Date: 03/08/2021 16:59:19

Public consultation on the high-level approach for the identification of alternative bidding zone configurations to be considered for the bidding zone review

Fields marked with * are mandatory.	
This consultation is addressed to all interested stakeholders.	
Replies to this consultation should be submitted by 3 August 202	1, 23:59 hrs (CET).
Questions should be addressed to ACER-ELE-2020-001@acer.eu	uropa.eu.
Contact information	
* First Name	
* Last Name	
* Company / Institution	
Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft (BDEW)	
Affiliation	
National association	
Address	
Reinhardtstraße 32, 10117 Berlin	
* Email	

Contact phone

Country

DE - Germany

- I confirm that I have read the data protection notice in this link and accepted.
- * Is your input into this consultation confidential?
 - Yes
 - No

ACER will publish all non-confidential responses.

ACER will process personal data of the respondents in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, taking into account that this processing is necessary for performing ACER's consultation task. For more details on how the contributions and the personal data of the respondents will be dealt with, please see ACER's Guidance Note on Consultations and the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation.

Related documents

- Regulation (EU) 2019/942 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators ('ACER Regulation')
- Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity (recast) ('Electricity Regulation')
- Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management ('CACM Regulation')
- Regulation (EU) 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council Text with EEA relevance
- All TSOs' proposal for the methodology and assumptions that are to be used in the bidding zone revie
 w process and for the alternative bidding zone configurations to be considered in accordance with
 Article 14(5) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the
 Council of 5th June 2019 on the internal market for electricity
- ACER Decision on the methodology and assumptions that are to be used in the bidding zone review process and for the alternative bidding zone configurations to be considered (ACER Decision 29-2020)
- ACER Guidance Note on Consultations

Introduction

This consultation aims to gather views and information from stakeholders on the high-level approach for the identification of alternative bidding zone (BZ) configurations to be considered for the bidding zone review (BZR) process, pursuant to Article 14(5) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity ('The Electricity Regulation').

This consultation follows the one launched in April 2020, whose scope was to gather views and information from stakeholders on selected aspects of the proposal developed in accordance with the above-mentioned article.

The definition of alternative BZ configurations has proven a difficult aspect of the proposal. In particular, the proposal did not include any alternative BZ configuration for Central Europe. In light of the insufficient technical information available for ACER to take an informed decision on alternative BZ configurations, with its Decision 29-2020 (the 'Decision'), issued on 24 November 2020, ACER adopted a pan-European BZR methodology and requested Transmission System Operators (TSOs) to carry out a Locational Marginal Pricing (LMP) simulation. Based on the results of this LMP simulation, ACER will be able to take a separate decision on alternative BZ configurations at a later stage.

When it comes to delineating BZs, there are at least two possible approaches. A first approach is a top-down (expert-based) one, whereby experts propose alternative BZ delineations, which could potentially yield more efficient outcomes than the current BZ configuration (the status quo). Based on available data and, whenever feasible, by performing certain market/network simulations, those alternative delineations are then confirmed or refined and finally prioritised. A second approach is a bottom-up (model-based) one, whereby LMP simulations are performed with a view to clustering nodes into BZs. Subject to certain delineation constraints, the clustering exercise yields alternative BZ configurations. By requesting TSOs to perform a LMP simulation, ACER intends to adopt a model-based approach for identifying alternative BZ configurations, as further elaborated in this document.

Taking stock of lessons learnt from previous BZRs, ACER is gathering views from stakeholders in an attempt to identify improvements to the high-level approach for the identification of alternative BZ configurations to be considered for the BZR.

In the following, the context of this public consultation is first presented. Subsequently, the general approach is described and the detailed process explained in detail. At the end, the questions for consultation are listed.

Context

Background

Pursuant to Article 14(5) of the Electricity Regulation, ENTSO-E, on behalf of all TSOs, published and submitted to regulatory authorities on 7 October 2019 a proposal for the methodology and assumptions that are to be used as well as for the alternative BZ configurations to be considered for the BZR process. Regulatory authorities identified shortcomings in the proposal. In particular, the proposal did not include any alternative BZ configuration for Central Europe. Regulatory authorities requested that TSOs amend the proposal before 20 February 2020. ENTSO-E, on behalf of all TSOs, published and submitted to regulatory authorities on 18 February 2020 an amended proposal. By letter of 13 July 2020, the Chair of the Energy

Regulators' Forum, on behalf of all regulatory authorities, informed ACER that they were unable to reach a unanimous decision on all TSOs' updated BZR proposal and that the updated BZR proposal was considered as referred to ACER as of 7 July 2020, pursuant to Article 14(5) of the Electricity Regulation.

