

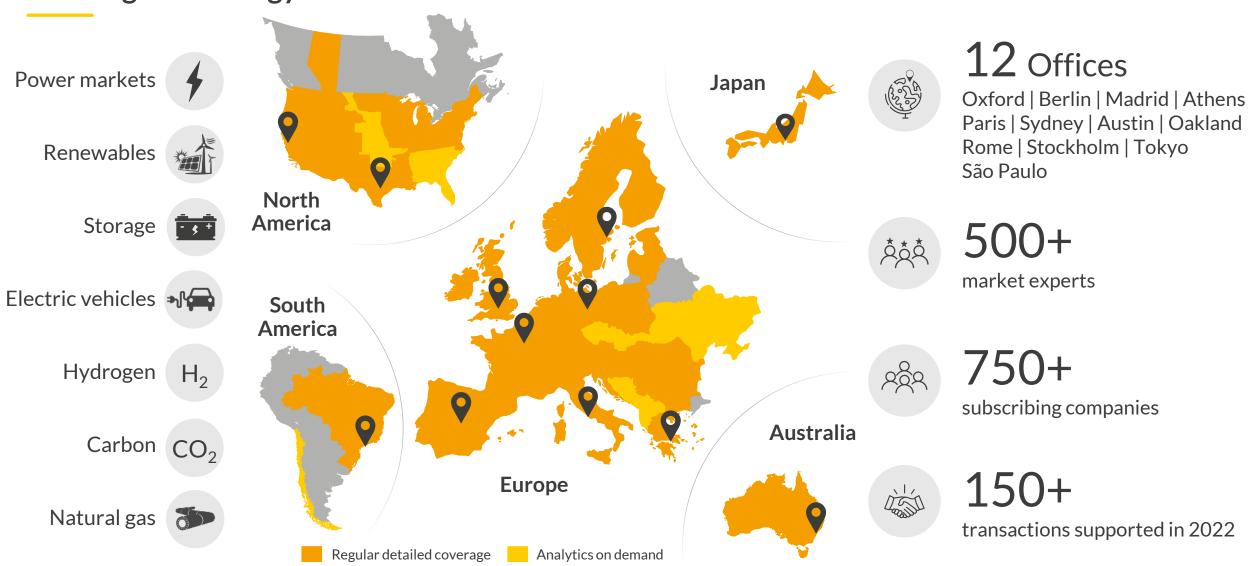
# **GB Market Summary January 2024**

Published February 2024



# Aurora provides market leading forecasts & data-driven intelligence for the global energy transition

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Source: Aurora Energy Research



# Executive Summary

- The average power price in January was £71.7/MWh, a 7.6% increase from the average of £66.6/MWh in December and a 45% decrease year-on-year
- Offshore and onshore wind capture prices were 17.6% and 18.6% higher month-on-month, likely due to the 46.3% increase in thermal generation, creating more periods when wind was generating when thermal assets were setting the price
- Transmission demand grew 7.2% whilst low carbon generation fell 11.5%, with thermal generation compensating, increasing 46.3% to meet demand
- Consequently, grid carbon intensity increased by 37.8% due to greater generation from thermal assets, predominantly CCGTs

		Monthly value <sup>1</sup>	Month-on-month change	Year-on-year change	Slide reference(s)
System Performance	Power prices, £/MWh	71.7	+5.1 (7.6%)	-58.6 (45.0%)	<u>5, 6</u>
	Gas prices, £/MWh	25.5	-3.4 (11.9%)	-27.8 (52.1%)	<u>8</u>
	Carbon <sup>2</sup> prices, £/tCO <sub>2</sub>	53.0	-2.2 (3.9%)	-48.0 (47.5%)	9
	Transmission demand, TWh	25.4	+1.7 (7.2%)	+0.9 (3.7%)	<u>12</u>
tem	Low carbon <sup>3</sup> generation, TWh	14.7	-1.9 (11.5%)	-0.8 (5.2%)	<u>13, 14</u>
Sys	Thermal <sup>4</sup> generation, TWh	9.7	+3.1 (46.3%)	+2.3 (30.4%)	13, 14
	<b>Grid carbon intensity,</b> $gCO_2e/kWh$	178.0	+48.8 (37.8%)	+29.6 (19.9%)	<u>16</u>
rices	Offshore wind, £/MWh	68.1	+10.2 (17.6%)	-52.0 (43.3%)	<u>20</u>
Capture Prices	Onshore wind, $\pounds/MWh$	65.5	+10.3 (18.6%)	-52.2 (44.4%)	<u>20</u>
Сар	Solar PV, £/MWh	73.0	-11.1 (13.2%)	-69.0 (48.6%)	20

		Monthly value <sup>1</sup>	Variance to historical monthly average <sup>5</sup>	Slide reference(s)
Load Factors	Offshore wind, %	53.7	+2.0 p.p.	<u>19</u>
	Onshore wind, %	36.9	+1.7 p.p.	<u>19</u>
	Solar PV, %	3.6	+0.2 p.p.	<u>19</u>

<sup>1)</sup> Values averaged over the calendar month. 2) Includes CPS and EU ETS until 18th May 2021 and UK ETS from 19th May 2021 onwards; 3) Includes renewables and nuclear generation 4) Includes CCGTs, coal and other fossil plants; 5) Comparing to the average of same month in the previous 5 years.

