



* as according to ACER Decision No 04/2024 (of 19 March 2024)

AGREEMENT OF THE CORE CCR REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

on

THE 4TH AMENDMENT OF THE REGIONAL SPECIFIC ANNEX FOR THE CCR CORE TO THE HARMONISED ALLOCATION RULES FOR LONG-TERM TRANSMISSION RIGHTS

in accordance with Article 52 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a Guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation”, dated 29 January 2026

15 April 2026

I. Introduction and legal context

The Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a guideline on forward capacity allocation (“Regulation 2016/1719”) entered into force on 17 October 2016 and was amended by the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/280 of 22 February 2021 amending Regulations (EU) 2015/1222, (EU) 2016/1719, (EU) 2017/2195 and (EU) 2017/1485 in order to align them with Regulation (EU) 2019/943. Regulation 2016/1719 sets out detailed rules on cross-zonal capacity allocation in the forward markets, on the establishment of a common methodology to determine long-term cross-zonal capacity, on the establishment of a single allocation platform at European level offering long-term transmission rights, and on the possibility to return long-term transmission rights for subsequent forward capacity allocation or transfer long-term transmission rights between market participants.

This document elaborates an agreement of all Regulatory Authorities of the Core Capacity Calculation Region (“CCR”) on 15 April 2026, on the proposal for the 4th Amendment of the **Regional Specific Annex for CCR Core to the Harmonised Allocation Rules for long-term transmission rights in accordance with Article 52 of Regulation 2016/1719** (hereafter: “4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal”), as submitted by the last TSO on 3 April 2026 pursuant to Articles 4(12) and 4(7)(e) of Regulation 2016/1719. This 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal constitutes an Annex to the harmonised allocation rules for long-term transmission rights on EU level (HAR) in accordance with Article 51 of Regulation 2016/1719.

This agreement of all Core Regulatory Authorities (ACM, AGEN-RS, ANRE, BNetzA, CRE, CREG, CRU, E-Control, ERU, HEA, HERA, ILR, URE, URSO) shall provide evidence that a decision on the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal does not, at this stage, need to be adopted by ACER pursuant to Article 4(10) of Regulation 2016/1719. This agreement is intended to constitute the basis on which all Core Regulatory Authorities will each subsequently adopt a decision on the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal pursuant to Article 4(7)(e) of Regulation 2016/1719.

The legal provisions relevant to the submission and approval of the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal can be found in Articles 3, 4, 51-52 and 54 of Regulation 2016/1719. They are set out here for reference.

The term “allocation rules” is defined in Article 2(1) of Regulation 2016/1719 and means the rules for forward capacity allocation applied by the single allocation platform.

Article 3 of Regulation 2016/1719:

This Regulation aims at:

- (a) promoting effective long-term cross-zonal trade with long-term cross-zonal hedging opportunities for market participants;*
- (b) optimising the calculation and allocation of long-term cross-zonal capacity;*
- (c) providing non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity;*
- (d) ensuring fair and non-discriminatory treatment of TSOs, the Agency, regulatory authorities and market participants;*

- (e) respecting the need for a fair and orderly forward capacity allocation and orderly price formation;*
- (f) ensuring and enhancing the transparency and reliability of information on forward capacity allocation;*
- (g) contributing to the efficient long-term operation and development of the electricity transmission system and electricity sector in the Union.*

Article 4 of Regulation 2016/1719:

- 1. TSOs shall develop the terms and conditions or methodologies required by this Regulation and submit them for approval to the competent regulatory authorities within the respective deadlines set out in this Regulation. In exceptional circumstances, notably in cases where a deadline cannot be met due to circumstances external to the sphere of TSOs, the deadlines for terms and conditions or methodologies may be prolonged by the Agency in procedures pursuant to paragraph 6, and jointly by all competent regulatory authorities in procedures pursuant to paragraph 7. Where a proposal for terms and conditions or methodologies pursuant to this Regulation needs to be developed and agreed by more than one TSO, the participating TSOs shall closely cooperate. TSOs, with the assistance of ENTSO for Electricity, shall regularly inform the competent regulatory authorities and the Agency about the progress of the development of these terms and conditions or methodologies.*
- 2. (...)*
- 3. (...)*
- 4. (...)*
- 5. Each regulatory authority or where applicable the Agency, as the case may be, shall be responsible for approving the terms and conditions or methodologies referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7. Before approving the terms and conditions or methodologies, the Agency or the competent regulatory authorities shall revise the proposals where necessary, after consulting the respective TSOs, in order to ensure that they are in line with the purpose of this Regulation and contribute to market integration, non-discrimination, effective competition and the proper functioning of the market.*
- 6. (...)*
- 7. The proposals for the following terms and conditions or methodologies shall be subject to approval by all regulatory authorities of the concerned region:*
 - (...)*
 - (e) the regional requirements of the harmonised allocation rules pursuant to Article 52, including the regional compensation rules pursuant to Article 55;*
- 8. (...)*
- 9. Where the approval of the terms and conditions or methodologies in accordance with paragraph 7 or the amendment in accordance with paragraph 11 requires a decision by more than one regulatory authority, the competent regulatory authorities shall consult and closely cooperate*

and coordinate with each other in order to reach an agreement. Where applicable, the competent regulatory authorities shall take into account the opinion of the Agency. Regulatory authorities shall take decisions concerning the submitted terms and conditions or methodologies in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7, within six months following the receipt of the terms and conditions or methodologies by the Agency or, where applicable, by the regulatory authority or, where applicable, by the last regulatory authority concerned. The period shall begin on the day following that on which the proposal was submitted to the Agency in accordance with paragraph 6 or to the last regulatory authority concerned in accordance with paragraph 7.

10. Where the regulatory authorities have not been able to reach an agreement within the period referred to in paragraph 9, or upon their joint request, or upon the Agency's request according to the third subparagraph of Article 5(3) of Regulation (EU) 2019/942, the Agency shall adopt a decision concerning the submitted proposals for terms and conditions or methodologies within 6 months, in accordance with Article 5(3) and the second subparagraph of Article 6(10) of Regulation (EU) 2019/942.

11. (...)

12. The Agency or the regulatory authorities jointly, where they are responsible for the adoption of terms and conditions or methodologies in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7, may respectively request proposals for amendments of those terms and conditions or methodologies and determine a deadline for the submission of those proposals. TSOs responsible for developing a proposal for terms and conditions or methodologies may propose amendments to regulatory authorities and the Agency.

The proposals for amendment to the terms and conditions or methodologies shall be submitted to consultation in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 6 and approved in accordance with the procedure set out in this Article.

(...)

Article 51 of Regulation 2016/1719

- 1. Within six months after the entry into force of this Regulation, all TSOs shall jointly develop a proposal for harmonised allocation rules for long-term transmission rights pursuant to Article 52(2). The proposal shall be subject to consultation in accordance with Article 6. This proposal shall include regional and bidding zone border specific requirements if developed by the TSOs of each capacity calculation region pursuant to Article 52(3).*
- 2. Once the regional requirements have entered into force, they shall prevail over the general requirements defined in the harmonised allocation rules. In case the general requirements of the harmonised allocation rules are amended and submitted to all regulatory authorities' approval, the regional requirements shall also be submitted to regulatory authorities' approval of the concerned capacity calculation region.*

Article 52 of Regulation 2016/1719

1. (...)

2. (...)

3. *The harmonised allocation rules may also contain regional or bidding zone border specific requirements in particular for, but without limitation to:*

(a) the description of the type of long-term transmission rights which are offered on each bidding zone border within the capacity calculation region pursuant to Article 31;

(b) the type of long-term transmission rights remuneration regime to be applied on each bidding zone border within the capacity calculation region according to the allocation in the day-ahead time frame pursuant to Article 35;

(c) the implementation of alternative coordinated regional fallback solutions pursuant to Article 42;

(d) the regional compensation rules defining regional firmness regimes pursuant to Article 55.

