

# Winter Outlook 06/07 "Preparing to respond to potential tight supply conditions"

24 May 2006

Peter Bolitho



### **E.ON's UK position**

- One of UK's the largest gas consumers.
- The UK's largest non-nuclear power station operator.
- By volume second largest gas supplier serving domestic to large I&C customers.
- E.ON Ruhrgas has a major stakeholding in the UK-Continent Interconnector.

Committed to coordinate our efforts to assist Government/Regulatory Authorities in ensuring continuity of gas and electricity supplies



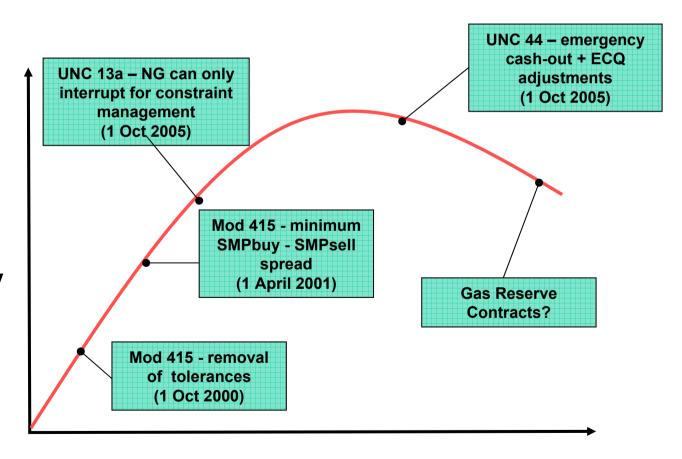
### What to do or not to do for Winter 06/07?

- Incentives on market participants.
- Demand side response.
- Gas Reserve Contracts.
- Market Information.



### **Incentives on market participants**

Shipper Incentives to avoid an Emergency





### **Demand side contracts**

- Commercial imperative to facilitate demand side contracts.
- Suppliers such as E.ON active in offering innovative commercial and emergency 'sell-back' products
- New contracts used during GBA on 13 March 2006.
- Limited take up during 2005 –need to create greater awareness of
  - risks customers face in the current market
  - value of these products in mitigating that risk
- E.ON is working with our B2B customers to gain greater insight and to see what arrangements will work best.



### I &C demand side response

- Demand side contract represented a worthy but relatively small 5 to 7 mcm at the peak during winter 05/06.
- Only a limited number of large customers are interested in demand side products
  - Typically those with a back-up fuel alternative.
  - But majority unwilling to cease production for a payment.
- Sell back products with price and volume levels <u>set by customer</u> likely to be the most effective going forward.

Non-generator demand side response is likely to be a useful but limited source of gas flexibility (More response could be achieved under extreme conditions)



### **Customer dilemma**



**OR** 



Shut down + Cash now

Chance it, & get nothing in an emergency



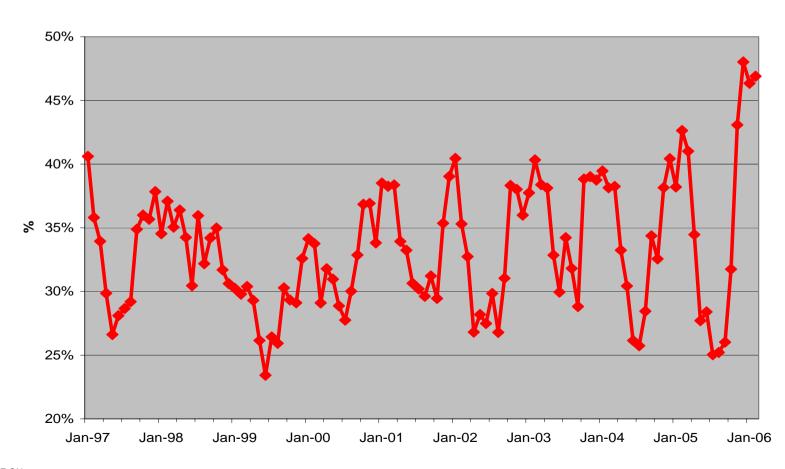
### Further generator demand side response

- Exceptional during 2005/06 yielding up to 40 mcm of gas during peak gas demand periods. Scope to increase this to 50 mcm?
- Potential during peak electricity demand day of 25 to 30 mcm but limited by fuel switching capability. Nuclear availability is key to creating more 'headroom'.
- Some 35 mcm may still be needed for gas generation on peak electricity demand day.
- More fuel switching throughout winter (Oct to Mar) could yield an extra 1 bcm of gas to help preserve storage stocks,
- Relaxation of environmental constraints could offer significantly more fuel switching opportunities – decisions required now to make any difference.



