

CWE Consultative Group

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Agenda of the meeting:

I – CWE-CEE project status

II – CWE Consultative Group session

1. **Review of last Flow-Based market results**
 - One Year FBI MC and look back to one Year ATC MC
 - Comparison analysis between FB intuitive and FB Plain
 - Flow based Day Ahead pre-congested capacities
2. **Status on transparency framework within CWE region**
3. **NRAs' presentation: CCR proposal status update**
4. **Status on Intraday Capacity Calculation**
5. **Regional coupling situation**
6. **Update on post Flow-Based Day-Ahead go-live NRAs deliverables**
 - APG integration
 - Interconnector BeDeLux project
 - LTCC improvements

III – Status on Euphemia algorithm developments

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS of the CWE Consultative Group session (section II)

In this fourth CWE Consultative Group meeting, CWE Partners and TSOs have drawn conclusions of CWE Flow-Based Market Coupling developments after more than one year experience in operation.

Market parties have welcomed the significant step forward on transparency with the decision from several CWE TSOs to publish transparency information concerning CBCOs and RAM. German TSOs are still discussing the transparency request with their regulator and hope to follow other CWE TSOs in the coming months. Next to this, CWE Partners answered various concerns from Market Participants in order to provide clarifications on past events or grid configuration. Pending questions will be progressively addressed through the Q/A Forum.

A review of flow based market results has been presented. Some debates on the relevancy of the technical indicators have taken place. The current analysis performed by CWE Flow-Based expert should guide NRAs in their decision either to change or not towards the Flow-Based Plain methodology. Market participants also requested to have access to the upcoming study before taking a formal position on the possibility to evolve towards Plain Flow-based. The issue on the pre-congested capacities has also been presented. CWE Partners explained that they are carefully monitoring Flow-Based market coupling outcomes and will implement improvements in the future to mitigate these non-desirable situations. Market participants expressed questions on the type of remedial actions used in the LTA patch.

Moreover, the main CWE region developments have been presented to the Market Participants. The Intraday ATC “increase-decrease process”(CWE ID ATC CC) after Flow-Based market coupling for all CWE borders has been running for several months and successfully provides additional capacities to the market. Some market participants requested more detailed results of the CWE ID ATC CC (initial ID capacity, overall usage rate, etc). At the same time the future Flow-Based Intraday Capacity Calculation methodology is being experimented with the objective to deliver an approval package and implementation planning to CWE NRAs in Q1 2017. Finally, the integration process of APG in CWE region is nearly complete: provided regulatory approval, the Austrian TSO will be fully part of CWE operational activities by November 2016.

In addition to the CWE Consultative Group discussions, it should be also noted that the Euphemia algorithm developments and the progress on the CWE-CEE common project were also discussed. Regarding the latter issue, the 16 TSOs will deliver to NRAs a proposition for a common Day-Ahead Flow-Based Capacity Calculation (DA FB CC) method by Q1 2017.

Market Participants will be continuously informed of the developments in the CWE region through the CWE Consultative Group mailing list and publication on JAO website. The next meeting will be organized in Q1 2017.

I – CWE-CEE Project status

Common project between Central Eastern and Central Western Europe TSOs

- C. Pflanz presents the context and progress of the common project between CWE and CEE TSOs. Since the 16 TSOs agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), CWE and CEE parties initiated several taskforces in order to meet two main objectives :
 - Deliver a common Day-Ahead Flow-Based Capacity Calculation (DA FB CC) methodology. The proposition will be submitted to the regulators by Q1 2017, and the foreseen Go-Live is presently planned for end of 2018 / beginning 2019 using a “big bang” approach.
 - Define the approach and framework to merge the two regions
- It should be highlighted that the current roadmap and timeline is very ambitious considering the target to be achieved. Consequently, the common methodology defined will be as straight forward as possible in order allowing for a quicker implementation. The methodology will be then continuously improved to include sophisticated matters.
- Some Market Participants (MPs) are skeptical over such a challenging planning of implementation and would rather prefer that CWE-CEE parties present a realistic roadmap, also in order to allow more time for the parallel run. Given that the project is still in the conceptual design phase, C. Pflanz considers that it is too soon to question the relevance of the planning which has been also defined taking into account legal and regulatory guidance.

