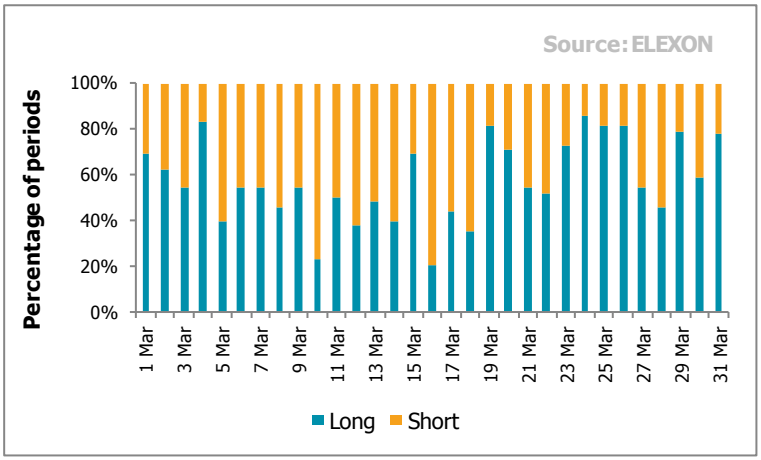
1.5 Average System Price by Settlement Period over the last month

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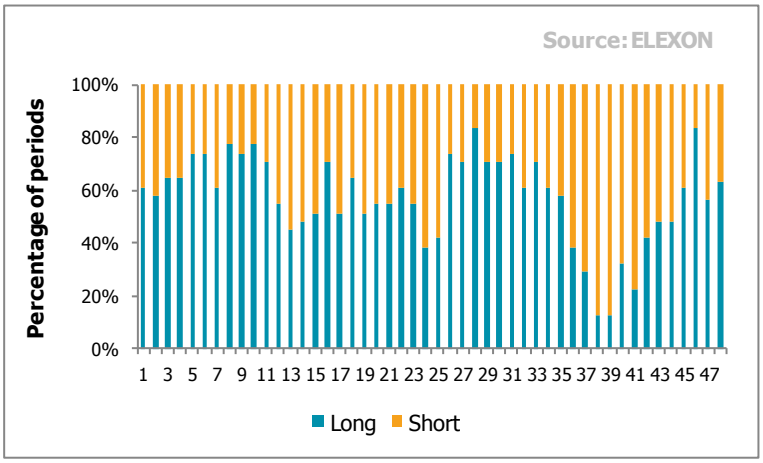
Graph 1.6 shows system length by day, and **Graph 1.7** shows system length by Settlement Period for March. The system was long for 57% of Settlement Periods in March.

On 24 March, the system was long for 85% of Settlement Periods. When the market was long on this day, it had the lowest average NIV (-594MWh) and the lowest daily average System Price (-£2.87/MWh).

Settlement Periods 38 and 39 had the highest number of short Settlement Periods, with 87% of them being short this month.



1.6 Daily system length by day over the last month



1.7 System Length by Settlement Period

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2 PARAMETERS

In this section, we consider a number of different parameters on the price. We consider:

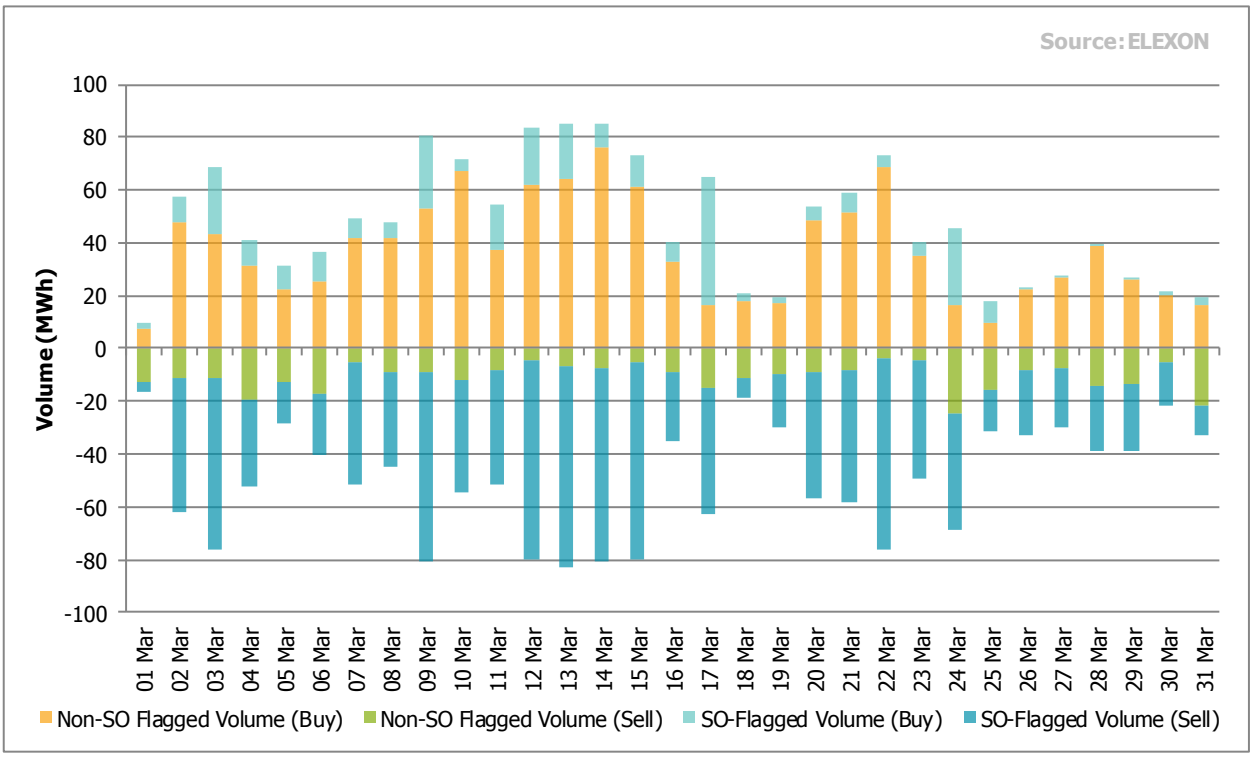
- The impact of Flagging balancing actions;
- The impact of the Replacement Price
- The impact of NIV Tagging;
- The impact of PAR Tagging;
- The impact of DMAT and Arbitrage Tagging; and
- How these mechanisms affect which balancing actions feed into the price.