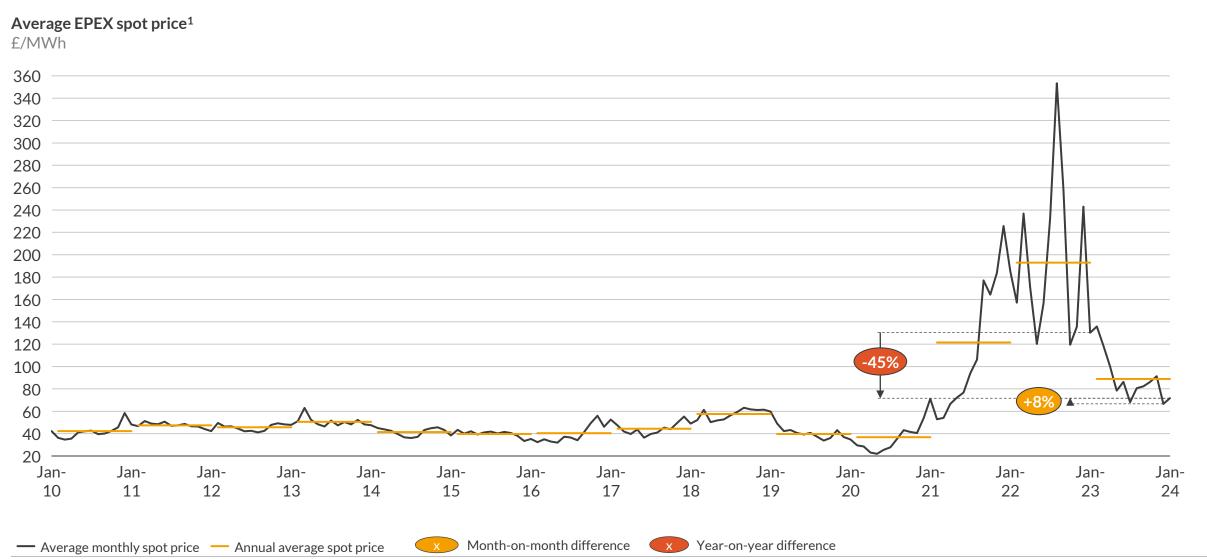
# Agenda



- I. Wholesale market summary
- II. Renewable performance (redacted)
- III. Company performance (subscriber only)
- IV. Plant performance (redacted)
- V. Balancing mechanism summary

#### Historic monthly average EPEX spot price

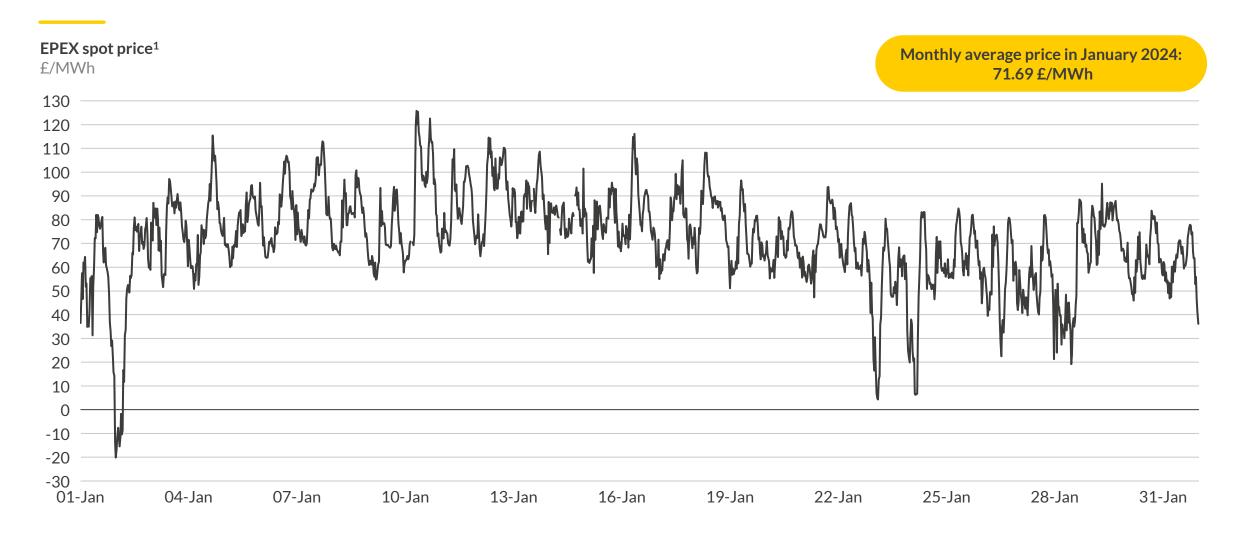




<sup>1)</sup> Average monthly EPEX is the average over the month of the volume-weighted reference prices for each half-hour interval.

## Half-hourly EPEX spot price for January



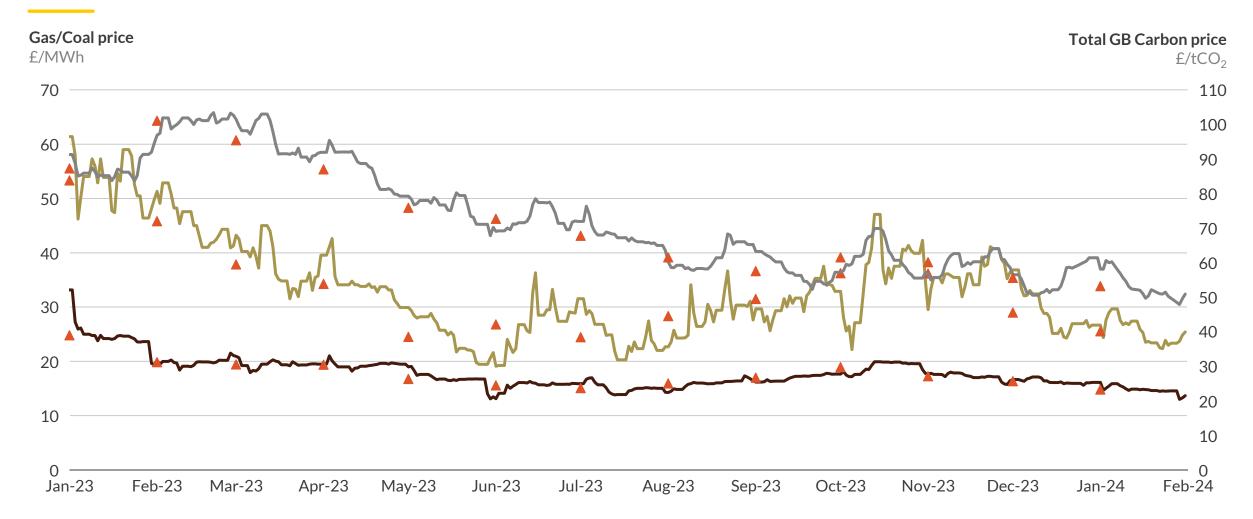


Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Thomson Reuters

<sup>1)</sup> Half-hourly EPEX is the volume-weighted reference price over that half-hour interval, as provided by EPEX Spot

