

CIGRE Study Committee C5

PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW WORKING GROUP (1)

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Technical Issues # (2): 10 Strategic Directions # (3): 1

The WG applies to distribution networks (4): No

Title of the Group: Wholesale Market Price Caps

Scope, deliverables and proposed time schedule of the Group:

Background:

In most wholesale markets prices are capped at a pre-determined level. However, the method for setting and reviewing the price cap varies by market. For the purposes of this working group, the price cap to be reviewed is the wholesale price for energy during both normal conditions and in times of shortage. The working group will use the following definitions for its collaboration:

Wholesale market – the day-ahead or real-time market for electricity.

Normal conditions – periods when the system has sufficient operating reserves

Shortage conditions – periods when the system is short of the desired operating reserves

Value of Lost Load (VOLL) – the theoretical amount a consumer would be willing to pay to avoid the interruption in the supply of electricity

Purpose:

Market signals display the price provided to resources for serving the demand for electricity and, increasingly, the interest in consuming energy at different price levels. Often markets cap the energy price below the VOLL. The working group would investigate different approaches for limiting the price of electricity in wholesale electric markets.

Scope:

The working group would investigate:

- The existence of energy price caps in wholesale electric markets
- How market price caps are established
- If market price caps, under normal or shortage conditions, are related to the Value of Lost Load.
- How a potential relationship to the Value of Lost Load is established
- How frequently the market price cap is reviewed
- Mechanism for adjusting the market price cap
- The absolute values of the market price caps
- Incremental steps used to indicate shortage before reserves are exhausted

The assessment will be conducted through a selection of case studies guided by the above research questions.

Deliverables:

The working group will provide a Technical Brochure, Electra summary and tutorial material as required.



Time Sch	edule : Start : November 2016	Final report : October 2018
•	Approval of Terms of Reference	Q4 2016
•	Develop final work plan and recruit members	Q1 2017
•	Develop and distribute questionnaires	Q2 2017
•	Compile and analyze data	Q4 2017
•	Develop case studies	Q2 2018
•	Draft Report on survey results	Q3 2018
•	Publish report	Q4 2018
Comments from Chairmen of SCs concerned :		
Approval by Technical Committee Chairman : M. Walffeld Chairman : M.		



Table 1: Technical Issues of the TC project "Network of the Future" (cf. Electra 256 June 2011)

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1	Active Distribution Networks resulting in bidirectional flows within distribution level and to the upstream network.
2	The application of advanced metering and resulting massive need for exchange of information.
3	The growth in the application of HVDC and power electronics at all voltage levels and its impact on power quality, system control, and system security, and standardisation.
4	The need for the development and massive installation of energy storage systems, and the impact this can have on the power system development and operation.
5	New concepts for system operation and control to take account of active customer interactions and different generation types.
6	New concepts for protection to respond to the developing grid and different characteristics of generation.
7	New concepts in planning to take into account increasing environmental constraints, and new technology solutions for active and reactive power flow control.
8	New tools for system technical performance assessment, because of new Customer, Generator and Network characteristics.
9	Increase of right of way capacity and use of overhead, underground and subsea infrastructure, and its consequence on the technical performance and reliability of the network.
10	An increasing need for keeping Stakeholders aware of the technical and commercial consequences and keeping them engaged during the development of the network of the future.

Table 2: Strategic directions of the TC (cf. Electra 249 April 2010)

1	The electrical power system of the future
2	Making the best use of the existing system
3	Focus on the environment and sustainability
4	Preparation of material readable for non technical audience