Flagging

The Imbalance Price calculation aims to distinguish between 'energy' and 'system' balancing actions. Energy balancing actions are those related to the overall energy imbalance on the system (the 'Net Imbalance Volume'). It is these 'energy' balancing actions which the Imbalance Price should reflect. System balancing actions relate to non-energy, system management actions (e.g. locational constraints).

Some actions are 'Flagged'. This means that they have been identified as potentially being 'system related', but rather than removing them completely from the price calculation (i.e. Tagging them) they may be re-priced, depending on their position in relation to the rest of the stack (a process called Classification). The System Operator (SO) flags actions when they are taken to resolve a locational constraint on the transmission network (SO-Flagging), or to correct short-term increases or decreases in generation/demand (CADL Flagging).

Graph 2.1 shows the volumes of buy and sell actions in March 2019 that have been Flagged by the SO as being constraint related. On 22 March, 95% of sell volume was SO-Flagged.



2.1 Daily volume of SO-Flagged/non-Flagged actions over the last month

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79% of sell balancing action volume taken in March had an SO-Flag, compared with 62% last month. 34% of SO-Flagged sell actions came from Wind BMUs, 31% from Balancing Service Adjustment Actions (BSAAs) and 25% from CCGT BMUs. The average initial price (i.e. before any re-pricing) of a SO-Flagged sell action was -£36.33/MWh.

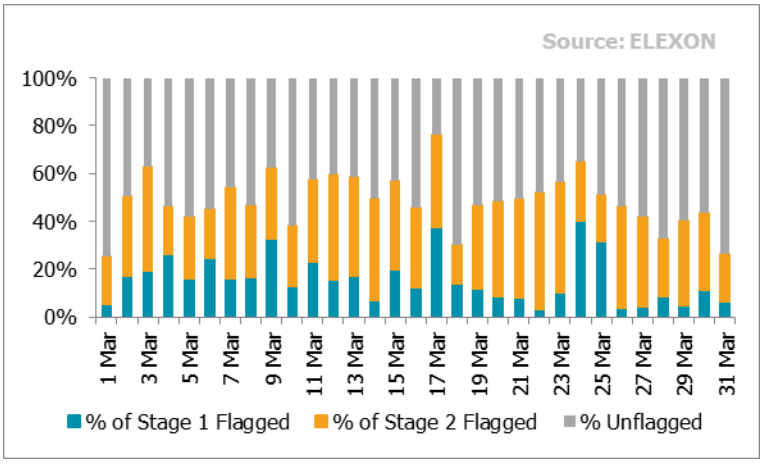
22% of buy balancing actions taken in March had an SO-Flag, compared to 27% in February. 66% of SO-Flagged buy actions came from CCGT BMUs and 30% from BSAAs. The average initial price of a SO-Flagged buy action was £68.52/MWh.

Any actions with a total duration of less than the CADL are flagged. At the time of this report, CADL is set to 15 minutes; this will be changed to 10 minutes on 1 April 2019. Please see section 4 of this report for analysis on the impact of a 10 minute CADL.

1% of buy actions and 0.6% of sell actions were CADL Flagged in March. The majority of CADL Flagged buy actions (85%) came from Pumped Storage BMUs. 49% of CADL Flagged sell actions came from Pumped Storage BMUs, with CCGT BMUs accounting for a further 44%.

SO-Flagged and CADL Flagged actions are known as 'First-Stage Flagged'. First-Stage Flagged actions may become 'Second-Stage Flagged' depending on their price in relation to other Unflagged actions. If a First-Stage Flagged balancing action has a more expensive price than the most expensive First-Stage Unflagged balancing action, it becomes Second-Stage Flagged. This means it is considered a system balancing action and becomes unpriced.

Graph 2.2 shows First and Second-Stage Flagged action volumes as a proportion of all actions taken on the system. Note these are all the accepted balancing actions – only a proportion of these will feed through to the final price calculation.



2.2 Flagged Balancing Volumes

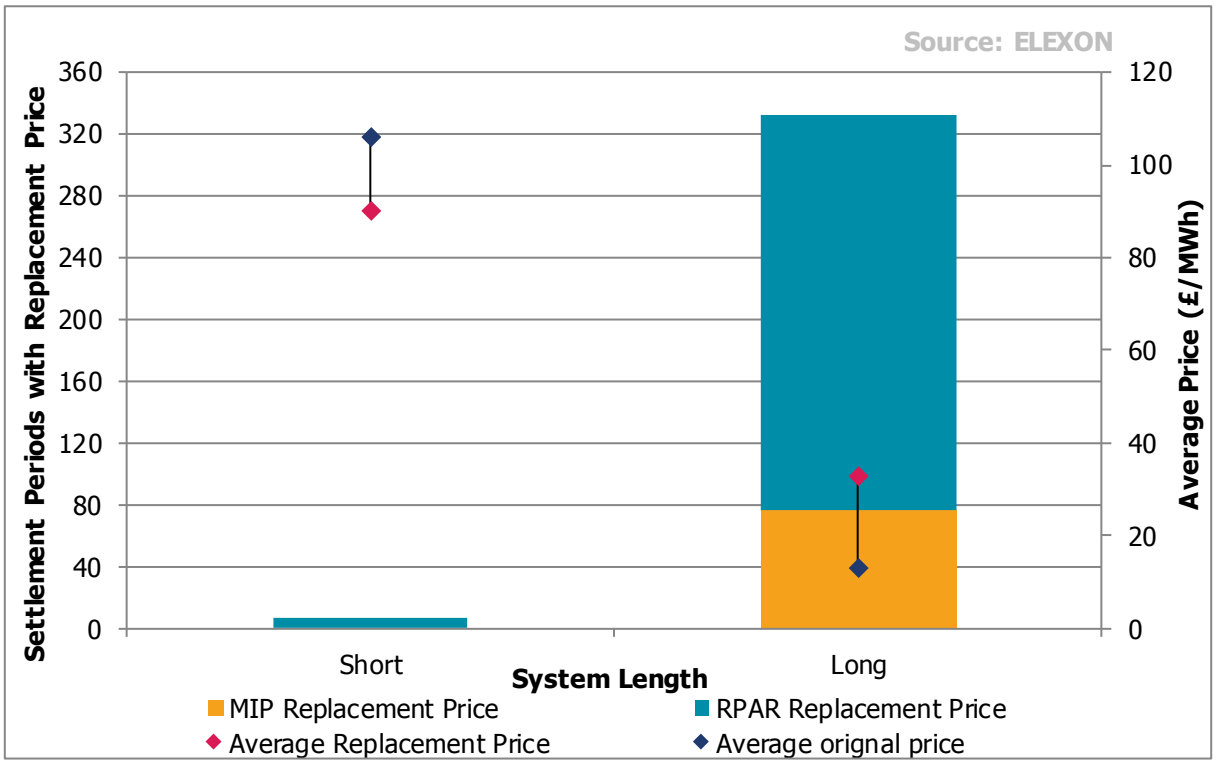
In March, an average of 49% of balancing volume received a First-Stage Flag with 68% of this volume going on to receive a Second-Stage Flag. On the 17 March 2019, 76% of balancing volume was flagged.

