

Procurement Guidelines Report

1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008

As required by Standard Condition C16
of National Grid's Electricity Transmission Licence

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Procurement Guidelines Report for The National Grid Company 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008

1. Introduction

National Grid procures Balancing Services subject to the framework laid down in Condition C16 of the Transmission Licence. This framework obliges National Grid to “operate the transmission system in an efficient, economic and co-ordinated manner” and also requires a number of statements and reports on the procurement and use of Balancing Services to be established. The **Procurement Guidelines** is one of these statements, and sets out the principles used in our procurement of Balancing Services, the kinds of Balancing Services that we may be interested in purchasing and the mechanisms by which we do so. The Procurement Guidelines is published on the National Grid Industry Information website and is subject to annual review and industry consultation. When a new Procurement Guidelines statement is published annually (covering the forthcoming relevant period), National Grid is required to produce a **Procurement Guidelines Report** (“Report”) covering the preceding relevant period, having previously agreed the ‘form’ of the Report with The Authority.

1.1 Purpose of Procurement Guidelines Report

The purpose of the Report is to provide information in respect of the relevant¹ Balancing Services that National Grid has procured in the defined reporting period.

1.2 Form of Procurement Guidelines Report

The proposed form of the Report was approved by the Authority in March 2008. In an effort to provide more information to the market this Report continues the practice begun last year of containing a number of cost comparisons with the previous year for specific services. The report follows a similar form to the 2006/2007 Informal Procurement Guidelines Report. The opportunity still remains for Participants to submit comments and suggestions to the Authority on the scope and content of any subsequent Procurement Guidelines Reports.

1.3 Reporting Period

In accordance with Condition C16 of the Transmission Licence, the Report will be produced within one month after the publication date of the revised

¹ Other than balancing services acquired by the acceptance of an offer or bid in the Balancing Mechanism, provided such offer or bid was not made pursuant to any other previously agreed Balancing Service. (refer to section 1.6)

Procurement Guidelines Statement. [Version 8.0 of the Procurement Guidelines became effective on 1st April 2008, therefore the period covered by this Report is 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008.

The information utilised in this report is the best available at the time of publication and may be subject to minor changes as a result of final reconciliation.

1.4 Balancing Services

The Balancing Services National Grid has procured, either via market arrangements or bilateral contracts, throughout the period covered by the Report, are:

- Frequency Response
- Reactive Power
- Fast Start
- Black Start
- Reserve Services - Fast Reserve, STOR and BM Start-Up
- System to System Services
- Inter-trips
- Ancillary Contracts to manage System issues
- Maximum Generation Service
- All Other Services
- Energy Related Products (including PGBT's)

It is important to note that Balancing Services are procured from both Balancing Mechanism and Non Balancing Mechanism Parties.

For further information regarding the type of providers of Balancing Services please consult the [Procurement Guidelines](#)

1.5 Structure of Report

This report presents the Balancing Services under four main titles –

- Services Procured via Market Arrangements
- Services Procured via Non-Tendered Bilateral Contracts
- Other Energy Related Products
- A summary section providing the high level information for all services for the financial year 2007-08.

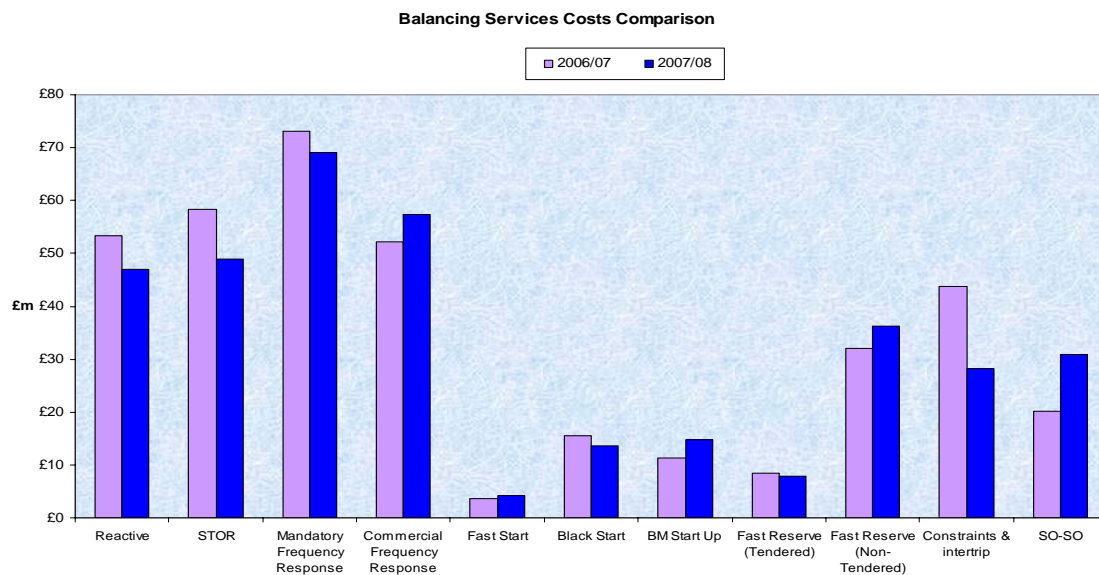
1.6 Services not included in the report

The scope of the Procurement Guidelines and, consequentially, this report do not include the acceptance of Bids or Offers in the Balancing Mechanism. Further information on Bid and Offer acceptances is contained within the [Balancing Principles Statement Report](#). All Bid and Offer information is

available by clicking the following link to the BM Reports web site - [Balancing Mechanism Reporting System \(BMRS\)](#).

1.7 Comparison with the previous year

Total costs of balancing services (ancillary services excluding Balancing Mechanism) fell from £410m in 2006/7 to £408m in 2007/8. The main variances from 2006/7 have been an increase in the costs of Trading (+14m) and SO-SO trades (+11m), Commercial Frequency Response (+5m) and in Non-Tendered Fast Reserve (+4m). This has been offset by decreases across Constraints & Intertrips (-16), STOR (-8), Reactive (-6) and Mandatory Frequency Response (-4). The reasons for these changes in these areas are analysed in more detail in the relevant section of this Report.



2. Services Procured Via Market Arrangements

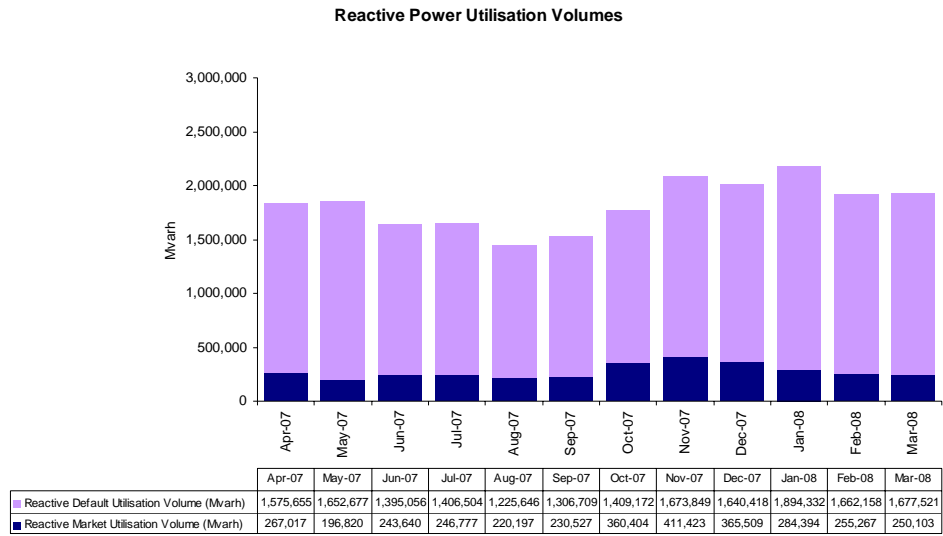
2.1 Reactive Power

National Grid manages voltage on the transmission system within statutory limits to ensure quality of supply. In doing this we ensure that reactive power resources are provided on a localised basis to meet the constantly varying needs of the system, and that there is sufficient reactive power reserve available to meet contingencies.

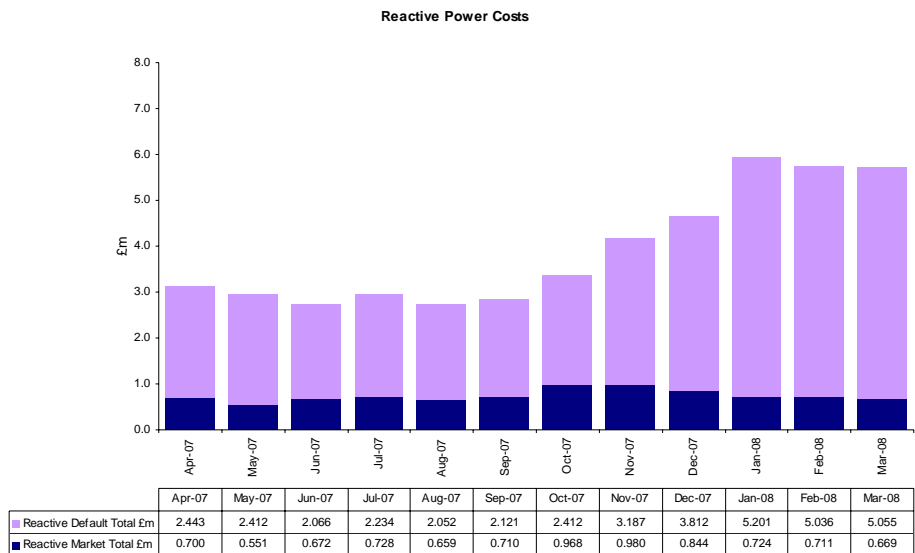
Market Arrangements for Reactive Power

All contracted services via tender round 19 (TR19) commenced on the 1st April 2007 and those via tender round 20 (TR20) commenced on the 1st October 2007. Further information regarding the nature of these contracts can be found on the National Grid website.

