

Accuracy of System Management Action Flagging

May 2015 – April 2016

Published May 2017

Introduction

This report reviews the accuracy of the P217A flagging mechanism for the period 1st May 2015 – 30th April 2016, in accordance with the System Management Action Flagging (SMAF) methodology.

The purpose of P217A flagging is to remove actions that are taken by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) for system management issues from the cash out calculations of imbalance prices.

The P217A flagging mechanism came into operation on 5th November 2009. From 5th November 2015 the scope of system management issues that were subjected to P217A flagging was broadened to include:

- Supplemental Balancing Reserve actions (including testing)
- Balancing actions used by National Grid primarily to manage the Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) or to manage Fault Levels
- Automatic Low Frequency Demand Disconnection relay demand control action.

To assess the accuracy of flagging, a statistical overview of Data Inquiry Reports (DIRs) produced during May 2015 – April 2016 is provided. A DIR is raised by the Control Room when they are aware that the flagging of BOAs (Bid Offer Acceptances) for system issues have been incorrectly set.

From June 2014 any flags associated with actions in the Balancing Mechanism (BM) can be retrospectively updated in settlements systems. This is carried out for actions on which DIRs have been raised or where an error has been identified.

Highlights

During the reporting period a total of 407,857 BOAs were accepted, where 84,139 BOAs were given P217A flags, representing 20.63% of the total accepted BOAs.

A table containing a monthly breakdown of total accepted BOAs, total BOAs P217A flagged and the percentage of BOAs flagged is shown below in Table 1.

| Month & Year | Total Number of BOAs Accepted | Total Number BOAs P217A Flagged | % BOAs Flagged to P217A |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| May-2015 | 38456 | 8778 | 22.83% |
| Jun-2015 | 30894 | 5665 | 18.34% |
| Jul-2015 | 30594 | 4068 | 13.30% |
| Aug-2015 | 33653 | 6302 | 18.73% |
| Sep-2015 | 26045 | 980 | 3.76% |
| Oct-2015 | 30852 | 3655 | 11.85% |
| Nov-2015 | 43520 | 12563 | 28.87% |
| Dec-2015 | 47231 | 16451 | 34.83% |
| Jan-2016 | 41365 | 12270 | 29.66% |
| Feb-2016 | 29946 | 6255 | 20.89% |
| Mar-2016 | 29590 | 3561 | 12.03% |
| Apr-2016 | 25711 | 3591 | 13.97% |
| Total: | 407857 | 84139 | 20.63% |

Table 1: Monthly breakdown of total accepted BOAs

In September 2015, the system experienced a low number of constraints which has caused the number of BOAs that are P217A flagged to be much lower than for the other months in the reporting period.

There were 292 DIRs from 1st May 2015 to 30th April 2016, which is broken down as follows:

- 73 DIRs were for system flag amendments
- 219 DIRs were for P305 Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) flag amendments (to correct a STOR flag to a BM STOR dispatch that resolves an energy issue).

Due to various issues, the BM system has been not been able to automatically apply STOR flags to contracted STOR units. These have therefore been corrected post event in a similar manner to system flagging; hence it has been included in this report.

Overall, 0.09% of the P217A BOAs flagged in the reporting period were the subject of a DIR process, giving a potential P217A flagging accuracy of 99.91%.

On average, a DIR would take 7.95 working days to process during the reporting period, via the BSCP18 process.

The majority of system flag amendments were for BOAs that should've been system flagged, but went through as energy. There were 10 incidences for BOAs that should've been energy flagged, but went through as system.

Both the BM and the Balancing Principles Audit (BPS) which was carried out by PwC in October 2015 and April 2016 did not find any breach of compliance.

This report is under continuous review and development, if you have any comments or suggestions of information you would like to see in the future reports, please send an Email to:

bm.liasionandcompliance@nationalgrid.com