

COVID-19 Pandemic

Bulk System Demand and Operations Impacts and Practices

ENTSO-E

Electricity Coordination Group, 5 June 2020

TSOs Business Continuity - Status

- ❑ System Operation remains safe in Europe: all power systems are in normal state
- ❑ Extraordinary measures taken by MS's Governments have led to a decrease of electricity consumption and robust generation unit availability. For the moment, there are no adequacy issues expected in short or medium term
- ❑ Control Centres of all TSOs report challenges and measures to maintain safe and healthy staff
- ❑ In all countries, the electricity market is functioning normally. Currently there are no conditions to initiate market suspension as long as adequacy and security of supply are ensured
- ❑ In most countries, regular teleconferences of National Authorities with TSOs and other stakeholders of energy sector are in place, to verify continued capability of core activities and services. Coordination of measures works well thus far.
- ❑ In accordance with procedures of TSOs, teleconferences have been arranged with relevant stakeholders (DSOs, generation units, market players, IT and Telecommunication providers) to ensure continuity of services and alignment where needed.

Status of Measures and Mitigations

TSOs Core Activities to ensure Safety of the Grid



❑ TSOs have implemented, where needed, a doubling up of staff in terms of staffing the National main Control Center and National backup Control Center and the Regional Control Centers

❑ In some cases, grid maintenance works is being postponed or cancelled, due to travel restrictions without risking system operation in short or medium terms

COVID-19 Measures implemented by TSOs

- ❑ **Hygiene and sanitary measures**, especially for operational staff: intensified cleaning, scan temperature, no hand-shake, keep distance.
- ❑ **Travel restriction or cancellation of arrangements**, inside or outside the countries, to prevent virus contamination.

- ❑ **Organisational measures**, that could be expanded depending how the situation is evolving:
 - Restricted access to control rooms to people strictly needed for continuity of operation.
 - Partial confinement of operational staff in control room: people are required to stay at home when they are not in shift, with contacts limited to their families, and not to use public transportation.
 - Total confinement of operational staff in control room: for period of 7 days, operational staff (at least 3 teams for a 24 hours shift) stay inside the control room, without any contact outside.
 - Parallel work of 2 Control Rooms (main and back-up) + support/back-up offices (planning & balancing and IT support) + support/back-up from regional centres.
 - Operational staff is divided into separate teams with no mixing between the teams.
 - Clear and direct instruction to personnel on how to respect the new rules.
 - Teleworking for non-core activities.



Covid-19 Ongoing Measures for TSOs

- ❑ This is an unprecedented situation and a major challenge which is been managed in accordance with TSOs planning, business continuity procedures, processes and systems
- ❑ Continuous share and alignment (when possible) of measures amongst TSOs; weekly status report at ENTSO-E level
- ❑ TSOs evaluate the experience in handling of such an unprecedented situation, especially in context of the development of regional scenarios for risk preparedness

Exiting Lock down and Transition Plans



COVID-19 Consequences

- ❑ Maintenance programs have been adapted due to restrictions on personnel / material
- ❑ Concerns for winter period should the restrictions persist
- ❑ New Connection/Development projects are expected to be delayed into 2021 and future years
 - this is essential to enhance availability (reduce planned outages) and stability of the grid

COVID-19 Planning Deconfinement

- ❑ **Major points of taken measures:** home office as much as possible, shift staff is secured against any contact with external workers and internal colleagues but not isolated, house restaurants have limited menus, chairs with distance, one-way-movement, regular COVID test for critical staff (shift engineer and maintenance staff), grid projects are still running as much as possible, obligation to wear mask when distance can not be guaranteed. Still no physical meetings allowed. Advised not to use public transport.
- ❑ **Possible steps back to normal:** reduced home office and max. 1 person in one small office, allow more external workers in buildings (repairing staff, work on technical equipment for buildings...), shift engineers are still working under secured conditions. Physical meetings allowed with no external persons, later also with external persons
- ❑ **More steps in a later stage:** all staff back in office but still with distance rules/washing hands etc., house restaurant increases the amount of chairs, shift engineers are still working under secured conditions, travelling for meetings
- ❑ **Last step:** back to normal operation

Thank you for your attention!