What are Triads?

The Triad refers to the three half-hour settlement periods with highest system demand between November and February, separated by at least ten clear days. National Grid uses the Triad to determine TNUoS charges for customers with half-hour metering.

How are Triads calculated?

The Triads for each financial year are calculated after the end of February, using system demand data for the half-hour settlement periods between November and February. An example is given here, using the 2014/15 demand diagram.

Step 1 – Calculate the half hourly system demand between November and February.

1.a Sum up all Supplier BMUs volumes (i.e. sum all BMUs starting 2_).

1.b Add any other BMUs taking demand, excluding Interconnectors (i.e. adding BMUs starting E_, T_ or M_).

Step 2 – From the data obtained in step 1, select the highest half-hour system demand. This settlement period is one of the three (triad) periods (please see the figure below for details)

Step 3 – Set aside 10 Clear Days on both sides of the settlement period obtained in step 2.

Step 4 – From the remaining half hourly system demand data, select the highest hour-hour system demand. This settlement period is one of the three (triad) periods.

Step 5 – Set aside 10 Clear Days on both sides of the settlement period obtained in step 4.
**Step 6** – From the remaining half hourly system demand data, select the highest hour-hour system demand. This settlement period is one of the three (triad) periods.

*Graph 1: Calculating the Triads*

**Where can I find historical Triad data?**

The historic data can be found here. (If the link does not work, please copy and paste the following address onto your web browser)

How will the Triads affect me?

The Triads only affect those customers who have meters that measure their demand on a half-hourly basis (typically large or medium industrial and commercial customers). If they do not consume electricity in the three “Triad” half-hours, they do not pay TNUs charges for the entire financial year.

Domestic customers with smart meters are not affected by Triads.

Can National Grid forecast the triads?

As the triads are not known in advance, National Grid does not forecast them. However, National Grid issues notice of insufficient system margin (NISM) when the system is likely to be under stress due to high demand and low generation. In addition, your Supplier may provide a Triad forecasting service to notify when there is likely to be a Triad period.

For further information please contact charging.enquiries@nationalgrid.com.

Disclaimer

In the event of any inconsistencies between this guidance note and the CUSC, the NGC Use of System Charging Methodology or the BSC, then the CUSC, the NGC Use of System Charging Methodology or the BSC will take precedence.

The CUSC all Code subsidiary documentation can be downloaded from the National Grid Website. The Statement of the Use of System Charging Methodology and the CUSC can be downloaded from the website.

For more information please contact the BSC Service Desk at bcservicedesk@cgi.com or call 0870 010 6950.