Common Flow-Based methodology

- MPs highlight that the merger of the two regions could also lead to a reconfiguration of the bidding zones involved. In this context MPs stress CWE and CEE TSOs to solicit the market in these discussions. C. Pflanz mentions that it is not the idea of the project to define or re-configure the bidding zone structure. For this purpose the Bidding Zone Study has been launched and will be continued together with relevant stakeholders involved.
- C. Pflanz indicates that CWE-CEE parties would appreciate receiving MPs feedback concerning their experience and lessons learned on CWE FBMC project and interaction with MPs.
- MPs point out several measures that could be set up by CWE-CEE parties to ensure market involvement:
 - Implementation of a parallel run process to experience the methodology
 - Introduction of a CWE-CEE and MPs interactive forum to provide regular feedback on the project developments. At this stage, MPs advise to connect the CCG meetings with the CWE-CEE project reporting. MPs expressed concerns on having two separate forum (one for CWE and one for CEE).
 - Setting-up of a Q&A Forum platform to answer MPs questions. -
 - Transparency publications on the Day-Ahead Flow-Based Capacity Calculation methodology and TSOs grid situation.
 - Anticipation of FB Intraday issues in the CWE-CEE roadmap.
- Based on this feedback and CWE FBMC experience, CWE and CEE TSOs will come back to MPs by beginning 2017 to propose an approach to discuss market participants’ involvement. C. Pflanz informs CCG participants that a webpage is already accessible through ENTSO-E website (<https://www.entsoe.eu/major-projects/network-code-implementation/cacm/cwe-cee-region-merge/Pages/default.aspx>) to present the project framework and progress. MPs can directly address their questions to cweceeinfo@entsoe.eu.
- Question from MPs: What is foreseen in terms of governance and evolution of framework between CWE and CWE-CEE projects?
- Project Answer: The main objective in the coming years is to achieve a harmonized capacity calculation process across Europe. For the moment discussions are ongoing with regulators to agree on a pragmatic approach to assess which improvements could be either implemented in CWE region first or directly in the CWE-CEE framework.
- Question from MPs: What are the main challenges of the CWE-CEE project in comparison to CWE FB MC experience?
- Project Answer: It can be said that main differences of the CWE-CEE project are of two kinds: the complexity of the decision process due to the large number of participants and the challenging timeframe to achieve the implementation.

Action CWE-CEE TSOs: Inform MPs by beginning 2017 on the interface proposed to involve MPs in CWE-CEE project issues.

II – CWE Consultative Group session

1 Review of last Flow-Based market results

Flow-Based market results

- CWE experts present the main TSOs conclusions that can be drawn after more than one year experience with Flow-Based (FB) methodology.
 - FB allows a more efficient determination of commercial transactions;
 - Net positions and CWE physical exchanges in general are more volatile under FB;
 - Prices better reflect the actual grid situation in a changing environment;
 - Steady improvement of price convergence ;
 - Resolution of the Adequacy issue in Euphemia version 9.4;
- Continuous improvements of Flow-Based capacity calculation process and methodology are foreseen in the coming years.
- Some MPs highlight that the indicators proposed do not provide a complete picture of how Flow-Based market coupling works. For instance, it is suggested to generate an indicator that would show the differences between the calculated flows and the actual flows. Considering that the participants have different views on this issue, it is proposed that MPs agree together on a new Flow-Based indicator and then share their proposition to CWE experts.
- Question from MPs: is it also possible to compare welfare distribution under Flow-Based (one year after go-live) with a similar welfare indicator for ATC (one year before go-live)?
- Project Answer: CWE experts will check the feasibility of such indicator and come back to MPs. Next to this, CWE experts advise MPs to coordinate together and propose a new Flow-Based indicator that could be included in the scope of the CWE Consultative Group presentation.

Action CWE Partners: Check the feasibility to compare welfare distribution under Flow-Based (one year after go-live) with a similar welfare indicator for ATC (one year before go-live)

Action Market Participants: agree on a new Flow-Based indicator and submit the proposition to CWE experts.

