

ISSUE: 37

Future Markets Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026



INDUSTRY WORKSHOP

Join us at our November Future Markets & MOUG Industry Workshop which will take place in Dublin on Wednesday, 25 November 2026, as an in-person event.

We encourage industry participants to join us on the day to hear the latest updates from the Future Markets and SEMO teams. This is an opportunity to engage directly with the teams leading the work, ask questions, and contribute to discussions that are shaping the future of the electricity market.

We greatly value the continued input and participation of industry stakeholders and look forward to welcoming you.

Welcome to the October edition of the Future Markets Newsletter.

October was another busy month across Future Markets, with continued progress across our programmes and strong engagement with industry. As we move towards the end of the year, our focus remains on progressing the market arrangements and frameworks needed to support a secure, flexible and increasingly renewable electricity system.

Thank you to everyone who joined our online October Future Markets Workshop and contributed to the discussions. Continued engagement with industry is an important part of our work, helping us understand the practical impacts of change and informing the development of our programmes.

In this edition, we share the latest updates from across Future Markets and highlight some of the key developments and activities underway.
Thank you, as always, for your continued engagement, support and collaboration.



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.

Join the November Future Markets Industry Workshop

25 November 2026, Dublin
Click here to register

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EirGrid SONI semo Single Electricity Market Operator

About Our Workstreams



Workstreams covered 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**
- **Hybrids - MEC Sharing**

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.

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 helps to develop and communicate 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.

Hybrids - MEC Sharing

The implementation of MEC Sharing aims to enable Hybrid Co-Located Projects to make more efficient use of existing grid connections by allowing multiple technologies to share a single Maximum Export Capacity (MEC).



The September Future Markets Workshop was held in Belfast

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Workstream Updates

Future Market Integration Team (FMIT)

The progression of SDP_01 remains dependent on a number of processes. These include the development of modelling to assess potential NPDR treatment, the outcome of the ongoing legal process relating to the interpretation of Regulation (EU) 2019/943, and regulatory decisions relating to Mod_13_23 and SEM-24-044. Once regulatory direction is confirmed, a further phase of delivery work will be required. This phase may include re-evaluating the current system design, determining whether changes are required and, where necessary, progressing those changes through detailed design, build and testing activities. Any delivery timelines would need to align with availability in established system release cycles. The TSOs will provide further updates as these processes develop.

Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)

The LDES team has submitted the recommendation paper to CRU on the LDES Procurement Mechanism Consultation. There is an anticipated decision date from the CRU of October 2026 (Q4).

Hybrids - MEC Sharing

The MEC Sharing programme is now in Month 2 (M2) of the Implementation Roadmap, with Scoping & Design activities progressing across the programme workstreams.

Roadmap progress: Initial activities are underway across the programme, including Operations, Scheduling and Dispatch; IT Systems; and Registered Capacity and Reactive Power. This phase is focused on understanding the detailed requirements and developing the solutions needed to implement MEC Sharing. Hybrids - Roadmap shows these activities commencing from M1.

Acceleration: As part of our commitment to identify opportunities to accelerate activities where feasible, work on the Connection Process & Agreement has commenced in M1 (September 2026), ahead of its original roadmap timing (M4). The team is assessing how and when applications for MEC Sharing could begin to be facilitated, while ensuring that any approach remains aligned with the wider MEC Sharing arrangements being developed. The roadmap originally schedules this activity from M4.

FAQ published: On 28 September 2026, EirGrid and ESB Networks published the Hybrids – MEC Sharing Frequently Asked Questions. The FAQ responds to 54 numbered questions received through industry engagement, including the MEC Sharing webinar held on 25 June 2026, and provides further clarity on eligibility and scope, readiness and delivery, Priority Dispatch, energy sharing, technical and operational arrangements, implementation timelines and future pathways.



Energy Market Policy (EMP)

Electricity Network Tariff Structure Review (ENTSR): Ongoing CRU consultation on principles, objectives, scope and considerations (deadline 19 November).

