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Security of Supply A view from the UK

John Scott

The

Technical Director, Ofgem

GB Electricity and Gas Regulatory Authority

john.scott@ofgem.gov.uk



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Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers

Security of Supply A view from the UK

Setting the scene

Themes:

- The Elements for Security
- Some of the Must Do's
- The role of Distribution
- Challenges of renewables
- Innovation for networks
- Conclusions





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The UK in outline



Technical:

Electricity peak demand ~ 60GW (in winter) Annual energy consumption ~ 300TWh Maximum Transmission Voltage 400kV DC Interconnection to France 2000MW

Markets:

- GB has replaced Pool with New Electricity Trading Arrangements (NETA)
- NETA is a commodity type market
- GB now has full competition, with choice for all gas and electricity customers

Regulation:

- Single gas and electricity regulatory body
- 'De-personalised' regulation



about Ofgem

290

50%

15%

4%

£30m

- Total staff currently
- Principal disciplines:
 - Economists
 - Finance/Admin
 - Legal 5%
 - Social/Environmental 5%
 - Technical
- Overall Budget

9, Millbank, London SW1





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The Elements of Supply Security





Two Approaches to Investment

- Central planning:
 - Forecast where the market is going
 - Build according to forecast customers bear the risk

Market-based:

- Encourage entrepreneurial investment (more nimble, better incentives) investors bear market risk
- For natural monopolies, design incentives to build in response to demand; measure and reward company outputs



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GB New Electricity Trading Arrangements (NETA)

Effective markets foster security by:

- Providing transparent and timely price information
- Market participants responding to spot and forward prices
 - New investment and retirement decisions
 - Mothballing and de-mothballing decisions
- Putting incentives on all participants to manage their risks
- Facilitating contracting ahead



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JESS Joint* Energy Supply Security Working Group Ofgem+Government: 6-monthly reporting of electricity and gas indicators



Third report – Examples 1

Electricity Forward prices for 'peak load'

- eg blue line shows July
 03 prices for years to
 winter 05
 - Note these are contract prices, not forecasts



JESS Example 2: Projected UK gas imports (Source NGT)



UKCS= UK continental shelf



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JESS Example 3: Demand duration curves (gas)



NZ, November 2003



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Are all parties aligned to same ends ? Do penalties fall where due ? Are the market signals for investment sufficient and timely ? Is political or regulatory intervention a duty, or a hazard ? Can any deficiencies in market rules be rectified promptly ? Market externalities eg environmental obligations, planning consents ? Exposure to terrorism, industrial action, climate change, storms ?



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The "must do's" of Supply Security

CLEAR ACCOUNTABILITIES – all parties, Gov't Reg'r & Markets
 INCENTIVES & PENALTIES on critical behaviours
 ADEQUATE INFORMATION for market participant decisions
 MONITORING of market signals and participant behaviours
 CONTINGENCY PLANS for the unexpected, inc. company failure

... and don't overlook the intangibles:

Complex markets require well-informed parties, and effective relationships. Good, professional, relationships cannot be instructed.

Relationships are harder to maintain when people regularly change roles. Gov't/reg decisions do not need to be liked, but they must be understood.

..... these things can be enabled and facilitated



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Current status of these in Britain

95% of energy is traded bilaterally, only 5% through balancing mechanism Failure to honour contracted energy trade, exposes parties financially
Market includes forward prices in electricity and gas (an investment signal)
Ofgem has an active 'market surveillance' team and powers to intervene
Market has new governance arrangements that enable rapid rule changes
Steadily widening range of published information (including JESS reports)

and on the intangibles...

Industry forums are very valuable for understanding past events, for explaining new developments, and strengthening professional networks.

Regulator strives for competence & focus in market and technical issues.

Regulator remote from political pressures and advocates non-intervention.



Security of Supply: some questions

- What confidence can project developers have that government and regulator will not intervene ?
- Does the market reveal the necessary price signals ?
- Have all the risks/uncertainties in the supply chain been assessed and addressed – the bankers will find them, but they won't act to resolve them!
- How effective are contingency arrangements, demand side and generation side? Are they documented and exercised ? Is company failure addressed ?
- Black Start is exceptionally demanding: do you have standards for restoration time and for prioritisation ?



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The Elements of Supply Security





The Role of Distribution in Supply Security

SUPPLY CHAIN

- Effective asset risk management
- Events worldwide have raised concerns for network integrity
- RESILIENCE required to cope with exceptional events

RESILIENCE

• UK Government investigated October02 storm disruptions

- Tree clearance increasingly a landowner sensitivity
- Early management response shown to be critical
- Risk of IT systems failing under operational duress

"transmission" distribution"

CONTINGENCIES

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- Demand side management; eg voltage reduction
- Black Start contribution: correct load blocks, interface and co-ordination with generators
- Exercises
- Black Start Policy: prioritisation of demand ? target timing ?



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October 02 Storm - Staff mobilisation by Co.







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Distribution: Strategy & Direction ?

- Distribution networks are ageing AND their role is set to change
- Greener generation will need to connect at all voltage levels, including domestic (230v)
- Major investment ahead: perhaps £1bn by 2010 in UK
- Today's solutions won't solve tomorrow's problems



The successful companies will be those that best manage innovation



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* 1.2 GW embedded independent generation – NGC SYS, March 1994



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A view of tomorrow





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A view of tomorrow **Boundary flow** reduced Some DG, including PV and domestic **CHP** connecting at LV Load Load **MWs**



























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Where should the intelligence be and what is the technical architecture ?



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The innovation process



Multi-stage process to convert ideas to products/solutions



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The innovation process



RPI – X & Capex Treatment effective



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The innovation process



Manufacturers and research community lead



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The innovation process



DNO involvement necessary here:

a distinguishing feature is the requirement for field testing and the inadequacy of laboratory simulations alone



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IFI & RPZ – Ofgem's proposed incentives for GB distribution companies to operate higher on the curve



Advantages of a 'Power Zone' ?



Special regulatory treatment

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- Nursery for innovation, suited to demonstrator projects
- Enhanced Quality of Supply
- Benefits of "badging" as a form of endorsement
- May attract external grant funding
- May foster Regional Development joint projects
- Signals a generationfriendly network to developers
- 'Club Rules' protect customers and ensure information sharing



what we haven't had time for.....

- If Distribution networks become active, rather than passive systems:
- they start to resemble mini-transmission systems
- could Distribution companies be more than asset owners/operators ?
- might companies operate, and be rewarded, as 'energy transporters' ?
- but what about the **engineering & management** skills in the companies ?
- a more complex, risk-managing, environment will need **new competences**

Does the sector have the vision to create a new business framework?



.... and returning to Supply Security

- Technical, Commercial, & Regulatory solutions must be integrated
- The successful strategies will include the demand side, not generation alone
- Permission-to-Operate needs to be addressed actively; hearts and minds...
- Government or Regulatory intervention brings considerable risks
- But, Government and Regulatory involvement is essential to achieve change
- The market participants & asset owners are best placed for a strategic view **Incentivise them to find the solutions; don't leave it to the bureaucrats**



In Conclusion

- Accountability essential for every link in the supply chain
- Effective incentives change behaviours
- Don't forget the intangibles
- Distribution new opportunities ahead
- Change succeeds through well laid plans

The sector shares the obligation for Security of Supply: No winners if the lights go out





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