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* as according to ACER Decision No 04/2024 (of 19 March 2024) Art. 5. (CCR Core)

Agreement of the Core Regulatory Authorities

on

**the “Second amendment of the Core CCRTSOs’ methodology
for splitting long-term cross-zonal capacity
in accordance with Article 16 of the Commission Regulation (EU)
2016/1719 of 26th September 2016 establishing a guideline on
forward capacity allocation”**

XYnd July, 2026

1. Introduction and Legal Context

The Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation (herein referred to as “The FCA Regulation”) entered into force on 17 October 2016 and was amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/280 of 22 February 2021 amending regulations (EU) 2015/122, (EU) 2017/1719, (EU) 2017/2195 and (EU) 2017/1485 in order to align them with Regulation (EU) 2019/943. The FCA regulation sets out detailed rules on cross-zonal capacity allocation in forward markets, on the establishment of a common methodology to determine 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 outlines an agreement of all Regulatory Authorities of the Core Capacity Calculation Region (herein referred to as “Core CCR”), on **XY⁶ July 2026**, on the proposal for the Second amendment of the Core CCR TSOs’ methodology for splitting long-term cross-zonal capacity (hereafter referred to as “**the Splitting amendment proposal**”), in accordance with Article 16 of the FCA Regulation, received by the last Core Regulatory Authority on 2 April 2026.

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 Splitting amendment proposal does not need to be adopted by ACER pursuant to Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation. This agreement is intended to form the basis from which all Core Regulatory Authorities will individually adopt a national decision on the Splitting amendment proposal pursuant Article 4(7)(b) of the FCA Regulation.

The legal provisions relevant to the submission and approval of the Splitting Proposal can be found in Articles 3, 4 and 16 of the FCA Regulation.

Article 3 of the FCA Regulation:

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 the FCA Regulation:

1. *TSOs shall develop the terms and conditions or methodologies required by this Regulation and submit them for approval to the Agency or 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 the ENTSO for Electricity, shall regularly inform the competent regulatory authorities and the Agency about the progress of the development of those 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:*
 (...)
(b) the methodology for splitting cross-zonal capacity pursuant to Article 16;
 (...)
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 or, where competent, the Agency shall take*

decisions concerning the submitted terms and conditions or methodologies in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7, within 6 months following the receipt of the terms and conditions or methodologies by the Agency 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. (...)
 11. (...)
12. *TSOs 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.*
13. *TSOs responsible for establishing the terms and conditions or methodologies in accordance with this Regulation shall publish them on the internet after approval by the Agency or the competent regulatory authorities or, if no such approval is required, after their establishment, except where such information is considered as confidential in accordance with Article 7.*

Article 16 of the FCA Regulation:

1. *No later than the submission of the capacity calculation methodology referred to in Article 10, the TSOs of each capacity calculation region shall jointly develop a proposal for a methodology for splitting long-term cross-zonal capacity in a coordinated manner between different long-term time frames within the respective region. The proposal shall be subject to consultation in accordance with Article 6.*
2. *The methodology for splitting long-term cross-zonal capacity shall comply with the following conditions:*
 - (a) it shall meet the hedging needs of market participants;*
 - (b) it shall be coherent with the capacity calculation methodology;*
 - (c) it shall not lead to restrictions in competition, in particular for access to long-term transmission rights.*

2. The Core TSOs Proposal

The Splitting amendment proposal only consists of adding the bidding zone border between the Single Electricity Market on the island of Ireland (SEM) and France (FR) since this bidding zone border was added to the Core CCR through ACER's Decision No. 04/2024. The assignment of this bidding zone border to the Core CCR shall be effective from the date of operation of the Celtic Interconnector on the respective bidding zone border.

All Core TSOs carried out a public consultation on the Splitting amendment proposal from 22 September 2025 until 22 October 2025, in accordance with the requirements in Article 4(12) in connection with Article 6 of the FCA Regulation. The public consultation was conducted online through the ENTSO-E consultation portal. During the consultation period, the Core TSOs received submissions from two stakeholders. The TSOs provided a report outlining the submissions received through the consultation where it is indicated that received remarks did not trigger any change to the proposed text of the Splitting amendment proposal.

Since the Splitting amendment proposal did not present any substantial changes in the process of splitting LT capacities, an informal shadow opinion was not prepared by Core Regulatory Authorities.

Core TSOs sent to Core NRAs a package of documents related to this process:

- Core LTSR 2nd Amendment - Public Consultation Report
- Core TSOLTSR 2nd Amendment - Explanatory Document
- Core TSOLTSR 2nd Amendment - Whereas section
- LTSR Methodology_2nd Amendment – clean
- LTSR Methodology_2nd Amendment - TC

The document “Core TSO LTSR 2nd Amendment - Whereas section” contains only new, amended text of the current version of the Core LT Splitting rules methodology (hereafter: **Amendment proposal**).

