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8th December 2020

Approval of Dynamic Containment (DC), Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) and the Balancing Mechanism (BM) EBGL Article 26 Consultation Response

Dear Alastair,

Following the close of public consultation for DC, STOR and the BM on 30th November 2020, please find the consultation responses and respective National Grid ESO comments in Annex 1. In total we have received 5 consultation responses and have addressed each of these individually.

As discussed with Ofgem, it was agreed in order to maximise efficiency that NGESO would combine the proposals pursuant to Article 26 of the COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2195 into one submission, but in two parts running concurrently:

- 1) Dynamic Containment (DC)
- 2) Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) and the Balancing Mechanism (BM)

For this reason, the public consultation for DC, STOR and the BM in line with Article 10 of the COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2195 were run concurrently between 28th October and 30th November 2020. During this period NGESO also engaged with industry.

Following the consultation for DC, no changes have been made to the consulted version of the Article 26 document for Dynamic Containment.

- 4 out of 5 responses supported the inclusion of Dynamic Containment as a specific balancing product
- 1 response did not support Dynamic Containment being a specific balancing product outlining reasons
 regarding synthetic inertia not being a replacement for real inertia. NGESO do not believe that these
 reasons preclude DC from being included as a specific product. NGESO has an obligation to maintain
 the system in a secure and safe way and as such, we must have balancing products that allow us to
 manage frequency (and by extension, system inertia).

Following the consultation for STOR and the BM, no changes have been made to the consulted version of the Article 26 document for STOR and the BM.

• 1 response stated that the products should be kept separate as they address different system issues.

- 1 response did not support STOR being used as a specific balancing product as they felt the BM, Margin Notices and DC should be sufficient for managing the largest loss.
- 1 response supports the BM and STOR being specific balancing products, but outlines some queries around the merit order of actions.
- 2 responses made no comment in relation to the BM and STOR.

As per Article 6, paragraph 1 of COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2195, we look forward to receiving your reply by the 8th February 2021. Please feel free to reach out if any questions arise.

Yours sincerely Mark Herring Code Change Senior Manager

Annex 1: EBGL Article 18 DC, STOR and the BM consultation response summary

Table 1 - Summary of responses and key themes from the consultation responses and NGESO comments. For responses provided on the official template we have only included the specific questions the provider responded to, all other questions should be assumed as "no comment" from the provider.

Respondent	Question	Response	NGESO Comments
Respondent Storelectric Ltd	Q1. DC:Do you agreeNo.with our proposal to introduce DC for Balancing?Dynamic containm (EFR was another)	No. Dynamic containment is a variety of synthetic inertia (EFR was another such variety.)	Whilst DC and EFR may be considered by some to be forms of "synthetic inertia" this does not preclude their definition or use as specific products for balancing.
		The actual cause of the black-outs 9th August 2019 was an over-reliance on synthetic inertia and an under-reliance on real inertia. Synthetic inertia is an ultra-fast response time. Any response time whatsoever is a spike or RoCoF event. It was that spike/event that turned a couple of initial failures into a nationwide cascade of trips. For more details,	Ofgem, the ESO and the Energy Emergencies Executive (E3C) have all published detailed reports into the causes of and lessons from the power cut of August 9th 2019. These reports and further information can be found on the ESO website <u>here</u> .
		please see the appended document Lessons for Europe from the UK Blackouts.	Action 5 from the E3C report states: The ESO, in consultation with industry, should undertake a review of the SQSS requirements for holding
		Synthetic inertia is great for recovering from failure, but not for preventing it in the first place: real inertia is needed for that. And while re-setting breakers to	reserve, response and system inertia. This review resulted in the SQSS modification proposal GSR027 found <u>here</u> .
		greater tolerance levels may reduce that cascade of subsequent trips but does so at the risk of letting harmful RoCoF events flow into customers' premises and equipment – and is therefore not a good solution.	We operate one of the safest and most resilient power networks in the world and, while we fully recognise the disruption that the outage caused, we are pleased the reports from Ofgem and E3C confirm there is no link between our actions and the power cuts and our systems performed as they should.
			We appreciate your comments regarding the issues surrounding real and synthetic inertia. Article 26 covers why specific products are needed where standard products are not sufficient. We would be happy to engage on this topic in a separate discussion.