EU Network Codes – CACM 2.0 and FCA 2.0. Energy Market Policy continues to monitor developments. There have been no material developments to report this month, and the team will continue to track progress and assess any implications for EirGrid and the SEM.

CRM 2.0 - Decision on 'SEM-26-037 High Level Design Options for CRM 2.0' expected by the end of the year. There is also engagement with the RAs on 'SEM-26-056 Decision on Cross-Border Participation in the CRM'.

Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)

The System Services Code Working Group took place on October 22nd, where updates to Chapters A to D (Legal and Governance, Products and Concepts) were presented for discussion. The November Working Group meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Work is underway to publish v2 of the FASS Platform User Guide for discussion in Technical Liaison Group (TLG) 4, provisionally scheduled for December 3rd. This follows the Industry Technical Readiness survey, which gathered participant feedback on their current technical readiness and required supports. The detail of how this feedback will be incorporated into technical planning and content delivery will be presented at TLG 4.

The Performance Monitoring, RAD Delivery Incentive and Clearing Price Cap Consultation is due to be published imminently by the TSOs. Alongside the consultation paper will be a draft version of the New Reserve Services Performance Monitoring Document that will contain the detailed provisions proposed by the TSOs in respect of performance monitoring for the DASSA and the RAD.

The Non-Reserves Recommendations Paper was shared with the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) for October SEMC Decision.

Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

As the programme moves into its critical delivery period, Strategic Markets Programme (SMP) reporting is now structured around seven key milestones on the path to Celtic Commercial Go-Live and beyond. Each milestone represents a significant step in market and system readiness.

- M1 - Single Day-Ahead Coupling (SDAC) Multi-NEMO Arrangements (MNA) (Uncoupled) Go-live - Nord Pool SDAC MNA Bilateral Testing completed, SEMOpx Bilateral + Functional Integration Testing (FIT) + System Integration Testing (SIT) Testing is underway. Remaining activities focus on completion of bilateral testing, cutover plans, and business and market readiness planning.
- M2 - Preparation for External Testing - Focus remains on ensuring readiness of Core Hub, ICMP, MMS, CCCt and supporting environments ahead of external testing activities.
- M3 - Day-Ahead Capacity Calculation (DACC) & Single Day-Ahead Coupling (SDAC) Technical Go-live - SDAC Request for Change (RfC) approval has been secured through SDAC governance and Celtic topology changes have been validated. Internal readiness planning for March 2027 SDAC Market Testing is progressing across systems, testing and operations teams.
- M4 - Single Intraday Coupling (SIDC) Multi-NEMO Arrangements (MNA) Go-live - SIDC (Uncoupled) Requests for Change (RfCs) drafted, validated, and submitted to SIDC OPSCOM for confirmation.
- M5 - Intraday Capacity Calculation (IDCC) & Single Intraday Coupling (SIDC) Technical Go-live - SIDC Request for Change approval has been secured through SIDC governance and Celtic topology changes have been validated. SIDC Master Test Plan and Detailed Test Scenarios to be developed by the Celtic Local Implementation Project (LIP) Task Force.
- M6 - Celtic Commercial Go-live - Outage Planning Coordination (OPC) readiness activities are advancing, with the Unavailability Plan list on track for completion by October 2026 and ongoing review of Short-Term Adequacy (STA) and OPC system requirements. Coreso non-IT readiness continues with business process documentation progressing across the relevant Regional Coordination Centre (RCC) activities.
- M7 - Post Go-live - Manually Activated Reserves Initiative (MARI) methodology engagement is ongoing with the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) and accession activities are now expected to progress during Q1 2027. Financial Transmission Right (FTR) activities continue, internal tool update to reflect necessary changes for go-live of Celtic FTRs is in progress.

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Upcoming Future Markets Industry Workshops

November	December
Wednesday, 25 In-person	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) Queries

SchedulingandDispatch@Eirgrid.com
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FM Overall and Energy Market Policy (EMP)

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To receive updates from the FM team by email, please send a request with your Name, Company Name and Email to:

FutureMarkets@eirgrid.com

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