

You have been joined in listen only mode with your camera turned off

Live captioning is available in Microsoft Teams

- Click on the 3 dots icon / 'More'
- Click 'Turn on live captions'

ESO Operational Transparency Forum
28 August 2024

Introduction | Sli.do code #OTF

To ask questions live & give us post event feedback go to Sli.do event code #OTF.

- **Ask your questions as early as possible** as our experts may need time to ensure a correct answer can be given live.
- **Please provide your name or organisation.** This is an operational forum for industry participants therefore questions from unidentified parties will not be answered live. If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum please use the advance question or email options below.
- **The OTF is not the place to challenge the actions of individual parties** (other than the ESO) and we will not comment on these challenges. This type of concern can be reported to the Market Monitoring team at: marketreporting@nationalgrideso.com
- **Questions will be answered in the upvoted order whenever possible.** We will take questions from further down the list when: the answer is not ready; we need to take the question away or the topic is outside of the scope of the OTF.
- **Sli.do will remain open until 12:00**, even when the call closes earlier, to provide the maximum opportunity for you to ask questions. After that please use the advance questions or email options below.
- **All questions will be recorded and published.** Questions which are not answered on the day will be included, with answers, in the slide pack for the next OTF.
- **Ask questions in advance** (before 12:00 on Monday) at: <https://forms.office.com/r/k0AEfKnai3>
- **Ask questions anytime** whether for inclusion in the forum or individual response at: box.NC.customer@nationalgrideso.com

Stay up to date on our webpage: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/OTF> (OTF Q&A is published with slidepacks)

Future deep dive / focus topics

Today

None

Future

Space Weather – September

Initial National Demand Outturn – TBC

If you have suggestions for future deep dives or focus topics please send them to us at:
box.NC.customer@nationalgrideso.com and we will consider including them in a future forum

Non-BM Reserve Implementation on Open Balancing Platform

If you missed our webinar on the proposed operation and interfaces for non-Balancing Mechanism providers of the new Quick and Slow Reserve services, you can watch a recording online.

 Watch here: bit.ly/3YJTTEX

Respond to our consultation by 10 September to help further develop the interface for these services.

 Fill in the feedback form: bit.ly/3YMRVE3

 Read more about our proposals in the events tab here: bit.ly/4dGlnzu

 Contact us with any questions you have here: box.futureofbalancingservices@nationalgrideso.com

C16 Additional Consultation 2024

We welcome industry's views on the proposed changes within our consultation.

*Standard Condition Licence C16 "**Procurement and use of balancing services**" sets out the obligation on the ESO to publish five statements addressing the procurement and use of balancing services. In accordance with C16 of its Transmission Licence, we are conducting an additional review of all licence statements, following proposed changes to the Procurement Guidelines, Balancing Principles Statement and ABSVD Statement.*

Our official consultation is open from the **02 August 2024**. Please respond by **5pm on 30 August 2024**.

Please find the consultation documents on our [C16 web page](#)

If you would like to receive notification of future C16 events, consultations and updates, then please sign up to our [mailing list](#).

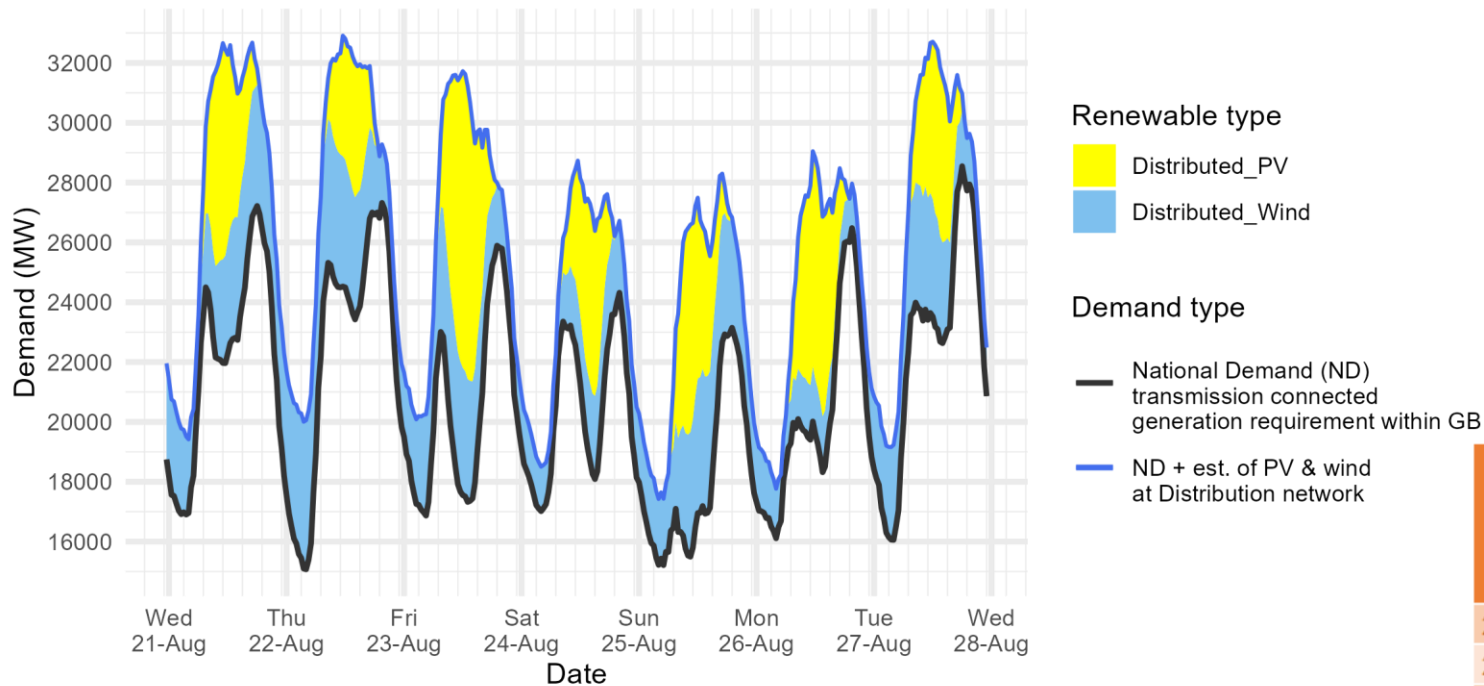
Any questions, please contact balancingservices@nationalgrideso.com

Future Event Summary

Event	Date & Time	Link
C16 Additional Consultation	2 nd August – 30 th August 2024	C16 webpage
Non-BM Reserve Implementation on Open Balancing Platform Consultation	10 th September 2024	Feedback form
2024 Revenue and Charging Forum – In person	17 th September 9:00-15:00	Register here
2024 Revenue and Charging Forum – Online	24 th September 9:00-15:00	Register here

Demand | Last week demand out-turn

ESO National Demand outturn 21-27 August 2024



The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.

ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which ESO has no real time data.