Utilisation of Reactive Power under market and Default arrangements for the relevant month is detailed in the chart below.



Utilisation costs of Reactive Power under market and Default arrangements over the relevant period are detailed in the chart below.



Further information is contained on the National Grid Industry information web site.

Default Arrangements for Reactive Power

For further information regarding the default payment arrangements please view the Introduction to Reactive document which can be found on the National Grid Website.

Comparison with the previous year

Reactive costs have reduced by 11% from £53m in 2006/7 to £47m in 2007/8. This 11% cost reduction corresponds to a 10% reduction of utilisation volume, from 24.2Tvarh in 2006/7 to 21.9Tvarh in 2007/8. The reduction in volume has been driven by despatch optimisation and additionally the installation of reactive assets to meet the requirements of the Security and Quality of Supply Standards.

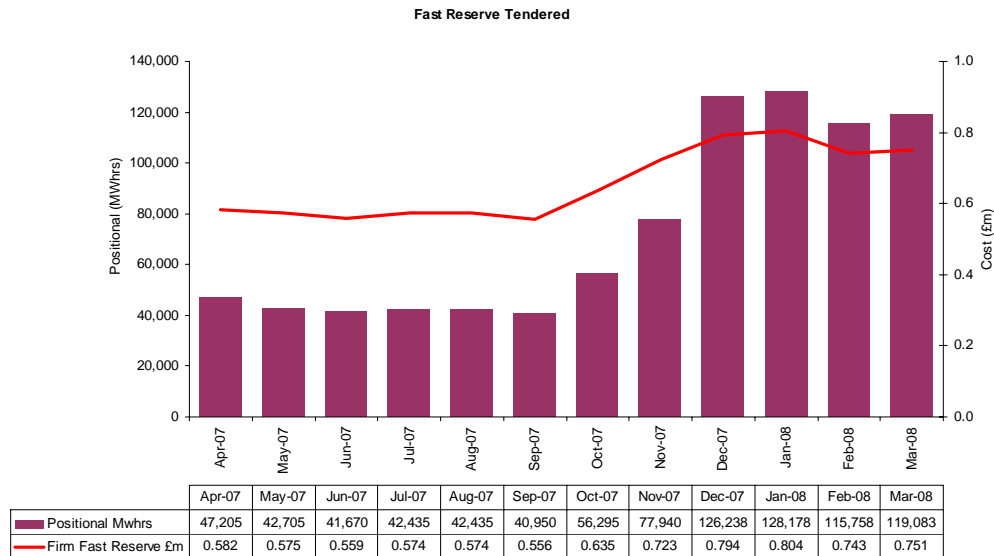
2.2 Fast Reserve (Tendered)

Further information explaining the service and assessment criteria of tenders for this Balancing Service can be found on the National Grid Website under Electricity/Balancing/tender reports/fast reserve.

The table detailed below lists the tender details for the relevant month.

	Eligible companies	Eligible units	Units tendered in previous months	Units tendered this month	Units accepted from previous months	Units accepted from this month	Total MW tendered	Total MW contracted	Max GWh tendered	Max GWh contracted	Positional Mwhrs
Apr-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	83.88	83.88	47,205.00
May-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	87.12	87.12	42,705.00
Jun-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	84.96	84.96	41,670.00
Jul-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	87.48	87.48	42,435.00
Aug-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	87.48	87.48	42,435.00
Sep-07	6	18	2	0	2	0	180	180	84.60	84.60	40,950.00
Oct-07	6	18	2	1	2	0	180	180	124.36	87.48	56,295.00
Nov-07	6	18	2	1	2	0	180	180	123.15	84.96	77,940.00
Dec-07	6	18	3	1	2	1	355	355	138.30	138.30	126,237.50
Jan-08	6	18	3	0	3	0	405	405	153.74	153.74	128,177.50
Feb-08	6	18	3	0	0	3	406	406	144.34	144.34	115,757.50
Mar-08	6	18	3	0	3	0	404	404	152.73	152.73	119,082.50

The following graph shows the variation in Fast Reserve capacity contracting by month.



For more information on Fast Reserve please refer to the National Grid Website

Fast Reserve Contracts placed through non-tendered bilateral agreements are detailed in section 3.6 of this report.

Comparison to the previous year

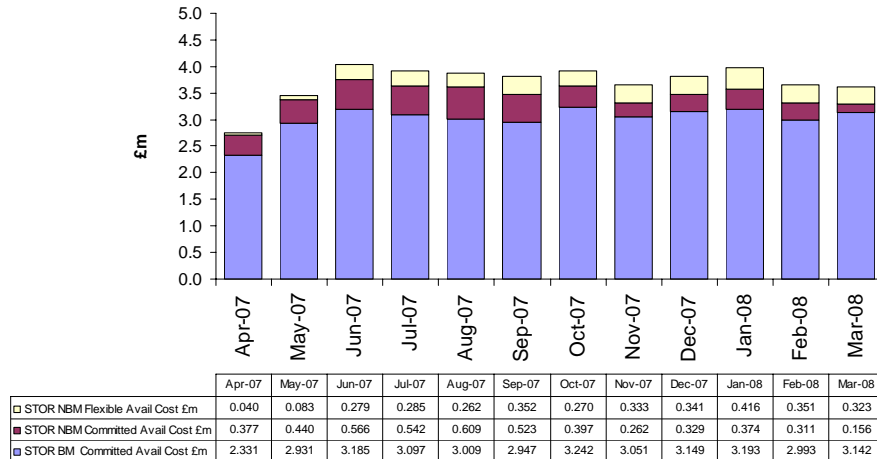
Fast Reserve (Tendered) costs have reduced by 6% from £8.4m in 2006/7 to £7.9m in 2007/8. There has been a greater reduction of 11% in holding volume from 992GWh in 2006/7 to 881GWh in 2007/8. This reduction in Tendered Fast Reserve holding volume is driven by optimisation against competition from Non-tendered Fast Reserve services. There was a general price increase in 2007/8 that led to reductions in positional MWh holding, especially over summer months, to minimise costs.

Non-tendered Fast Reserve costs have increased from £32m in 2006/7 to £36m in 2007/8. This is driven by a mixture of increased service prices and increased holding volume on providers that had also provided economic System Margin.

2.3 Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) including Balancing Mechanism (BM) and Non Balancing Mechanism (NBM)

STOR

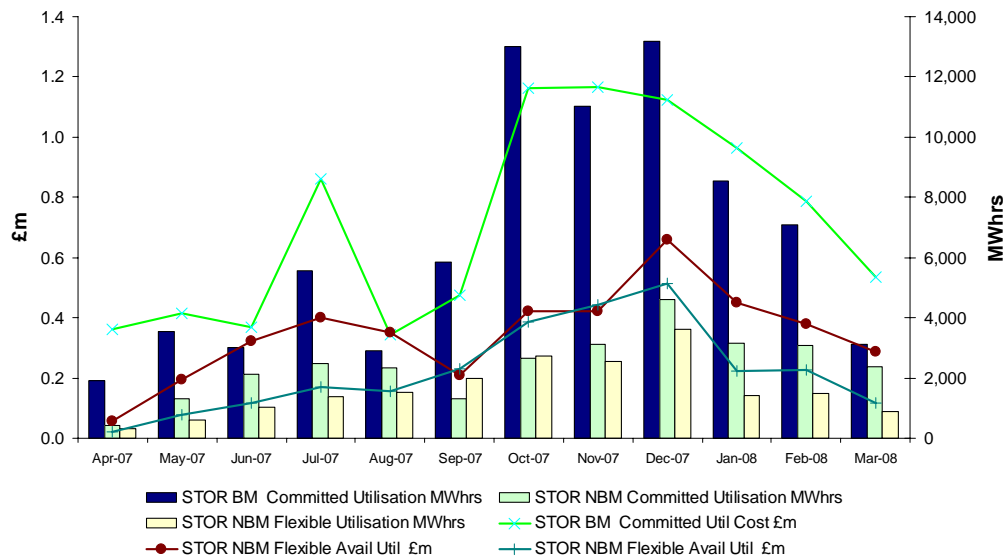
BM and NBM Availability Costs STOR - Flexible and Committed



£2.3m of STOR availability payments were “clawed-back” during 2007/8 due to non-availability of STOR providers. This is not shown in the chart above.