Comparison analysis between FB intuitive and FB plain

- CWE parties are currently performing an analysis to compare Flow-Based Intuitive and Flow-Based Plain methodologies. This study will cover various indicators and will specifically focus on the situations observed where significant discrepancies have been observed between the two methodologies. The study will be completed by the end of October 2016 and submitted to NRAs for approval. Based on NRAs' review, it should be decided to which extent the MPs are consulted on this matter. NRAs indicate there will be no changes without consultation.
- First highlights of the study outcomes are presented during the session: though FBI and FBP average price convergence levels are comparable, it has been noted that for some specific BDs the differences can be significant. Flow-Based methodology (plain or intuitive) can largely impact prices for delivery dates with stressed market conditions. Concerning welfare performance, Flow-Based plain provides in average better results compared to Flow-Based intuitive.
- MPs are asked to provide their position on Flow-Based Intuitive after one year experience with this methodology. This feedback will be included in the report provided to CWE NRAs:
 - Before going to conclusions, MPs would like to review the results of the study to provide a complete feedback: in particular, MPs would be interested to have insight on possible impact of the patch on the Intraday results and Euphemia performance.
 - However, given the period of observation with no extreme conditions observed, MPs cannot express specific preference between FBP and FBI
 - Some MPs warn against political issues that might arise with FBP in case of "counter-flows" between countries
 - MPs recommend CWE partners and NRAs to be cautious in their conclusions and possibly investigate the need for deeper analysis if the implications of a change in methodology are still unclear (for instance, the impact on the small bidding zones).

- Question from MPs: Does the activation of the intuitive patch affect the performance and process of the Flow-Based Capacity Calculation operation?
- Project Answer: The patch does not have a significant impact on the functioning of the Flow-Based capacity calculation.

Action CWE Partners: Include MPs feedback concerning Flow-Based Intuitive usage in the comparison report provided to CWE NRAs.

Flow-Based Day Ahead pre-congested capacities

- CWE TSOs have observed an increase of the number of empty FB DA domains in the winter period 2015-2016 which have led to LTA inclusion. Consequently TSOs have launched an analysis and an impact assessment analysis (SPAIC) to better understand the root causes of this issue.
- The initial TSOs analysis from 3 days shows that this issue is due to structural problems during the analyzed hours (network situation and location of generation) that can be mainly solved in the long run. The SPAIC analysis is currently being performed and should be completed by Q4 2016.
- Question from MPs: MPs are acknowledging that today, the trigger to launch costly and non-costly remedial action within the capacity calculation is when the initial domain is smaller than the long term domain. They are suggesting that a possible improvement in capacity calculation is to include RAs in the welfare optimization calculation. They ask if TSOs have the intention to do so?
- Project Answer: At this stage, this type of costs is not taken into account for the calculation of the welfare optimization.

Questions from MPs

- CWE experts present the answers to MPs' questions raised in preparation of the CWE Consultative Group meeting. CRE informs the participants that they are currently discussing with RTE some possible changes for the French External Constraints methodology. Market participants will be informed in case a change is applied.
- MPs stress that they have recently raised two questions (one from EDF and one from EFET) regarding Amprion's grid situation and publication concerning TSOs' internal lines outages. Since these questions were received shortly before the CCG, TSOs did not have the possibility to look into the questions in detail. Therefore, answers will be provided via the Q/A forum as soon as possible.

Action CWE Partners: Answer EDF (Amprion's grid situation) and EFET (publication on TSOs' internal lines) questions on the Q/A Forum.

