

26/09/25

Future Power Markets Design Authority Update

ISSUE NO.24 | September 2025



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:

- SEMOpx Projects: MATS and DAM 30Min MTU
- Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)
- Energy Market Policy (EMP)
- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism



Future Arrangements for System Services

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.
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- The DASSA Parameters and Scalars Consultation closed on 25 July 2025, with 19 responses received. A Recommendations Paper is currently being drafted, with the intention to submit it to the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) in October 2025.
 - The DASSA Top-Up Mechanism Recommendations Paper has been submitted to the RAs. The corresponding SEMC decision is expected to be published in September 2025.
 - The Non-Reserves Consultation Paper has been drafted and shared with the RAs. Engagement and review by the Transmission System Operators (TSOs) and RAs are ongoing. Alignment between the RAs and TSOs on the proposed direction is required to progress implementation activities.
 - The Plain English Version 2 of the System Services Code was published on 27 June 2025, in line with PIR V3.0. EirGrid and SONI Working Group meetings will resume after the summer, following the publication of SEMC decisions.
 - The TSOs are progressing the IT vendor design, which will be finalised following receipt of the SEMC decision on Parameters and Scalars, expected in October 2025, as per PIR V3.0.

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.

SDP-02 Energy Storage Power Stations (ESPS)

- SDP-02 (ESPS) Go-live is scheduled for 11 November 2025. The Programme is progressing test execution in line with the delivery plan.
- Participant Interface Testing (PIT) preparation is ongoing, with direct engagement between the Programme and battery unit operators regarding test environment access.
- The 'ESPS Overview Document of SDP Solution for Battery Units V2.0' and the Market Participant Cutover Guide are being finalised in advance of sharing with market participants. SDP Programme will be hosting an information session with battery unit operators in October to discuss this material.

SDP-04 Wind Dispatch Improvements

- SDP-04 (WDI) go-live is scheduled for 26 November 2025. Test execution is progressing in line with the delivery plan.
- Further information on the SDP-04 initiative for market participants is being developed by the SDP Programme. No action is required from market participants to support the go-live of SDP-04.

SDP-01 Non-Priority Dispatch Renewables

- The Regulatory Authorities (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.
- A comprehensive planning activity will be required following a decision from the RAs on Mod 13_23. The timeline will reflect the time required to progress a broad range of activities to take place before the go-live, including market participant engagement, support and readiness activity. The TSOs estimate they will need a minimum of 6 months to complete these activities, to be confirmed during the planning activity.

SDP Tranche 2 Initiatives

- The TSOs and RAs are progressing T&SC modification Mod_01_25 related to SDP-06: Synchronous Condensers for presentation to the SEMC.
- The Programme is currently assessing the delivery schedule for Tranche 2.

Strategic Markets Programme

The Strategic Markets Programme (SMP) has been established by EirGrid and SONI to ensure that the necessary systems and processes are in place to deliver the following 3 pillars:

- EU Integration
- Post-Brexit Trading Arrangements and,
- Balancing Market Reform (BMR)

SMP team made the following statement regarding Celtic Interconnector's cable delay

- Adjustments have been required to the subsea marine cable manufacturing programme for the Celtic Interconnector project, and the commissioning date is now expected for Q2 2028. Impact on the SMP plan is currently being assessed.



SMP Programme Scope and Replanning Update

The Strategic Markets Programme (SMP) scope has been split into two main releases:

- Release 1: Scope items required to support the Celtic Interconnector and EU Integration.
- Release 2 / 2+: All remaining scope items not essential for the Celtic Interconnector go-live.

Key Considerations for SMP Replanning

- External Dependencies and Coordination; Programme Constraints; Internal Readiness and Financial Review

The replanning exercise will follow a staged approach, including:

- Alignment with RTE
- Agreement with Regulatory Authorities (RAs)
- Engagement with EU stakeholders

EU Integration

- Detailed requirements have been approved for both SDAC and SIDC.
- TCM changes have been identified, and drafting has commenced.

Balancing Market Reform

- MARI accession is progressing. Formal methodology on bid conversion for MARI sharing in draft.
- MNA T&SC modification in draft.
- DCU design discussions are ongoing.

SEM-GB Trading Arrangements

- MRLVC report submitted to NRAs.