Q2. <u>STOR & BM</u> : Do you agree with our updated proposal to include STOR and the BM as specific products for Balancing?	STOR and BM need to be kept separate from Dynamic Containment as they address totally different system needs	The products will indeed be kept separate for operational purposes, however they have been grouped together in this regulatory submission to reduce the number of consultations at the request of OFGEM.
Q3. DC, STOR & BM: Do you have any other comments on the proposal?	 More focus should be given to ways of enabling the construction of zero-carbon inertial storage and generation, for example: Let contracts based on a matrix of services, which ensures that each plant can build its revenue stack in full without having to add on margin to the bids of each individual contract, in case the stack is only partially won; Let these contracts for long durations in relation to the amortisation life of the plant, e.g. 15 years – one possibility is a CfD geared towards balancing, ancillary and stability services rather than energy trading; Let these contracts long enough in advance to give time for new plants to be built, including new transmission grid connections, or the system would be fossilised on its 1950s-1960s layout instead of evolving in shape for 21st century needs 0 an alternative to such extended lead times would be a requirement on the System Operator to construct grid connections within the construction lead time of the plant. Unless all this is done, the energy transition will yield very high costs (grid reinforcement, operational and trading) together with reducing reliability and resilience. There are other regulatory and contract-structure actions that would reduce the cost of a Net Zero grid (and of the transition between now and then), while restoring and maintaining the grid's reliability and resilience. And very simple further actions can encourage first-of-a-kind plants of new technologies 	Thank you for sharing these thoughts. While they may not be directly related to the purpose of this consultation (i.e. the validity or otherwise of defining DC, STOR or BM as specific products), they are relevant to other ESO activities. We can keep them in mind, and encourage you to continue engaging across various ESO activities as we work towards a zero carbon future.

		onto the grid without need for any subsidy or increased costs. I would be happy to discuss all these matters in detail.	
The Association of Decentralised Energy	Q1. <u>DC</u> : Do you agree with our proposal to introduce DC for Balancing?	Yes.	The ADE has been a helpful and constructive partner in the creation of the DC service and the ESO is pleased to see that they share our view that DC should exist as a specific balancing service.
(ADE)	Q3. <u>DC, STOR & BM:</u> Do you have any other comments on the proposal?	Yes. While the ADE supports the proposal to introduce a Dynamic Containment product, we believe that the current service design goes against the spirit of EBGL's emphasis on ensuring equal market access for aggregators.	The ESO made great efforts, via the 'soft launch' process and various transitional arrangements to maximise participation in the DC service. We welcome the ADE's acknowledgement of these efforts and their contribution to their design.
		The ADE would like to acknowledge that NGESO has made a clear effort to engage on the service design over the past six months and has taken providers' comments into account on a number of parameters during the 'soft launch' phase, particularly around the need to be able to aggregate over a wider geographical area than GSP. We look forward to continuing this engagement, including on baselining and on how to provide more certainty of location without introducing overly restrictive locational requirements. We tackle these topics in turn below.	The detail ADE have provided in this section are valid comments, critiques and suggestions for the development of DC but do not relate directly to the purpose of the A26 consultation (ADE has already agreed to the proposal for DC in answer to section 1 above). For this reason we will not provide detailed response to these suggestions in this forum. The ADE and other stakeholders should take note that these topics (baselines, locationality, performance monitoring) are all key topics for consideration in the ongoing development of DC.
		Baselining The current requirement to submit a baseline an hour ahead of service delivery prevents a large volume of assets capable of providing the service from entering the market. This is unjustified, as there are other, less restrictive ways of addressing the needs that the requirement seeks to meet.	Separate to this consultation the ESO and ADE have had a number of bilateral calls and meetings to discuss these topics in detail. This engagement will continue during the soft launch and before any changes to transitional arrangements.
		The only assets suited to providing the DC service that could provide a baseline an hour ahead of	