With its Decision 29-2020 (the 'Decision'), issued on 24 November 2020, ACER decided on the BZR proposal as far as the methodology and assumptions for the BZR process are concerned and adopted a pan-European BZR methodology, referring the decision on alternative BZ configurations to a later stage.

Legal framework

Pursuant to Article 14(1) of the Electricity Regulation, "Bidding zone borders shall be based on long-term, structural congestions in the transmission network. Bidding zones shall not contain such structural congestions unless they have no impact on neighbouring bidding zones or, as a temporary exemption, their impact on neighbouring bidding zones is mitigated through the use of remedial actions and those structural congestions do not lead to reductions of cross-zonal trading capacity in accordance with the requirements of Article 16. The configuration of bidding zones in the Union shall be designed in such a way as to maximise economic efficiency and to maximise cross-zonal trading opportunities in accordance with Article 16, while maintaining security of supply".

In addition, Article 33 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management ('the CACM Regulation') includes a list of minimum criteria that the BZR shall consider.

While the BZR study has to consider all the criteria listed in the CACM Regulation, the following three elements are explicitly mentioned in the Electricity Regulation as objectives to be pursued when delineating BZs. Moreover, these three elements can be quantified and, as such, more efficiently compared. These elements are:

- Minimisation of structural congestions within BZs;
- Maximisation of economic efficiency;
- Maximisation of cross-zonal trading opportunities.

A fourth element mentioned in the Electricity Regulation is security of supply, which is difficult to quantify during the identification of alternative BZ configurations. This element will however be considered during the BZR study as envisaged in the CACM Regulation.

General approach

The approach to identify alternative BZ configurations depends on the available data.

As reported in paragraph 150 of the Decision, results derived from LMP simulations are adequate to inform on the decision on alternative BZ configurations and in particular on the three objectives derived from Article 14(1) of the Electricity Regulation.

With regard to the objective 'Minimisation of structural congestions within BZs', LMP simulations shed light on whether BZs contain structural congestions or not. In particular, LMP simulations, together with clustering and flow decomposition techniques, allow establishing a cause-effect relationship between physical congestions and the network areas that, by exchanging energy, significantly contribute to such congestions. This is in line with Article 2(4) of the Electricity Regulation that describes congestion as "a situation in which all requests from market participants to trade between network areas cannot be accommodated because they would significantly affect the physical flows on network elements which cannot accommodate these flows". How the results of the LMP simulations and clustering techniques can be combined to identify the relevant network areas contributing to congestions is further described in the following section.

With regard to the other two objectives to be pursued when delineating BZs:

- Maximisation of economic efficiency: The results derived from LMP simulations provide a good opportunity to incorporate the economic efficiency criterion in the identification of alternative BZ configurations. While economic efficiency will be more accurately modelled in the BZR study itself, it is possible to use a proxy for economic efficiency when defining alternative BZ configurations. For example, a more efficient dispatch is expected to be attained when there are no or very limited nodal price differentials within a BZ. This is because the absence of nodal price differentials suggests that intra-zonal congestions are not expected to severely constrain the results of the market.
- Maximisation of cross-zonal trading opportunities: First, the minimum 70% target introduced in Article 16(8) of the Electricity Regulation is a binding requirement to be satisfied as of 1 January 2026, which could lead to a BZ change if not met, pursuant to Article 15(5) of the Electricity Regulation. Second, such minimum target is easier to meet when the flows that do not result from capacity allocation, i.e. loop flows and internal flows, consume a relatively small share of the capacity of network elements. In this context, a flow decomposition analysis is an adequate tool to identify whether alternative BZ configurations are able to limit the amount of flows that do not result from capacity allocation and to achieve the legally required targets.

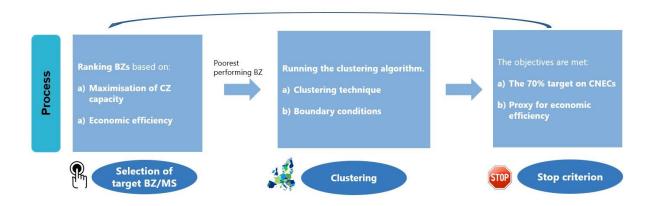
As a summary, results derived from LMP simulations, complemented with flow decomposition analyses, will be used to assess whether different alternative BZ configurations contribute to the objectives envisaged in the Electricity Regulation for the design of BZs. This includes the presence, or the lack thereof, of structural congestions within BZs and the maximisation of economic efficiency and cross-zonal trading opportunities.