2 Status on transparency framework within CWE region

Progress on pending transparency propositions

- TSOs further investigated the MPs request on transparency and are willing and able to provide the following information, in line with NRAs guidance:
 - Publish fixed or random labels immediately after the results are available
 - Provide a human readable translation table between fixed labels and human readable names for CBCO (already available via JAO website).
 - Detailed breakdown of RAM on Fmax, Fref, FRM and FAV after final computation. This information will be published with the next release of the FBCE in May 2017.
 - Publish extra information on RAs by providing CBCOs with all related details at 8:00. It should be noted that some information on RAs is already available on the Transparency platform.
- Any questions regarding the interpretation of the data disclosed will be collected from the Q/A Forum and answered on a structured basis in an annual report communicated through the CWE Consultative Group meetings.
- CWE TSOs explain German TSOs (Amprion, TransnetBW and Tennet GmbH) are still discussing the transparency request with their regulator. Therefore, CWE TSOs agreed on a step-wise approach for implementation:
 - RTE, Elia and Tennet BV will publish the elements as described as soon as they are available
 - Depending on the outcome of the discussion with the German regulator German TSOs will follow soon.
- MPs and associations welcome the publication of this data and underline that it is a great step forward in terms of transparency within CWE region. German TSOs are encouraged to follow the same direction as soon as possible.

- It should be noted that TSOs also agree to publish the aggregated D2CF data on TSO level as well on hub level (already available) through the so-called Utility Tool. Information will be made available from Q4 2016.
- Additionally, MPs would like to have access to more information on the topology configuration and nodes. MPs are invited to precise their request and submit their proposition to CWE partners for further analysis.

Action Market Participants: clarify the need of information concerning the TSOs' topology configuration and nodes and submit the proposition to CWE partners

Status on CACM obligations implementation

- In line with the work initiated between CWE and CEE region, CWE TSOs have submitted an "All TSO CCR proposal" for NRA approval, foreseeing at first separate regions for CWE and CEE that will merge after implementation of FB DA capacity calculation
- NRAs did not find an agreement on the all TSO CCR proposal and assigned the decision to ACER, according to European regulation. Pending ACER decision, CWE TSOs have already started to work on common activities with their CEE colleagues within the CWE-CEE project framework.

Q/A Forum status and developments

- After receiving MPs' feedback in last CWE Consultative Group meeting, it has been decided to implement a new functionality in the Q/A Forum in order to identify questions according to their level of priority (from level 1, highest level of priority, to 4, the lowest level or priority). The detailed guidelines of this tool are available in session file of the meeting.
- This new functionality will be implemented in the Q/A Forum by November 2016. In the meantime, CWE Partners encourage MPs to define a process to agree on the ranking of the questions. Once CWE experts receive confirmation on the level of priority, the status of the question will be changed to "confirmed".

3 NRAs' presentation: CCR proposal status update

- CWE NRAs present the latest status regarding the CCR decision approval process: since no agreement was found among all NRAs, the responsibility of the decision has been transferred to ACER. It is worth noticing that ACER can take a decision on basis of a two-thirds majority.
- ACER is currently in the consultation phase with TSOs and ENTSO-E members. The decision will be taken at latest on 17 November 2017.

4 Status on Intraday capacity calculation

Intraday developments in CWE

- CWE TSOs are close to completion of the step 2 of the conceptual phase, aiming at finalizing the methodology and preparing locally for phase 3 activities in terms of tools and organization. In the next phase, CWE TSOs intend to assess the robustness of the FB IDCC methodology thanks to several full business day computations.
- MPs requested a clear timeline towards the FB IDCC go-live, TSOs' objective is to deliver the FB ID CC approval package to CWE NRAs by Q1 2017. Next to the approval package, CWE TSOs will also submit to CWE NRAs an implementation planning of the CWE FB IDCC solution, including a target go-live date for version 1 of FB IDCC.

ID ATC after FBMC

- From 30 March 2016 on, the CWE TSOs have implemented a new process to allow the possibility to increase initial ID ATCs after FBMC for all CWE borders. Additional explanations on the process have been answered to the MPs or can be retrieved in the approval package & context paper published on JAO website.
- The statistical evaluation of ID ATC results for the period from April to July 2016 are presented during the meeting. Even though the additional capacities provided are not always fully used, MPs see this increase in capacity as a concrete improvement and option value for the market players.
- MPs suggest CWE TSOs to include an indicator evaluating the welfare progress observed with the new ID ATC process. Furthermore, MPs would appreciate to have a view on the amount of initial capacities allocated before the increase was applied.