	service delivery without risk of it changing would be a standalone battery not entered into any other service and not being used for self-consumption and, potentially, interconnectors. If providers using any other asset are forced to submit baselines an hour in advance of real-time, the number will tend to be incorrect.	
	Baselining requirements should therefore be scoped so that they are suitable for the variety of different assets and portfolios that can provide the service.	
	While providing much closer to real-time baselines is one option, NGESO have expressed concern with this approach. The ADE therefore suggests that, instead, derived data flows be used to enable participation in Dynamic Containment by non- dedicated assets.	
	This approach would involve using a derived measurement for the real-time response signal for a non-dedicated resource in Dynamic Containment, rather than predictions and measurements of raw demand or output. This allows the ESO to continue to use the baseline submitted for three purposes - to validate service delivery, to allow visibility for system planning and to facilitate energy limited providers with their state of energy management and avoid issues around herding – but avoids the issue discussed above, where many providers are unable to submit a sufficiently accurate baseline an hour ahead of real time.	
	The baseline would provide values only on DC- related activity (DC provision and recharge/discharge), to be assessed against the filtered real-time measure. For example, for a demand asset running at a specified demand level that would have been the case regardless of DC, the submitted baseline would be 0MW for this asset (one hour in advance). Any power change related to DC outside of response (e.g. for state of charge	

	management or otherwise) would be indicated through the baseline. The response signal would be derived from the active power change directly related to a DC event and passed in real-time to the ESO.	
	In some cases, it may be possible to derive this measurement from multiple meters, but in general it will only be available from the control system. For a renewable generator, for example, it will be the Power Available signal, whereas for an asset like an EV charger, it will be a 'Power Requested' signal. A baseline would be provided to the ESO an hour ahead of real-time, with a filtered signal sent in real- time to demonstrate service delivery.	
	Given that this signal will often be derived from virtual metering, checks are necessary to avoid the possibility of gaming. These checks could involve first taking the physical metering data and comparing it to the virtual metering signal – the sum of the signals should add up to the physical metering data. This could be followed by checking that the difference between the derived DC signal and the metered volumes – i.e. the 'everything that is not DC' signal – is not dependent on the expected DC response. Statistical measures should be used, therefore, to check that these two variables are not negatively correlated.	
	Both of these checks could either be undertaken by an Independent Technical Expert, who would periodically conduct checks and certify that a provider's signal is valid by examining both the data and the control logic implemented by the provider, or the data streams necessary for such checks could be sent to the ESO routinely.	
	Locationality	
	The ADE welcomes the ESO's decision to move the locational boundary for aggregation of assets from GSP to GSP group for the soft launch of the Dynamic	

	Containment product. We would encourage the ESO to maintain this approach indefinitely.	
	We note the ESO's statement that, if this is to be achieved, the ESO would need access to sufficiently granular locational information to understand and address any issues that may arise.	
	To achieve this, the ADE proposes that the ESO procure DC at GSP group, then inject any constraints at GSP into the clearing algorithm and select or reject offers accordingly. To give the ESO sufficient locational information to do this, the following conditions should be put in place: • Providers must tell the ESO which GSP the asset is connected to	
	 Each asset must be metered at GSP, and provider must specify which GSP it is metered at Providers must accept that the ESO would be sometimes unable to accept an entire aggregated portfolio Providers would be responsible for adjusting their pertfolio to anour that the rest of it 	
	 could still deliver in cases where an asset was not accepted – this would be verified via Performance Monitoring The ESO must be transparent about their reasons for skipping or tagging assets and portfolios The ESO could publish the volumes sough in each GSP group ahead of day-ahead procurement 	
	To manage scenarios where a constraint develops after the DC auction has closed, the ESO can currently move generation around on the system via the BM to ensure that DC assets in constrained areas are available to deliver the service.	
	While this is a valid approach in the short-term, the ADE would encourage the ESO to develop an	