### Coal stations met the challenge last winter

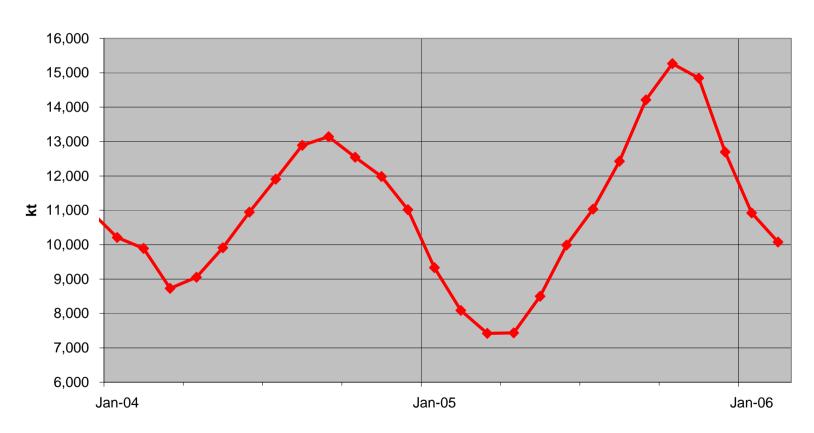
#### % of UK Generation From Coal



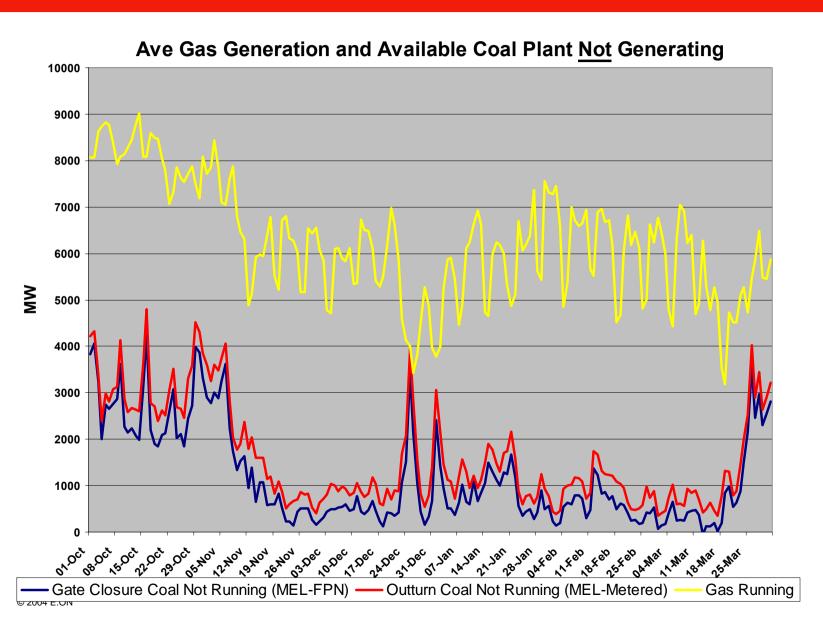


### Preparing to meet the challenge for Winter 06/07?

### **UK Power Station Coal Stocks**

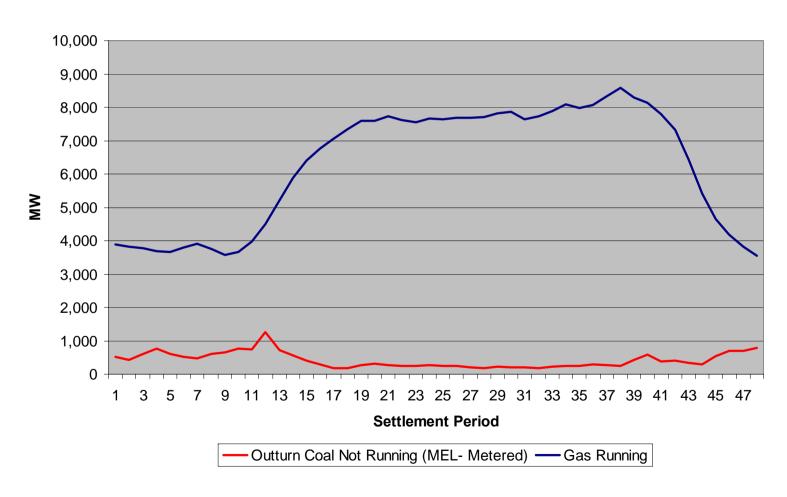








### Gas Generation and Available Coal Plant Not Generating 13/03/06





# Helping preserve storage stocks – potential fuel switching capability

Generation Type	Additional potential gas 'release'
Coal	0.7 bcm
Oil	0.3 bcm

### More if nuclear performs well

Based on working within existing environment and operational constraints











1/3 Rough Space

(On top of the 2½ bcm already provided by CCGTs)

