

ACER Decision approving amendments to the intraday cross-zonal gate opening and gate closure times – Annex Ia

Intraday Cross-Zonal Gate Opening and Gate Closure Times

**in accordance with Article 59 of the Commission Regulation
(EU) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on
capacity allocation and congestion management**

19 December 2025

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All TSOs, taking into account the following:

Whereas

- (1) This document provides an amendment to the Methodology terms and conditions on the intraday cross-zonal gate opening time ('IDCZGOT') and the intraday cross-zonal gate closure time ('IDCZGCT') in accordance with Article 59 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management ('CACM Regulation') following the ACER decision No 04-2018 of 24 April 2018.
- (2) The amended Methodology terms and conditions on intraday cross-zonal gate opening and gate closure times (IDCZGOTs) takes into account the general principles and goals set in Article 59 of the CACM Regulation, as well as Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity ('Regulation 943/2019'), as amended by the Regulation (EU) 2024/1747 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 amending Regulations (EU) 2019/942 and (EU) 2019/943 as regards improving the Union's electricity market design ('EMD Regulation').
- (3) In particular, this amendment aims to reflect the legal requirement of the following provisions of the Regulation 943/2019 as amended by the EMD Regulation:
 - i. Article 8 provides that “[f]rom 1 January 2026, the intraday cross-zonal gate closure time shall not be more than 30 minutes ahead of real-time”;
 - ii. Article 8(1a) provides that “[t]he regulatory authority concerned may, at the request of the transmission system operator concerned, grant a derogation from the requirement laid down in paragraph 1 until 1 January 2029. The transmission system operator shall submit the request to the regulatory authority concerned. That request shall include:
 - (a) an impact assessment, taking into account feedback from NEMOs and market participants concerned, demonstrating the negative impact of such a measure on the security of supply in the national electricity system, cost-efficiency, including in relation to existing balancing platforms in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/2195, on the integration of renewable energy and on greenhouse gas emissions; and
 - (b) an action plan aiming to shorten the intraday cross-zonal gate closure time to 30 minutes ahead of real time by 1 January 2029”.
 - iii. Article 8(1b) provides that “[t]he regulatory authority may, at the request of the transmission system operator concerned, grant a further derogation from the requirement laid down in paragraph 1 by up to two-and-a-half years from the date of expiry of the period referred to in paragraph 1a. The transmission system operator concerned shall submit the request to the regulatory authority concerned, to the ENTSO for Electricity and to ACER by 30 June 2028. That request shall include:
 - (a) a new impact assessment, taking into account feedback from market participants and NEMOs, justifying the need for a further derogation, based on risks to the security of supply in the national electricity system, cost-efficiency, the integration of renewable energy, and greenhouse gas emissions; and
 - (b) a revised action plan to shorten the intraday cross-zonal gate closure time to 30 minutes ahead of real time by the date for which extension is requested and no later than the date requested for the derogation.

ACER shall issue an opinion about the cross-border impact of a further derogation

within six months of receipt of a request for such a derogation. The regulatory authority concerned shall take that opinion into account before deciding upon a request for further derogation”.

- (4) The amended Methodology terms and conditions for IDCZGTs facilitates effective competition in the generation, trading and supply of electricity (Article 3(a) of the CACM Regulation) as they establish a harmonised IDCZGOT just after the end of the day-ahead timeframe and the IDCZGCT 30 minutes before real-time. This provides more time for market participants to trade across bidding-zone borders in the Union.
- ~~(5)~~ However, the amended Methodology for IDCZGCT may have a negative impact on operational security, as acknowledged in the referred Article 8(1a) of Regulation (EU) 943/2019 as amended by the EMD Regulation when providing for the possibility to request a derogation, as it significantly reduces the time available for TSOs for system operation, in particular due to shorter time for assessing and coordinating remedial actions for congestion management.
- ~~(6)~~(5) However, where the amended terms and conditions for IDCZGCT creates risks to security of supply, and in order to facilitate a cost-efficient transition to the shorter cross-zonal gate closure time, transmission system operators may, pursuant to Article 8(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, as amended by the EMD Regulation, request a derogation based on an impact assessment and subject to the approval of the relevant regulatory authority, in order to obtain an extension of the implementation timeline. Such a request must include an action plan setting out concrete steps towards the implementation of the new intraday cross-zonal gate closure time.
- ~~(7)~~(6) The harmonisation of IDCZGTs ensures fair and non-discriminatory treatment of TSOs, NEMOs and market participants active on cross-zonal intraday markets (Article 3(e) of the CACM Regulation) and ensures the level playing field between all NEMOs (Article 3(i) of the CACM Regulation). Moreover, a harmonised IDCZGOT allows for fair and orderly organisation of the intraday market (Article 3(h) of the CACM Regulation). This additionally guarantees non-discriminatory access to cross-zonal capacity in the intraday timeframe (Article 3G) of the CACM Regulation) as all market participants in the Union will have access to available cross-zonal capacities within the same time period.
- ~~(8)~~(7) Setting and publishing the IDCZGOTs and the IDCZGTs ensures and enhances the transparency and reliability of information and contributes to the efficient long-term operation and development of the electricity transmission system and electricity sector in the Union (Article 3(f) and (g) of the CACM Regulation) as all the market parties can rely on these IDCZGTs, which mitigates the regulatory uncertainty and decreases the risk level within the sector.
- ~~(9)~~(8) For the purposes of this first amendment to the Methodology terms and conditions on the IDCZGOT and the IDCZGCT, the terms used shall have the meaning given to them in Article 2 of the Regulation (EU) 943/2019 as amended by the EMD Regulation, Article 2 of the CACM Regulation and the definitions set out in Article 2 of Annex I of the ACER Decision No 04-2018 of 24 April 2018.
- ~~(10)~~(9) According to Article 53(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2017/2195 of 23 November 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity balancing ('EB Regulation') in conjunction with Article 8(4) of Regulation 2019/943, “all TSOs shall apply the imbalance settlement period of 15 minutes in all scheduling areas while ensuring that all boundaries of market time unit shall coincide with boundaries of the imbalance settlement period from 1 January 2025 at the latest”.

TITLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Subject matter and scope

These Terms and conditions determine the IDCZGOT and the IDCZGCT for the SIDC in accordance with Article 59 of the CACM Regulation.

Article 2 Definitions and interpretation

1. The terms used in these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs shall have the meaning given to them in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 714/2009, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 543/2013, Article 2 of the CACM Regulation, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2017/2195 and Article 2 of Directive 2009/72/EC. In accordance with Article 2(19) of Regulation (EU) No 543/2013, the intraday market time unit on the bidding zone border means the longer of the two imbalance settlement periods within the bidding zones on either side of the bidding zone border.
2. Unless the context requires otherwise or unless specified otherwise:
 - (a) the singular indicates the plural and vice versa;
 - (b) the table of contents and headings are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs; and
 - (c) any reference to legislation, regulations, directives, decisions, orders, instruments, codes or any other enactment shall include any modification, extension or re-enactment thereof when in force.
3. The capacity calculation regions and bidding zone borders referred to in these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs are those determined in accordance with Article 15 of the CACM Regulation.

Article 3 Application of these terms and conditions

These Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs apply solely to intraday cross-zonal gate opening and closure times on bidding zone borders participating in the SIDC. Gate opening and gate closure times for intraday trading within a bidding zone ~~and for complementary regional intraday auctions in accordance with Article 63 of the CACM Regulation~~ are outside the scope of these Terms and conditions. The volume of cross-zonal capacity offered at the IDCZGOT or any time during the intraday market timeframe is also outside the scope of these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs.

TITLE 2 - INTRADAY CROSS-ZONAL GATE OPENING TIME AND INTRADAY CROSS-ZONAL GATE CLOSURE TIME

Article 4 Intraday Cross-Zonal Gate Opening Time

- ~~1. From 1 June 2018 and until 31 December 2018, the IDCZGOT shall be defined as follows:~~
- ~~2. For capacity calculation region Nordie at 15:00 market time day ahead.~~
- ~~3. For capacity calculation region Hansa at 18:00 market time day ahead~~
- ~~4. For capacity calculation region Core at 22:00 market time day ahead.~~
- ~~5. For capacity calculation region Italy North at 22:00 market time day ahead.~~
- ~~6. For capacity calculation region Greece-Italy at 22:00 market time day ahead.~~
- ~~7. For capacity calculation region South-west Europe at 22:00 market time day ahead.~~

- ~~8. For capacity calculation region Ireland and United Kingdom at 18:30 market time day-ahead.~~
- ~~9. For capacity calculation region Channel at 22:00 market time day-ahead.~~
- ~~10. For capacity calculation region Baltic at 18:00 market time day-ahead.~~
- ~~11. For capacity calculation region South-east Europe at 22:00 market time day-ahead.~~

~~12.1. From 1 January 2019 onwards, the IDCZGOT on all bidding zone borders shall be at 15:00 market time day-ahead. On the bidding zone borders of a capacity calculation region where intraday capacity calculation methodology has not been approved by 30 November 2018, the implementation of this IDCZGOT shall be postponed until 30 days after the approval of the intraday capacity calculation methodology in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the CACM Regulation.~~

~~13.2.~~ If the price-coupling process in the day-ahead market is unsuccessful and the fallback procedures initiated as a result in accordance with Article 44 of the CACM Regulation and completed after the IDCZGOT as defined in paragraphs (1) ~~and (2) of this Article~~, the IDCZGOT shall take place at the earliest possible time after the results of the respective fallback procedures are established.