The documents “LTSR Methodology_2nd Amendment – clean” and “LTSR Methodology_2nd Amendment - TC” represent the consolidated versions of the Core LT Splitting methodology which encompass the current valid text of the Core LT Splitting methodology (first time amended in 2023) together with the proposed new amendments (hereafter: **consolidated versions of the Core LT Splitting methodology**).

3. The Core NRAs positions

Pursuant to ACER's Decision No. 04/2024, the Celtic interconnector will create a new bidding zone border assigned to the Core CCR once it becomes operational (expected in 2027). Subsequently, the bidding zone border between the Single Electricity Market in Ireland and Northern Ireland (‘SEM’) and France (‘FR’), attributed to EirGrid, System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI), and Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTE), will be included in the Core CCR. Therefore, the Core Long-Term Splitting Methodology has to be amended.

Core NRAs recognize that the Splitting amendment proposal does not effectively change any of the articles in the Core LT Splitting methodology. The only proposed changes consist of an update of the “Whereas” section, where a new bidding zone border is introduced, and the introduction of the logos of EirGrid and System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI) on the header of the methodology.

However, Core NRAs notice that the texts of the Amendment proposal and the consolidated version of the Core LT Splitting methodology do not converge.

The whole text of the Amendment proposal is the following:

“TSOs of the Core CCR (“Core TSOs”), taking into account the following:

1. Pursuant to ACER’s Decision No. 04/2024, the Celtic interconnector will create a new bidding zone border assigned to the Core CCR once it becomes operational (expected in 2027). Subsequently, the bidding zone border between the Single Electricity Market in Ireland and Northern Ireland (‘SEM’) and France (‘FR’), attributed to EirGrid, System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI), and Réseau de Transport d’Electricité (RTE), will be included in the Core CCR. Therefore, the Core TSOs’ Long-Term Splitting Methodology has to be amendment.
2. With this amendment, Core TSOs aim to include the SEM-FR border in the long-term market.”

On the other hand, the consolidated version of the Core LT Splitting methodology contains the following new text:

- (19) The first amendment of the Core TSOs’ Long-Term Splitting Methodology was approved on 3rd April 2023 by Core NRAs.
- (20) Pursuant to ACER’s Decision No. 04/2024 Article 5.1(t), the bidding zone border between the Single Electricity Market in Ireland and Northern Ireland (‘SEM’) and France (‘FR’), attributed to EirGrid and Réseau de Transport d’Electricité (RTE) was assigned to the Core CCR. The assignment of the bidding zone border SEM-FR to the CCR Core shall be effective from the date of operation of the interconnector on the respective bidding zone border (Article 5.2 ACER Decision 04/2024). In order to accommodate the specific case of the SEM, the System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI) was also assigned to the CCR Core (Article 5.3 ACER Decision 04/2024). Therefore, the Core TSOs’ Long-Term Splitting Methodology has to be amended.
- (21) The second amendment of Core TSOs’ proposal for Long-Term Splitting Methodology was publicly consulted from 22 September 2025 until 22 October 2025 in accordance with article 4.12 in connection with art 6 of the FCA Regulation.

Core NRAs therefore deem that the texts of both documents need to be the same.

With the aim of efficiency, Core NRAs propose that the text of the consolidated version is the valid one and that therefore the Amendment proposal needs to be adjusted accordingly.

In addition to that, Core NRAs will adjust two small corrections in the Consolidated version of the Core LT Splitting methodology:

1. The table of content is updated to have regular numbering of the content
2. A comma is inserted after mentioning of RTE in Whereas bullet 20.

Since Core NRAs decided to revise the text, some other editorial changes are needed to be incorporated in the Consolidated version of the Core LT Splitting methodology (e.g. update of the dates).

The changes made by the Core NRAs are outlined in annexes to this position paper.

4. Conclusion

All Core Regulatory Authorities have assessed, consulted and closely cooperated and coordinated to reach the agreement to revise and approve the Splitting amendment proposal under Article 5(6) of Regulation (EU) 2019/942 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (Recast) and under Article 4(5) of the FCA regulation.

Based on this agreement, all Core Regulatory Authorities will now issue their national decisions on the basis of this agreement. The approval of the Splitting amendment proposal will be effective upon the decision of the last Core Regulatory Authority.

Following the national decisions by all Core Regulatory Authorities, all Core TSOs will be required to publish the Splitting amendment proposal as approved, in line with Article 4(13) of the FCA regulation.

ANNEX 1: Second amendment of the Splitting methodology, incorporating edits by Core NRAs (track-changes version)

ANNEX 2: Second amendment of the Splitting methodology, incorporating edits by Core NRAs (clean version)

ANNEX 3: Consolidated methodology, incorporating edits by Core NRAs (track-changes version)

ANNEX 4: Consolidated methodology, incorporating edits by Core NRAs (clean version)