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The Replacement Price

Any Second-Stage Flagged action volumes left in the NIV will be repriced using the Replacement Price. In total, 79% of sell actions in March were Flagged. Of these Flagged sell actions, 7.3% were assigned a Replacement Price.

The Replacement Price is either based on the Replacement Price Average Reference (RPAR currently based on the most expensive 1MWh of Unflagged actions), or if no Unflagged actions remain after NIV Tagging, the Market Index Price (MIP). In March, 262 (18%) Settlement Periods had a Replacement Price based on the RPAR and 77 (5%) Settlement Periods had a Replacement Price based on the MIP. However, the majority of Settlement Periods (77%) did not have a Replacement Price.



2.3 Average Replacement Price, original price of repriced actions and number of Settlement Periods with Replacement Price

Graph 2.3 displays the count of Settlement Periods which had a Replacement Price applied, split by the system length and if the Replacement Price was based on RPAR or the MIP. The graph also displays the average original and Replacement Price of Second-Stage Flagged actions.

Sell actions will typically have their prices revised upwards by the Replacement Price for the purposes of calculating the System Price. In March, the average original price of a Second-Stage Flagged repriced sell action was £12.96/MWh and the average Replacement Price for sell actions (when the System was long) was £33.82/MWh.

23% of buy actions were Flagged; of these Flagged buy actions, 0.01% had the Replacement Price applied. Buy actions will typically have their prices revised downwards by the Replacement Price. The average original price of a buy action with the Replacement Price applied was £106.01/MWh, and the average Replacement Price was £90.19/MWh.

If there are no Unflagged actions remaining in the NIV, the Replacement Price will default to the MIP. This occurred in 77 long and no short Settlement Periods in March, compared to 38 long and two short Settlement Periods last month.

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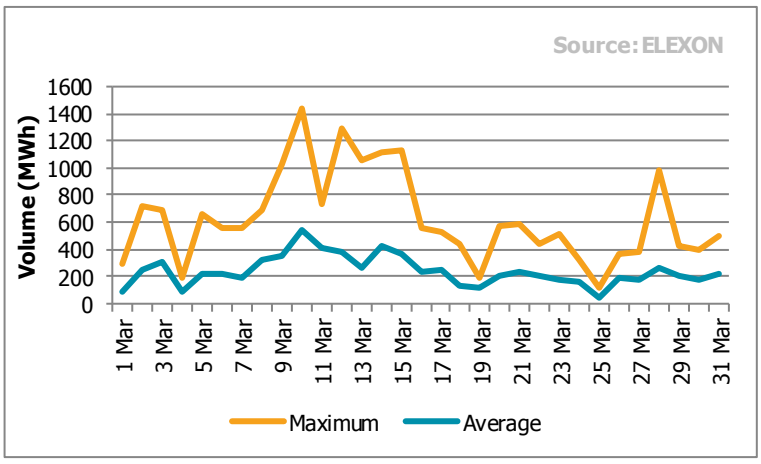
NIV and NIV Tagging

The Net Imbalance Volume (NIV) represents the direction of imbalance of the system – i.e. whether the system is long or short overall. **Graph 2.4** shows the greatest and average NIV when the system was short, and **Graph 2.5** shows the greatest and average NIVs when the system was long. Note short NIVs are depicted as positive volumes and long NIVs are depicted as negative volumes.

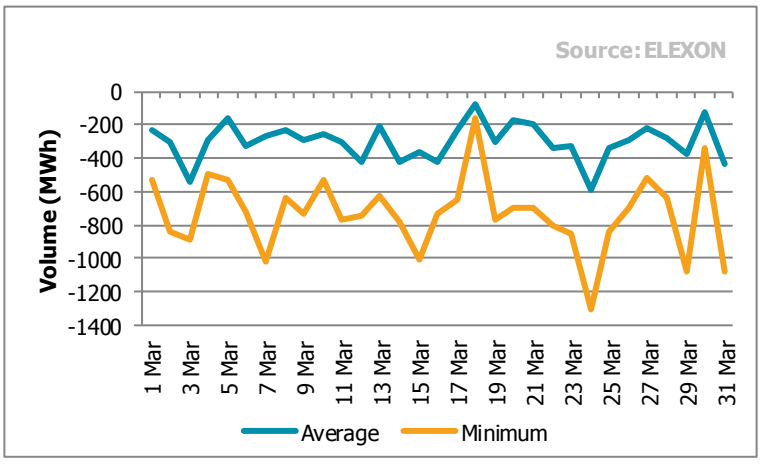
In almost all Settlement Periods, the System Operator will need to take balancing actions in both directions (buys and sells) to balance the system. However, for the purposes of calculating an Imbalance Price there can only be imbalance in one direction (the Net Imbalance). 'NIV Tagging' is the process which subtracts the smaller stack of balancing actions from the larger one to determine the Net Imbalance. The price is then derived from these remaining actions.

NIV Tagging has a significant impact in determining which actions feed through to prices. In March, 85% of volume was removed due to NIV tagging. The most expensive actions are NIV Tagged first; hence NIV Tagging has a dampening effect on prices when there are balancing actions in both directions.

The maximum short system NIV of the month (1,443MWh) was seen on 10 March in Settlement Period 38, where the System Price was £71.00/MWh.



