

IFA2 Major Milestones

Over the past few months, there have been several key milestones which have been achieved throughout construction, therefore ensuring we stay on track to complete IFA2 later this year.

Market Coupling – 25th June 2020

As we approach IFA2's commercial go-live date, we have been working with EMCO, our appointed Nominated Electricity Market Operator (NEMO), to ensure that all market coupling trading systems are in place in order to offer day ahead capacity.

On 25th June, IFA2 will have its technical go-live into market coupling, marking the end of its accession process to the Single Day Ahead Coupling Agreement, the contract that oversees market coupling across Europe. Effectively this means the Interconnector will be ready to offer Day Ahead capacity once the Interconnector is commercially available.

Hans Randen, Director Market Coupling Operator at Nord Pool, Europe's leading power market – which provides IFA2 with market coupling services for the Single Day Ahead Coupling – said: “Everyone at Nord Pool is very pleased to be a part of the success of IFA2. Working closely with the team at NGIC we were proud to have achieved technical readiness for IFA2 for 25th June, which was both on time and inside the agreed project timescale. We look forward to continuing the excellent working relationship we have enjoyed with the IFA2 team in the build-up to commercial go live later this year, and into the future.”

It is worth noting that although IFA2 will appear live in market coupling, until IFA2 goes live, the Available Transfer Capacity (ATC) will remain at 0.



Testing Milestones

As equipment installations continue to be completed across both HVDC Converter Station Sites, there are a range of testing activities being carried out to ensure that each piece of equipment which need to take place to ensure that this equipment is and will operate as expected.

Over the past few months, testing has continued to keep pace with installation, therefore allowing continuity of works.

Commissioning Update

Throughout September 2020 and into early October 2020, the IFA2 Interconnector, connecting the RTE and National Grid Transmission Systems, will enter its Commissioning phase before coming Operational. During Commissioning, active power transfers will take place between France and GB. The associated direction and volume of power flow will vary. Further information will be provided at the end of August, via the Elexon REMIT Portal.

IFA2 Virtual Product Launch Event – Short Term Capacity

Due to the current restrictions on travelling and events, the IFA customer team have decided that it is not feasible to hold a physical customer launch event, as has been the standard for previous National Grid interconnectors.

To still mark this milestone of short term capacity trading, the customer team shall be hosting a virtual product launch for current and potential customers, as well as all interested parties.

During the event, the team will present products on IFA2, future products, future interconnectors within National Grid's portfolio, as well as hold the annual IFA forum. If you wish us to cover any particular topics, please let us know and we shall ensure that these are included.

Invitations for the event shall be sent directly to our customer base, plus will be advertised on the IFA website, JAO Platform and other third party platforms.

For further information on this event or how to register for IFA2, please contact the IFA customer team