SEMOpx Projects

The DAM 30Min Market Time Unit (MTU) Project in the SEM aims to:

- Ensure SEM ex-ante market trading can be performed in the same trading period duration as the imbalance settlement period
- Bring SEM trading in line with requirements set out in the Clean Energy Package
- Increase liquidity and more efficient trading for Market Participants

The Multiple Auction Trading System (MATS) Project aims to:

- Implement a trading system capable of adapting to users new and complex products introduced in SDAC and SIDC
- Allow for scalability and more flexibility within the order options available to users

DAM 30Min MTU:

- The Market Coupling Steering Committee has confirmed full readiness of all SDAC project parties ([link here](#))
- Go-live date: 30 September 2025, for delivery date 1 October 2025.

MATS:

- MATS is now live and has successfully replaced ETS.

SEMOpx:

- A SEMOpx Product Consultation Workshop with members is scheduled for 23 September 2025.

Additional Market Developments

Energy Market Policy

The Energy Market Policy team is responsible for the development, co-ordination and communication of positions regarding all aspects of market policy. The team works closely with key stakeholders at EU and national level to analyse the impact of key regulatory and legislative changes on SEM.

- Like other key stakeholders (e.g. TSOs and NRAs), EirGrid submitted detailed comments on the draft CACM 2.0 to the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) in July. These submissions were collated by the EU Commission.
- Due to the volume and complexity of feedback, the EU Commission has postponed the planned Energy Council meeting from September to late October. The comitology process is expected to take several months, and finalisation of CACM 2.0 may now extend into 2026, later than originally planned.
- EirGrid is a lead author of the Multi-Regional Loose Volume Coupling (MRLVC) Report, which has undergone review by Regulatory Authorities. The report has been submitted to the ENTSO-E Market Committee for approval and remains on track for submission to the Specialised Committee for Energy (EU Commission & DESNZ) in October.
- EirGrid is currently supporting the Regulatory Authorities ahead of an industry workshop on 29 September, focused on developing a Multi-Year Plan for markets.

Additional Market Developments

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is a key environmental policy initiative by the European Union aimed at addressing the issue of carbon leakage. CBAM looks to ensure that imported goods into the EU (including electricity) bear a carbon cost equivalent to that faced by EU producers under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). The legal basis for CBAM is Regulation (EU) 2023/956, complemented by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1773.

- CBAM financial obligations are due to take effect from 1st January 2026
- Amendments to CBAM legislation are being considered by European Commission, but there has been no indication if/when these amendments will be approved. The hope is that the amendments to CBAM will reduce CBAM financial obligations on electricity imports.
- Revenue have advised that EIDAC as the interconnector owner is the “importer” on EWIC and therefore EIDAC is responsible for CBAM on EWIC.
- EIDAC will register for CBAM and meet CBAM obligations.
- EIDAC are engaged with CRU in regard to cost recovery under its regulatory framework.
- No changes are planned to the IDA1 or IDA2 coupled markets to account for CBAM, as Revenue have specified the CBAM obligations are an Interconnector Owner responsibility.
- Other SEM-GB interconnectors will need to separately confirm their arrangements for CBAM.

Additional Market Developments

Long Duration Energy Storage

The TSO has responsibilities under Action 6 of DCEE's Electricity Policy Storage Framework (ESPF) in progressing an immediate procurement of LDES services. The TSO is currently focused on establishing a design of a procurement mechanism to procure services from LDES assets, and will consult on this through two consultations; a Procurement Mechanism consultation and a Contractual Arrangements consultation.

- Drafting of the LDES Procurement Mechanism consultation continues internally.
- Engagement with CRU continues throughout the drafting process
- Aim of end of September publication date

Upcoming Events

October Future Power Markets Industry Workshop

- **Event:** October Future Power Markets Industry Workshop
- **Date:** 14th October 2025
- **Venue:** Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge, Dublin
- **Time:** TBC
- As part of the workshop, the Future Power Markets Programme teams will be providing ‘**project showcase**’ style updates on specific areas of interest for industry.
- The aim of this session will be to provide industry with an opportunity to engage with Future Power Markets teams in more direct manner and enable greater two-way dialogue.
- By delivering the October workshop in this manner, we hope to be able to receive feedback from, and engage with, a wider segment of industry.
- **Note:** All material from the October workshop, including the regular Programme status updates and the project showcase presentations, will be published following the workshop.



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