# Weather-driven Energy System

**Presentation to IEA** 

12 September 2022







## **INTRODUCTION TO EIRGRID**

- We are owned by the Irish Government, and we are a regulated utility. This means we operate solely for the benefit of the electricity user.
- We do not generate electricity we bring it from generators across the grid. We also operate some interconnectors with neighbouring electricity grids.
- We run the wholesale electricity market. This ensures electricity is always available at the most economic price possible.
- We do not own the electricity grid, and have no vested interest in adding to it.
- We only upgrade or add to the grid in response to government policy, or where it is an essential response to secure Ireland's electricity supply.



#### **ISLAND OF IRELAND POWER SYSTEM**



#### Facts & Features

Prevailing wind onto Western Atlantic Coast Main load centres on the East Coast Two 500 MW HVDC links to GB High level of operational constraints (e.g. 75% SNSP) Fuel mix dominated by gas and wind

#### **Statistics**

10 GW Dispatchable/Controllable Gen (incl wind & solar)
7 GW Winter Peak Demand
2.5 GW Summer Valley Demand
Record Wind 4.5 GW on 5<sup>th</sup> Feb
Record Wind 96% of all-island demand on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb





## LET'S TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER

- Why is it important to forecast?
- What forecasts do we use?
- How do we use the forecasts?
- What does the future hold?







#### **ENERGY TRANSITION**





Need to manage each type of day.

Need to manage the transition between the days.



## **EIRGRID'S CHANGE MANAGEMENT**

#### DS3 & SOEF Programmes

#### **System Policy**

- Robust Operational Change Governance
- Systematic System Trials to push operational limits

#### System Performance

- Power System
- Generator and new technology

#### **System Tools**

- EMS including Wind Dispatch Tool
- Wind Forecasting Tool
- New: Ramping Margin Tool
- New: Look Ahead Stability Assessment Tool
- New: Voltage Trajectory Tool



#### **CURRENT STATE OF EIRGRID'S SCHEDULING TOOLS**



### WIND & SOLAR ENERGY FORECASTS



- Each vendor generates an ensemble of forecasts based on different weather models.
- The average forecast is provided as the Variable Generation Forecast.
- The ramp forecast is generated by calculating the ramp for each forecast within the ensemble, for 1, 3 & 8 hours.
- The 80<sup>th</sup> percentile is the value provided in the ramp forecast.
- The Variable Generation Forecast and the Variable Generation Ramp Forecast are used to calculate the Variable Generation Uncertainty.
- The Variable Generation Uncertainty is combined with Load Forecast Uncertainty and Interconnector Uncertainty to produce the Ramping Requirement.
- The Ramping Requirement is an input to the Integrated Scheduling Process.



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# RAMPING IN HIGH WIND

Exercise Judgement:

- Schedule "defensively".
- Consider "using lower forecast" in long term schedule.
- Consider scaling down the forecast in long term schedule.
- Consider commitment of marginal 'slow start' units.
- Share less reserve capacity between North and South.
- Consider increasing regional stability/Target lower flows between regions.
- Preemptively constrain wind to reduce impact of gusts and improve frequency control and reduce risk of inadvertent protection trippings.



# RAMPING IN STORM CONDITIONS

Convene Storm Response Team

- Return circuits from maintenance outages.
- Put power system trials on hold.
- Audit protection settings.
- Identify risk areas.
- Anticipate tripping and impacts thereof (loss of load, loss of wind)
- Communicate internally and externally.
- Staff up the Control Centres.
- Again: Schedule defensively.



## LOOK-AHEAD STABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Simulates tripping of 800+ scenarios
- Checks power system stability
  - Operates within secure frequency ranges
  - Stay within Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) limit
- "What if" transfer analysis
- Does not consider ramp forecast







## **VOLTAGE TRAJECTORY TOOL**

- Operate within secure voltage ranges
- Suggests corrective voltage actions
- Does not consider ramp forecast

NODEL PREPARATION (S) SCENARIOS 
☐ CONTROL PANEL Home / Online Scenarios / Ngrid / Map + UCROSH3

> EIRGRID GROUP

#### THE FUTURE: SHAPING OUR ELECTRICITY FUTURE



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#### Changes

No Peat Little Coal More Solar More Onshore Wind More Offshore Wind 3<sup>rd</sup> GB Connection French Connection



Greenlink

#### THE FUTURE: SHAPING OUR ELECTRICITY FUTURE

	2021		2030
Policy	40% RES-E	Probabilistic Ops.	80% RES-E
Demand	Data Centres	Electric Vehicles	Heat Pumps
Generation	Onshore/Offshore Wind	Solar Energy-Limited	Distributed/Micro Resources
New I/Cs	GreenLink (500 MV	V) Increased Ramp Rates	Celtic (700 MW)
Market	Dispatchable Win	d European r	e-integration
Infrastructure	Statcoms / Sync Cons. Ser	ries Comp. Power Flow Con	trollers Dynamic Line Rating



# In Summary: Operating our weather-driven power system is very complex. This complexity will increase so our ability to manage uncertainty will have to grow and grow.

## **Thank You**

www.eirgridgroup.com

www.smartgriddashboard.com