		intraday DC market, with providers who did not win a contract in the daily auction able to enter and offer to provide the service at short notice. These providers would need to submit sufficiently detailed locational information to allow the ESO to know which assets to select.	
		The ADE would also welcome other changes to support aggregation of smaller units and allow them to participate in the new suite of frequency products, such as the reduction of the minimum capacity threshold, permission for part-MW units to be paid for their total response to one decimal point (e.g. 2.3MW).	
		Finally, the ADE would note the need to update the Performance Monitoring formula for DC. We would also welcome a review of the DC Testing Guidance after the end of the soft launch phase to make it more efficient for providers.	
Centrica	Q1. <u>DC</u> : Do you agree with our proposal to introduce DC for Balancing?	Yes.	NGESO thank you for your response.
	Q3. <u>DC, STOR & BM:</u> Do you have any other comments on the proposal?	During the consultation on the DC service terms that closed on 21st September 2020, Centrica brought several elements to the attention of National Grid ESO, in particular regarding the rules around aggregation and baselining. Since then, Centrica has been and still is engaged in discussions with NG ESO and the entire industry in order to identify workable solutions to these key concerns. Indeed, some improvements in the product design and service terms still need to be secured or unlocked in order to allow for the full potential of eligible assets to take part to the product in the coming months and years, and in particular non-DC dedicated embedded assets at residential level.	NGESO thank you for taking the time to provide feedback. Centrica's engagement in discussions regarding the rules around aggregation and baselining has been helpful and constructive. NGESO look forward to continuing these discussions and working with you in the future.

		Content-wise, Centrica is fully aligned with the summary of the discussion points provided by the ADE in the context of this consultation. At this stage, Centrica therefore does not have any new comment on the DC product to bring to the table and will therefore continue to engage in the constructive process between NG ESO and the industry.	
Flexible Generation Group (FGG)	Q1. <u>DC</u> : Do you agree with our proposal to introduce DC for Balancing?	It is unfortunate that NGESO is consulting after the introduction of DC, but we do support its use as a balancing product.	NGESO appreciate the timing of the consultation is not following the normal precedent. For Dynamic Containment, there was a need to launch a new Frequency Response product in very short timescales. We were in close discussion with OFGEM throughout this period when it came to light that an Article 26 submission would be required. OFGEM noted in their decision that the information required for an Article 26 document was covered in the EBGL Article 18 consultation and as such they were happy to approve the Article 26 document on the condition that a subsequent consultation would be run.
	Q2. <u>STOR & BM</u> : Do you agree with our updated proposal to include STOR and the BM as specific products for Balancing?	Yes. We believe that the BM and STOR are both economic and efficient ways to balance the GB electricity market and to continue to use them is in the best interests of customers. However, we do think NGESO needs to consider the way it uses these products. For example, where STOR is cheaper than available BM actions NGESO should use STOR first for balancing. We recognise that NGESO has to consider price, dynamic parameters, locations, etc., but we are concerned that the balancing tools are not always despatched in merit order. While STOR is classed as "reserve" it may be that the providers do not wish to enter the BM for commercial reasons, while plant in the BM could act as "reserve" in any given day (for example part loaded plant). NGESO should be flexible about taking the cheapest actions where other available plant can meet the same criteria as one contracted under a specific service.	Thank you for your feedback, we agree that both BM and STOR are important tools in operating the system safely and efficiently. Regarding the approach to the use of these tools we have processes in place to ensure that we comply with our licence obligation to manage the system at lowest cost to the consumer. The Balancing Mechanism is a platform used to ensure electricity supply and demand is balanced in each half hour trading period of every day. It is also used to address a wide range of other system needs, such as managing voltage. STOR is a reserve service and is used to cover the largest loss in the event of a fault. When balancing energy is needed the ENCC utilisation of reserve is done on a price basis whilst ensuring there is sufficient STOR to meet our requirement for 20min reserve.