In the following, the detailed process leading to the definition of alternative BZ configurations is presented.

Detailed process

The process proposed to identify alternative BZ configurations is an iterative one that comprises three steps: i) the selection of the target BZ/Member State (MS), ii) the clustering and iii) the stop criterion, as presented in Figure 1. An additional fourth step that is not part of the iterations is also required to combine the identified individual alternative BZ configurations to study their joint impact. For the sake of clarity, an individual BZ configuration refers to e.g. the split of a given BZ A into two BZs A1 and A2, while an alternative BZ configuration may consider the joint impact of such split with another individual BZ configuration, e.g. the merge of BZ B and BZ C into a single BZ. This fourth step is described at the end of this section.

Figure 1 – High-level approach for the definition of alternative BZ configurations



The process is designed in such a way that each iteration focuses on one single BZ or one single MS, based on the ranking built in the first step ('the selection of the target BZ/MS'), as further described below. This is an important feature of the process as it imposes the MS borders as a boundary condition to the process. In practical terms, this implies that both splits and mergers of BZs as alternative configurations are possible as long as the new BZ remains within existing MS borders, with the only exception of maintaining already existing BZs comprising more than one MS (essentially Germany and Luxembourg).

This choice does not exclude the possibility for mergers beyond MS borders in future BZRs. However, such a possibility is not considered for this BZR for the following reasons. First, in light of the Electricity Regulation, the main trigger and objective of a BZR is to address structural congestions and/or facilitate the attainment of the minimum 70% target. In view of the significant presence of congestions in Europe and the significant efforts still needed to meet the 70% target, it seems efficient to focus on configurations that help to meet this target. Second, it was found that it would be difficult to reach an agreement on which mergers to prioritise, if any, and to introduce specific arrangements that MS mergers would entail. Hence, as the number of configurations to be studied needs to remain limited, it is efficient to focus on alternative configurations for which an agreement is likely to be found.

The iterative process is conducted separately for each area where a joint LMP analysis is carried out by the TSOs. In the following, each step is presented in detail.

The first step, 'the selection of the target BZ/MS', aims to identify the BZ (or the MS to which the BZ belongs when several BZs belong to the same MS, as further elaborated below) that is selected in each step for the identification of alternative configurations in such BZ. Such identification is based on a ranking built on the following two indicators:

- Amount of burdening internal flows and loop flows per BZ on relevant network elements; and
- An indicator on economic efficiency, as further detailed below.

With regard to the first indicator, the amount of burdening internal flows and loop flows per BZ is derived from a flow decomposition analysis. An internal flow or a loop flow caused by a given BZ is considered to be burdening if it is in the same direction as the sum of all internal flows and loop flows on the considered network element. Flow decomposition is performed on all cross-zonal network elements as well as internal network elements used in capacity calculation, based on best available data and computational capabilities. This analysis covers the most recent three years (i.e. 2018, 2019 and 2020) of the latest ENTSO-E's technical report on structural congestions and other major congestions as well as the target year of the BZR, i.e. 2025. The lower the amount of burdening internal flows and loop flows on network elements originated in a given BZ, the higher the BZ scores with regard to this indicator.

With regard to the second indicator, different indicators, which can be used as a proxy for economic efficiency, are currently being considered. An example of this could be the dispersion of nodal prices. In such a case, the lower the dispersion of nodal prices in a given BZ, the higher the BZ scores with regard to this indicator.

Then, BZs are first ranked according to each of the two indicators and then a single ranking is built by combining the positions of each BZ in both rankings, while considering that the two proposed indicators are equally important for the purpose of the aggregated ranking. At each iteration, the geographic area where alternative BZ configurations are investigated is the BZ which performs the worst in the aggregated ranking. If the MS already includes multiple BZs, the identification of alternative BZ configurations for the MS as a whole may be investigated. This allows the possibility of considering mergers of BZs within MSs that currently comprise more than one BZ. When a MS with multiple BZs is selected for the first time in step 1, then the algorithm would seek to identify two BZs within the MS. If the MS is selected again in a subsequent step 1, then the algorithm would seek to identify three BZs within the MS and so on.