The average availability payment for STOR during this period was **£6.41/MW/h** for both non-working days and working days.

STOR BM & NBM Utilisation MWhr and Cost



Month	STOR BM Committed Util Cost £m	STOR NBM Committed Util Cost £m	STOR NBM Flexible Avail Util £m	STOR BM Committed Utilisation MWhrs	STOR NBM Committed Utilisation MWhrs	STOR NBM Flexible Utilisation MWhrs
Apr-07	0.36	0.06	0.02	1,898	424	325
May-07	0.41	0.19	0.08	3,553	1,297	594
Jun-07	0.37	0.32	0.12	3,014	2,114	1,034
Jul-07	0.86	0.40	0.17	5,578	2,472	1,374
Aug-07	0.34	0.35	0.15	2,906	2,356	1,533
Sep-07	0.48	0.21	0.23	5,850	1,310	1,968
Oct-07	1.16	0.42	0.39	13,016	2,657	2,715
Nov-07	1.16	0.42	0.44	11,006	3,132	2,562
Dec-07	1.13	0.66	0.51	13,182	4,620	3,622
Jan-08	0.97	0.45	0.22	8,548	3,161	1,426
Feb-08	0.79	0.38	0.23	7,092	3,094	1,506
Mar-08	0.53	0.29	0.12	3,124	2,379	869

[Please note that this graph & table does not reflect any seasonal reconciliation due to non-availability]

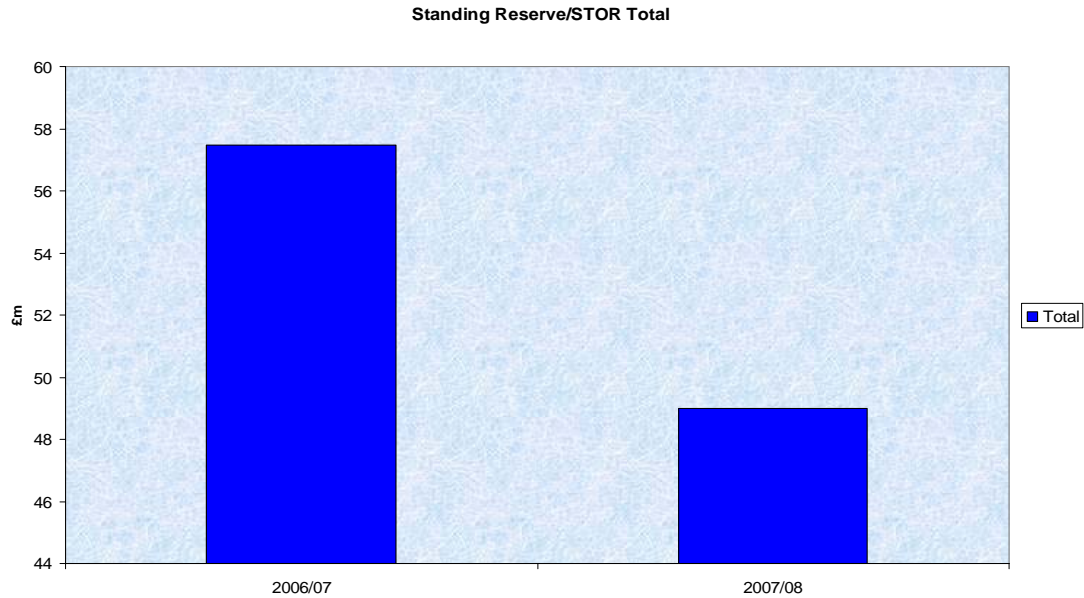
Further information on STOR can be found on the National Grid website at this address:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Balancing/services/reserveservices/STOR/>

Comparison with previous year

Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) was introduced in 2007 as a replacement for Standing Reserve and Supplemental Standing Reserve in order to simplify the process for procurement of reserve and stimulate competition in this area.

Compared to the costs for Standing Reserve and Supplemental Standing Reserve in 2006/7 total costs have gone down by ~£8m. This is due to a reduction in the volume purchased over winter 07. Stripping this effect out, we are left with a below the cost of inflation cost increase in underlying costs of around 3%.



Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR)

National Grid procures Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) through a competitive tender process which is conducted three times per year.

Further information on STOR can be found on the National Grid website at this address:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Balancing/services/reserveservices/STOR/>

2.4 Tendered Frequency Response.

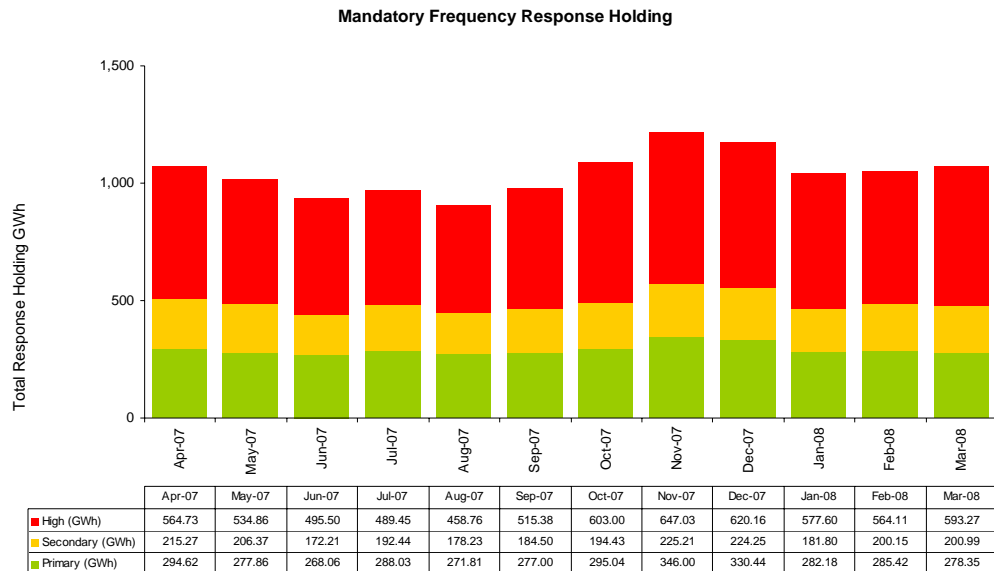
Please see Section 3.2

3. Services Procured via Non-Tendered Bilateral Contracts

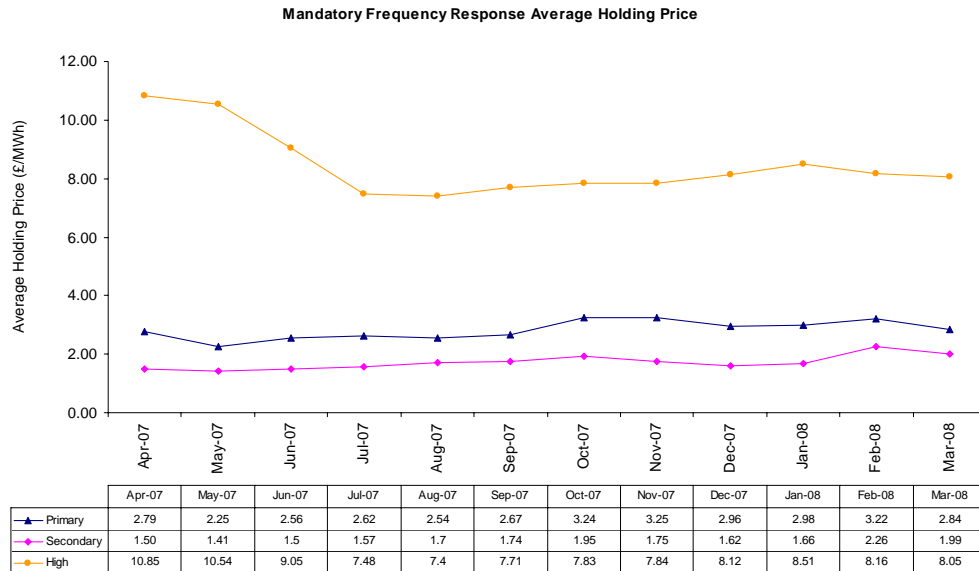
3.1 Mandatory Frequency Response

Mandatory Frequency Response is a mandatory service provided by large generators (>100MW) to automatically change their active power output in response to a change in system frequency. The Grid Code Connection Condition 6.3.7 and 8.1 describe the technical requirements for this service.

Payments for Mandatory Frequency Response comprise a Holding Payment (£/MW/h) and a Response Energy Payment (£/MWh). Details on frequency response holding are given below. More information on this can be found on the National Grid Website.