			Reserve services, by their nature, are held in reserve until they are required, for example to recover frequency following a system imbalance. For this reason, it is not always appropriate to use 'reserves' for general system re-balancing. We do not wish to erode reserves via re-balancing and risk a shortfall should a large instantaneous loss occur.
			There may be situations when either STOR or the BM can be used (e.g. following a fault). In this situation the ENCC would decide on the action based on price (via the price stack) and speed of delivery (via the unit's technical parameters).
			We have also made recent changes to improve the transparency of our actions via BSC modification P399. Since 25 June 2020, NGESO has been publishing real time data on N-BM STOR instructions (dispatch/cease) via our data portal as the next step towards delivering greater transparency.
			To conclude, despatch of reserve is on the basis of speed and price across all markets that provide the capability needed. The BM and STOR provide complimentary attributes to efficient balancing and frequency recovery/restoration.
	Q3. <u>DC, STOR & BM:</u> Do you have any other comments on the proposal?	FGG would note to Ofgem that, were the UK to not have to comply with EBGL from January, that removal of the EBGL's inefficient and rather lengthy consultation process would be an efficiency improvement.	NGESO thank you for taking the time to comment on the consultation process. It is a useful process for gathering feedback from industry; we would welcome suggestions that would make this a more efficient process.
Limejump Ltd	Q1. <u>DC</u> : Do you agree with our proposal to introduce DC for Balancing?	We support of the introduction of Dynamic Containment for Balancing in GB. There is currently no European wide Frequency Containment Reserve Product. In December 2019 NGESO announced its suite of 3 Dynamic Frequency Products which it believes are needed for GB as it moves to support a 100% renewable system. The first of these products is Dynamic Containment which is a post event fast	NGESO thank you for taking time to provide feedback and welcome the rationale that concurs with the reasoning in the NGESO proposal. We look forward to working with you in the future.

	response product. It is needed as the system moves to more non-synchronous renewable generation with lower inertia which can result in a high ROCOF. The existing GB frequency products cannot respond fast enough so NGESO has developed DC to manage some of the weaknesses of existing frequency products. We are therefore supportive of the proposal to introduce DC for Balancing in GB.	
Q2. <u>STOR & BM</u> : Do you agree with our updated proposal to include STOR and the BM as specific products for Balancing?	The intention of the EBGL was that TERRE would be the primary Replacement Reserve (RR) Product. As this is not currently in use and there is uncertainty as to whether GB will be permitted to participate from 1st January 2021 then GB needs an alternative. The BM is used by NGESO to manage pre and post fault balancing requirements as well as constraint management near to real time. If TERRE were operational then the BM would still be required for constraint management and we are therefore supportive of the proposal to include BM as a specific product for Balancing. STOR has historically been purchased in advance and largely used by NGESO as an insurance product against the loss of the largest infeed. NGESO has now redefined its STOR product to DAH from April 2021 (following the CEP) and formally changed its response time to 20 minutes with capability of holding for 2 hours. Historically 93% of STOR has been provided by old, inefficient, high carbon emitting generation as shown in the table extracted from the Power Responsive Demand Side Flexibility Annual Report 2019 below.	NGESO thank you for your feedback. You mention that there are already sufficient balancing tools in place and that STOR should not be introduced as a specific product. The tools mentioned are an EMN and the BM. An EMN is not a balancing tool, it is a transparency message issued by the ENCC to signal tight margins to the market (with the intent that the market will increase available energy or reduce demand). It is likely to be issued at day ahead and updated regularly. Issuing an EMN does not guarantee any change to the market position or the provision of reserves. While the EMN is an important market signal, it does not fulfil the role of a balancing tool. Interventions in the BM can be used to secure margins and sometimes create reserve. However, the BM is an optional market and the relatively short notice gate closure time does not allow the ESO to fulfil its role for adequacy and reserves planning without the procurement of other reserve services. The BM cannot guarantee the ESO access to sufficient reserves with the necessary characteristics (e.g. Ability to deliver full output in 20 minutes) to recover frequency back to the target 50Hz. There is no mechanism in the BM to pay providers for provision of firm reserve capacity, the only payment structure in the BM is for energy delivered.