2.4 Short system NIV over the last month



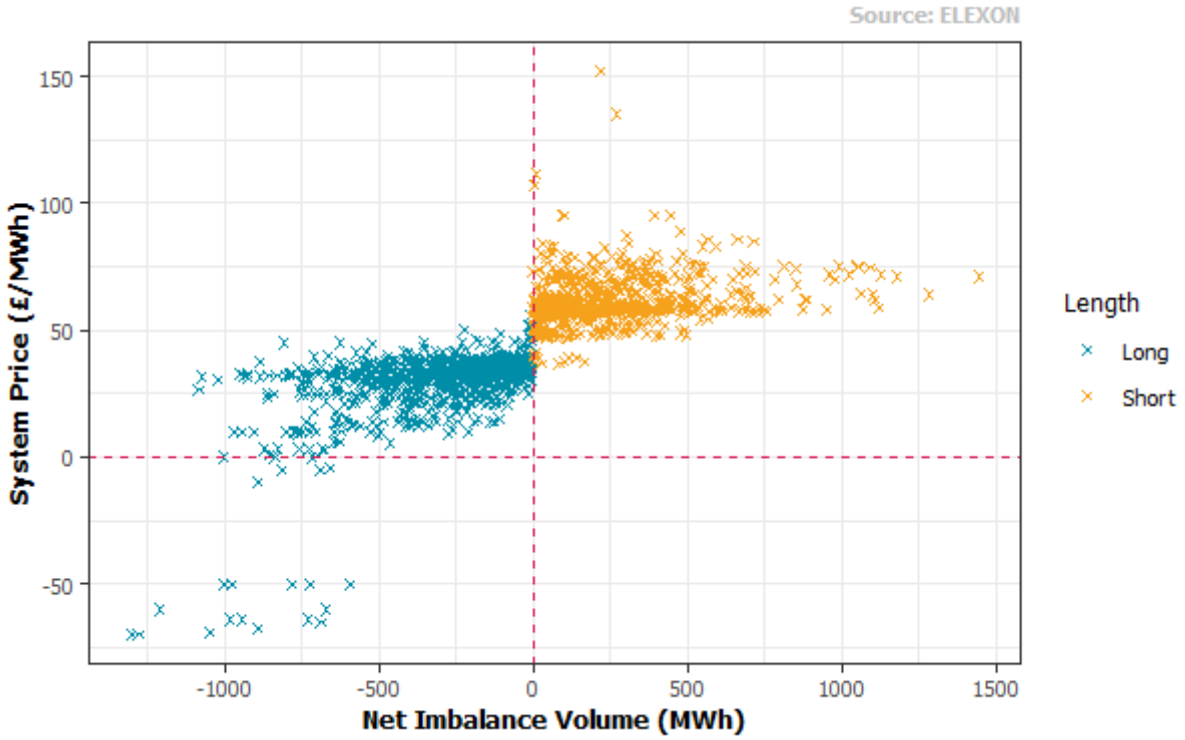
2.5 Long system NIV over the last month

The minimum long system NIV of the month was -1,304MWh, on 24 March during Settlement Period 28, when the System Price was -£70.24/MWh.

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Graph 2.6 displays a scatter graph of Net Imbalance Volume and System Prices. The dashed lines display a 0MWh NIV and a £0/MWh System Price. There were 19 negative System Prices in March, 13 of which occurred on 24 March in Settlement Periods 21 to 33. The NIV in during this time was always less than -594MWh.



2.6 Net Imbalance Volume and System Price in the last month

PAR Tagging

PAR Tagging is the final step of the Imbalance Price calculation. It takes a volume-weighted average of the most expensive 1MWh of actions left in the stack. The value of PAR decreased from 50MWh to 1MWh on 1 November 2018 as part of BSC Modification P305.

Following the change of PAR, PAR Tagging is active in almost all settlement periods. The only periods not affected by the new parameter have a NIV of less than 1MWh.

During March, there were two Settlement Periods where PAR Tagging was inactive; Settlement Period 34 on 5 March when the NIV was 0.985MWh and Settlement Period 20 on 15 March when the NIV was 0.601MWh.

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DMAT and Arbitrage Tagged Volumes

Some actions are always removed from the price calculation (before NIV Tagging). These are actions which are less than the De Minimis Acceptance Threshold (DMAT) Tagging or buy actions which are either the same price or lower than the price of sell actions (Arbitrage Tagging).

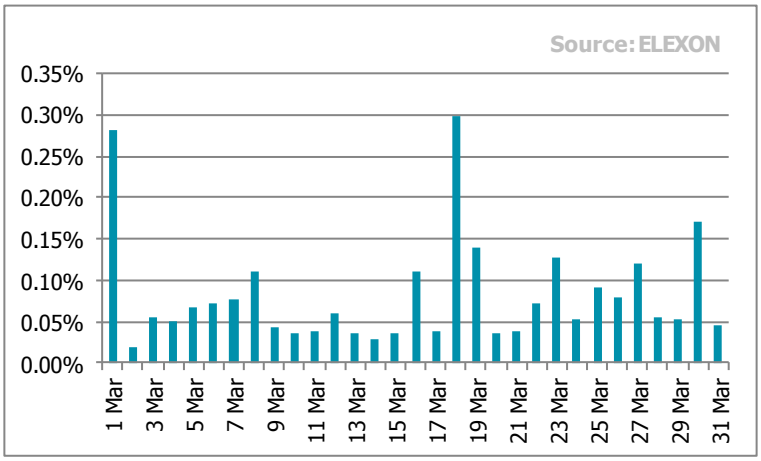
During March, DMAT was set to 1MWh. This reduced to 0.1MWh on 1 April 2019. Please see section 4 of this report for analysis on the impact of a 0.1MWh DMAT.

Graph 2.7 shows the volumes of actions removed due to DMAT Tagging. 0.06% of total buy and sell volume was removed by DMAT Tagging in March. 36% of DMAT Tagged volume came from CCGT BMUs, whilst 27% came from BSAAs.