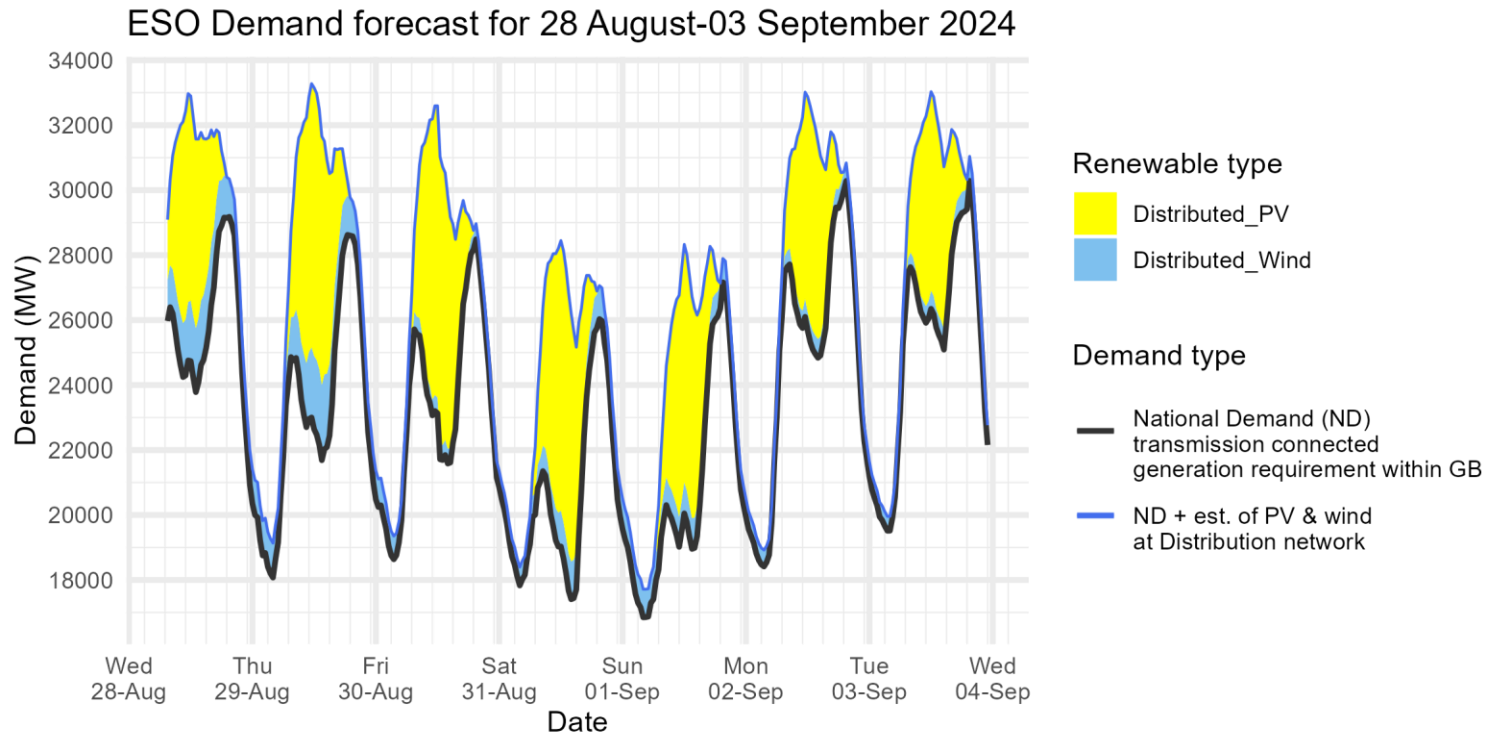
Historic out-turn data can be found on the [ESO Data Portal](#) in the following data sets: [Historic Demand Data](#) & [Demand Data Update](#)

Daily Maximums
Modelled distributed generation

Date	OUTTURN	
	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
21 Aug 2024	7.2	4.2
22 Aug 2024	4.5	5.0
23 Aug 2024	9.9	4.5
24 Aug 2024	6.0	3.0
25 Aug 2024	6.9	4.6
26 Aug 2024	7.4	2.3
27 Aug 2024	5.6	4.2

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 21 Aug)			OUTTURN		
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
21 Aug	Afternoon Min	23.1	4.0	4.6	22.6	3.9	6.1
22 Aug	Overnight Min	14.9	4.7	0.0	15.1	5.0	0.0
22 Aug	Afternoon Min	22.9	4.4	4.7	23.4	4.1	4.5
23 Aug	Overnight Min	16.5	3.1	0.0	16.9	3.4	0.0
23 Aug	Afternoon Min	18.6	4.0	7.9	17.3	4.1	9.8
24 Aug	Overnight Min	16.7	1.8	0.0	17.0	1.5	0.0
24 Aug	Afternoon Min	15.9	3.2	6.7	18.1	2.8	5.5
25 Aug	Overnight Min	15.2	2.2	0.0	15.2	2.2	0.0
25 Aug	Afternoon Min	16.3	2.9	7.5	16.9	4.6	4.8
26 Aug	Overnight Min	16.2	1.5	0.0	16.1	1.7	0.0
26 Aug	Afternoon Min	18.2	2.5	6.0	18.3	1.9	6.7
27 Aug	Overnight Min	16.2	2.4	0.0	16.1	3.2	0.0
27 Aug	Afternoon Min	22.7	2.5	5.7	22.6	3.4	5.5

Demand | Week Ahead



The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.

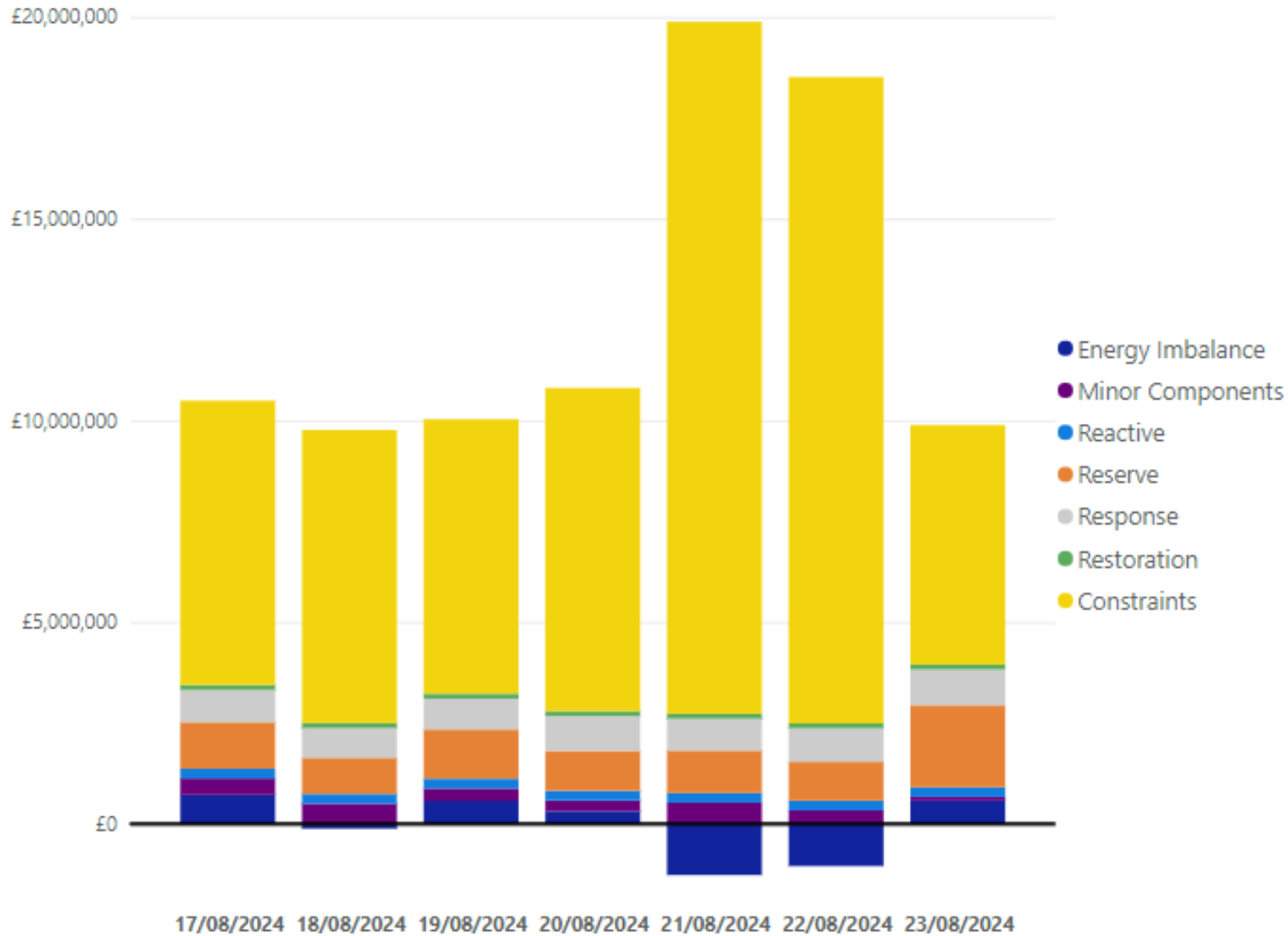
ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which ESO has no real time data.