	Chart 2: STOR – Accepted capacity (MW) of STOR by Technology Type – December 2019.	DC and STOR are different services aiming to
	Pump Storage, 300 MW	contain the frequency within statutory limits after a
	Gas, 710 MW	frequency back to the target of 50Hz and it can be used to correct residual imbalance. Therefore
	Battery, 4MW OCGT, 2339 MW	both are required as important tools in the portfolio of measures we use to meet our obligations.
	Multiple - Diesel, CHP, Load Reduction, 22 MW	
	Multiple - Diesel, CHP, Load Reduction, Hydro, 326 MW Multiple - Diesel, Load Reduction, 302 MW	
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	We do not support the proposal to include STOR as a specific product for balancing. We believe there are already sufficient tools in place which provide cover for loss of the largest infeed loss or a large change in demand.	
	Specifically, NGESO can issue an Electricity Margin Notice to signal to the market they need more volume is needed which allows the market to respond. They can also hold back some BM volume as margin.	
	The use of STOR also requires market intervention via the Reserve Scarcity Price Mechanism (RSPM). This seeks to estimate the impact of using STOR had utilisation prices been set in real time once the scarcity was known. The RSPM is set using the Loss of Load probability one hour ahead of real time so does not capture scarcity as it occurs.	
	As such we believe that NGESO could manage its largest infeed loss using the BM together with the use of Margin Notices and DC to manage resulting frequency changes. We do not support the inclusion of STOR as a specific product for balancing.	
Q3. DC, STOR & BM: Do	We welcome the opportunity to input on the specific products that NGESO plans to submit under EGBL	We will continue to engage with industry on Frequency Response and reserve through co-



comments on the	Article 26. To make this the most effective discussion	creation workshops, webinars and will continue to
proposal?	we would welcome an overview of their planned	provide updates via the Forward Plan.
	product roadmap for the 5 years which supports a	
	system using 100% renewable generation.	

Note that we also had a clarifying question from OFGEM that we are including for completeness.

Respondent	Question	Response	NGESO Comments
OFGEM	Q2. STOR & BM: Do you	We have been reviewing the Art 26 proposal for	Thank you for your feedback.
	agree with our updated	STOR and the BM, as consulted on. Please can you	
	proposal to include STOR	clarify the following, which is our understanding under	We agree that STOR will be procured day-
	and the BM as specific	Article 26.1(c):	ahead as of April 2021 to ensure NGESO
	products for Balancing?	In order to minimize the use of STOD, it's quallebility	has sufficient reserves. STOR is used to cover
		will be procured day-abaad to	fault may occur, this is why we need to contract
		ensure sufficient reserves as ESO deems necessary	for it in advance
		(i.e. following your usual procedure). Then entering	
		the RR auction through TERRE (gate closure T-1hr),	The BM and RR can be used for the purpose of
		whatever RR is procured displaces STOR, up to and	energy balancing i.e. ongoing differences
		including the full requirements deemed necessary.	between supply and demand. NGESO can send
		RR will then be dispatched when required in live time	in a requirement for RR (via the TERRE auctions)
		as priority (economic order), and STOR utilised	at T-45 and as such cannot be used to cover for
		where RR presents a shortial against the required	unioreseen losses on the system.
		by mitigating against the uncertainty of the TERRE	After NGESO recovers from a fault on the system
		auction, but minimises use of STOR.	where we would have used STOR to replace the
			energy lost from the trip, we can replace the
		If this is correct, please can you ensure this is clearly	STOR utilisation with energy from the BM or RR,
		reflected in the wording of your submission. If our	therefore this should help reduce the utilisation of
		understanding is not correct, please can you provide	specific products. Where NGESO is unable to
		necessary clarification.	procure sufficient volumes of RR (and where it is
		Discourse and algority that the intersting area TEDDE is	not economic to do so), NGESO would use the
		Please can I clarify that the intention, once I ERRE is	Balancing Mechanism.
		the largest loss?	STOR is sized to cover the largest loss. We need
		the digest loss:	to await the outcome of the SQSS modification
			before we can confirm the new scenarios that will
			be used to size the STOR volume. The
			consultation is ongoing at the moment, please
			see attached link:

		https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-
		information/codes/security-and-quality-supply-
		standards-old/modifications/gsr027-review