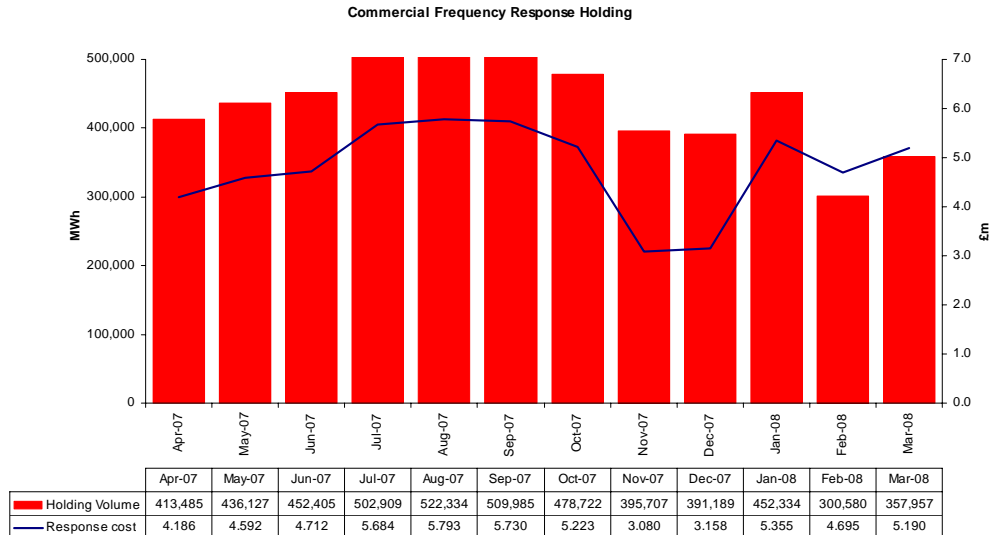
The chart below shows the Average Holding cost of Mandatory Frequency Response.



The methodology for calculating these payments is given in CUSC section [4.1.3.9 & 4.1.3.9A](#). The CUSC can be found on the National Grid website.

3.2 Commercial Frequency Response

Commercial Frequency Response is a collection of services that can be provided by demand side participants and generation plant. The technical characteristics of these services are different to those required under mandatory service arrangements, and range from enhanced mandatory dynamic services through to non-dynamic services effected via LF relays. Part of the contract portfolio includes services provided by demand side participants through Frequency Control Demand Management (FCDM) and through the firm frequency response (FFR) tender rounds.



Further information on Commercial Frequency is found in the appropriate place on the National Grid Website, or specifically on firm frequency response through the tenders and reports section of National Grid's Balancing Services website.

Comparison with the previous year

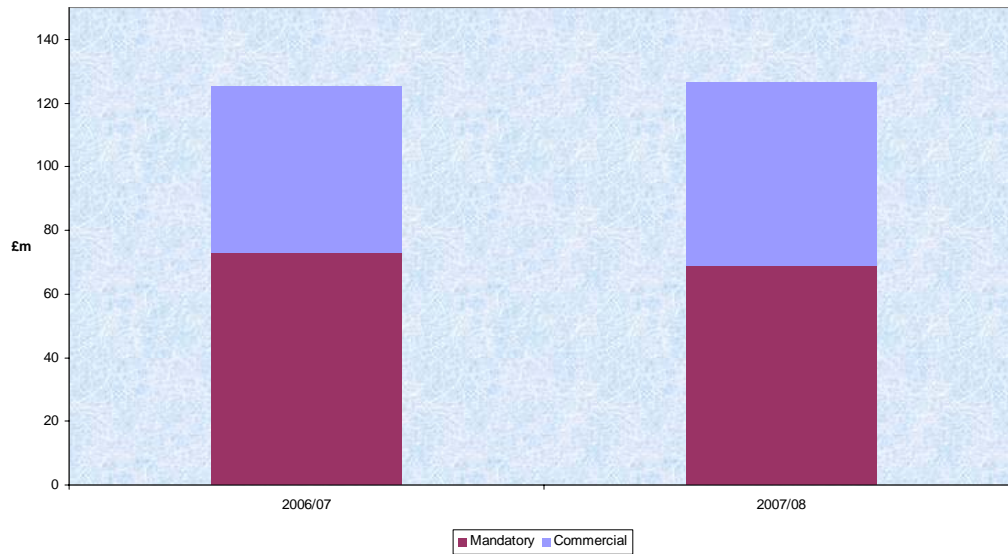
Total mandatory frequency response costs have decreased from £73m in 2006/7 to £69m in 2007/8. This is due to two main factors.

Firstly, following the pricing peaks seen in Winter 2006 a general stabilisation of the mandatory frequency response market was apparent through 2007 with a resultant general reduction in average Primary Secondary & High prices.

Secondly, to mitigate costs National Grid has forward contracted some of our requirement, which has displaced some of the cost that would otherwise have been incurred as a mandatory response cost.

Commercial frequency response costs have increased by around £5m from 06-07 to 07-08, and this is due to increased availability of certain commercial services during 07-08 along with rising power prices.

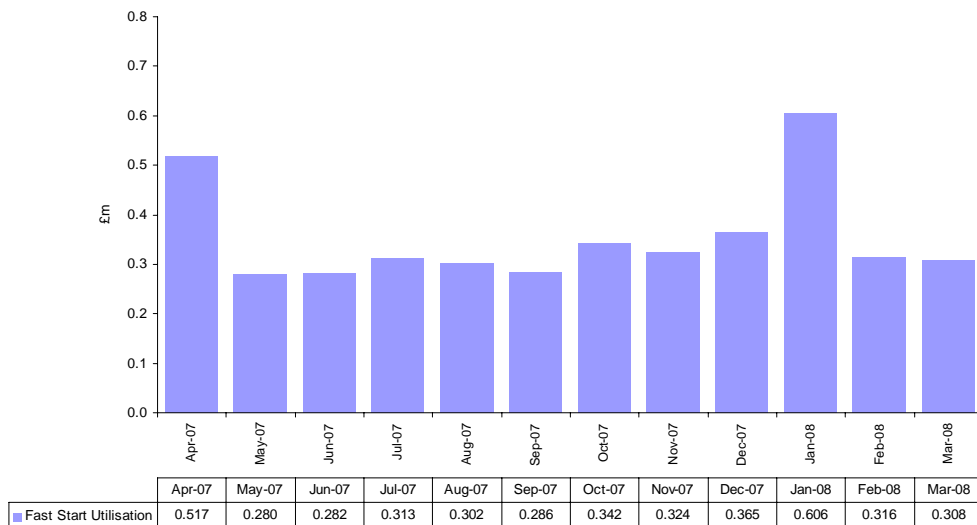
Total Response Holding costs (Commercial / Mandatory)



3.3 Fast Start

Fast Start is the ability of Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) plant to start rapidly from a standstill condition and to deliver its rated power output automatically within a defined time period. Fast Start details below:

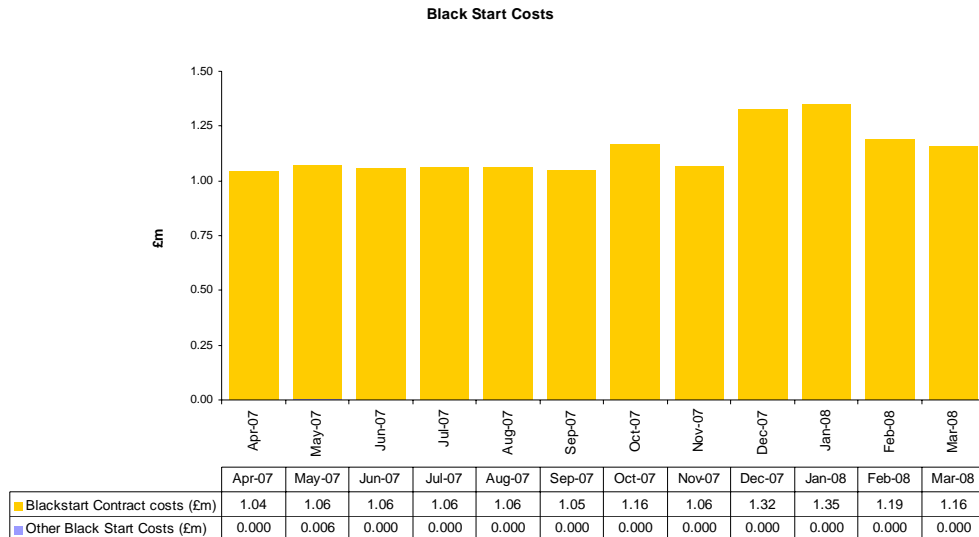
Fast Start Utilisation



Further information on Fast Start can be found on the National Grid Website.

