European Network of
Transmission System Operators
for Electricity

Intraday cross-zonal gate opening and gate closure times (IDCZGOCT)

All TSOs' proposal for amendment of 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

[For submission to ACER and NRAs]

02 July 2025

Contents

All TSOs, taking into account the following:

Whereas

(1) This document provides an amendment to the Methodology 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 on intraday cross-zonal gate opening and gate closure times (IDCZGOCT) 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 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) 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.

(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.

(8) For the purposes of this first amendment to the Methodology 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.

(9) According to Article 53(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2017/2195 of 23 November 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity balancing ('EB Regulation'), "*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 perio*d".

Title 2
Intraday cross-zonal gate opening time and intraday cross-zonal gate closure time

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 Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 943/2019, subject to paragraph (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 Art. 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.

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 TSOs on both sides of the 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.
2. 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 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.
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 of the TSOs have been granted derogation based on Article 8(1b) of the same Regulation, the IDCZGCT of 30 minutes before the start of the relevant intraday market time unit shall apply by 1 July 2031.
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 border started participating in single intraday coupling and on the status of the derogations of the TSOs on the concerned border.
5. In case a TSO has not requested for or been granted a derogation, while its neighbouring TSO(s) is subject to derogation, the concerned TSO shall ensure that the necessary systems, processes, and coordination mechanisms are in place for the implementation of the 30-minute IDCZGCT.