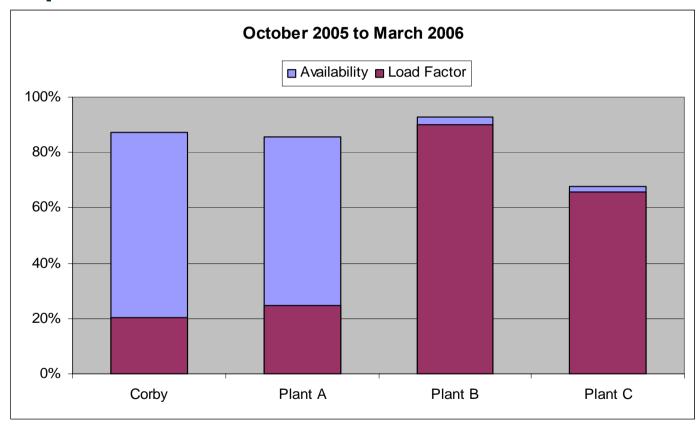


# Factors limiting generators offering demand side response

- Technical flexibility of plant
- Other technical constraints e.g. non NTS spec. gas that cannot be diverted to NTS.
- Contractual constraints.
- Trading strategy offering plant into BM rather than offering into the forward and spot markets.
- As a result of P194 risk adverse CCGT operators may be more likely to run through the night.



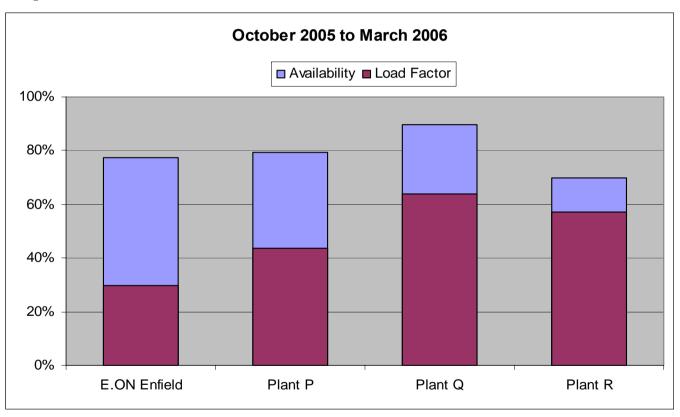
# Example 1 – comparison of demand side response for similar plant. Winter 05/06



"Two similar units operating flexibly, two inflexibly"



# Example 2 – comparison of demand side response for similar plant. Winter 05/06



"And again for another CCGT type"



### **Gas Reserve Contracts**

- Dilutes shippers primary responsibility for energy balancing (NG should remain a residual player).
- As such it undermines shippers focus on demand side response.
- NG taking significant forward positions will distort the market. FSA implications for NG.
- 'Paper' contracts cannot guarantee to preserve stocks of gas in store.
- It will be prohibitively expensive costs ultimately passed through to customers.
- Ultimately storage monitors protect safety of system.



## Market Information – energywatch mod to disclosure 'real time' terminal delivery flow data

- Supported by E.ON UK
- Will ultimately help improve the efficiency of the market and ability of market participants to respond appropriately.
- Danger that <u>initially</u> participants could over-react to information on changes to flows.

Is October the best time to be implementing this proposal?



### Actions/initiatives ahead of winter 2006/07

- Concentrate on generator demand side response and plant availability to maximise fuel switching 'headroom'.
- Consider relaxation of emission constraints.
- Focus efforts on offering demand side contracts to large users especially sell back products.
- Bring forward implementation of energywatch mod or delay to 1 April 2007
- NO to Gas Reserve Contracts.



### **Conclusions**

The market should be allowed to work.

**Avoid meddling with market rules** 

Existing market arrangements\* offer the best means of maintaining continuity of supply during Winter 06/07

\*Subject to scope of activities being limited by legal and operational Constraints.