Historic out-turn data can be found on the [ESO Data Portal](#) in the following data sets: [Historic Demand Data](#) & [Demand Data Update](#)

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 28 Aug)	
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
28 Aug 2024	Evening Peak	29.2	1.3
29 Aug 2024	Overnight Min	18.1	1.1
29 Aug 2024	Evening Peak	28.6	1.2
30 Aug 2024	Overnight Min	18.6	0.7
30 Aug 2024	Evening Peak	28.0	0.5
31 Aug 2024	Overnight Min	17.8	0.6
31 Aug 2024	Evening Peak	25.6	1.1
01 Sep 2024	Overnight Min	16.8	0.9
01 Sep 2024	Evening Peak	26.1	0.8
02 Sep 2024	Overnight Min	18.4	0.5
02 Sep 2024	Evening Peak	29.7	0.6
03 Sep 2024	Overnight Min	19.5	0.4
03 Sep 2024	Evening Peak	29.3	0.6

ESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown



£86.94M

Weekly Total

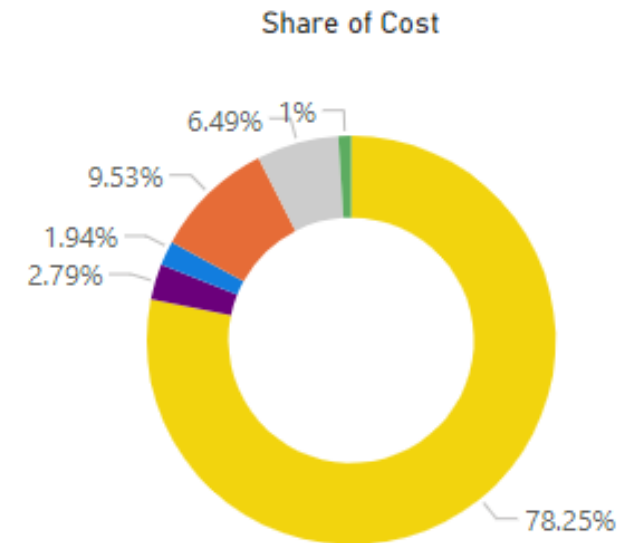
£68.70M

Previous Week Total

£7.63M

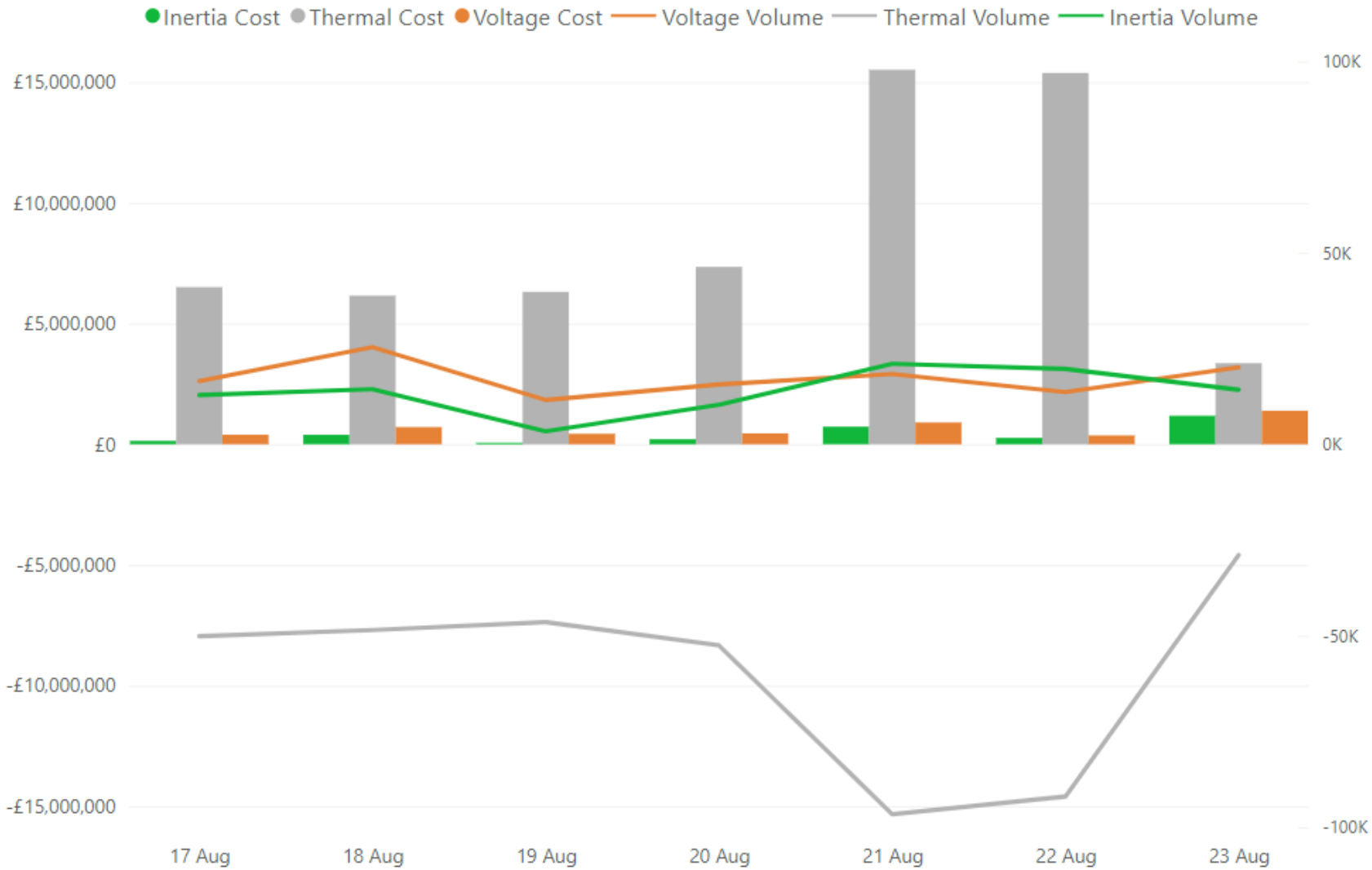
Past 30 Days Average

Date	Total (£)
17/08/2024	£10,492,018
18/08/2024	£9,646,623
19/08/2024	£10,031,145
20/08/2024	£10,806,196
21/08/2024	£18,615,610
22/08/2024	£17,466,370
23/08/2024	£9,886,493
Total	£86,944,456



ESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

Date: 17/08/2024 23/08/2024



£4.7M

Sum of Voltage Cost

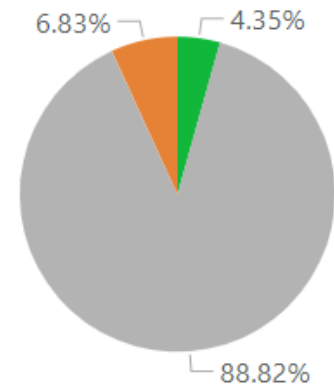
£3.0M

Sum of Inertia Cost

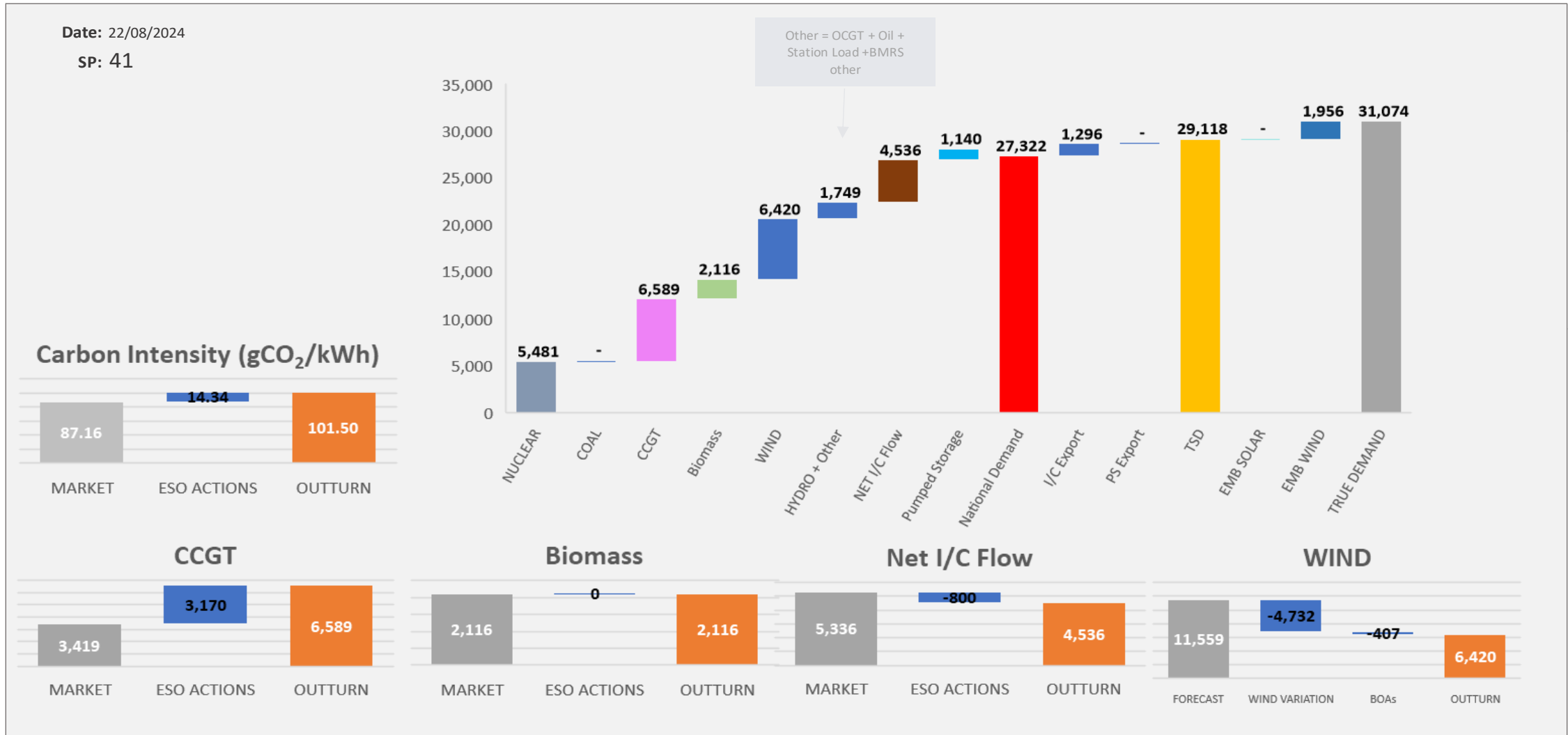
£60.6M

Sum of Thermal Cost

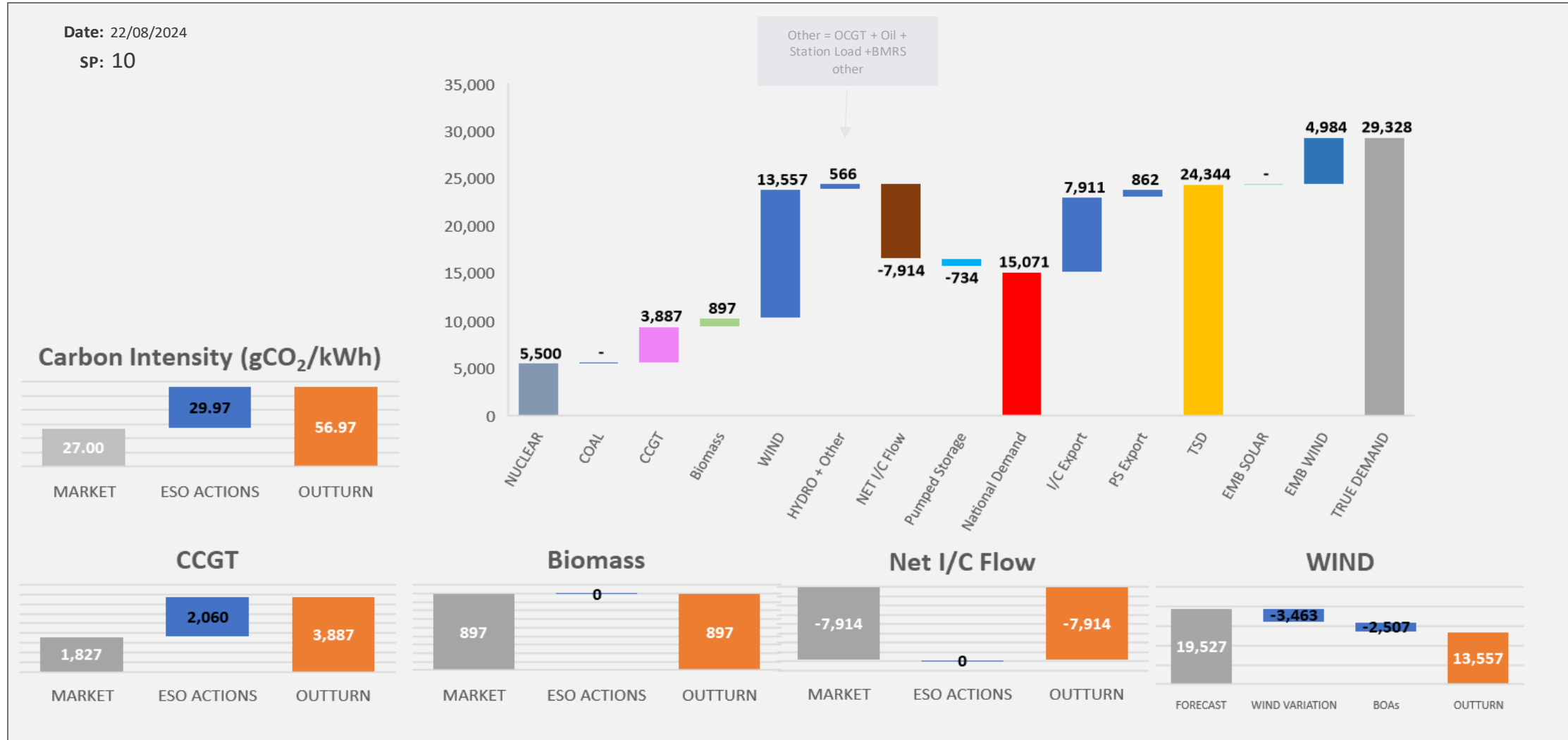
Share of cost



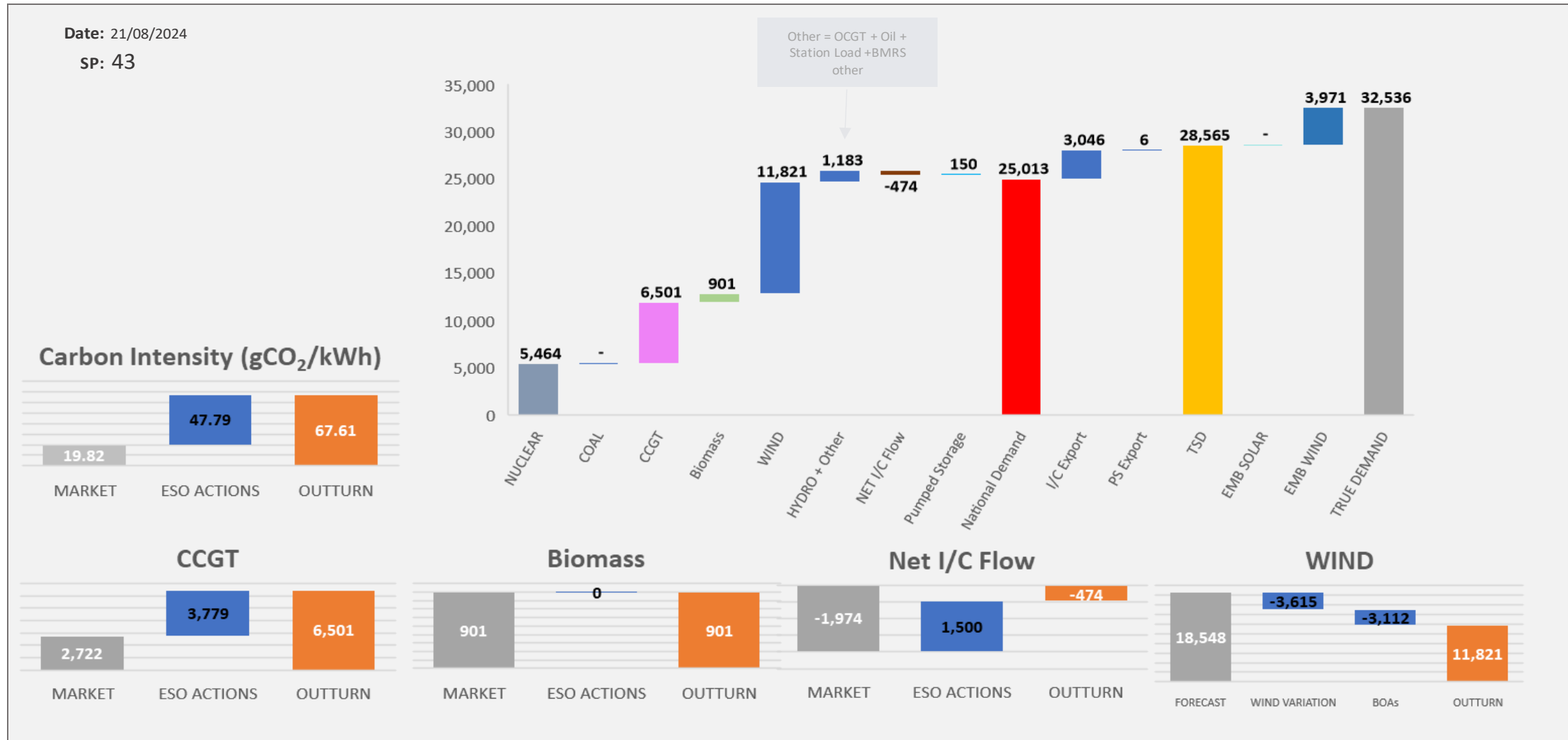
