

SEM Committee Meeting

229 Minutes

Location: CMA Offices, Belfast

Date: Thursday 25 June 2026

at 09.00 a.m.

SEM Committee:

Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU): Jim Gannon, Fergal Mulligan

Utility Regulator (UR): Rosamund Blomfield-Smith (Chair), John French, Paul McGowan

Independent members: Jonathan Hodgkin, Chris Harris (Deputy)

In attendance:

All items: John Melvin (CRU), Colin Broomfield (UR), Jon Carlton (SEMC advisor), Clare Newcomb (UR), Greg Irwin (UR)

Item 3 – Charlene Little (CRU), Robert O'Rourke (CRU), Bilal Mohammed (CRU), Marie-Therese Campbell (UR)

Item 4 - Ross McFaul (UR), Damien Doone (UR)

Item 5 – Ross McFaul (UR), James Gillan (UR), Ciaran Breen (UR), Damien Doone (UR)

Item 6 – Emer Gerrard (CRU), Charlene Little (CRU), Elvis Sebastian (CRU), Marie-Therese Campbell (CRU), Grainne Black (Afry), Stephen Woodhouse (Afry)

Item 7 – Robert O'Rourke (CRU), James Carson (UR), Dylan Ashe (CRU), Sumona Mukherjee (CRU), Zoe Fannin (NERA)

Item 8 - Sheena Byrne (CRU)

Item 9 – Niall Robb (UR), Ian McClelland (UR), John Conneally (CRU), Barry Hussey (CRU)

Item 10 – Kevin Hagan (CRU), Lisa Tate (UR), Kevin Goslin (CRU), Niall Robb (UR)

Item 11 – Claire O'Kane (UR)

Item 12 – Gerard Carlin (SONI), Michael Atcheson (SONI), Eoin Kennedy (Eirgrid), Niamh Delaney (Eirgrid), John Ging (Eirgrid), Susan Whyte (Eirgrid)

Item 13 - Jean-Pierre Miura (UR), Owen Kearns (UR), Arjoo Gupta (UR), Shauna McAuley (UR), Gordon Downie (Shepherd and Wedderburn)

Item 14: Shauna McAuley (UR), Gordon Downie (Shepherd and Wedderburn)

Apologies: Dr Tanya Harrington

Declarations of interest: None

1. Approval and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was approved and adopted.

2. Review and approval of minutes from meeting 228, Thursday 28 May 2026

The minutes of SEM Committee meeting 228 were approved for publication.

3 SEMC Strategy

Jon Carlton introduced this update on the development of SEM Committee strategy and provided an overview of the consultation responses.

Committee members discussed the consultation responses. The overall endorsement by consultees of the proposed strategy priorities was welcomed by the Committee.

There was a discussion about measuring the success of the strategy and the plans for finalising the strategy.

The Committee congratulated the team involved in the development of the strategy to this point. In endorsing the broad strategy and strategy priorities as consulted on, the Committee delegated the finalisation of the strategy document, and the plans for publishing and communicating the strategy, to SEMOC.

4. T-1 2026/27 Final Qualification decisions/ Final Auction Information pack and New Capacity

Damien Doone introduced this item which sought the Committee's approval for Final Qualification Results (FQRs) for the T-1 CY2026/27 Capacity Auction, the Committee's review of the Final Auction Information pack (FAIP), and the Committee's approval of a decision relating to a T-1 CY2026/27 new capacity exception application.

Committee members discussed the profile of FQRs. There was also discussion on the process for considering, and the timing of, information submitted by generators.

Following review of the FQRs and supporting information for the T-1 CY2026/27 Capacity Auction, the Committee approved the recommendation to approve the FQRs put forward by the System Operators.

Ross McFaul provided a presentation which set out the proposed volumes adjustment to be included in the FAIP. The Committee explored the rationale for, and impact of, the proposed volumes adjustment.

The Committee approved approve a letter to the TSOs adopting the content of the FAIP.

Finally, the Committee, having considered the information provided, approved the final decision relating to the T-1 CY2026/27 new capacity exception application and the issue of a decision letter (taking account of the Committee's comments).

5. Extension requests

Damien Doone, James Gillen and Ciaran Breen introduced and briefed the Committee on this item which sought the Committee's approval for extension requests for generation units from four entities.

The Committee explored the reasons for the extension requests for each generator. Process issues relating to communications with the generators were also touched on. There was also a broader discussion on proposed changes to the CRM and any impact on extension requests.

The Committee approved a Substantial Financial Completion (SFC) Long Stop Date (LSD) and Capacity Quantity End Date and Time (CQEDT) extension requests received by the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) under J.5.2.2 and J.5.7.2 of the Capacity Market Code (CMC) for an entity.

The Committee also approved an SFC extension request received by the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) under paragraph J.5.2.2 of the CMC for another entity.

The Committee also approved LSD extension applications, received by the RAs under J.5.8 of the Capacity Market Code (CMC), for another entity in the T-3 2024/25 Capacity Auction.

Finally, the Committee approved an SFC extension request received by the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) under paragraph J.5.2.2 of the CMC for another entity.

6. CRM Development Programme – CRM Design report and consultation

Charlene Little introduced this item which sought the Committee's view on a consultation on proposed design options for the next iteration of the Capacity Remuneration Mechanism (CRM 2.0), to inform the forthcoming State aid application. Grainne Black provided additional briefing to the Committee.

In a wide-ranging discussion, the Committee considered delivery timeframes, de-rating factors, measures to strengthen availability incentives and the contribution of emerging technologies and the approach to cost recovery.