# Historic fuel prices Gas, Coal and Carbon daily prices



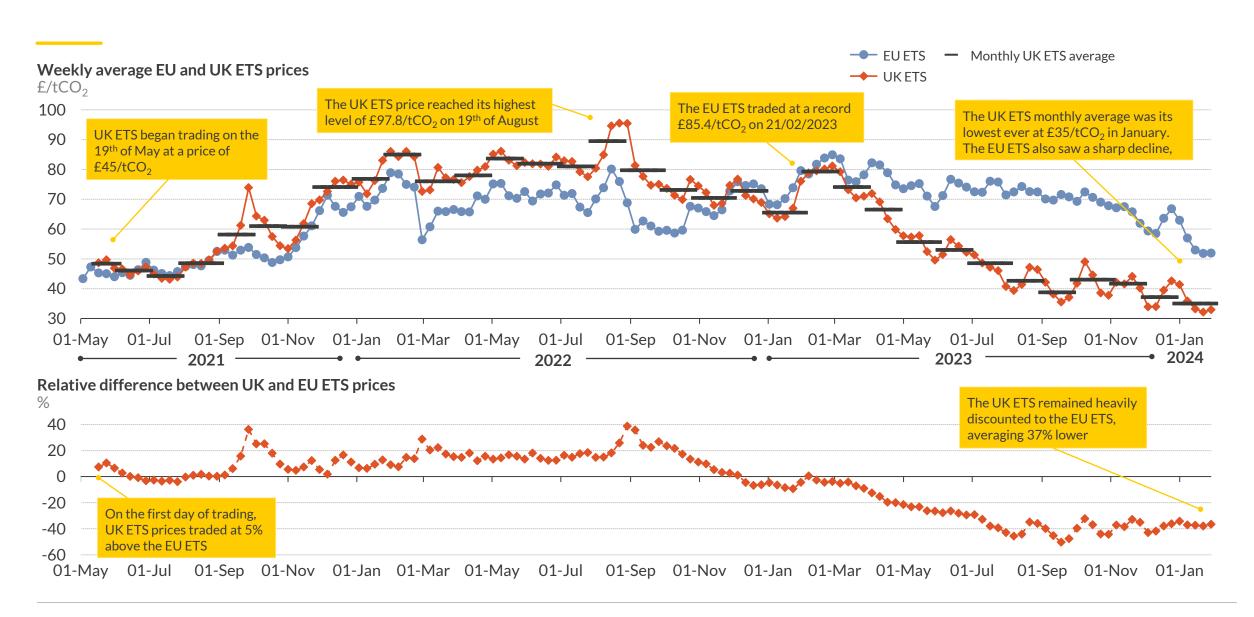


Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Thomson Reuters

— Gas — Coal — CO2 ▲ Monthly averages

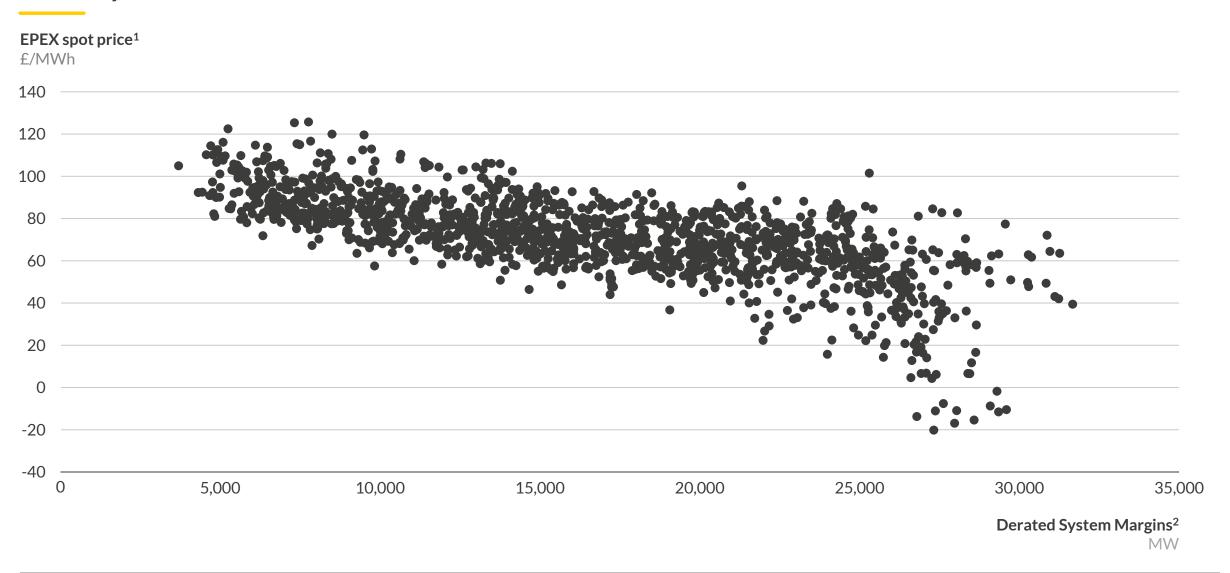
## Historic weekly UK ETS and EU ETS Prices





# Half-hourly spot prices against half-hourly system margins for January

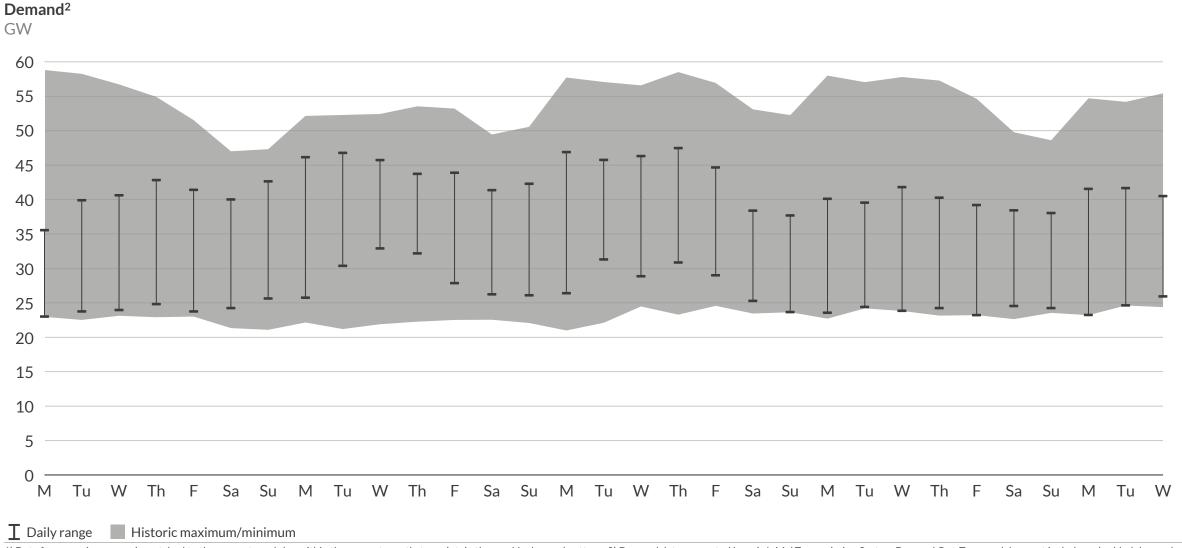




 $<sup>1) \</sup> Half-hourly \ EPEX \ is the \ volume-weighted \ reference \ price \ over \ that \ half-hour \ interval, as \ provided \ by \ EPEX \ Spot. \\ 2) \ De-Rated \ Margin \ Forecast \ calculated \ in \ accordance \ with \ the \ Loss \ of \ Load \ Probability \ Calculation \ Statement \ from \ Elexon.$ 