ESO Actions | Thursday 22nd August – Peak Demand – SP spend ~ £191k



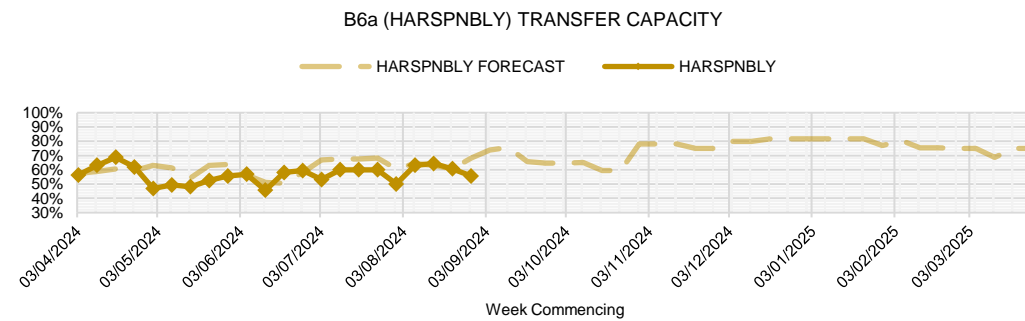
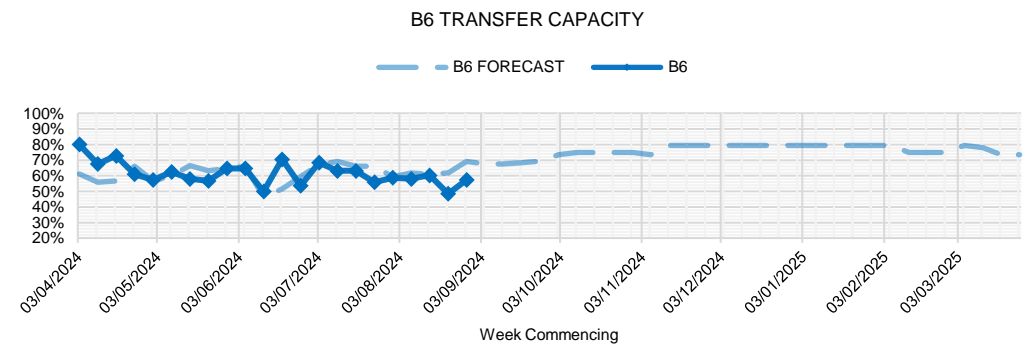
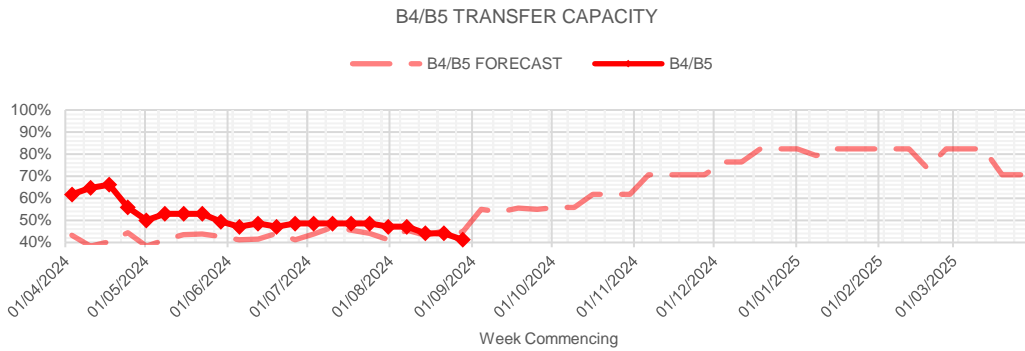
ESO Actions | Thursday 22nd August – Minimum Demand – SP Spend ~ £428k



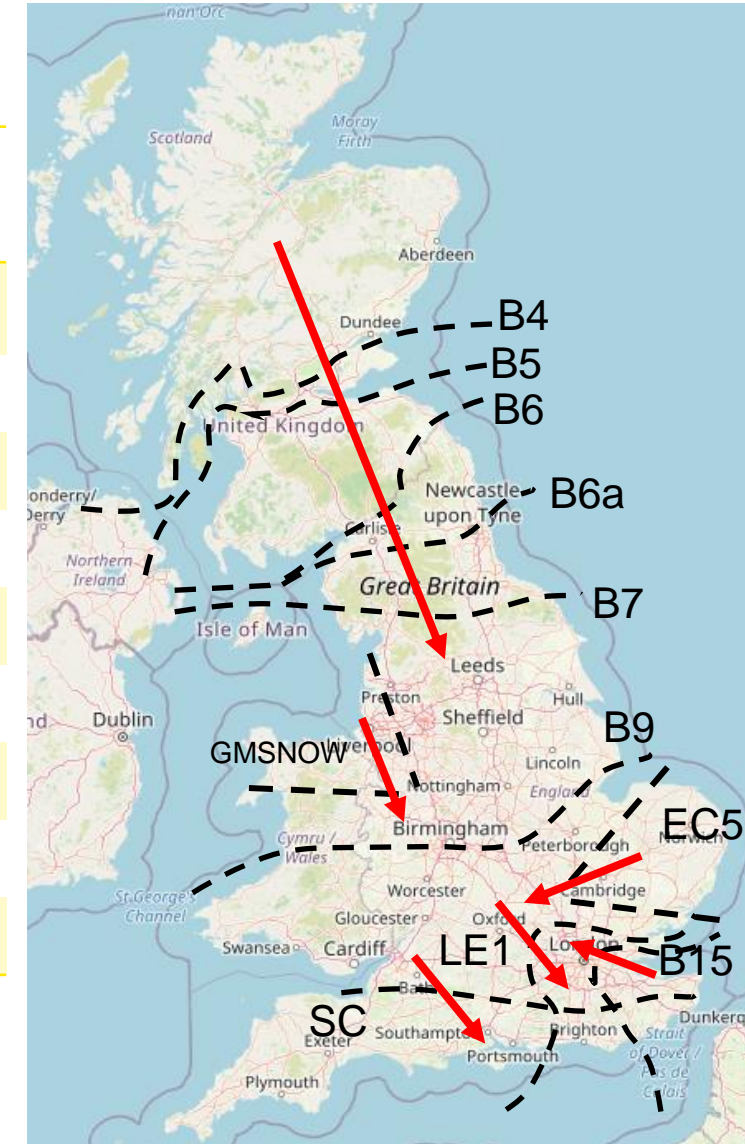
ESO Actions | Wednesday 21st August – Highest SP Spend ~ £653k



