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Future Markets Newsletter

AUGUST 2026



Multi NEMO Arrangements

EirGrid/SONI continue to work with Nord Pool & SEMOpx to create the conditions and timings for Multi-NEMO Arrangements (MNA) to go live in the local Day-Ahead Market in February 2027, with all parties involved liaising through regular working group sessions. These sessions are currently focused on the upcoming MNA testing in Q3/4 2026 ahead of the February 2027 go-live date.

EirGrid & SONI are facilitating this transition to a Multi-NEMO competitive environment in the SEM with the NEMOs to prepare market participants in advance of these market changes by the go-live date. Initial testing will focus on bilateral TSO-NEMO validations before wider market testing beginning later in the year.

Dear All,

Welcome to the August edition of the Future Markets Newsletter.

Across EirGrid and SONI, our shared focus is on delivering a safe, secure and reliable electricity system while enabling the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable and affordable energy future. Guided by EirGrid's Group Strategy 2026 and SONI's strategic priorities, we continue to evolve electricity markets, support renewable integration and develop the frameworks needed for a more flexible, resilient and efficient power system. Through innovation, collaboration, stakeholder engagement and evidence-based decision-making, the Future Markets teams are helping to deliver these ambitions across the all-island electricity sector.

We would also like to thank everyone who joined our August Future Markets Workshop. The continued growth in participation and quality of discussion demonstrates the value of open industry engagement as we work through the opportunities and challenges ahead. Registration is now open for our next workshop on 29 September 2026 (link below), and we look forward to welcoming you there.

Thank you for your continued engagement, support and collaboration. Your insights and contributions play an important role in shaping the future of electricity markets and supporting the energy transition.

Kind regards,



Stephen Gannon
Head of Future Markets, EirGrid



Michael Atcheson
Head of Future Power Markets, SONI

In this Newsletter:

Milestones, team updates,
workshop details, and more.

Keep Reading!

Join the September Future Markets Industry Workshop

29 September 2026, In-person
[Click here to register](#)



About Our Workstreams



Future Market Integration Team (FMIT)

Through programmes such as the Scheduling & Dispatch Programme (SDP) and Balancing Market Reform (BMR), the team works with a range of stakeholders to deliver the market, operational and system changes required to maintain a secure and efficient power system while enabling higher levels of renewable generation, storage, demand-side participation and other emerging technologies.



Workstreams updated in this newsletter

- **Future Market Integration Team (FMIT)**
- **Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)**
- **Energy Market Policy (EMP)**
- **Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)**
- **Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) - EirGrid**

Here, you can find a brief overview of each programme.

Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)

The team is developing new arrangements to securely operate the electricity system as more renewable energy comes online.

This includes introducing competitive auctions for system services and updating the rules and contracts that support how these services are bought and delivered.



Energy Market Policy (EMP)

The team develops and communicates energy market policy, working closely with national and EU stakeholders to understand and respond to regulatory and legislative changes that affect the Single Electricity Market.

Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

This work supports the integration of the SEM with EU electricity markets, including day-ahead and intraday trading, cross-border capacity calculation, and long-term transmission rights.

It aligns with the delivery of the Celtic Interconnector and the introduction of new regional coordination and market platforms to support cross-border trading.

Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)

LDES is an initiative by EirGrid and it is currently progressing work to procure long-duration energy storage services, supporting national electricity policy.

This includes designing a new procurement approach, with public consultations planned on both the procurement mechanism and the associated contractual arrangements.



Workstream Updates



Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

Full-EU Integration
The re-planning activities on account of the Celtic delay have been agreed with RTE. The revised plan validation with various European working groups has progressed over the summer with an agreement in Core to have checkpoints on Celtic & Central Europe progress.

Multi-NEMO Arrangements (MNA):
SEM MNA Master Plan validated by NEMOs in June 2026. SDAC topology now validated between the parties involved. SDAC & SIDC (uncoupled) RfCs validated and submitted to Operations Committee (OPSCOMs).

Single Day-Ahead/Intraday Coupling (SDAC/SIDC):
Re- planning timeline agreed with RTE, these are being validated with external working groups. Plans to commence market testing in March 2027.