3.4 Black Start

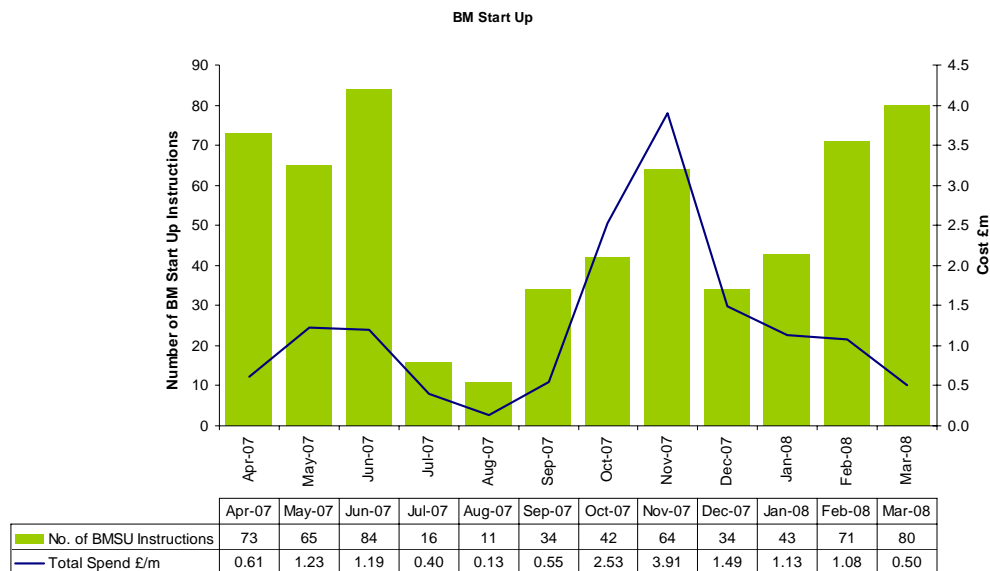
During the reporting year there were up to **23** stations with Black Start agreements in place. This breaks down as 22 stations between April and November 2007 and 23 thereafter.



Further information on Black Start can be found on the National Grid Website.

3.5 BM Start up

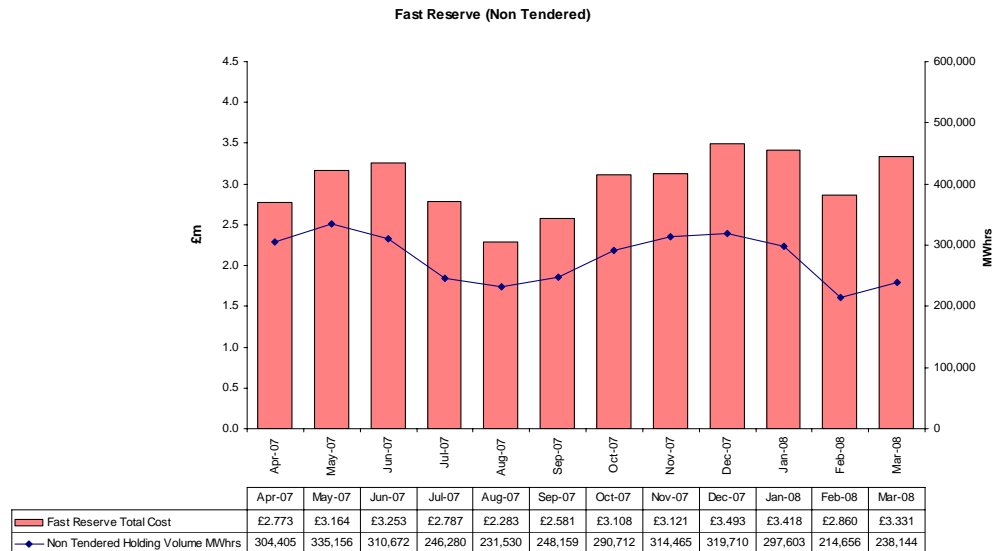
The chart below contains information relating to the procurement of BM Start Up Balancing Services;



Further details are available via the National Grid Website.

3.6 Fast Reserve (Procured on a Non-Tendered basis)

Non-Tendered Fast Reserve is a service that is contracted on a bilateral basis with service providers. The nature of the service is similar to the Firm Fast Reserve service although the payment and utilisation mechanisms differ for each service.



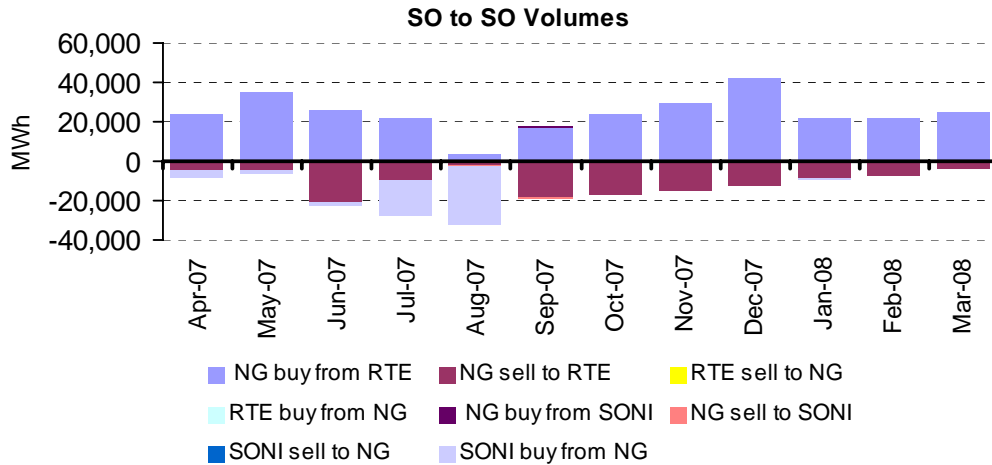
Comparison to previous year

Non-tendered Fast Reserve costs have increased from £32m in 2006/7 to £36m in 2007/8. This is driven by a mixture of increased service prices and increased holding volume on providers that had also provided economic System Margin.

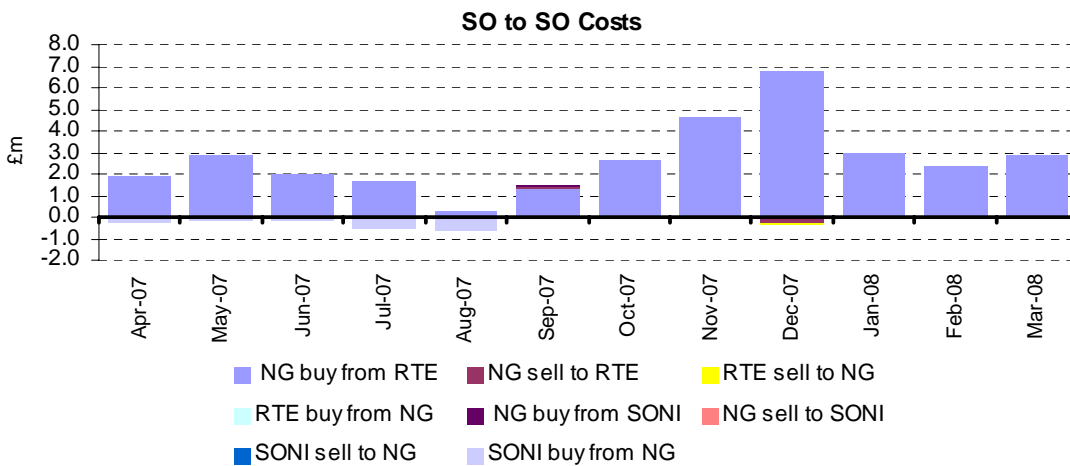
3.7 System to System Services

System to System services are provided mutually with other Transmission System Operators connected to the GB system via interconnectors. Such services are typically used to manage interconnector transfer profiles and to increase or reduce power flows across an interconnector to resolve transmission constraints on either side, or provide Emergency Assistance if required.

The graph below shows the total net volume imported and exported between GB, France and Ireland.



Month	NG buy from RTE (MWh)	NG sell to RTE (MWh)	RTE sell to NG (MWh)	RTE buy from NG (MWh)	NG buy from SONI (MWh)	NG sell to SONI (MWh)	SONI sell to NG (MWh)	
Apr-07	23,616	-4,958	11	0	0	0	0	
May-07	35,623	-4,480	0	0	0	0	0	
Jun-07	25,712	-20,857	0	0	0	0	0	
Jul-07	22,281	-9,965	0	0	0	0	0	
Aug-07	3,841	-1,823	0	0	0	0	-655	
Sep-07	16,937	-18,524	0	0	865	-146	0	
Oct-07	24,205	-17,093	0	0	0	0	-31	
Nov-07	29,515	-15,184	0	0	0	0	-4	128
Dec-07	41,505	-12,458	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan-08	22,218	-9,016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb-08	21,793	-7,613	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mar-08	24,829	-3,417	0	0	0	0	0	0