Transparency | Network Congestion



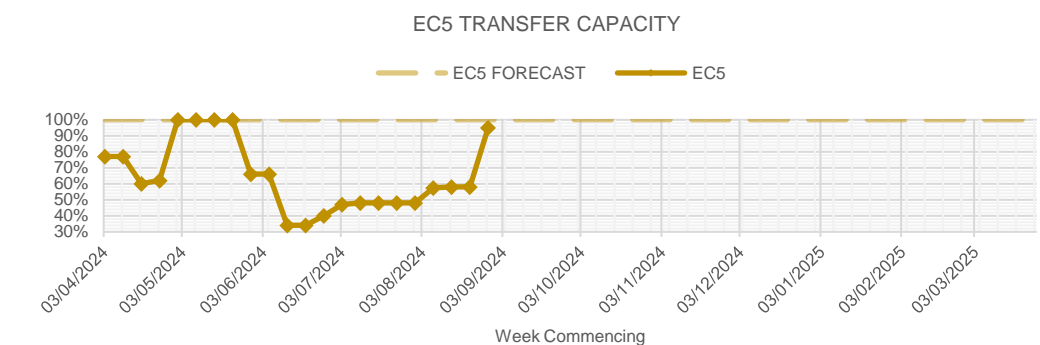
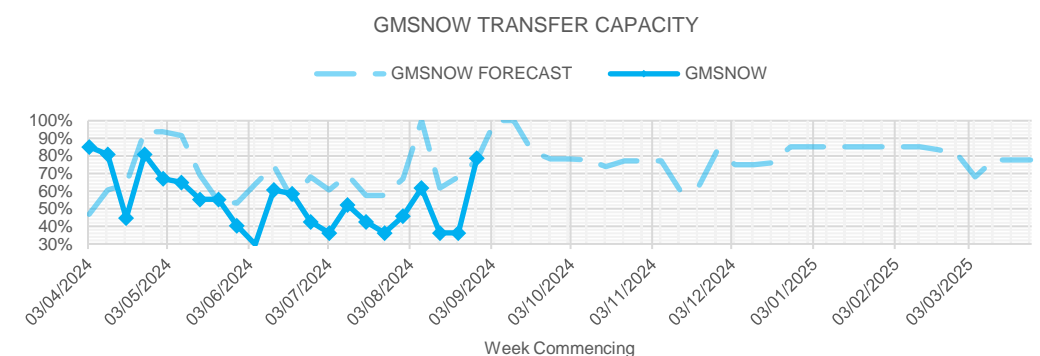
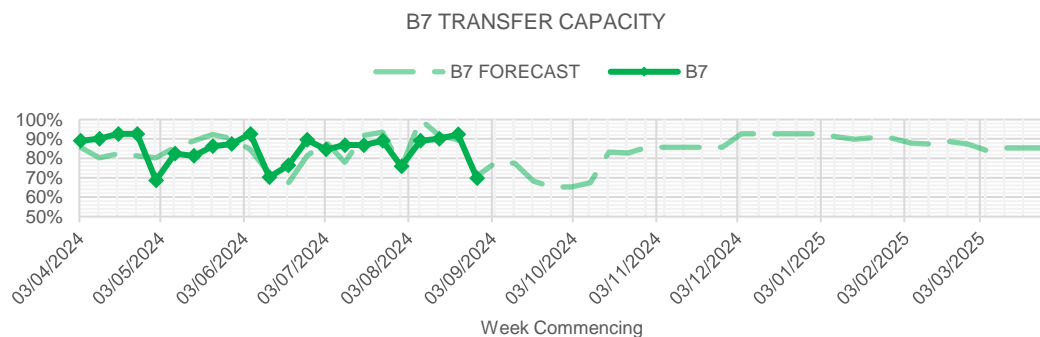
Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	41%
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	57%
HARSPNBLY	8000	56%
B7 (SSHARN)	8325	70%
GMSNOW	4700	79%
EC5	5000	95%
LE1 (SEIMP)	8500	62%
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73%
SC1	7300	100%



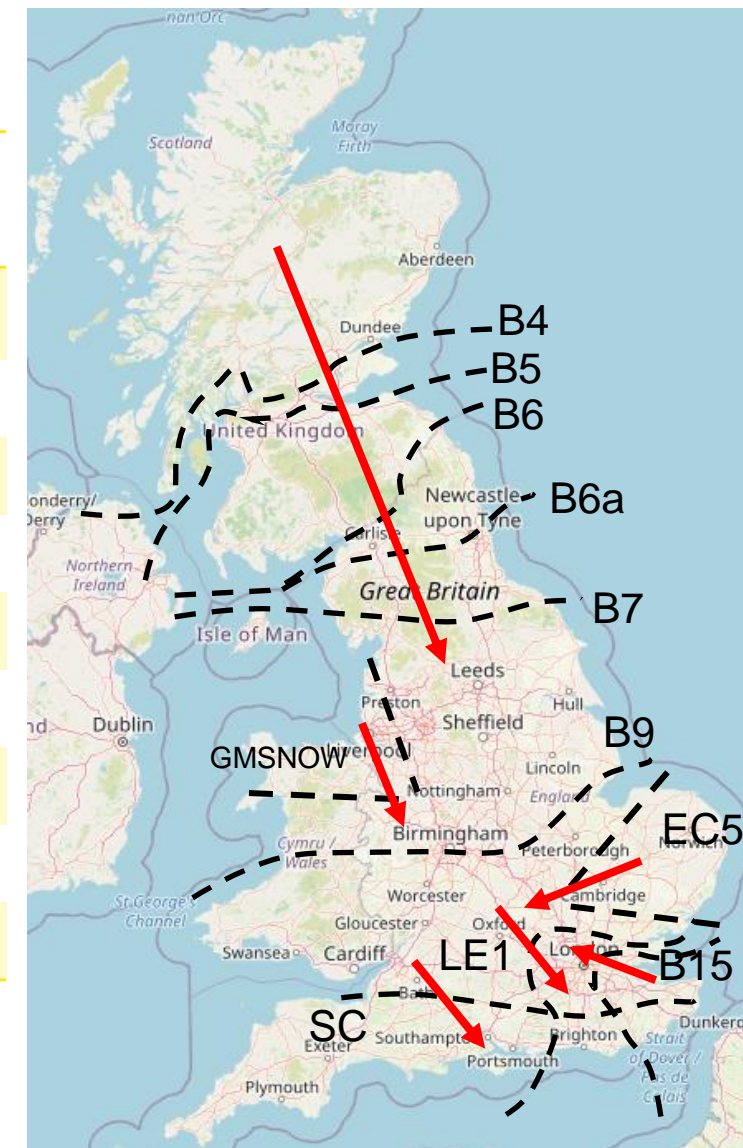
Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the ESO Data Portal: [Constraints Management](#)

(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes)