The second step corresponds to the application of a clustering algorithm, aiming to group nodes into BZs. Additional considerations regarding this step are as follows:

- First, this step is based on the results of the LMP simulations, which is solely conducted for the target year of the BZR, i.e. 2025.
- Second, currently two types of clustering methods, namely graph-based and constrained clustering, are being considered for the selection of the most adequate clustering algorithm. The final selection will depend on the outcome of the consultancy study on the matter.

• Third, the identification of sub-BZs within a BZ is subject to an additional boundary condition: the size, in terms of total generation and consumption of the newly identified BZs, should not be too different. This is needed to mitigate the issue related to the so-called flow-factor competition that could arise in case of very diverse BZ sizes.

The third step, the 'stop criterion', aims to determine whether the iterations for the identification of additional BZ configurations should continue or not. In line with the objectives envisaged in the Electricity Regulation, the iterations stop when the following two targets are simultaneously met:

- For all the considered network elements and market time units, the share of internal flows and loop flows taken together is lower than or equal to 23% of the thermal capacity of the network element. This value is obtained by assuming a 10% share for reliability margins and a contribution of this share in the ratio 20/70 to internal flows and loop flows.
- The indicator used as a proxy for economic efficiency reaches the target for all considered BZs. For example, if the dispersion of nodal prices is considered as a proxy, the target would be set to a residual value.

If, after each iteration, the stop criteria are not met, then the process restarts from step 1, to identify a new BZ to be selected for the identification of alternative configurations in such BZ. For each step, a new list of BZs is used as an input. Such list comprises: i) the BZs of the status quo, except those that were altered in previous iterations and ii) the BZs proposed in any of the previous steps. For MSs with multiple BZs, the BZs to be considered in each step are the ones identified during the latest iteration when the MS was selected in step 1.

The fourth and final step concerns the combination of the identified alternative BZs into alternative configurations to be studied. A list of maximum 10 alternative configurations per bidding zone review region is envisaged. This list includes a limited number of:

- Individual alternative BZ configurations;
- Combination of two individual alternative BZ configurations;
- Combination of three (or more) individual alternative BZ configurations

selected among all possible combinations of individual alternative BZ configurations that lead to the highest incremental improvements for the considered indicators.

Topic 1: Main objectives for the identification of alternative bidding zone configurations

Article 14(1) of the Electricity Regulation establishes that "Bidding zone borders shall be based on long-term, structural congestions in the transmission network. Bidding zones shall not contain such structural congestions unless they have no impact on neighbouring bidding zones or, as a temporary exemption, their impact on neighbouring bidding zones is mitigated through the use of remedial actions and those structural congestions do not lead to reductions of cross-zonal trading capacity in accordance with the requirements of Article 16. The configuration of bidding zones in the Union shall be designed in such a way as to maximise economic efficiency and to maximise cross-zonal trading opportunities in accordance with Article 16, while maintaining security of supply".

1.1. Do you agree that the identification of alternative bidding zone configurations should mainly seek the
following three objectives: 1) Minimisation of structural congestions within bidding zones; 2) Maximization of
economic efficiency and 3) Maximisation of cross-zonal trading opportunities?

at mo	ost 1 choice(s)
	Strongly disagree
1	Disagree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	Agree
	Strongly agree

1.2 Please provide any comments on the main objectives to be considered when identifying and prioritising alternative bidding zone configurations.

4999 character(s) maximum

BDEW understands that for the identification and prioritisation for alternative bidding zone configurations only a limited set of objectives can be chosen. However, all the relevant ob-jectives detailed in Article 33 of the CACM GL should be considered in the whole process.

If the objectives are still narrowed down to the proposed ones, BDEW suggests the following amendments: The objective to reduce structural congestions should be the basis for each bidding zone review. However, structural congestions should not only be determined within the bidding zones but should be analysed regardless of the bidding zone borders. Also in highly-meshed networks such as in the CWE Region, congestions are rarely structural. An in cases where structural congestions occur, strengthening and improving the grid as proven to be an ac-cepted and effective measure.

The argumentation that the analysis can only be performed within the existing bidding zones in this review and could be considered in the next one is not acceptable. One reason mentioned is the focus on the accomplishment of the 70%-target, the other one is pointing at the difficulty to identify which mergers should be prioritised in the process. BDEW fully supports that implementing the 70%-target should be in focus until 2025. For this goal, all of the involved BDEW members are working hard to achieve the national action plan. As mentioned in previous position papers BDEW points out to only use the bidding zone review for informational purposes, as long as the implementation of the 70%-target via the national action plan has priority. For the second argument brought forward the difficulty to identify which mergers should be prioritised, no consistent reasoning can be identified.