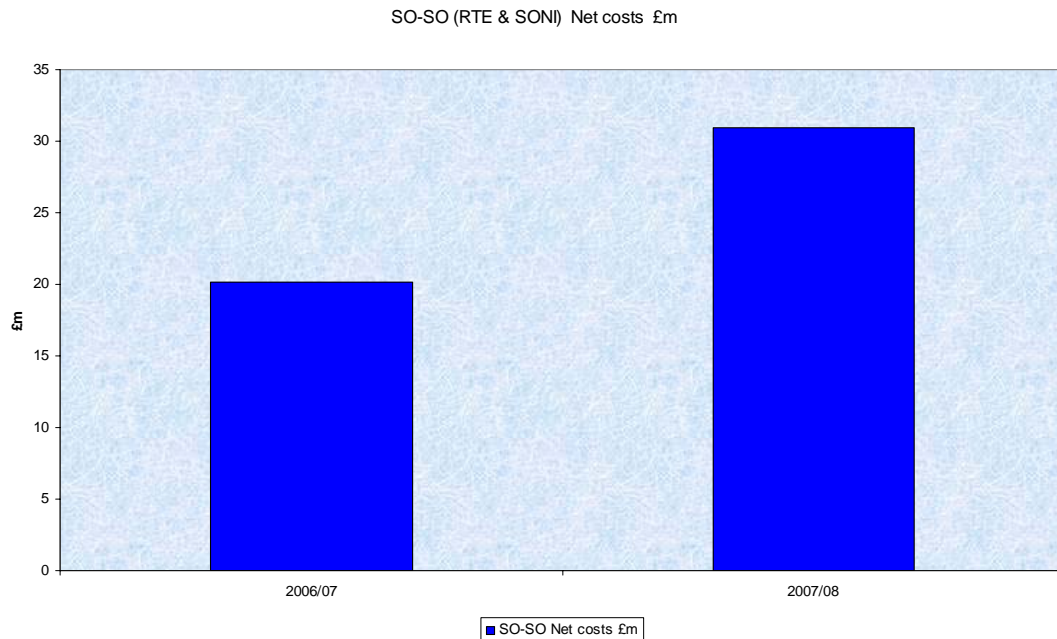


Month	NG buy from RTE (£m)	NG sell to RTE (£m)	RTE sell to NG (£m)	RTE buy from NG (£m)	NG buy from SONI (£m)	NG sell to SONI (£m)	SONI sell to NG (£m)
Apr-07	1.929	0.013	-0.006	-0.030	0.000	0.000	0.000
May-07	2.834	0.012	-0.006	-0.045	0.000	0.000	0.000
Jun-07	1.982	0.052	-0.026	-0.033	0.000	0.000	0.000
Jul-07	1.639	0.025	-0.013	-0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000
Aug-07	0.265	-0.049	-0.002	-0.005	0.000	-0.008	0.000
Sep-07	1.321	0.047	-0.023	-0.021	0.114	-0.002	0.000
Oct-07	2.571	0.043	-0.022	-0.031	0.000	0.000	0.000
Nov-07	4.575	0.008	-0.019	-0.037	0.054	0.000	0.000
Dec-07	6.818	-0.299	-0.014	-0.051	0.000	0.000	0.000
Jan-08	2.944	-0.006	-0.011	-0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000
Feb-08	2.360	-0.034	-0.010	-0.027	0.000	0.000	0.000
Mar-08	2.854	-0.022	-0.004	-0.031	0.000	0.000	0.000

Comparison with previous year

Overall SO-SO costs have increased from £23m to £31m. This is due to continued advantageous pricing of the Constraints Management & Balancing Service, under which SO-SO trades are performed, relative to the Balancing

Mechanism. The increase has also been a result of increased non-utilised capacity this year on account of higher exports to France than previous years. These have combined to make it economic to procure margin via SO-SO services where available. This has increased the volume of SO-SO trades undertaken from 445GWh gross in 2006/7 to 475GWh gross in 2007/8. Underlying rises in the wholesale markets have also increased the cost of procuring this volume.



3.8 System to Generator Operational Inter-tripping Schemes

As a consequence of their connection conditions, certain generators are obligated to have in place operational intertrip schemes.

These schemes fall under a number of different category types as defined under section 4.2.A of the CUSC which describes the compensation arrangements relating for these schemes. A proportion of these categories entitle the counter party to payments for the arming (capability fee) and utilisation of this service.

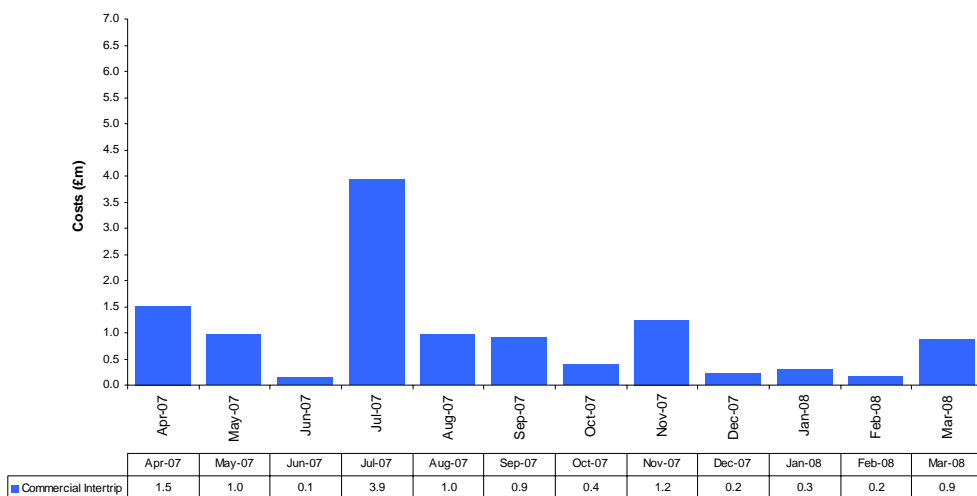
System to Generator Operational Intertipping - Capability Payments



3.9 Commercial Intertrip Service

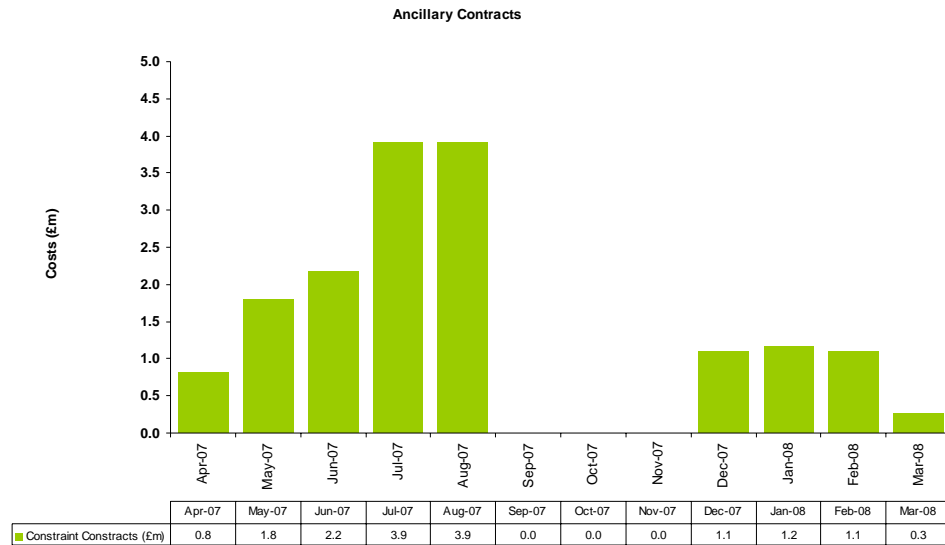
In addition to System to Generator Operational Inter-tripping Schemes, National Grid will seek to, where it proves economic and efficient to do so, enter into commercial Intertrip schemes to manage system issues.

Commercial Intertrips



3.10 Ancillary Contracts to manage System Issues

On occasion, National Grid enters into bespoke Ancillary contracts to manage certain transmission system issues. The number and nature of these contracts is necessarily confidential. The costs reported here include any costs of 'Transmission Related Agreements', which are entered as a consequence of certain customer choices of connection conditions.

