MINUTES OF THE ELECTRICITY COORDINATION GROUP MEETING

16 October 2020 – Web conference – 9:30-11:30

Remi MAYET, acting Head of Unit of ENER B4, DG ENERGY, chaired the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange information among members regarding the unavailabilities of power plants during this fall and in the upcoming winter due to revisions that were postponed earlier in the year because of covid-19.

Agenda point I. Approval of the draft agenda and introduction

The proposed agenda was adopted.

Agenda point II. Unavailability of power plants during winter 2020/2021 – exchange of information (weekly data)

The Commission and some members recalled that at the beginning of the pandemic non-essential maintenance works were overall postponed. Such postponement led to a shift in the maintenance works in power plants and resulted in a number of them being or planned to be out of service in the fall or even early winter 2020, due to planned revisions, instead of spring or summer. Consequently, and even if no resource adequacy problems have been experienced so far, it appeared relevant to hold an exchange of information on this matter, to discuss forecasts and to review the existing information tools.

The Commission also referred to the SWD on good practices to address pandemic risks¹, which draw the attention of all stakeholders to the delays in maintenance and the need to remain vigilant and redouble the coordination and information flows through coordination groups.

CORESO and ENTSO-E presented a number of tools already available:

- Short Term Adequacy (STA) platform, with information on availability per source for the EU for 7 days.
- An overview and first insights into ENTSO-E’s next Winter Outlook.
- An overview of ENTSO-E’s Transparency platform: available data, the tool accessibility and functionalities, as well as legal requirements for sharing planned and forced outages.

Members welcome the presentations and inquired about data from past years as well, so as to have a benchmark to compare this year’s figures, and about the quality and checks regarding the data provided. Members also shared their most recent forecasts for planned revisions in the coming weeks and months.

The Commission asked members to inform the Electricity Coordination Group in case of changes in their forecasts and, if needed, to issue an Early Warning\(^2\) according to the Risk Preparedness Regulation\(^3\) (“the Regulation”). It also reminded members that month-ahead adequacy assessments can be requested, to complement the seasonal outlooks, according to the methodology for short-term and seasonal adequacy assessments approved in March by ACER pursuant to Article 8 of the Regulation.

**Agenda point III. AOB**

The Commission also reminded Member States about Brexit and the fact that the end of the transition period is coming. It recalled the presentation at the last meeting.

The next meeting of the Electricity Coordination Group is tentatively scheduled for 17 November 2020 (webinar), likely back-to-back with a workshop to support members on its work on risk preparedness plans (drafts due in April 2021).

\(^2\) Pursuant to Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2019/941 an Early Warning has to be issued where there is serious and reliable information that an electricity crisis may occur in a Member State.

\(^3\) Regulation (EU) 2019/941 on risk preparedness in the electricity sector, OJ L158, 14.6.2019, p.1