Article 5 Intraday Cross-Zonal Gate Closure Time

1. As of 1 January 2026, the IDCZGCT for all bidding zone borders shall be 30 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit on a bidding zone border, ~~as established by~~ in accordance with Article 8(1) of the Regulation (EU) 943/2019 and, subject to paragraph (2).
- ~~2.~~ 2. In accordance with the process described in Article 8(1a) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, a TSO may request the concerned regulatory authority to grant a derogation from the requirement of paragraph (1) until 1 January 2029. Upon further request of the TSO, and in accordance with the process described in Article 8(1b) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the concerned regulatory authority may extend the derogation period until 1 July 2031. Within the derogation period, the IDCZGCT shall be 60 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit on a bidding zone border.
- ~~3. On bidding zone borders involving TSOs from Energy Community Contracting Parties, the IDCZGCT shall be at most 60 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit, for as long as those Contracting Parties are not legally obliged to implement the 30-minute IDCZGCT.~~

Article 5.a Implementation Timeline

1. In case a bidding zone border participates in single intraday coupling by 31 December 2025 and none of the TSO(s) on both sides of the bidding zone border have been granted a derogation in line with Article 8(1a) and (1b) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the IDCZGCT of 30 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit shall apply by 1 January 2026 in accordance with Article 8(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943.
2. In case a bidding zone border participates in single intraday coupling by 31 December 2025 and ~~some or all at least one~~ TSOs on the concerned bidding zone border ~~have~~ has been granted a derogation in line with Article 8(1a) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the IDCZGCT of 30 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit shall apply by 1 January 2029 or from the date on which the derogation cease to exist, whichever occurs earlier.
3. In case a bidding zone border participates in single intraday coupling by 31 December 2025 and ~~some or all TSOs on the concerned border have been granted a derogation in line with Article 8(1a) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943, and some or all at least one~~ of the TSOs ~~have~~ has been granted a derogation based on Article 8(1b) of ~~the same~~ Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the IDCZGCT of 30 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit shall apply by

1 July 2031 or from the date on which the derogation cease to exist, whichever occurs earlier.

4. In case a bidding zone border starts participating in single intraday coupling after 31 December 2025, then the applicable IDCZGCT shall be determined based on the date when the concerned bidding zone border started participating in single intraday coupling and on the status of the derogations of the TSOs on the concerned bidding zone border.
5. ~~In case a TSO has not applied requested for or been granted a derogation, while all its neighbouring TSOs applied for a TSO(s) is subject to derogation, the TSO concerned TSO shall, nevertheless, have ensure that the necessary systems, processes, and coordination mechanisms are in place to implement for the implementation of the 30 minute IDCZGCT.~~
5. Where a derogation has been granted to at least one TSO on a bidding zone border in accordance with Article 8(1a) or 8(1b) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the 30-minute IDCZGCT shall not apply on that bidding zone border. In such cases, the TSO(s) on the other side of the bidding zone border, even if ready to implement the 30-minute IDCZGCT, shall not be required to obtain a derogation and may continue to apply the 60-minute IDCZGCT for the duration of the derogation(s) granted to the adjacent TSO(s). However, the TSO(s) without granted derogations shall ensure that the necessary systems, processes, and coordination mechanisms are in place for the timely implementation of the 30-minute IDCZGCT independently of the derogation status or implementation progress of its neighbouring TSO(s). Upon expiry of all derogations granted to TSO(s) on that bidding zone border, the 30-minute IDCZGCT shall be applied simultaneously and without delay by TSO(s) on that bidding zone border.

TITLE 3 - FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 6 Publication

The TSOs shall publish these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs without undue delay after they have been approved by Decision of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators.

Article 7 Language disclaimer

The reference language for these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs shall be English. For the avoidance of doubt, where TSOs need to translate these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs into the national language(s) of a relevant national regulatory authority, in the event of inconsistencies between the English version published by TSOs in accordance with Article 9(14) of the CACM Regulation and any version in another language, the relevant TSOs shall be obliged to dispel any inconsistencies by providing a revised translation of these Terms and conditions for IDCZGTs to the relevant national regulatory authorities.

ANNEX 1

TSOs to which these terms and conditions apply:

- APG – Austrian Power Grid AG
- Elia – Elia System Operator S.A
- ESO – Electroenergien Sistemen Operator EAD
- HOPS - Croatian Transmission System Operator Plc
- ČEPS - ČEPS, a.s.
- Energinet – Energinet
- Elering – Elering AS
- Fingrid – Fingrid OyJ
- Kraftnät Åland Ab
- RTE - Réseau de Transport d'Electricité, S.A
- Amprion – Amprion GmbH
- Baltic Cable AB
- TransnetBW -TransnetBW GmbH
- TenneT GER – TenneT TSO GmbH
- 50Hertz – 50Hertz Transmission GmbH
- IPTO – Independent Power Transmission Operator S.A.
- MAVIR ZRt. - MAVIR Magyar Villamosenergia-ipari Átviteli Rendszerirányító Zártkörűen Működő Részvénytársaság ZRt.
- EirGrid – EirGrid plc
- Terna – Terna SpA
- Augstsprieguma tikls - AS Augstsprieguma tikls
- LITGRID – LITGRID AB
- CREOS Luxembourg – CREOS Luxembourg S.A.
- TenneT TSO – TenneT TSO B.V.
- PSE – PSE S.A.
- REN - Rede Eléctrica Nacional, S.A.
- Transelectrica - C.N. Transelectrica S.A.
- SEPS - Slovenská elektrizačná prenosová sústava, a.s.
- ELES – ELES, d.o.o.
- REE - Red Eléctrica de España S.A.U.
- Svenska kraftnät - Affärsverket Svenska kraftnät
- SONI System Operator for Northern Ireland Ltd.