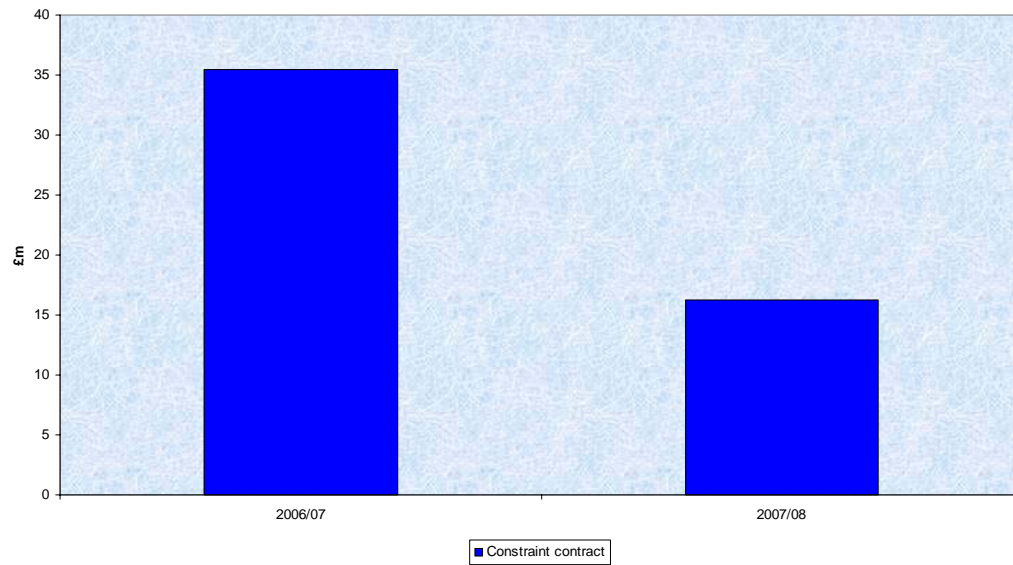


Comparison with previous year

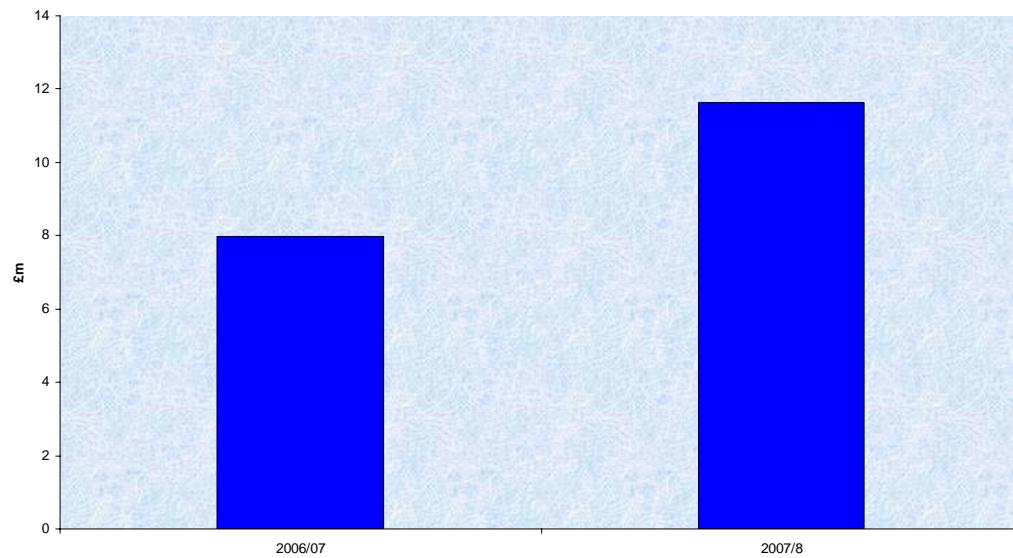
The costs of managing Transmission System constraints via contracts fell in 2007/8 compared to 2006/7 by some £19m. This change is largely due to a reduction in costs of non-GTMA contracts with Scottish generators between the two years due to a reduced requirement over this winter and beneficial generation outage patterns across the summer. The economics of market operation also affected the pricing of these contracts. It is also worth noting that some constraints during 2007/8 were managed via GTMA trades and thus appear in the "BMU Specific" Trade costs

The costs for arming Commercial Intertrips have increased between 2006/7 and 2007/8 this is due to an increase in the number of hours of arming and also one-off arrangements for particular outages and also due to price increases by some parties.

Constraint contract costs



Commercial Intertrip cost comparison to the previous year



3.11 Maximum Generation Service

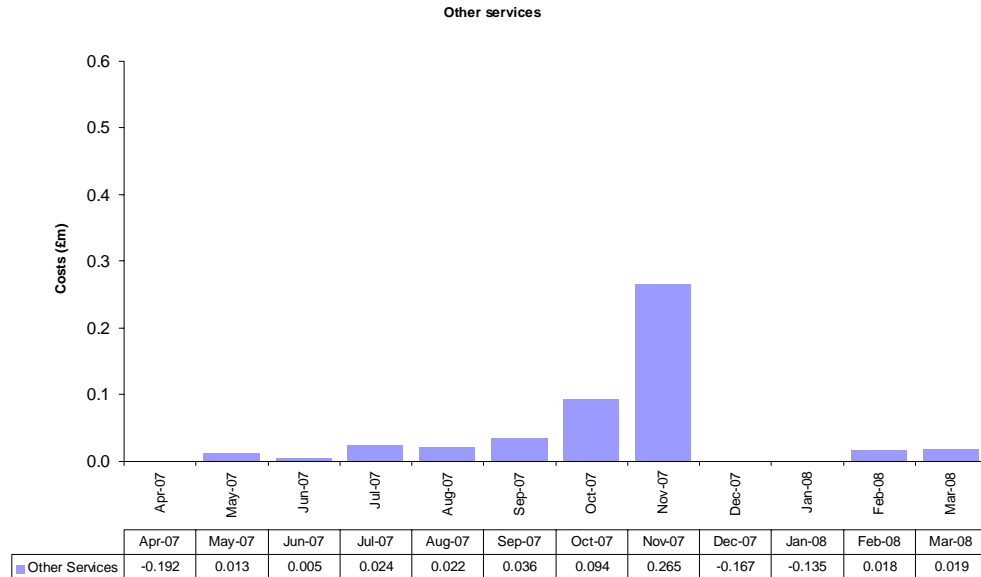
The Maximum Generation Service (MGS) is required to provide additional short term generation output during periods of system stress for system balancing. This service allows access to unused capacity outside of the Generator's normal operating range. MGS will be initiated by the issuing of an Emergency Instruction in accordance with the Grid Code BC2.9.2. Details of the service are contained in the CUSC section 4.2

Further details on the utilisation and availability of the service are available on the National Grid Website.

This service has not been utilised during 2007-8.

3.12 All Other Services

These include bespoke services to manage specific system conditions and costs relating to fees and liabilities.



4. Energy Related Products

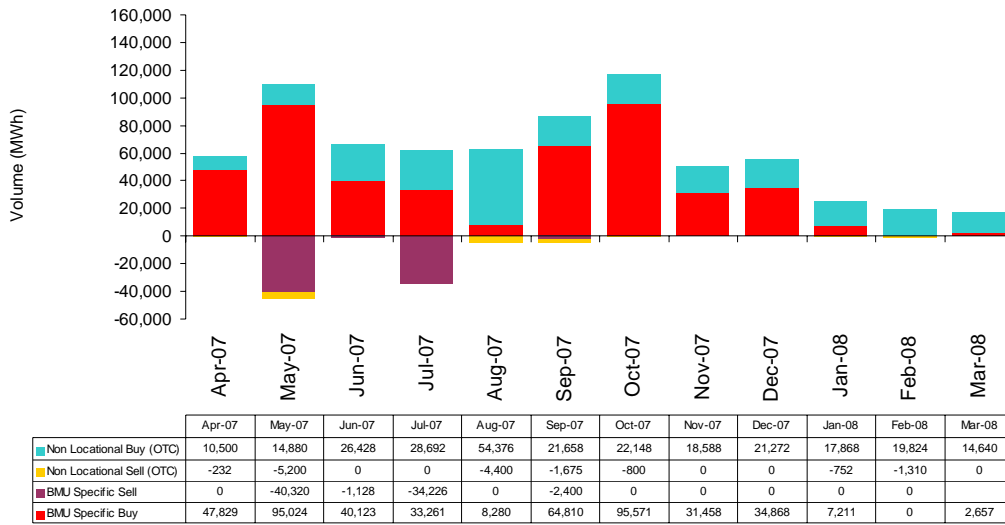
4.1 Forward Trading

National Grid's forward trading is undertaken to reduce the overall costs of balancing the system, and to resolve system issues as appropriate. There are a number of products and procurement mechanisms available.

Non Locational		} Total Net Spend £44m
Buy Volume	270,874 MWh	
Sell Volume	-14,368 MWh	
BMU Specific		
Buy Volume	461,092 MWh	
Sell Volume	-79,634 MWh	

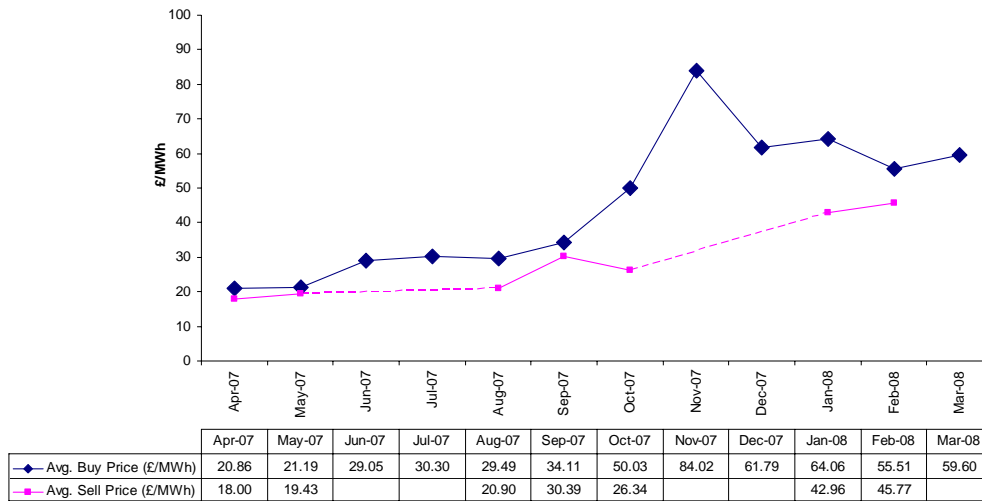
The following chart shows the monthly profile of our trading activities, both for non-locational energy trades and BMU-Specific trades.

Forward Trade Buys and Sells



The following graph shows the monthly profile of our non-locational energy trading activities. It comprises all the trades undertaken by National Grid through Power Exchanges and through the use of brokerage houses for that purpose.