The maximisation of economic efficiency as the second objective is reasonable, but BDEW disagrees with its

definition. As a proxy for economic efficiency the differential of nodal prices is considered, which is not adequate and overlooks the reached consensus of the first bidding zone review and the debate of the last decade. First economic efficiency is nar-rowed down to remedial costs and thus not differentiable from the first objective. Second all items like liquidity, low transaction costs or the well-functioning of the market which are all part of the economic efficiency are not taken into account.

The third objective, to increase cross border trading is already put into place and has to be accomplished the latest by the end of 2025. Regardless of the bidding zone process the 70%-target should be achieved and should therefore not be chosen as an objective for the identi-fication of alternative bidding zone configurations.

Topic 2: Indicators for the selection of the target bidding zone/member state

To ensure that the objectives listed in Topic 1 are met, and based on the data available to ACER, the following indicators are proposed:

- The amount of internal flows and loop flows contributing to congestions, per bidding zone and on network elements included in capacity calculation, for the maximisation of cross-zonal trading opportunities; and
- The dispersion of nodal prices, i.e. assessing the level of homogeneity of nodal prices within the same bidding zone, for the maximisation of economic efficiency.
- 2.1. Do you agree with the proposed indicators?

at most 1 choice(s)

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

2.2 In light of the objectives listed in Topic 1, please indicate other possible indicators for the selection of the target bidding zone/member state.

4999 character(s) maximum

The chosen indicators are used for the selection of the target bidding zones as well as a stop criterion after the running of the clustering algorithm, thus having a strong impact on the whole process. BDEW disagrees on the selection of these two indicators. The first indicator considers internal flows and loop flows contributing to congestions per bidding zone and on network elements included in capacity calculation. Thus, focusing on the maximisation of cross-zonal trading opportunities. This should not be an indicator as this measure has al-ready been implemented and the bidding zone review should be performed with respect to the implementation of the 70%-criterion.

Furthermore, with the proposal by ACER to only consider the most recent three years for structural congestion, BDEW doubts that this data meets the requirement for long term structural congestions. Short-term structural congestions should not be considered in the review as they are not to be solved with bidding zone reconfigurations but rather by reme-dial actions. The second indicator refers to the economic efficiency which is reasonable. However, the example used as a proxy (dispersion of nodal prices) should be

reconsidered as it does not reflect economic efficiency. BDEW suggests taking into consideration the robustness of price signals, the liquidity and the transaction costs of the market as it is out-lined in the CACM GL Article 33.

Regarding an indicator for liquidity, we advise against using the same metrics to measure liquidity in continuous markets and markets based on auctions. If the same concepts are applied to fundamentally different market logics, the outcome might not reflect the impact of a bidding zone reconfiguration. Therefore, we suggest some additional metrics to meas-ure liquidity especially in auction-based markets.

Further liquidity metrics include:

For auctions:

- Volumes of orders submitted per bidding zone
- o Volumes of orders participating to the price formation per bidding zone (tak-ing into account crossborder capacity)

For both volume metrics, it should be assessed if price-independent ("all-price") orders are to be excluded, as they have no impact on the price or effi-ciency of the market. The orders that matter most are the price sensitive curve orders and blocks

o Market resilience (responsiveness to exogenous shocks)

For continuous markets:

Bid-ask spread

BDEW is currently analysing the development of the electricity market over the last years and is open to share the findings in a future workshop.

Topic 3: Boundary conditions for the clustering algorithm

The high-level approach is designed in such a way that each iteration focuses on one single bidding zone or one single member state, based on the ranking built in the first step ('the selection of the target bidding zone/member state'). In practical terms, this implies that both splits and mergers of bidding zones as alternative configurations are possible as long as the new bidding zone remains within existing member state borders, with the only exception of maintaining already existing bidding zones comprising more than one member state.

3.1. Do you agree that member state borders should be considered as boundary condition for the clustering algorithm?

at most 1 choice(s)

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

3.2 Please indicate other possible geographical boundary conditions for the clustering algorithm, including pros and cons of such approach.