# Daily January max and min demand Relative to historic January max and min demand since 2010<sup>1</sup>



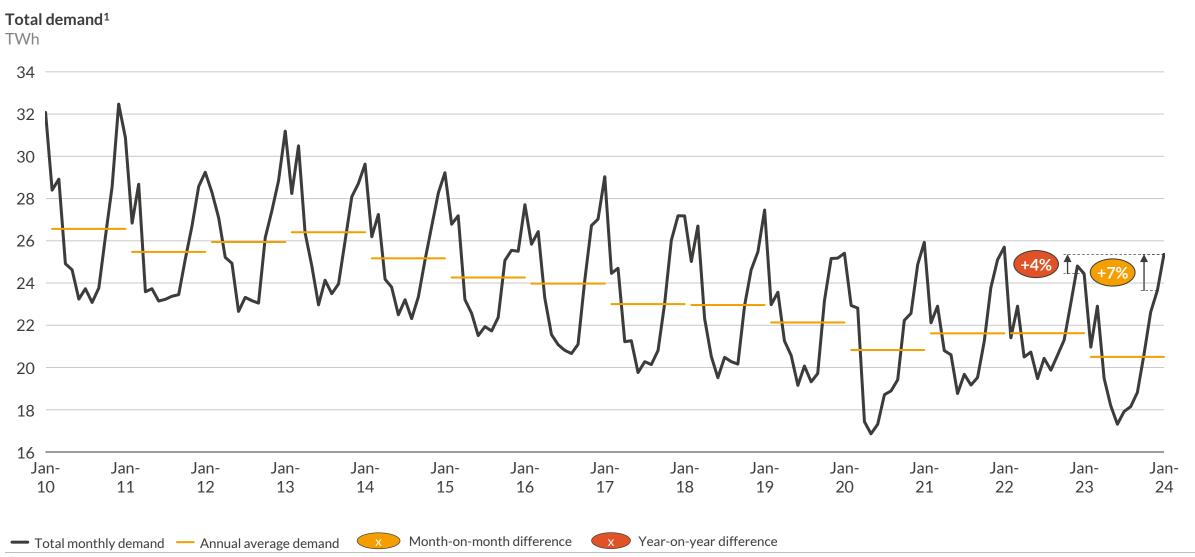


<sup>1)</sup> Data from previous years is matched to the nearest weekday within the current month, to maintain the weekly demand pattern. 2) Demand data presented here is Initial Transmission System Demand Out-Turn, and does not include embedded demand.

Sources: National Grid, Aurora Energy Research

#### Monthly historical demand on the transmission system



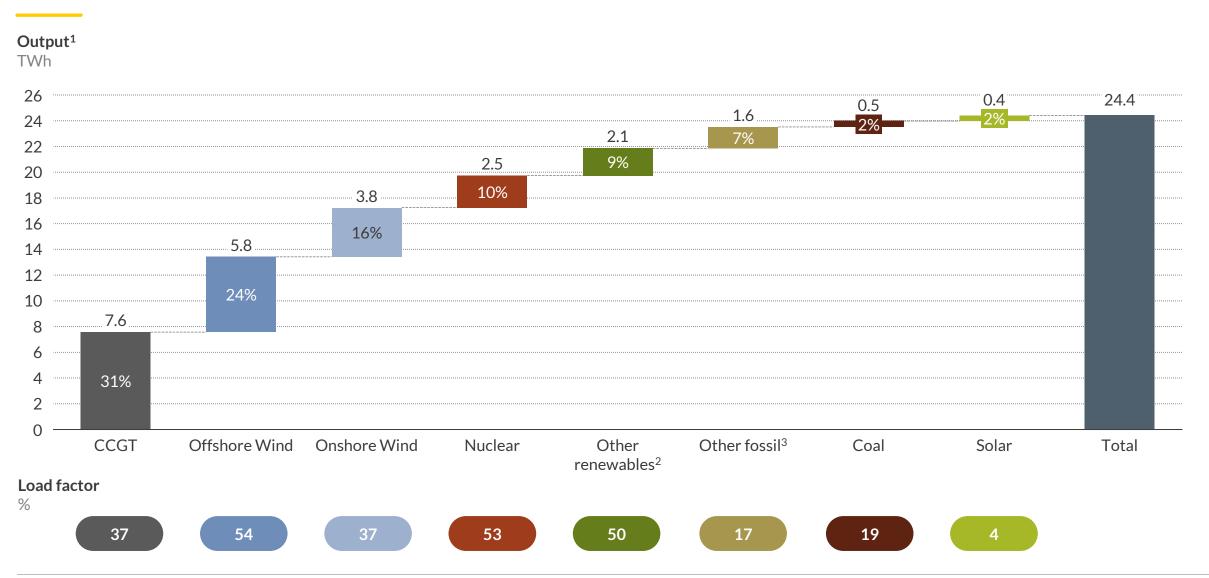


<sup>1)</sup> Demand data presented here is Initial Transmission System Demand Out-Turn, and includes station transformer load, pumped storage demand and interconnector demand, but does not include embedded demand.