Transparency | Network Congestion



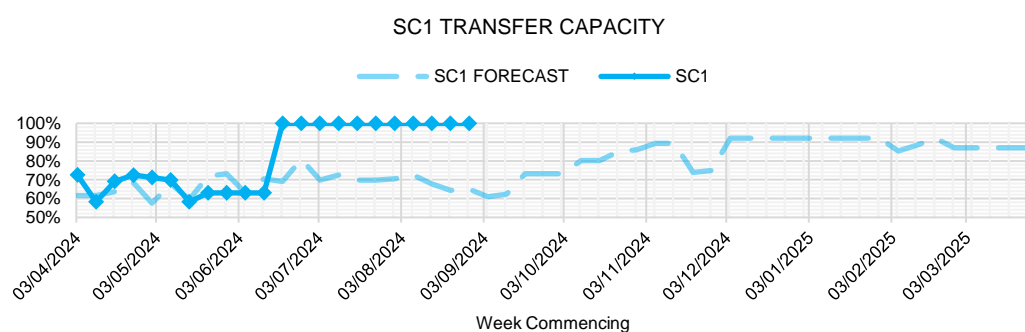
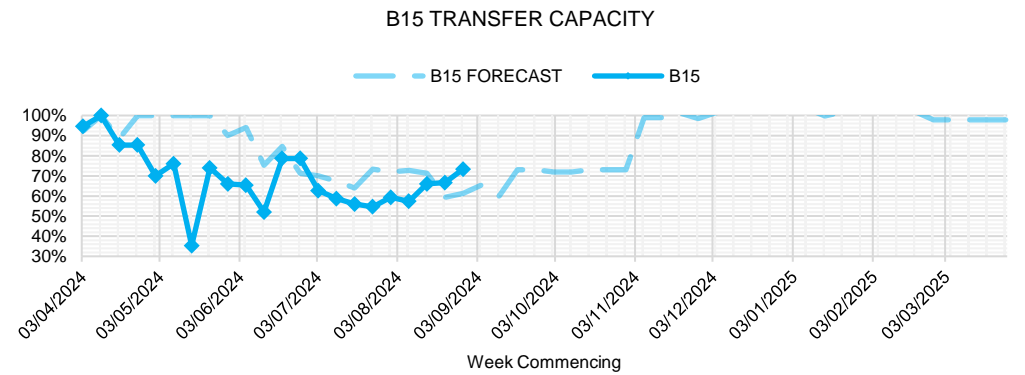
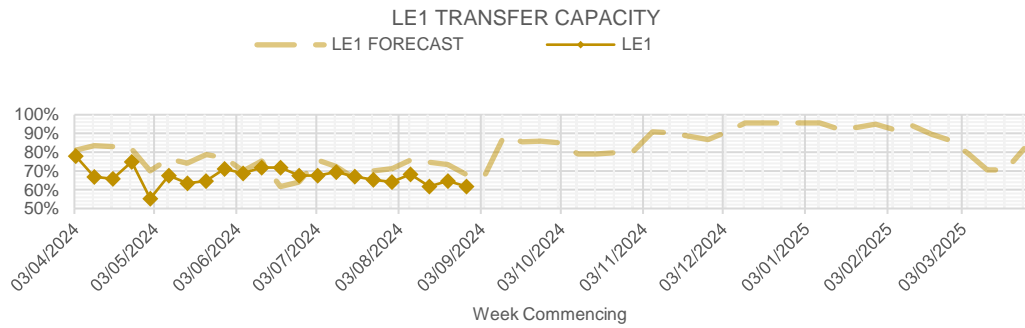
Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	41%
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	57%
HARSPNBLY	8000	56%
B7 (SSHARN)	8325	70%
GMSNOW	4700	79%
EC5	5000	95%
LE1 (SEIMP)	8500	62%
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73%
SC1	7300	100%



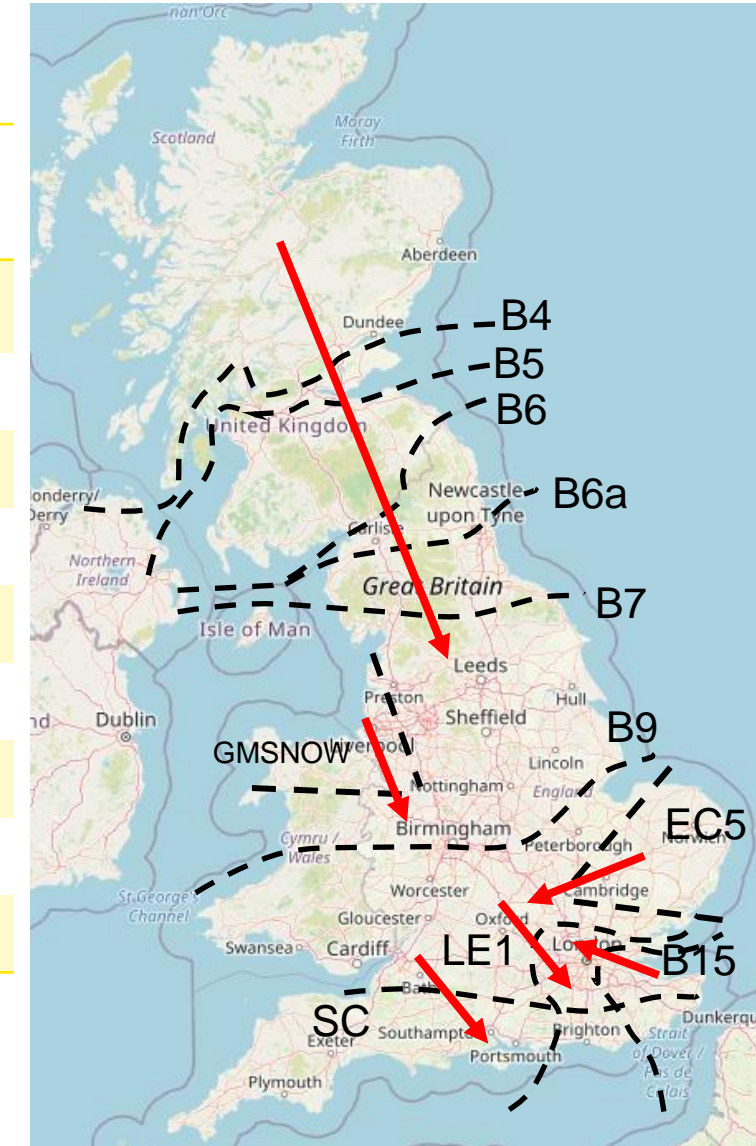
Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the ESO Data Portal: [Constraints Management](#)

(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes)

Transparency | Network Congestion



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	41%
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	57%
HARSPNBLY	8000	56%
B7 (SSHARN)	8325	70%
GMSNOW	4700	79%
EC5	5000	95%
LE1 (SEIMP)	8500	62%
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	73%
SC1	7300	100%



Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the ESO Data Portal: [Constraints Management](#)

(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes)

Previously Asked Questions

Q: On Friday 16th August gas peakers and OCGTs were utilised up to £186, while ignoring BESS priced at £100-130. Why were these assets utilised for a number of hours when priced 30-80% higher versus similar sized BESS assets? When will OBP utilise all assets together to ensure merit order utilisation?

A: Please contact us on box.NC.customer@nationalgrideso.com with specific BMUs and SPs and we will provide a more detailed answer in a future OTF.

For more information on dispatch transparency, please see this [dataset](#).

To answer the OBP question - OCGTs are not currently instructed via OBP but this functionality will be incorporated next year. For more information about OBP, please register for the Balancing Programme's mailing list to find out about upcoming events: <https://subscribers.nationalgrid.co.uk/h/d/2407957EE5DA5CD6>

Q: On 7th August SHOS-1&GRAI-8 were dropped on BM extensions despite offering the cheapest £/MWh of all CCGT's on the system. More expensive units were extended and offered up to MEL causing the cost to the consumer to be significantly higher than the if they had been kept on. Why were they dropped?

A: These units were not available to the control room at the time the decision was made, even if they look like a better option in hindsight. Specifically GRAI-8 was having technical issues and dropped its MEL to 0. SHOS-1 changed its price multiple times so was not the cheapest option at the time the decision was made. In taking this decision, we would have chosen the option that gave the lowest overall cost, rather than the cheaper price per MWh.