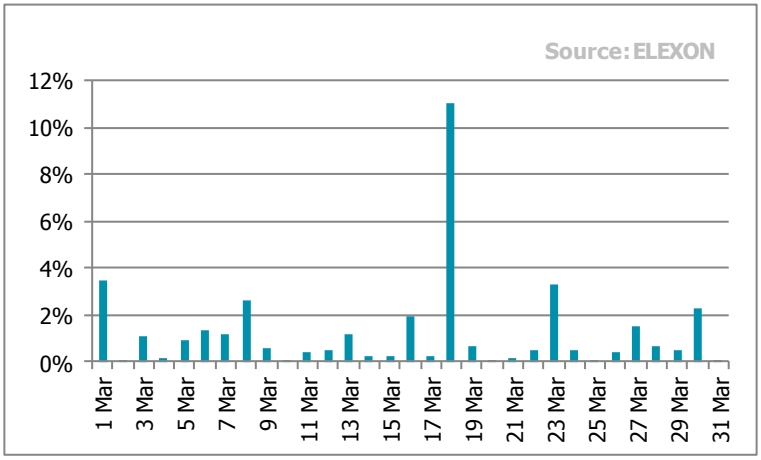
Graph 2.8 shows the volumes of actions that were removed due to Arbitrage Tagging. 0.89% of total buy and sell volume was removed by Arbitrage Tagging in March. 45% of Arbitrage Tagged volume was from BSAAs, with 41% from CCGT BMUs.

In March, the average initial price of an Arbitrage Tagged buy action was £23.12/MWh, and for a sell action was £38.09/MWh. The maximum price of an Arbitrage Tagged sell action was £217.76/MWh, and the lowest priced Arbitrage Tagged buy action was -£53.64/MWh.

On 18 March 2019, 4,357MWh of actions were Arbitrage Tagged, representing 11% of daily volume. The average price of an Arbitrage Tagged buy action was £28.11/MWh, and for a sell action was £44.17/MWh. 72% of the Arbitrage Tagged volume on this day came from BSAAs and the other 27% from CCGT.



2.7 Daily percentage of DMAT Tagged volume over the last month



2.8 Daily percentage of Arbitrage Tagged volume over the last month

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3 BALANCING SERVICES

Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) costs and volumes

This section covers the balancing services that the System Operator (SO) takes outside the Balancing Mechanism that can affect the price.

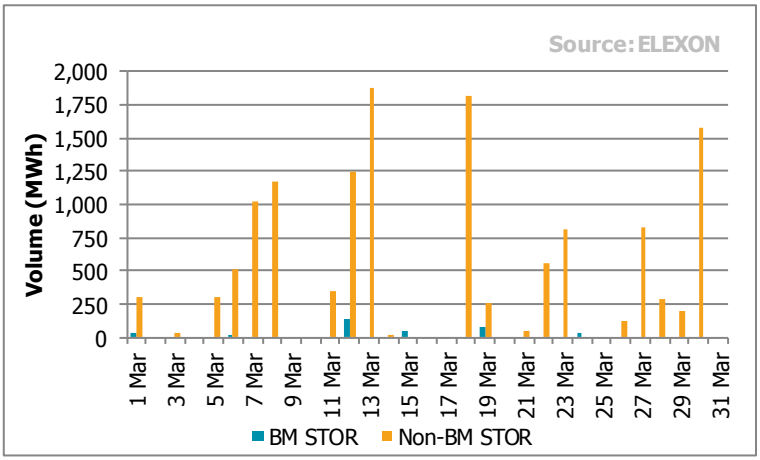
In addition to Bids and Offers available in the Balancing Mechanism, the SO can enter into contracts with providers of balancing capacity to deliver when called upon. These additional sources of power are referred to as reserve, and most of the reserve that the SO procures is called Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR).

Under STOR contracts, availability payments are made to the balancing service provider in return for capacity being made available to the SO during specific times (STOR Availability Windows). When STOR is called upon, the SO pays for it at a pre-agreed price (its Utilisation Price). Some STOR is dispatched in the Balancing Mechanism (BM STOR) while some is dispatched separately (Non-BM STOR).

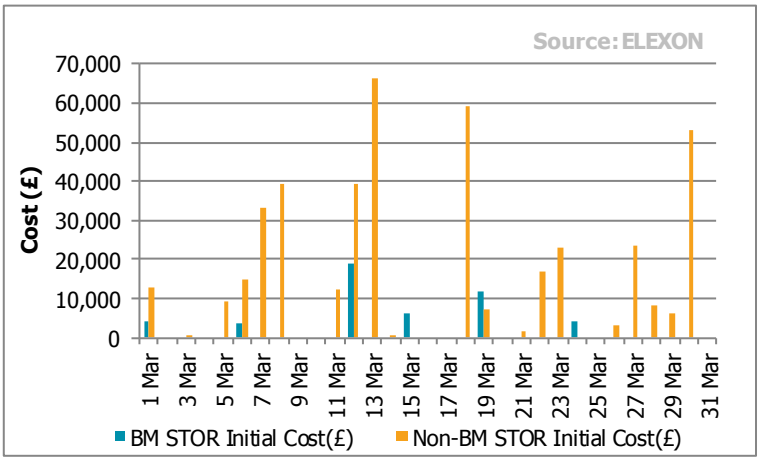
Graph 3.1 gives STOR volumes that were called upon during the month – split into BM STOR and non-BM STOR. 98% of the total STOR volume utilised in March came from outside of the Balancing Mechanism.

Graph 3.2 shows the utilisation costs of this capacity. The average Utilisation Price for STOR capacity in March was £35.05/MWh (£145.00/MWh for BM STOR and £32.24/MWh for non-BM STOR).

On 13 March 2019, 1,871MWh of BM STOR volume was called at a total utilisation cost of £66,173. This represented 14% of both the total BM STOR Utilisation costs and total BM STOR volume in for the month.



3.1 Daily STOR vs Non-BM STOR volume across the last month



3.2 Daily STOR vs Non-BM STOR utilisation costs across the last month

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De-Rated Margin, Loss of Load Probability and the Reserve Scarcity Price

There are times when the Utilisation Prices of STOR plants are uplifted using the **Reserve Scarcity Price (RSVP)** in order to calculate System Prices. The RSVP is designed to respond to capacity margins, so rises as the system gets tighter (the gap between available and required generation narrows). It is a function of **De-Rated Margin (DRM)** at Gate Closure, the likelihood that this will be insufficient to meet demand (the **Loss of Load Probability**, LoLP) and the **Value of Lost Load** (VoLL, set at £6,000/MWh from 1 November 2018).