Sources: National Grid, Aurora Energy Research

#### Monthly fuel mix breakdown



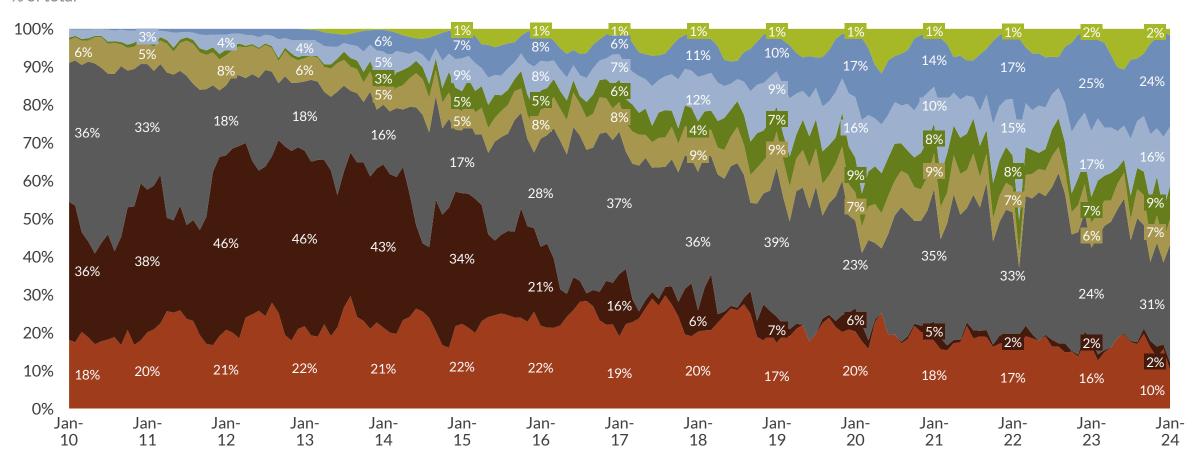


<sup>1)</sup> Includes outputs from generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV assets. All numbers are rounded to 0.1 TWh which means that subtotals may not sum to total value. 2) Other renewables includes biomass and hydro. 3) Other fossil includes oil, CHP-CCGT and OCGT.

#### Historical fuel mix breakdown





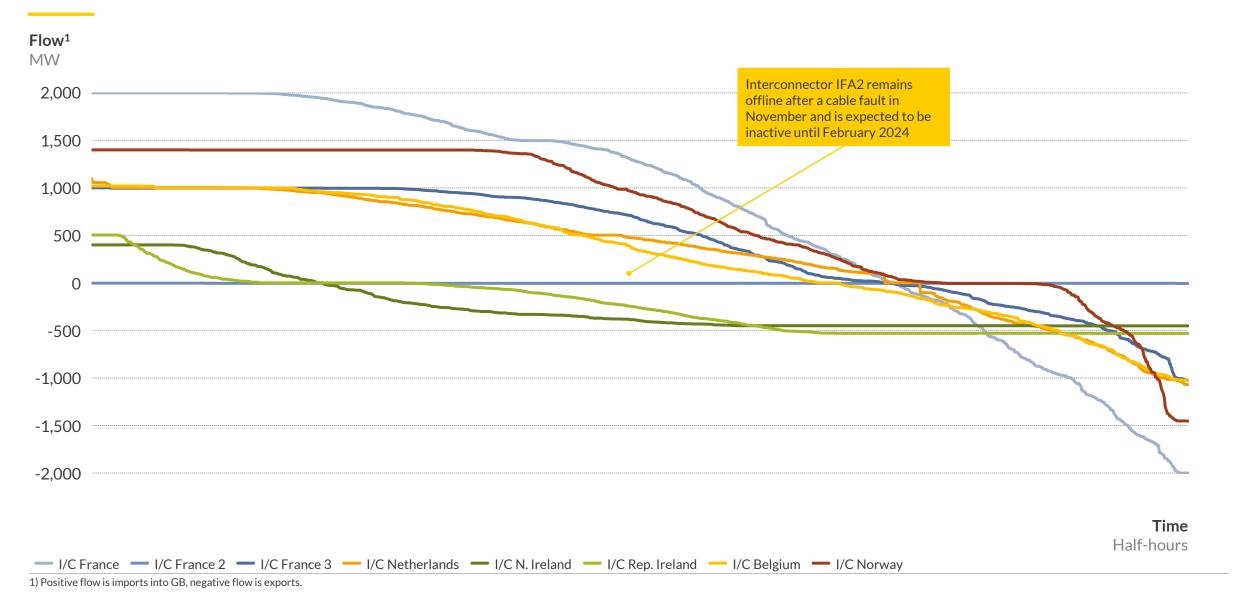


Solar Offshore Wind Onshore Wind Other renewables<sup>3</sup> Other fossil<sup>2</sup> CCGT

<sup>1)</sup> Includes outputs from generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV. 2) Other fossil includes oil, CHP-CCGT and OCGT. 3) Other renewables includes biomass and hydro.

# Monthly interconnector flow duration curve Flow in each half-hour for GB interconnectors

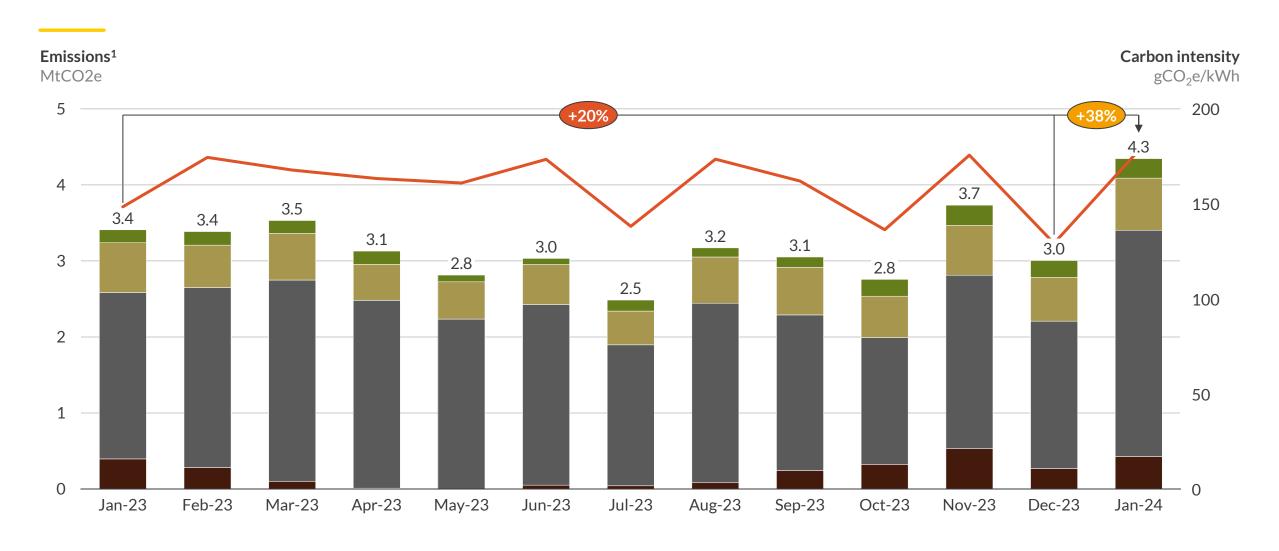




#### Monthly emissions by technology

Coal CCGT Other fossil<sup>2</sup> Biomass — System carbon intensity





1) Please refer to Appendix for details of methodology employed to calculate emission amounts. Includes all Balancing Mechanism plants. 2) Other fossil includes oil, OCGT and gas CHP-CCGT.

