MINUTES OF THE ELECTRICITY COORDINATION GROUP MEETING

23 January 2019 - Brussel, Charlemagne, 10:00 - 16:30

Stefan Moser (Head of Unit of ENER B4) chaired the session. The proposed agenda was adopted.

**Agenda point II - Winter Outlook 2018/2019**

ENTSO-E presented its Winter Outlook 2018/2019, which pointed out that there is no expected risk to Europe’s security of supply this winter even under severe conditions (1 in 20 years). **Belgium** presented an update of the country’s situation and underlined the evolution from a critical situation in September to a “manageable” situation today, thanks to the measures introduced at national level and the cross border cooperation in the Pentalateral region instrumented through the “operational framework”. On the **frequency deviation of 10 January**, ENTSO-E reiterated that there was a grid incident but no “critical grid situation” and explained the causes determined so far. In the next Electricity Coordination Group meeting, ENTSO-E will present the results of the on-going investigation with concrete figures and recommendations oriented to: a) improve the communication, and; b) reduce the frequency fluctuations at the turn of the hour when the plants are switched on or off (e.g. offering ramping services). This event showed the need to improve the communication mechanisms: Member States and transmission system operators should communicate significant events with potential impact on the security of supply to the Commission and ENTSO-E before they are communicated to the media.

**Agenda point III - Mid-Term Adequacy Forecast 2018 (MAF)**

ENTSO-E presented the main results of MAF 2018, which anticipates low risks of inadequacy in Europe but foresees a scarcer adequacy situation between 2020 and 2025 for some bidding zones. It also stressed the importance of the low carbon sensitivity analysis and, in particular, the need to adjust the resource mix according to the political decisions (e.g. phase out of coal electricity production). Complementary regional/national studies are also relevant to investigate local issues and specific solutions.

**Agenda Point IV - Network code on Emergency and Restoration - Implementation**

ENTSO-E presented the implementation of the network code with special focus on the defence and restoration plans that transmission system operators had to prepare by 18 December 2018, and the on-going consistency check at regional level by the Regional Security Centres.
**Agenda Point V - Risk preparedness**

The Commission (ENER-B4) presented the roadmap for the implementation of the Risk Preparedness Regulation, which will enter into force in spring 2019. ENTSO-E gave an updated on the preparatory works and timeline to develop the methodology of Article 5 to identify electricity crisis scenarios at a regional level. As soon as the Regulation enters into force, ENTSO-E will be ready to launch the public consultation on the draft methodology. The results of the public consultation and the draft methodology will be presented at the Electricity Coordination Group (ECG) meeting in Autumn 2019. ACER will have two months, after the submission of the draft methodology by ENTSO-E, to approve the methodology, which should be ready by January 2020. The ECG members reiterated the importance of this Group to facilitate the implementation of the Regulation and the exchange of best practices (e.g. on specific aspects of the Risk preparedness such as crisis exercises, regional cooperation). The question on the revision of the ECG composition was also raised during the discussion. The Commission acknowledged this and it will keep the ECG informed on the next steps.

**Agenda Point VI – Energy Storage**

The Commission (ENER B3, A4, B4) presented the regulatory framework on energy storage activities set out by the Electricity Regulation and Directive after the political agreement reached in December 2018. This was followed by the role of storage in the 2050 scenario foreseen by the recently adopted Communication on A Clean Planet for all (the so called “Long term strategy”). The Commission also informed on a future study on energy storage which aims to take stock of existing storage facilities and future projects in the EU, and to quantify the potential of storage, among other tools, to improve security and flexibility in the EU electricity system and in the individual Member States for the 2030 and 2050 scenarios.

**Agenda Point VII –Infrastructure: selection process towards the 4th PCI list**

Under this agenda point, the Commission (ENER-B1) presented the possible indicators to be used to identify the needs before looking at the specific projects for the preparation of the 4th Project of Common Interest list.

**Agenda Point VIII - Cybersecurity in the Energy Sector**

The Commission (ENER-B4) gave an update on the activities on going, in particular, the European Commission Guidance to be released alongside the State of the Energy Union. Member States reiterated their interest on this topic and the need to continue the discussions within the ECG.

The next meeting of the ECG is planned for June 2019.