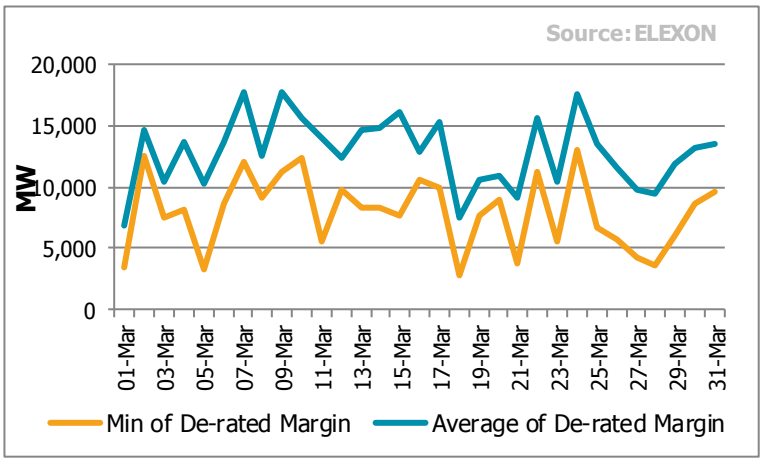
Graph 3.3 shows the daily minimum and average Gate Closure DRMs for March 2019.

The System Operator has determined a dynamic relationship between each DRM and the LoLP[2], which will determine the RSVP.

The minimum DRM in March was 2,795MW on 18 March in Settlement Period 38 (compared to 1,931MW in February). This DRM corresponded to a LoLP of 0.0001 and RSVP of £0.42MWh (see **Table 3.4**).

The RSVP re-prices STOR actions in the Imbalance Price calculation if it is higher than the original Utilisation Price.

No STOR actions were re-priced using the RSVP in March, the same as February. However, Settlement Period with the highest RSVP did not have the lowest DRM. This is the first time this has occurred since the LoLP was calculated through a dynamic method.



3.3 Minimum and average DRMs

With a pre-November 2018 VoLL of £3,000/MWh, no actions would have been re-priced by the RSVP.

3.4 Top 5 LoLPs and RSVPs

Date	SP	DRM	LoLP	RSVP	RSVP Used	System Length	System Price
05/03/2019	37	3,233.61	0.0001	**0.65**	No	Short	77.00
05/03/2019	38	3,369.94	0.0001	**0.44**	No	Short	77.00
18/03/2019	38	2,795.01	0.0001	**0.42**	No	Short	152.30
01/03/2019	38	3,368.59	0.0000	**0.09**	No	Long	39.20
18/03/2019	39	3,295.90	0.0000	**0.04**	No	Short	111.30

[2] The System Operators methodology for LoLP is set out in the LoLP Methodology statement: https://www.elexon.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Loss_of_Load_Probability_Calculation_Statement_v1.0.pdf

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4 DMAT AND CADL CHANGES

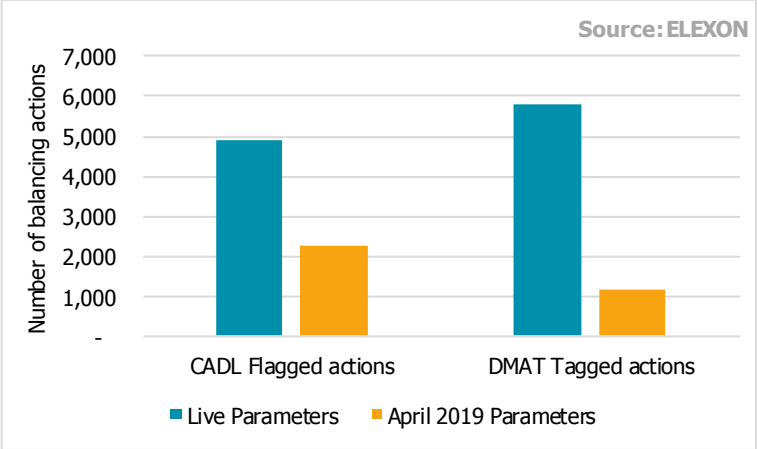
Following the 2018 parameter reviews, DMAT and CADL changed on 1 April 2019. DMAT reduced from 1MWh to 0.1MWh and CADL from 15 minutes to 10 minutes. We have recalculated System Prices in March 2019 using the new parameters, allowing us to compare live System Prices to System Prices calculated with the April 2019 parameters.

Graph 4.1 shows how these changes will reduce the number of actions that are CADL Flagged and DMAT Tagged during the Imbalance Price calculation. The number of CADL flagged Bid Offer Acceptances (BOAs) will reduce by 51%, and the number of DMAT Tagged actions will reduce by 80%. Only actions less than 0.1MWh will be DMAT tagged in the April 2019 scenario; this means that the volume of DMAT tagged actions will reduce by 98%.

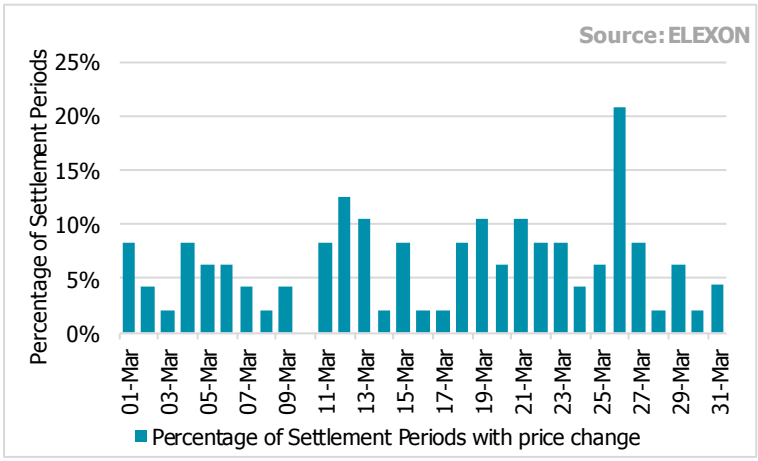
Graph 4.2 shows the percentage of Settlement Periods where the System Price is different with April 2019 parameters. Over March, the System Price would have been different in 32% of Settlement Periods.

These price differences mean that the average System Price, when the system is short, would have been the same as the live average short System Price. When the market is long, the average System Price would have been £0.45/MWh lower.