Sources: Elexon, Ofgem, Aurora Energy Research

Month-on-month difference

Year-on-year difference

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#### Monthly renewables output





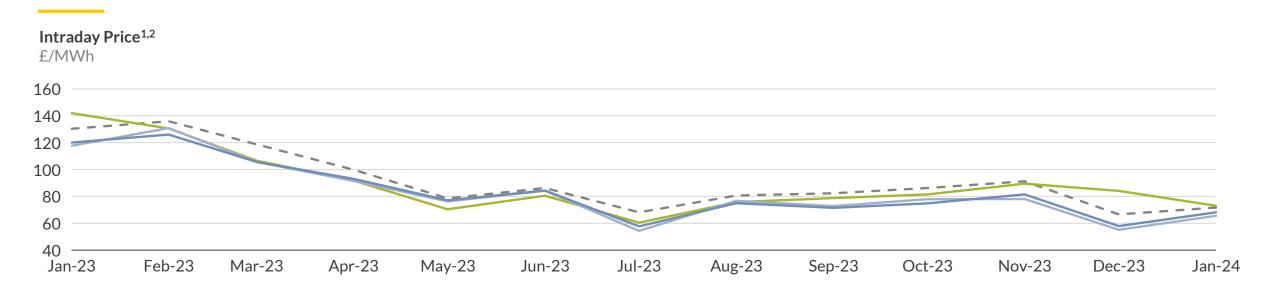
X Year-on-year difference

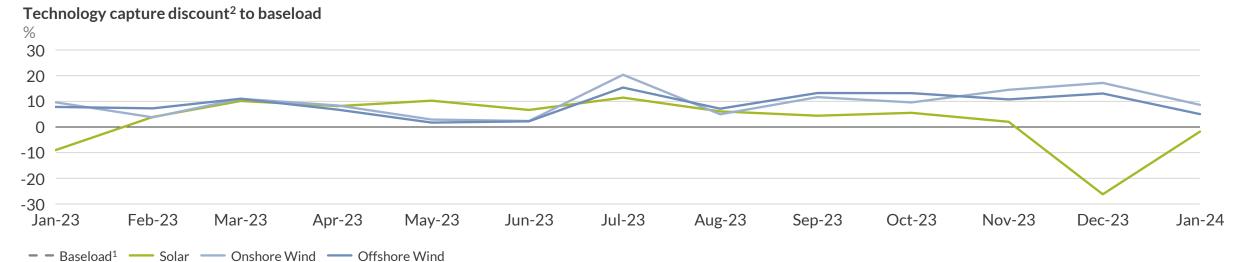
Onshore Wind Offshore Wind Solar Month-on-month difference

<sup>1)</sup> Includes outputs from wind generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV

#### Capture price versus baseload APX price







<sup>1)</sup> The baseload price is the average monthly APX spot price. The capture price of a technology is the load-weighted monthly average APX price across all half-hourly periods; 2) Includes generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind

Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Elexon, EPEX Spot

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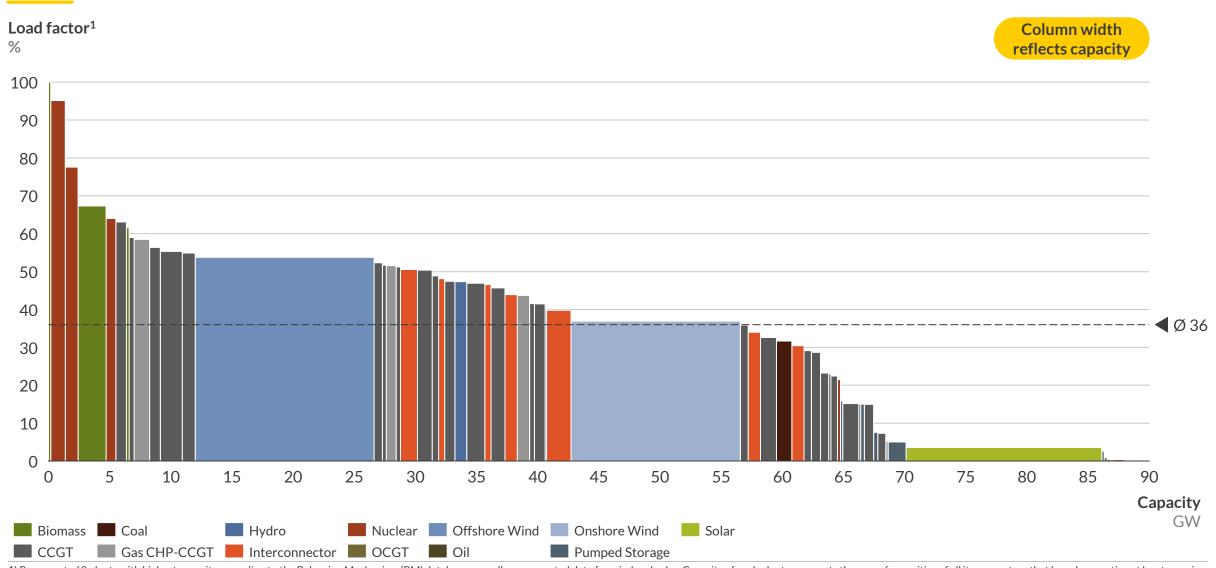
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#### Plant utilisation – load factors by plant for January