- MPs indicate that they appreciated the organization of the *ad hoc* meeting with TSOs expert to further discuss and explain the intraday issues in CWE region. Besides, they recommend CWE TSOs adopt pedagogical approach to facilitate the understanding of the methodology implemented.

Action CWE TSOs: Investigate the possibility to add a welfare indicator and an assessment of the initial ID ATC capacities for the statistical table of ID ATC after FBMC process

5 Regional coupling situation

- Reminder from last CWE Consultative Group meeting: In the current situation, a technical issue of a PX outside CWE would lead to a full decoupling of CWE. The geographic extension of PCR/MRC tends to increase the risk of technical problems resulting in MRC decoupling. Therefore, CWE Participants proposed to introduce a regional coupling solution for CWE markets (plus BritNed) in case of a MRC full decoupling. The main objective is to keep the CWE region coupled in case such situations occur (technical issue outside CWE-BN).
- The CWE operational FB experts have been working since February 2016 on the implementation of the regional coupling solution: the operational procedures have been updated, IT systems are currently being adapted and 3 days of member tests are foreseen in week 46 before the go-live. CWE members confirm that they do not see any operational risk of implementing this solution.
- CWE Partners are now waiting for the formal bilateral approval of ILR (Luxembourg) and CRE (France) to confirm the go-live date of the new solution. CRE informs that they cannot guarantee that the approval will be completed in time for the implementation of the solution though they will make their best efforts not to delay the go-live date.
- After receiving more information on the context of implementation of the solution, H. ROBAYE would appreciate to receive MPs position on this topic.

6 Update on post Flow-Based Day-Ahead go-live NRAs deliverables

APG integration

- APG integration into CWE region is based on a 3 steps approach. The final step, known as “Full-Flow Based (CB)” is now almost complete: the achievement of the last integration step is foreseen for November 2016.
- In order to analyze the possible impact of the APG integration into CWE FB MC, APG has launched end of 2015 a default impact assessment for future changes” (1st SPAIC approach) presented at the CCG in November 2015. The objective of this analysis is to compare the current configuration (without APG CBs) with the future configuration (with APG CBs) in terms of FB Parameters and Market Coupling simulations.
- It should be noted that though the APG CB study was already launched and required significant efforts, the SPAIC methodology has been progressively developed from 10 to 12 representative days. Indeed, the last version of the SPAIC methodology has been validated in the last CCG meeting (30th March 2016).
- The results of the study indicate that APG CBs would have very limited impact on the CWE region:
 - Regarding FB parameters: for 9 out of 10 clusters (representative days), no APG CB was included in the presolved domain, i.e. input for market coupling simulations is identical with or without APG CBs. For the remaining cluster, one APG CB is included in the presolved domain in 5 hours.
 - Regarding Market Coupling simulations: For the remaining cluster, only 8 out of 28 days showed variations in the market coupling results. The results highlight that the impact on prices is limited, with few hours in which there is a difference and where the magnitude of the variation is small.
- Next to the publication of the APG CB study, a conference call meeting has been organized with MPs on August 1st to discuss and answer additional questions regarding APG integration process. In that light, APG accepted to calculate for one additional week the PTFs including APG CBs. The results will be soon published on JAO website.

Interconnector BeDeLux project status

- IC BeDeLux project members have decided to postpone the commercialization of the interconnector following the impact assessment analysis results (neutral impact on welfare, possible reduction of FB domain) and the increased operational complexity induced by this addition in the grid. Therefore, It has been decided to launch a technical trial phase to gain experience and assess if new changes (on constraints or PST taps) could be made in the future to allow its commercialization.
- Market Parties stress that it is quite difficult for them to understand the added value of this investment as it does not bring extra capacities for the market. CWE TSOs explain that the initial objective of this project is to improve the security of supply in Luxembourg, which is now the case with the technical implementation of the interconnector. CREG precises that the introduction of a new line always bring some added value, at least in terms of security of the grid.