Coreso:
The team is currently working with vendors to upgrade data-sharing tools. The Asset list for Outage Planning & Co-ordination has been successfully uploaded to the Pan-EU tool.

Financial Transmission Rights (FTR):
Awaiting JAO's feedback on revised timelines due to cable delay. Validation of drafted processes with internal compliance ongoing. Discussion of feasibility of SEM-FR amendment for calculation of Long Term Transmission Rights (LTTR) remuneration with TSO Experts ongoing.

MARI:
All MARI Functional Requirement specification documents are approved, and vendor engagement has begun. Discussions with RAs are ongoing regarding the Hybrid Legal Methodology.



Power Distribution Plant

Future Market Integration Team (FMIT)

The Programme is targeting Release O/P deployment for w/c 7 September 2026. Synchronous Condenser unit conversion is then scheduled to take place w/c 14 September 2026. Over the coming weeks, the Programme will share further information with Synchronous Condenser operators on the exact cutover date and unit conversion process.

The TSOs and RAs are working collaboratively on the progression of SDP_01 - Non-Priority Dispatch Renewables (NPDR) and acknowledge the level of industry feedback during recent workshops. The progression of SDP_01 remains dependent on a number of processes, including the outcome of the ongoing legal process relating to the interpretation of Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the development of modelling to assess potential NPDR treatment, and regulatory decisions relating to Mod_13_23 and SEM-24-044.



Energy Storage Power Station

Energy Market Policy (EMP)

Capacity Remuneration Mechanism (CRM):
The EMP team continues to lead internal coordination in support of the work of the RAs on the Capacity Remuneration Mechanism (CRM). The team is preparing a response to SEMC-26-037 Consultation on High Level Design Options for CRM 2.0, which closes on 4 September 2026. The team is also engaging with Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) on the new European Commission proposal on bills, system costs and digitalisation.

European Regulations:
EMP also continues to represent EirGrid in European discussions on the implementation of FCA 2.0, CACM 2.0, and REMIT 2.0, assessing the implications of these reforms for Irish market arrangements and operational compliance. Looking ahead, EMP will continue to monitor developments relating to FCA 2.0 and CACM 2.0, support readiness activities across the organisation, and advance workstreams associated with SEM-GB market arrangements, interconnector policy, and the evolving European market design framework.

Network Tariff Review:
The EMP team is supporting CRU as part of the Electricity Network Tariff Structure Review (the ENTSR). This is the first review of the structure of network use of system tariffs (transmission and distribution) since 2000. The main objective of the work is to ensure that tariff structure sends the right signals to network users to incentivise cost- efficient use of the grid. The timing of the review is significant as there is currently focus on network tariffs at national and EU level which may include a review of the current EU regulations.

Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)

The latest System Services Code Working Group took place on 18 August 2026 (online), where chapters on Financial and Settlement were discussed.

The Technical Liaison Group (TLG) will support structured engagement with Market Participants on the technical aspects of the Future Markets programmes. A TLG meeting took place on 30 July 2026. We went through the timelines for Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS) technical artefacts and the corresponding TLG dates. There was a good Q&A session where we answered nearly all questions on the spot, with the full Q&A published here: EirGrid, SONI. A survey conducted during the call was very positive and provided useful feedback for future TLGs.

The Non-Reserves Recommendations Paper was shared with the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) in August for the October Single Electricity Market Committee (SEMC) Decision.

Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)

The LDES team has submitted the recommendation paper to CRU on the LDES Procurement Mechanism Consultation. We are awaiting a CRU decision on the recommendations.

Work is continuing on the Contractual Arrangements Consultation paper. We are aiming to deliver the Contractual Arrangements Consultation by the end of 2026.



Upcoming Future Markets Industry Workshops

September

Tuesday, 29
In-person

October

Wednesday, 21
Online

November

Wednesday, 25
In-person

December

Thursday, 10
Online

Programme Mailboxes

We are committed to engaging closely with stakeholders as we deliver our programmes of work. You can reach our programme team via the relevant email:

Future Market Integration Team (FMIT)

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