Article 54 of Regulation 2016/1719

1. *The concerned TSOs on a bidding zone border may propose a cap on the total compensation to be paid to all holders of curtailed long-term transmission rights in the relevant calendar year or the relevant calendar month in case of Direct Current interconnectors.*

2. *The cap shall not be lower than the total amount of congestion income collected by the concerned TSOs on the bidding zone border in the relevant calendar year. In case of Direct Current interconnectors, TSOs may propose a cap not lower than the total congestion income collected by the concerned TSOs on the bidding zone border in the relevant calendar month.*

3. *In case of several interconnectors operated by different TSOs on the same bidding zone border and subject to different regulatory regimes overseen by regulatory authorities, the total congestion income used for calculation of capped compensation pursuant to paragraph 2 may be dissociated between each interconnector. Such a division shall be proposed by the concerned TSOs and approved by the competent regulatory authorities.*

II. The Core TSOs' proposal

In the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal, Core TSOs added a new Article 19 that includes the future bidding zone border between the Single Electricity Market of Ireland and Northern Ireland (SEM) and France (SEM-FR) and a cap on compensation which shall be applicable to the SEM-FR bidding zone border. This 4th amendment shall be applicable as of the SEM-FR bidding zone border becoming effective, i.e. from the date of operation of the interconnector on the respective bidding zone border.

Additionally, Core TSOs added two new Articles 24 and 25 describing specificities for the HVDC borders Belgium-Germany and France-Ireland (after Celtic interconnector commercial Go Live), aiming at enabling market participants to return Long Term Transmission Rights (LTTRs) on HVDC borders where reduction periods are applied, in the context of long-term flow-based allocation. This possibility only applies to HVDC borders and only if the LTTRs to be returned at a subsequent auction contain exactly the same reduction period(s) as the ones of the subsequent auction itself.

Core TSOs' organized from 22 September 2025 until 22 October 2025, a public consultation on the draft 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal. The public consultation has been organized by ENTSO-E on behalf of Core TSOs, via the online ENTSO-E Consultation Hub. In total, two stakeholders provided their inputs. These were - or will be (where related to providing related information shortly before start of operation) considered by TSOs. On 22 October 2025, Core Regulatory Authorities conveyed their comments and questions by means of a Shadow Opinion document. All issues raised therein were satisfactorily addressed prior to submission, and the comments were duly incorporated into the formally submitted version.

By 3 April 2026, all TSOs in the Core CCR submitted the improved 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal to their respective Regulatory Authority. The proposal includes proposed timescales for its implementation. The description of the expected impact of the objectives of Regulation 2016/1719 was not explicitly repeated since 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal constitutes an Annex to the HAR in accordance with Article 51 of Regulation 2016/1719 where the expected impact on the objectives of the Regulation is provided.

Within six months following the receipt of the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal by the last Regulatory Authority concerned, i.e. by 3 October 2026, each Core Regulatory Authority shall take a decision concerning the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal.

III. The Core Regulatory Authorities' position

With regard to the proposed changes —namely, the introduction of a cap on compensation applicable to the bidding zone border SEM-FR in accordance with Article 59(3) of the HAR, as well as the possibility and conditions for market participants to return LTTRs on HVDC borders - all Core Regulatory Authorities find the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal to be compliant with the requirements of Regulation 2016/1719. However, Core Regulatory Authorities identified few editorial elements and unanimously decided to amend those changes themselves:

- Whereas (3) has been amended to update the reference to the ACER decision on HAR applicable at the date of submission of the Annex (2025), thereby ensuring that the cited HAR Articles are accurate.

- In Whereas (8), the reference to the Core TSOs' endorsement date has been replaced with a reference to the amendment.
- In Article 23(4), the recursive reference has been removed (replacing "Article 23" with "the present Article"), and "Core LTFBA" has been replaced with "Core long-term flow-based allocation."
- In Articles 24 and 25, the reference to the related article of HAR has been turned from "38.2" into "38(2)".

IV. Conclusion

The Core Regulatory Authorities have consulted, closely cooperated and coordinated to jointly agree that they shall revise the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR proposal as presented in the document attached to this position paper before approving it. The legal basis for the direct amendments by the Core Regulatory Authorities lies in Article 5(6) of the ACER Regulation and in Article 4(5) of the Regulation 2016/1719. The Core Regulatory Authorities will issue their national decisions to approve the revised 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR on the basis of this agreement.

Following the national decisions by all Core Regulatory Authorities, all Core TSOs will be required to publish the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR as approved, in line with Article 4(13) of Regulation 2016/1719. All Core TSOs must respect the implementation deadlines provided in Article 26 of the 4th Amendment of the CCR Core Annex to HAR.