The proposed consultation questions, and the most effective way of ensuring an effective response, was also considered.

Subject to consideration of the comments made during the discussion, the Committee gave its approval to publish the proposed consultation document on CRM 2.0 design options and the accompanying reports as provided.

7. FASS Market Power Consultation Paper – NERA Presentation

Robert O'Rourke introduced this item which sought the Committee's approval to publish a consultation paper on Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS) market power and market participation. A draft Bidding Code of Practice (BCoP) for the new system services markets, was also provided (with the intention that this would be published alongside the FASS market power and market participation consultation paper). Zoe Fannin delivered a presentation.

Committee members considered the system services BCOP and explored the extent to which the proposed provisions would promote good behaviour by market participants and also curtail market power in the new markets. The Committee also assessed the risks and possible safeguards in relation to the bidding of costs by market participants. The locational requirements for system services were also touched on.

There was a discussion on several issues relating to the market power and participation consultation paper, particularly relating to the Residual Availability Determination.

The Committee clarified proposed arrangements for engaging with stakeholders on the consultation paper and emphasised the importance of ensuring that published documents were drafted as accessibly as possible.

The Committee endorsed the publication of the FASS market power and market participation paper and the associated system services BCoP.

8. Network imperfection consultation paper

Sheena Byrne introduced this item which summarised the TSOs Network Imperfections Charges submission.

In discussion, Committee members explored the different elements of the submission and the rationale for the various costs and assumptions, including comparisons with previous years.

The Committee also agreed that clear communications around the presentation of the network imperfections charges would be essential. The intention to provide accessible information around the publication of the consultation paper was confirmed. In the context of wider engagement with Ministers on this and other energy issues, it was agreed that a paper would be developed setting out key issues for future engagement.

The Committee approved the publication of the network imperfections charges consultation paper and the reports received from the TSOs.

9. Physical Transmission Rights and 15-minute market time units

Niall Robb introduced this item relating to two areas of compliance relating to the EU regulations on the energisation of the Celtic Interconnector: 15 Minute (15') Market Time Unit (MTU) and the Physical Transmission Rights (PTRs) on SEM-Great Britain (GB) Border.

Committee members considered the impact of complying with the two areas in question and, specifically, the adoption of the 15-minute market time units in other jurisdictions.

The Committee agreed to the sending of a proposed letter to EirGrid and SONI about initiating work in the two areas of compliance identified.

10. SEM NEMO regulation under multi-NEMO arrangements

Kevin Goslin introduced this item regarding a consultation paper inviting stakeholder views on the future regulatory treatment of Nominated Electricity Market Operators (NEMOs) in the SEM, including the role of SEMOpx (Single Electricity Market Operator Power Exchange) as the incumbent SEM NEMO, in the context of introducing competition in day-ahead and intraday market coupling arrangements.

The rationale for the consultation and the scope of the views being sought, in the context of legal advice, were discussed.

The Committee endorsed the publication of the consultation paper.

11. Update on flexibility needs assessment

Claire O'Kane introduced this update on the progress with the Flexibility Needs Assessment (FNA) and outlined the next steps in advance of the report submission to ACER (the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) and the European Commission.

In discussion the Committee emphasised the importance of close cooperation between regulatory authorities in this area and also the need to focus on communication of key messages.

The Committee noted the update.

12. AIP JPB Four-month update and spend reports

Representatives from the TSOs joined the meeting to provide the latest overview of progress on the AIP workstreams. Committee members discussed overall progress and steps being taken to address any delivery timelines. A query around a FASS procurement issue was addressed.

The Committee noted the update.

13. Market Monitoring Unit (MMU) update

- a) Owen Kearns provided an overview of the latest MMU update for the period to the end of June. The focus of the presentation of the day was on day ahead prices, solar generation levels and gas prices. Committee members discussed the volatility in aspects of the data and explored the reasons for the movements in prices. There was a brief discussion around the impact of assetless traders in the markets.

Action: Circulate analysis to SEMC in relation to assetless traders

- b) Jean-Pierre Miura introduced a proposed consultation on possible revisions to the Bidding Code of Practice (BCOP). Gordon Downie provided a legal input on the BCOP issue. Committee members commented on several aspects of the draft consultation paper. The Committee approved the proposed consultation on amendments to the BCOP and delegated authority to the SEM Oversight Committee (SEMOC) to publish the consultation, subject to final legal review.

14. Updates

- (a) SEMC communications and governance update. Greg Irwin updated the Committee on the follow up from the meeting with Ministers on 17 June and there was a brief reflection on the SEM staff day which had taken place on the day prior to the Committee meeting.

- (b) The Committee noted forthcoming items in the Forward Look.

- (c) CRU/UR/Independent Member update

CRU – Fergal Mulligan noted items including the Energy Ireland conference, the CRU water price control decision paper, CRU recruitment, energy tariffs, the National Energy Affordability Taskforce and consulting on the Fault Ride Through issue.

UR – John French noted items including the firmus supply draft price control determination and the consultation on the approach to the gas distribution price control.

Independent member – Chris Harris noted items including the electricity interconnection framework in Great Britain and NESO and 2030 assumptions.

(d) Legal Update

Shauna McAuley provided an update on key legal issues.

15. Review of actions from SEMC meeting 228, Thursday 28 May 2026

Progress on SEMC actions was noted.

16. SEMC correspondence

The Committee noted a new item of correspondence.

17. AOB

None

The meeting concluded at 15.05 p.m.

Signed: _____

Rosamund Blomfield-Smith, SEM Committee Chair