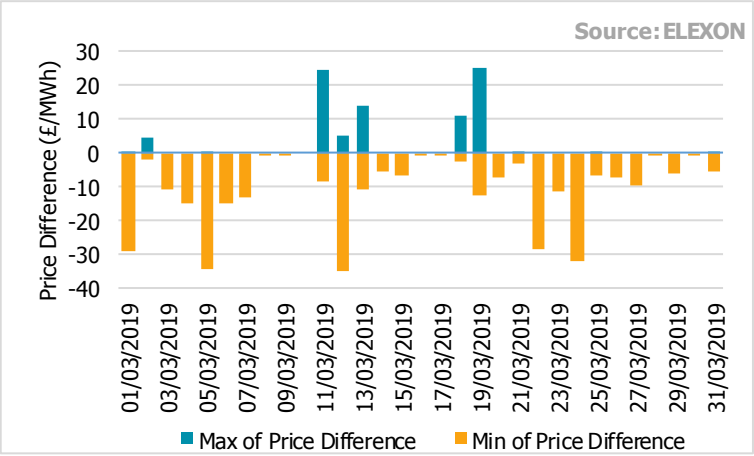
Graph 4.3 shows the daily maximum price differences. The largest difference in March was -£35.10/MWh, in Settlement Period 32 on 12 March 2019. This price difference was because of the changes to both the CADL and DMAT.



4.1 Number of balancing actions affected by DMAT and CADL



4.2 Percentage of Settlement Prices with difference in System Price



4.3 Maximum difference in System Price between the live prices and April 2019 scenario

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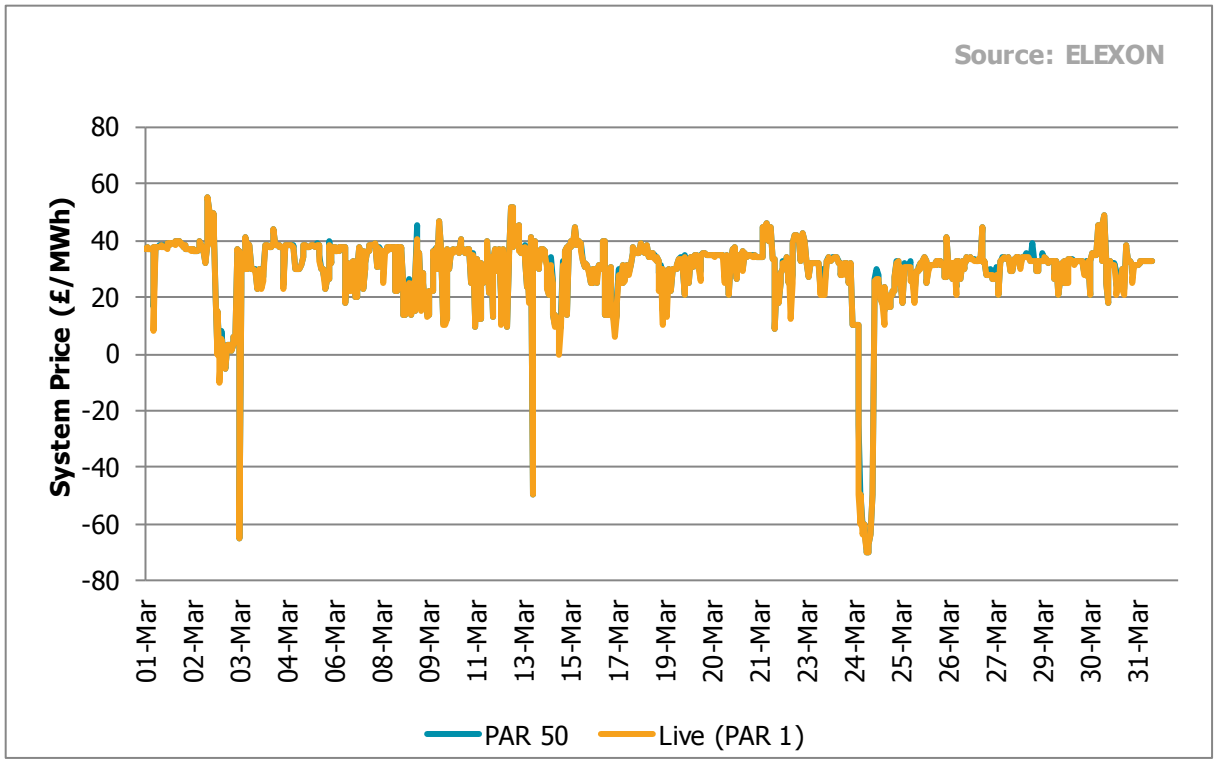
5 P305 - PAR ANALYSIS

This section compares live prices with a **PAR 50 pricing scenario**. From 1 November 2018, the System Price calculation parameters changed as part of BSC Modification P305. The changes were:

- A reduction in the PAR value from 50MWh to 1MWh;
- The introduction of a 'dynamic' LoLP function; and
- An increase in the VoLL from £3,000/MWh to £6,000MWh. The PAR 50 scenario uses a VoLL of £3,000/MWh in the RSVP function.

This section looks at the difference in System Prices between a PAR 50 and a PAR 1 scenario for March 2019. Regardless of length, System Prices were different in 33% of Settlement Periods, with 11% of these changes greater than £1/MWh. System Prices are an average of £0.41/MWh lower when the system was long, and £0.77/MWh higher when the system was short compared to a PAR 50 scenario.

Live System Prices when the system is long are the same or lower compared to PAR 50, and when the system is short prices are the same or higher.