Previously Asked Questions

Q: Is there a risk that the ESO won't be ready to balance the grid without relying on coal fired generators by the current phase out deadline (October 2024)? Coal plants are still being instructed in the BM, mostly for inertia / margins reasons

A: We plan many months and years in advance. As set out in our Early View of Winter 2024/25, higher margins are expected this winter due to increased interconnector capacity, growth in battery storage capacity and the effects of increased generation connected to the distribution networks. This more than offsets plant retirement across the year. We will continue to meet the challenge of reliably operating a changing electricity system as new technologies, and diverse forms of capacity, contribute to security of supply.

Our full Winter Outlook for 2024/25 will be published this autumn, and we will provide further signposts about this at the OTF.

Please also see the [early view of Winter outlook deep dive](#).

Q: Could you consider making a deep dive on the challenges NGENSO faces on a day with very low inertia, and how the existing tools (e.g. frequency response services, OBP, etc) help keep overall costs down. If so, please point out the main pain points and potential improvements.

A: We have provided deep dives in previous OTF's that explain how decisions are made – specifically on a ['day in the life'](#) based on challenging days. We will consider whether a future deep dive on low inertia could expand on the information provided previously.

Q: What was the reasoning for requesting Emergency Assistance to decrease 50MW over an IC on the 14th?

A: ESO had traded to manage flows on the interconnectors in market/pre-gate timescales. Some of these trading counterparties failed to nominate resulting in higher flows than could be secured, therefore Emergency Assistance was required within/post-gate-closure to secure the flows near-to real-time.

Outstanding Questions

Q: Please can you provide some insight into the below scenario which occurred March 4th 2024.

We received this message:

“A request for Emergency Assistance has been agreed on a GB connected Interconnector. The requesting party was NGENSO. GB net flow will decrease by 716 MW between 12:50 04/03/2024 to 14:05 04/03/2024. Issued by Simon Williams at 12:45 on 04/03/2024.”

This action led to the system shortening by 716MW in SP27. Cashout has remained unchanged on Elexon Insights and those down-regulation actions never fed through post-event. Please can we have some clarity that if Emergency Assistance is used again in the future, we should expect the same outcome (no post-event trades being published)?

We are continuing to investigate this with our IT team and Elexon. We will maintain this as an outstanding question and publish a full answer when we have all the details.

Q: You've mentioned today a series of constraining on of CCGTs etc to support stability- can we understand patterns of operation occurring (two or three+ shifting?) could impact plant avail & reserve holding- is there need for long term signalling of stability needs to avoid this being excessive?

Reminder about answering questions at the ESO OTF

- **Questions from unidentified parties will not be answered live.** If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum please use the advance question or email options. Details in the appendix to the pack.
- **The OTF is not the place to challenge the actions of individual parties** (other than the ESO) and we will not comment on these challenges. This type of concern can be reported to the Market Monitoring team at: marketreporting@nationalgrideso.com
- **Questions will be answered in the upvoted order whenever possible.** We will take questions from further down the list when: the answer is not ready; we need to take the question away or the topic is outside of the scope of the OTF.
- **Slido will remain open until 12:00**, even when the call closes earlier, to provide the maximum opportunity for you to ask questions.
- **All questions will be recorded and published** All questions asked through Sli.do will be recorded and published, with answers, in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on the webpage: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/what-we-do/electricity-national-control-centre/operational-transparency-forum>
- **Takeaway questions** – these questions will be included in the pack for the next OTF, we may ask you to contact us by email in order to clarify or confirm details for the question.
- **Out of scope questions** will be forwarded to the appropriate ESO expert or team for a direct response. We may ask you to contact us by email to ensure we have the correct contact details for the response. These questions will not be managed through the OTF, and we are unable to forward questions without correct contact details. Information about the OTF purpose and scope can be found in the appendix of this slide pack

slido

Audience Q&A

ⓘ Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

Feedback

Please remember to use the feedback poll in sli.do after the event.

We welcome feedback to understand what we are doing well and how we can improve the event for the future.

If you have any questions after the event, please contact the following email address:
box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com

Publicly available

Appendix

Participation in the Operational Transparency Forum

Thank you to everyone who participates in the OTF, whether you join weekly, monthly, on specific occasions or follow up with the webinar recordings and published slides. We hear from participant feedback and our ESO colleagues that all of us value the opportunity to share information, ask questions and share the answers.

One of the reasons this format works so well is the professional courtesy we see demonstrated every week.

However, in recent weeks there have been some Slido questions and comments in the Q&A session directed at specific market participants suggesting their actions are not appropriate. This is concerning because:

- The statements are being made in a public forum without the opportunity to reply
- The negative comments may impact these businesses directly, or indirectly e.g.: through social media, etc.
- The individuals asking questions could not be traced using the details provided in Slido

The OTF is not the place to challenge the actions of individual parties (other than the ESO) and we will not comment on these challenges. This type of concern can be reported to the Market Monitoring team at:

marketreporting@nationalgrideso.com

Remember, if you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, or have concerns your question may not be one to ask in public, you can use the advance questions or email options.

Purpose and scope of the ESO Operational Transparency Forum

Purpose

The Operational Transparency Forum runs once a week to provide updated information on and insight into the operational challenges faced by the control room in the recent past (1-2 weeks) and short term future (1-2 weeks). The OTF will also signpost other ESO events, provide deep dives into focus topics, and allow industry to ask questions.

Scope

Aligns with purpose, see examples below:

In Scope of OTF

Material presented i.e.: regular content, deep dives, focus topics
ESO operational approach & challenges
ESO published data

Out of Scope of OTF

Data owned and/or published by other parties
e.g.: BMRS is published by Elexon
Processes including consultations operated by other parties e.g.: Elexon, Ofgem, DESNZ
Data owned by other parties
Details of ESO Control Room actions & decision making
Activities & operations of particular market participants
ESO policy & strategic decision making
Formal consultations e.g.: Code Changes, Business Planning, Market development

Managing questions at the ESO Operational Transparency Forum

- OTF participants can ask questions in the following ways:
 - Live via Slido code #OTF
 - In advance (before 12:00 on Monday) at <https://forms.office.com/r/k0AEfKnai3>
 - At any time to box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com
- **All questions asked through Sli.do** will be recorded and published, with answers, in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on the webpage: [Operational Transparency Forum | ESO \(nationalgrideso.com\)](#)
- **Advance questions** will be included, with answers, in the slide pack for the next OTF and published in the OTF Q&A as above.
- **Email questions** which specifically request inclusion in the OTF will be treated as Advance questions, otherwise we will only reply direct to the sender.
- **Takeaway questions** – we may ask you to contact us by email in order to clarify or confirm details for the question.
- **Out of scope questions** will be forwarded to the appropriate ESO expert or team for a direct response. We may ask you to contact us by email to ensure we have the correct contact details for the response. These questions will not be managed through the OTF, and we are unable to forward questions without correct contact details. Information about the OTF purpose and scope can be found in the appendix of this slide pack

NESO Information Request Statement

The Energy Act 2023 and the power to request information.

Section 172 of The Energy Act 2023 provides NESO, as the Independent System Operator and Planner, with the power to require information, from anyone carrying out a relevant activity, to allow it to carry out any of its functions. This power will come into effect once NESO is operational.

In advance of this we are consulting on what the Information Request Statement will contain and what an Information Request issued by NESO may look like.

The Information Request Statement and Notice.

The Statement will be available on our website and will contain sections on why a request has been issued, the process of responding to a request, what happens if a recipient does not provide the information and how we will manage any data provided. A draft template of an Information Request Notice is also shared on our website.

The Consultation

We are running a consultation from **May 3rd to May 31st** which can be found at <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/what-we-do/how-we-operate/information-request-statement-consultation> and would welcome feedback from across industry to make sure we develop a statement which is clear and accessible.

Following the consultation period Ofgem will determine if the draft Statement is approved or if any changes are necessary.