Average Price of Non-Localational Energy Trades

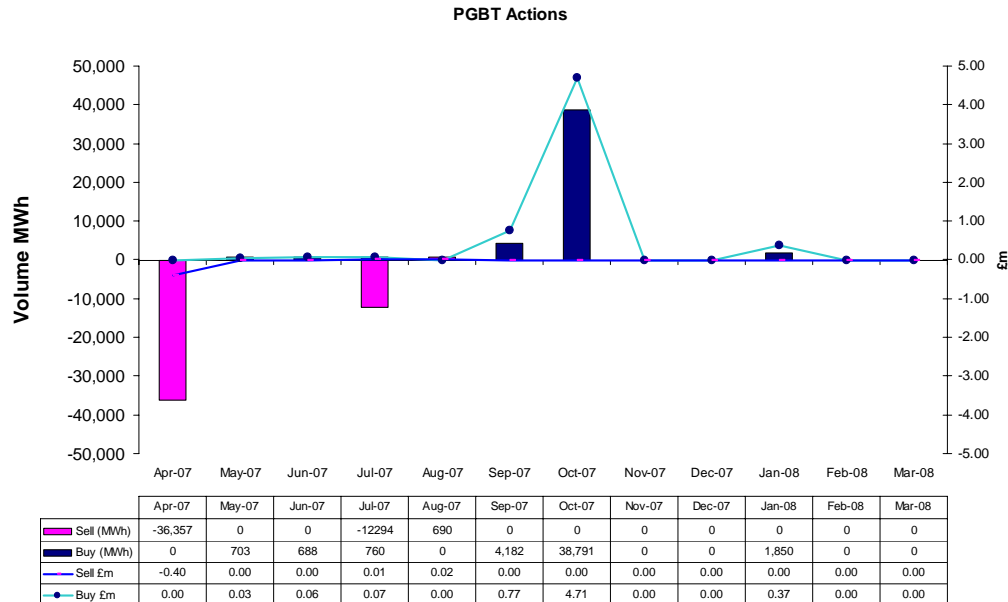


Please note the dashed months in the “Avg. Sell Price” line on the chart above is due to there having been no Non-Localational Energy Sell Trades in these months. March is blank for the same reason.

Further details are available via the National Grid Website.

4.2 Pre-Gate BMU Transactions (PGBT)

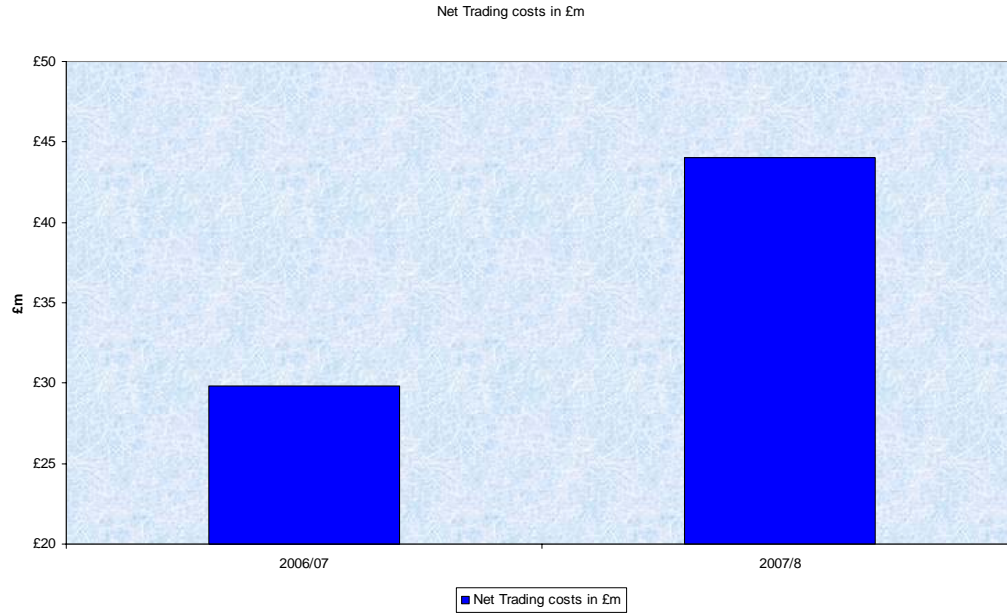
Information on PGBT activity transactions sourced and agreed is given in the chart below.



Details on real time PGBT transactions can be found on the BMRS (system warning page) and post event, on the National Grid Website.

Comparison to Previous year

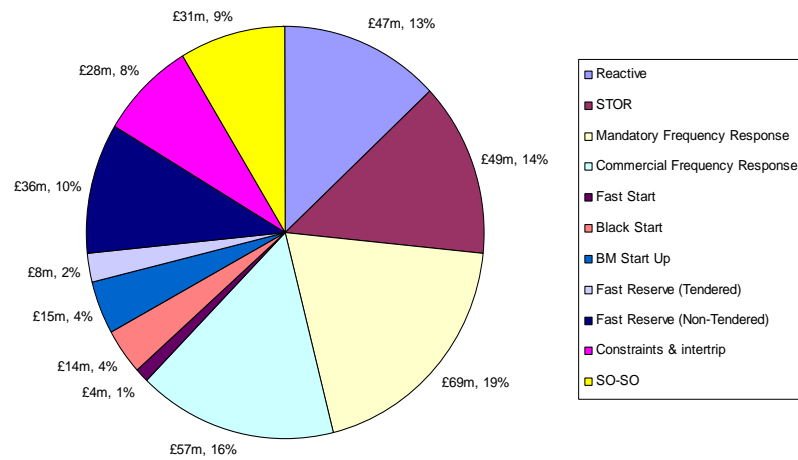
Forward Trades have increased in cost by some £14m compared to 2006/7. This has largely been due to rising wholesale prices within the Electricity market have also pushed up the costs of buying power thus increasing the cost incurred via trading in absolute terms. Overall volumes trades in 2007/8 were slightly lower volume than in 2006/7 with 825GWh in 2007/8 versus 895GWh in 2006/7.



5. Summary

As a summary of financial activity, the following breakdown of balancing service costs is provided by category, for the year.

Summary of Balancing Services Contracts Costs 2007/08



6. Further information

For further information on the types of Balancing Services that National Grid intends to procure, please refer to the prevailing **Procurement Guidelines**. Information on bid and offer acceptances in the Balancing Mechanism is contained within the **Balancing Principles Statement Report**. These documents, along with the **Procurement Guidelines Report**, are published in accordance with Standard Condition C16 of the Transmission Licence and are available on the National Grid Industry Information website.

Electricity Balancing Development

Email: .box.balancingservices@uk.ngrid.com

7 Information Summary Page

Balancing Service	Info Provision	Total costs £m	Total Value
Reactive Power Market	Utilisation Volume (MA)		3332GVArh
	Utilisation Volume (DefaultPM)		18520 GVArh
	Total Spend (MA)	8.91	
	Total Spend (Default PM)	38.03	
Short Term Operating Reserve(STOR) Including BM and NBM	<u>Annual Average availability payments:</u>		
	Non-Working Days		6.41
	Working Days		6.41
	Total Spend	49.01	
	Total Volume		29,017
Mandatory Frequency Response	Holding Volumes & Prices:		Primary / Sec / High
	Average Volume held MW		398 271 759
	Average price £/MW/h		2.83 1.72 8.46
	Total Holding Spend	70.20	
	Total Response Energy Payment Spend	-1.09	
Commercial Frequency Response	No. Of Contracts		5 (Apr-Jun, Oct-Mar), 6(Jul-Sep)
	Total Spend	57.40	
Fast Start	Total Spend	4.24	
Black Start	Total Spend	13.58	
BM Start Up	Total Cost of BM Start Up	14.74	
	Number of instructions		617
Fast Reserve-Tendered	Total Spend on Availability & Utilisation	7.87	
Fast Reserve Non-Tendered	Total Spend on Availability	36.17	
SO to SO	Volume Imported		293GWh
	Volume Exported		-182GWh
	Total Spend	30.95	
System to Generator operational inter-trips	Capability Payments	0.39	
	Utilisation Payments	0.00	
Commercial Intertrip Service	Total Spend	11.64	
Ancillary Constraint Contracts	Total Spend	16.21	
Maximum Generation Service	Total Spend	0.00	
All Other Services	Total Spend	0.00	
Forward Trading	Traded gross volume		825968MWh
	Net cost of forward trading	44.05	
	OTC - Power Exchange & Energy		
	Buy Volume		270874MWh
	Sell Volume		-14368MWh
	OTC - BMU Specific		
	Buy Volume		461092MWh
Sell Volume		-79634MWh	
PGBT	No. of PGBT entered into:		
	Sourced		46
	Agreed		37
	Average PGBT Prices £/MWh:		
	Buy		60.85
	Sell		0.75
	Volume MWh:		
	Buy		46974MWh
	Sell		-47,960MWh
	Total Cost of PGBT	5.63	
Summary	Total	£408m	