4999 character(s) maximum

BDEW agrees with the approach to use bidding zone borders as a geographical boundary, as it simplifies the process. Furthermore, clustering regardless of member borders would be politically difficult. However, this boundary condition, should not bias the bidding zone re-view towards the split of bidding zones, but should consider mergers as well.

Alternative boundary conditions, if needed for an efficient clustering, could include a mini-mal market size, a certain ratio of demand and supply in each bidding zone configuration or a maximum / minimum number of bidding zone configurations to be achieved. A further condition that could be included, is the compatibly of the imbalance settlement.

An additional boundary condition of the clustering algorithm is introduced, according to which the size, in terms of total generation and consumption of the newly identified bidding zones, should not be too different. This is needed to mitigate the issue related to the so-called flow-factor competition that could arise in case of very diverse bidding zone sizes, as further elaborated below. The competitive position of one bidding zone with respect to the others in the access to cross-zonal capacity is determined by the zonal Power Transfer Distribution Factors (PTDFs). A so-called flow-factor competition issue arises whenever zone-to-zone PTDFs between two bidding zones are systematically larger than between any other pair of bidding zones. In those circumstances, the concerned bidding zones have fewer chances to access the available cross-zonal capacity and, under scarcity circumstances, this could in turn lead to security of supply issues.

3.3. Do you think that having bidding zones with homogenous size in terms of total generation and consumption should be an objective when identifying alternative bidding zone configurations?

at most 1 choice(s)

- Only for newly-defined bidding zones
- Always
- Never

3.4 Please provide any comments on this boundary condition.

4999 character(s) maximum

The homogeneity of bidding zones should not be a criterion for the bidding zone configura-tion as it has absolutely no impact on the economic efficiency of the markets. Economic efficiency and the stability of bidding zones should be the primary criteria, so robust and long-term price signals can occur which are highly necessary for the investment in generation and grid infrastructure. Potential challenges regarding flow competition based on PTDFs should not lead to ex ante exclusion of potential bidding zone configurations.

Topic 4: Combination of identified individual alternative bidding zone configurations to study their joint impact

An individual bidding zone configuration refers to e.g. the split of a given bidding zone A into two bidding zones A1 and A2, while an alternative bidding zone configuration may consider the joint impact of such split with another individual bidding zone configuration, e.g. the merge of bidding zone B and bidding zone C into a single bidding zone.

A list of maximum 10 alternative configurations per bidding zone review region is envisaged. This list includes a limited number of:

Individual alternative bidding zone configurations;

- Combination of two individual alternative bidding zone configurations;
- Combination of three (or more) individual alternative bidding zone configurations.

selected among all possible combinations of individual alternative bidding zone configurations that lead to the highest incremental improvements for the considered indicators.

The need to set a limit to the maximum number of alternative configurations to be studied is derived from the time window available to transmission system operators to perform the bidding zone review. This is laid down in Article 14(6) of the Electricity Regulation, according to which "On the basis of the methodology and assumptions approved pursuant to paragraph 5, the transmission system operators participating in the bidding zone review shall submit a joint proposal to the relevant Member States or their designated competent authorities to amend or maintain the bidding zone configuration no later than 12 months after approval of the methodology and assumptions pursuant to paragraph 5".

4.1. Please provide any comments on the approach to combine the incremental effects of individual alternative bidding zone configurations to study their joint impact.

4999 character(s) maximum

BDEW appreciates the variety of bidding zone configurations.

4.2. In your view, how many alternative bidding zone configurations per bidding zone review region should be analysed during the bidding zone review to ensure an adequate level of representativeness, while still allowing transmission system operators to comply with the timeline set out in Article 14(6) of the Electricity Regulation?

at most 1 choice(s)

- Less than 5
- Between 5 and 10
- More than 10

Topic 5: Other comments

5 Please provide any other comments on the high-level approach and add a sufficient explanation.

4999 character(s) maximum

The LMP analysis is solely performed by the TSOs, thus providing the original data and de-livering the results after the LMP simulations. BDEW strongly urges to mandate a neutral third party e.g. a renowned research/scientific institute to be in charge of the aggregated data and to monitor the whole analysis.

There is a need for further clarification on how this model-based approach interacts with the expert-based approach. Will the former replace the latter, or only complement it where the expert-based approach was not able to deliver alternative configurations to be studied? BDEW suggests the organisation a workshop on that

matter to elaborate the topic with in-volved stakeholder.

Contact

ACER-ELE-2020-001@acer.europa.eu