5.1 Live prices vs PAR 50 prices: Prices when the System was long

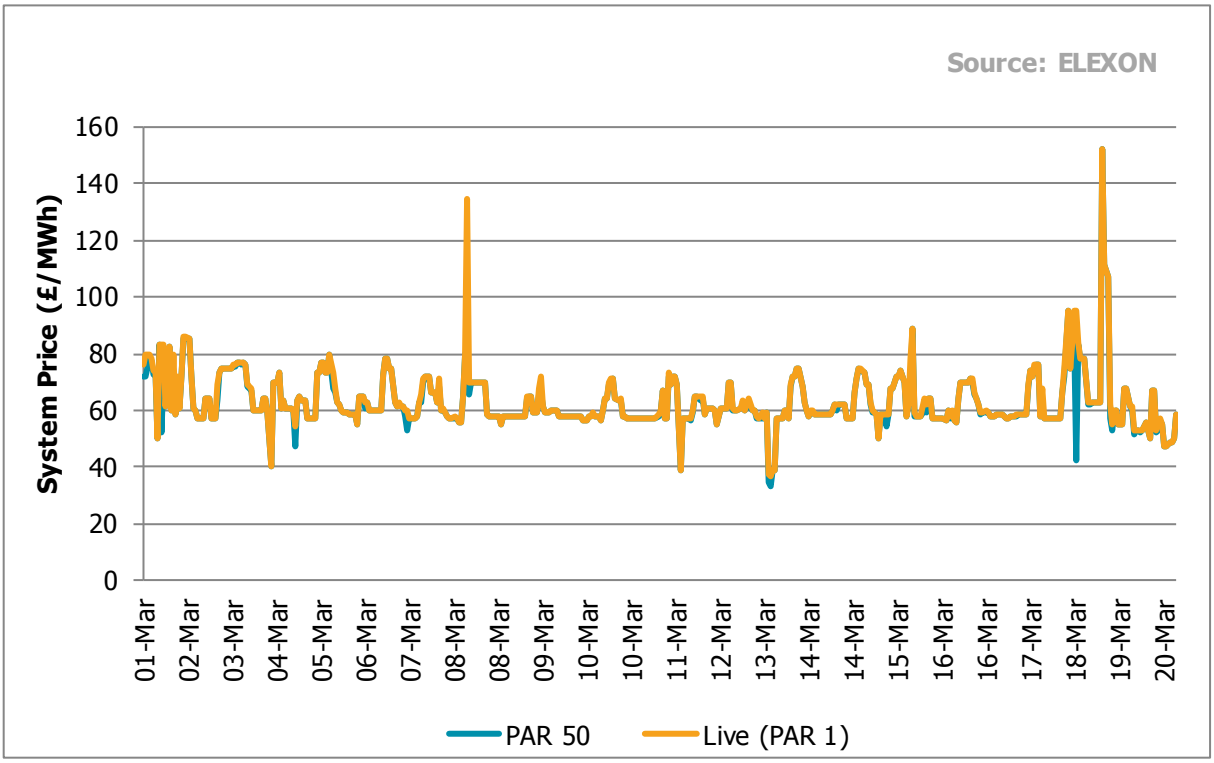
Graph 5.1 compares live System Prices with prices recalculated using the PAR 50 scenario when the system was long.

When the system was long and System Prices changed, price changes were less than £1/MWh in 71% of Settlement Periods, and greater than £5/MWh in 6% of Settlement Periods. The biggest shift from the PAR 50 to the live scenario in price was -£25.07/MWh (Settlement Period 21 on 24 March 2019), when the price would have been -£24.93/MWh under a PAR 50 scenario compared to the current live System Price of -£50.00/MWh.

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Graph 5.2 compares live System Prices with PAR 50 prices when the system was short. Prices were higher in 29% of short Settlement Periods compared to the PAR 50 scenario; 13% changed by more than £5/MWh and 5% by more than £10/MWh. The biggest difference in price from the PAR 50 to the live scenario was £53.38/MWh (Settlement Period 15 on 8 March 2019); the price would have been £81.62/MWh under the PAR 50 scenario, compared to the current live System Price of £135.00/MWh.

Under the PAR 50 scenario, there would be three Settlement Periods in March 2019 with prices greater than £100/MWh. Under the PAR 1 scenario, there were four Settlement Periods with a System Price greater than £100/MWh.



5.2 Live prices vs PAR 50 prices: Prices when the System was short

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6 GLOSSARY

Term	Abbrev.	Definition
Bid		A proposed volume band and price within which the registrant of a BM Unit is willing to reduce generation or increase consumption (i.e. a rate below their FPN).
Bid/Offer Acceptance	**BOA**	A Bid or Offer within a given Settlement Period that was Accepted by the SO. BOAs are used in the Imbalance Price calculation process e.g. to calculate NIV or the System Price.
Offer		A proposed volume band and price within which the registrant of a BM Unit is willing to increase generation or reduce consumption (i.e. a rate above their FPN).
System Price		A price (in £/MWh) calculated by BSC Central Systems that is applied to imbalance volumes of BSC Parties. It is a core component of the balancing and settlement of electricity in GB and is calculated for every Settlement Period. It is subject to change via Standard Settlement Runs.
Replacement Price		A price (in £/MWh) calculated by BSC Central Systems that is applied to volumes that are not priced during the imbalance pricing process (detailed in BSC Section T) It is calculated for every Settlement Period, and is subject to change via Standard Settlement Runs.
Utilisation Price		The price (in £/MWh) sent by the SO in respect of the utilisation of a STOR Action which: (i) in relation to a BM STOR Action shall be the Offer Price; and (ii) in relation to a Non-BM STOR Action shall be the Balancing Services Adjustment Cost.
Market Index Price	**MIP**	The Market Index Price reflects the price of wholesale electricity in the short-term market (in £/MWh). You can find an explanation of how it is calculated and used in the Market Index Definition Statement (MIDS).
Reserve Scarcity Price	**RSVP**	Both accepted BM and non-BM STOR Actions are included in the calculation of System Prices as individual actions, with a price which is the greater of the Utilisation Price for that action or the RSVP. The RSVP function is based on the prevailing system scarcity, and is calculated as the product of two following values: - the Loss of Load Probability (LoLP), which will be calculated by the SO at Gate Closure for each Settlement Period; and - the Value of Lost Load (VoLL), a defined parameter currently set to £6,000/MWh.
Replacement Price Average Reference	**RPAR**	The RPAR volume is a set volume of the most expensive priced actions remaining after NIV tagging, and is currently 1MWh. The volume-weighted average of these actions, known as the Replacement Price, is used to provide a price for any remaining unpriced actions prior to PAR Tagging.
Long		In reference to market length, this means that the volume of Accepted Bids exceeds that of Accepted Offers.
Short		In reference to market length, this means that the volume of Accepted Offers exceeds that of Accepted Bid.
Net Imbalance Volume	**NIV**	The imbalance volume (in MWh) of the total system for a given Settlement Period. It is derived by netting buy and sell Actions in the Balancing Mechanism. Where NIV is positive, this means that the system is short and would normally result in the SO accepting Offers to increase generation/decrease consumption. Where NIV is negative, the system is long and the SO would normally accept Bids to reduce generation/ increase consumption. It is subject to change between Standard Settlement Runs.
Price Average Reference	**PAR**	The PAR volume is a set volume of the most expensive priced actions remaining at the end of the System Price calculation, and is currently 1MWh.

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