LTCC improvements

- Following the workshop organized on January 20th and the feedback received in last CWE Consultative Group (March 30th), CWE TSOs have launched an experimentation to improve LTCC methodology. In particular, the following topics are being experimented:
 - LT capacity calculation: statistical approach & scenarios approach,
 - LT capacity allocation,
 - Harmonized splitting rules (monthly, yearly auctions).
- Based on the results, CWE TSOs should decide on developing a LT FB or NTC methodology for the future proposal on capacity calculation (to be submitted to NRAs) and will perform an experimentation regarding the allocation and harmonized splitting rules.
- The updated roadmap of LTCC leads to an approval of the final solution for the splitting rules, LTC Calculation and LTC Allocation in 2018, and an implementation of the changes in Q4 2018. Market Parties will be regularly informed of the progress achieved in the next CWE Consultative Group meetings, in particular concerning the possible impacts of the CCR decision. In the meantime, CWE LTCC experts will contact MPs by the end of the year to address questions on the concepts developed.
- Question from MPs: Does the FCA guideline foresee that TSOs should make a proposition in terms of level of splitting rules?
- Project Answer: The FCA request TSOs to propose splitting rules for the monthly and yearly auctions.

The next CWE Consultative Group meeting will be scheduled in Q1 2017. Market participants will be informed of the date and agenda of the meeting as soon as decided.

III – Status on Euphemia algorithm developments

Euphemia performance

- J. HOEKSEMA develops the PCR presentation that has been shared in the last Marker European Stakeholder Committee (MESCC)
- On 30th June 2016, PCR partners have organized a technical expert meeting with MPs to present latest progress on Euphemia performance and transparency indicators. MPs highlight that there are still waiting for a feedback concerning the questions raised during the meeting.
- PCR experts have observed a significant variations and seasonality in the number of submitted block orders over the past two years. However, the number of block orders is stable.
- With the inclusion of new members in the MRC scope, we observed important performance issues under Euphemia version 9.1. These problems reduced over time thanks to the improvements included in the next Euphemia versions. Nevertheless it must be noted that there are specific situations when the time to find a first solution for Euphemia was quite important.
- The number of PRBs (Paradoxically Rejected Blocks) has significantly dropped following the launch of Euphemia version 9.4 and the introduction of the PRB reinsertion functionality. The Max ΔP indicator illustrates at MRC level to which extent the orders are deep in-the-money. It is noted that PRBs can be very deep in the money due to Euphemia functioning or market resilience.

System upgrades

- New versions of Euphemia are regularly implemented to take into account the extension of MRC scope and the increasing number and complexities of the products that are used. The next version of Euphemia will be implemented in October 2016. It should include small improvements before the implementation of Euphemia 10, such as interface changes and bug fixes. More details will be made available to MPs in the release note.
- Euphemia version 10 will include a multi-threading functionality and should generally improve the robustness of the solution.
- In 2017, several improvements are foreseen in the PMB system, such as better support of multi NEMO bidding zones, more stability and scalability, and inclusion of different trading resolution.
- Question from MPs: Does the next version of Euphemia will provide the functionality to support situations with MNAs present in several hubs?
- Project Answer: This is not foreseen in Euphemia version 10 but the issue is considered by PCR partners.
- Question from MPs: Do you see any link between the intuitive patch activation and Euphemia performance.
- Project Answer: This topic should be analyzed in the framework of the FB Plain and FP Intuitive comparison study, however it can be assumed that the impact on Euphemia performance is rather limited.
- Question from MPs: Do you expect that the possible merger of CWE and CEE regions will bring additional complexities to Euphemia?
- Project Answer: Any extension requires an extensive testing period to analyze the possible impacts on IT systems. Therefore, CWE and CEE partners will have to prepare a dedicated test phase with PCR to ensure that all the particularities are taken into account. CWE and CEE TSOs have already initiated discussions to plan this work.

Publication PRBs

- Eurelectric recently asked for the publication of PRBs for each bidding zones. After thorough analysis of the request, PCR provided feedback that the decision to publish this information will be made by each PXs.
- EPEX informs that they already publish block order details for the DE and FR markets and will soon publish the same information for BE and NL markets. The information disclosed includes the block orders and their respective status.