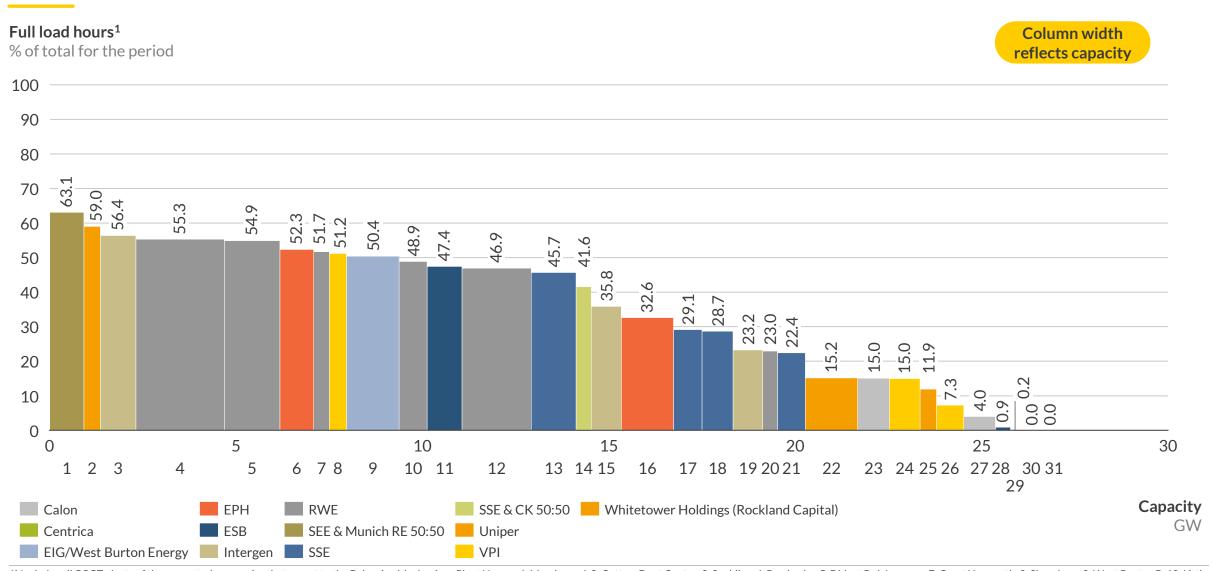


1) Represents 60 plants with highest capacity according to the Balancing Mechanism (BM) database, as well as aggregated data for wind and solar. Capacity of each plant represents the sum of capacities of all its generators that have been active at least once in the last three months. Please refer to Appendix for a detailed description of the data used and categories presented

Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Elexon, BEIS

#### **CCGT** plant utilisation – by plant for January





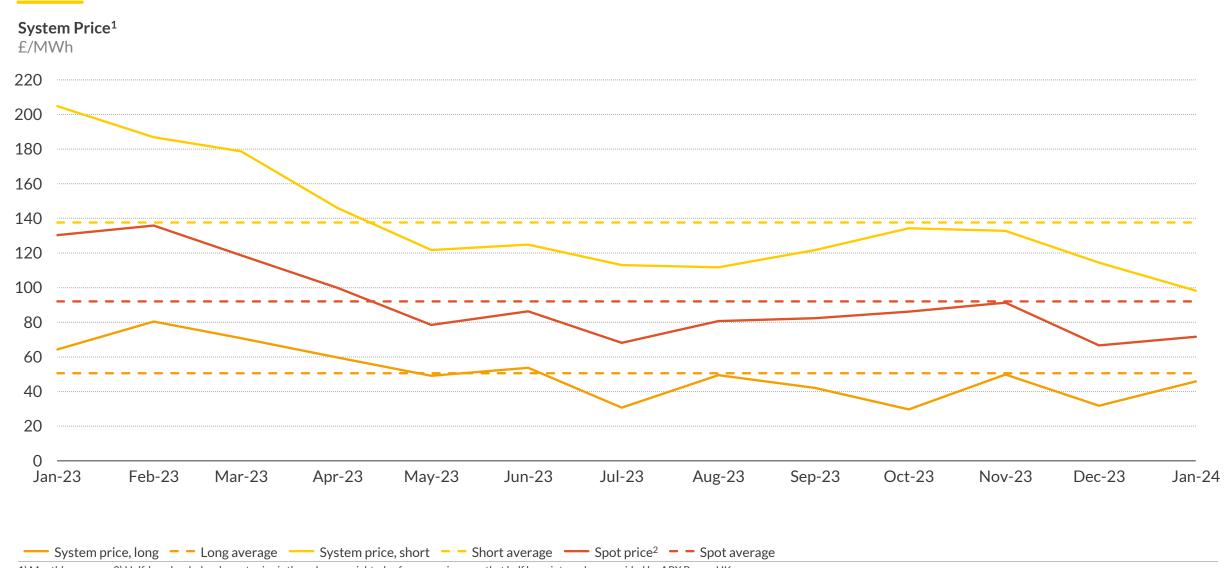
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#### Monthly average system prices for the last 13 months



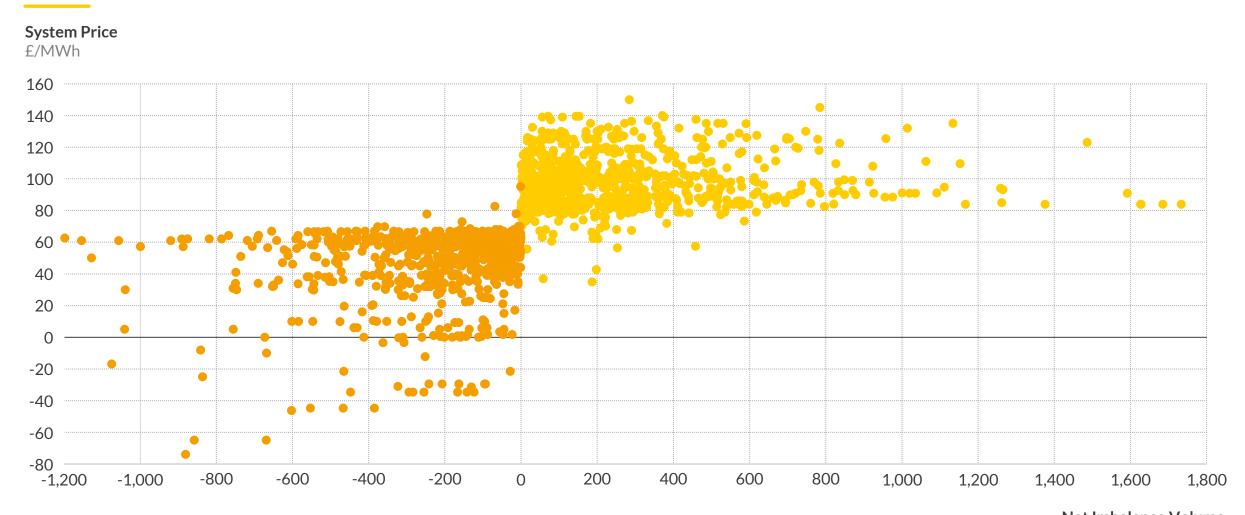


<sup>1)</sup> Monthly average; 2) Half-hourly wholesale spot price is the volume-weighted reference price over that half hour interval, as provided by APX Power UK

Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Elexon, EPEX Spot

# Half-hourly System Price against Net Imbalance Volume for January





Net Imbalance Volume

MW

System imbalance: Short Long

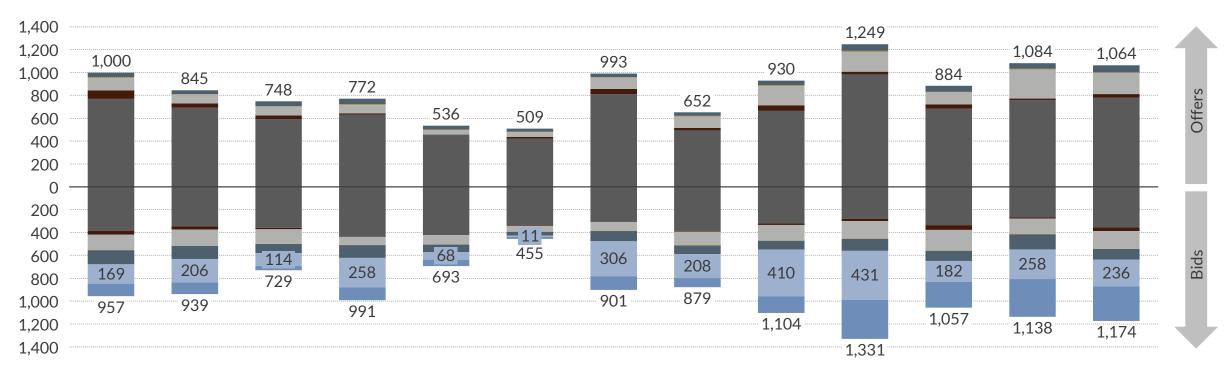
Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Elexon 25

# Bid-offer acceptance volumes breakdown by technology for the last 13 months



#### Accepted offer<sup>1</sup> volumes





#### Accepted bid<sup>2</sup> volumes

**GWh** 





<sup>1)</sup> Offers to increase generation or reduce demand; 2) Bids to reduce generation or increase demand; 3) Other includes oil, CHP-CCGT, biomass and hydro; 4) Peaking includes OCGT, reciprocating engines and DSR; 5) Storage includes batteries and pumped storage

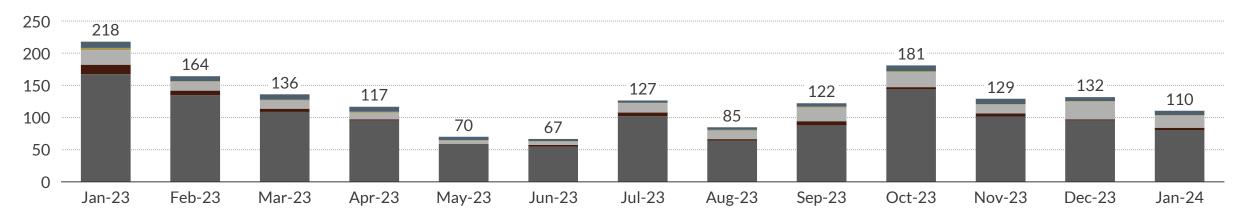
Sources: Aurora Energy Research, Elexon

#### Bid-offer payments breakdown by technology for the last 13 months

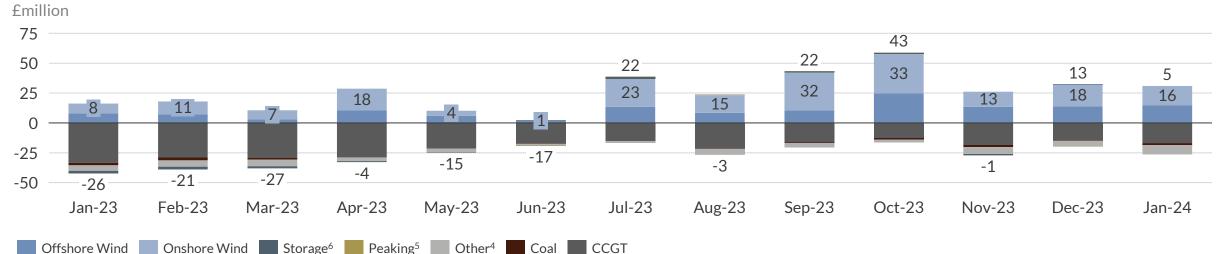


#### Accepted offer<sup>1</sup> payments<sup>3</sup>

£million



#### Accepted bid<sup>2</sup> payments<sup>3</sup>



1) Offers to increase generation or reduce demand; 2) Bids to reduce generation or increase demand; 3) Positive cashflow means payment to generators, negative is payment to National Grid; 4) Other includes oil, CHP-CCGT, biomass and hydro; 5) Peaking includes OCGT, reciprocating engines and DSR; 6) Storage includes batteries and pumped storage

#### **Appendix**



#### Data used

- Output values used in this summary reflect the sum of Final Physical Notifications (FPN) submitted by all BM Units of a given plant that have been active over the last three months.
- Capacity values used in this summary reflect the sum of capacities of individual BM Units, as reported to the Balancing Mechanism, that have been active over the last three months. They reflect long-term capacities and exclude temporary fluctuations due e.g. to plant failures or scheduled maintenance.
- Prices used in this summary are the EPEX half-hourly Reference Prices for half-hourly, two-hourly and four-hourly spot products.

#### Categories presented

- Full-load hours represent the plants' load factors, calculated as the ratio of the output produced in a given month to the maximum possible output given the plants' capacity.
- Running hours represent the proportion of time in a given month when a plant has been active, i.e. when at least one of its BM Units produced output greater than zero.
- Capture prices (or average output-weighted prices) are calculated as an average of EPEX half-hourly prices per MWh weighted by the plants' corresponding half-hourly outputs for all periods.
- Average gross margins are calculated as a sum of the uplift and inframarginal rent. Uplift is calculated as the difference between the EPEX price and the system marginal cost (SMC). SMC is the maximum marginal cost of all the plants with at least one generator producing above 80% of its installed capacity in a given half-hour.
- Emissions are calculated as plant output divided by electrical efficiency, multiplied by theoretical carbon content of the fuel input. The carbon content of fuel inputs is sourced from BEIS's Greenhouse gas reporting Conversion factors 2016. System carbon intensity is calculated as the total emission divided by total electricity generated.

Source: Aurora Energy Research

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