



French Winter Adequacy Outlook 2016-2017

Updated on 29 November 2016

On 8 November 2016, RTE published its analysis for the winter season: ensuring a supply of electricity was likely to be more challenging than in previous winters, due to historically low predicted capacity across the generating fleet¹.

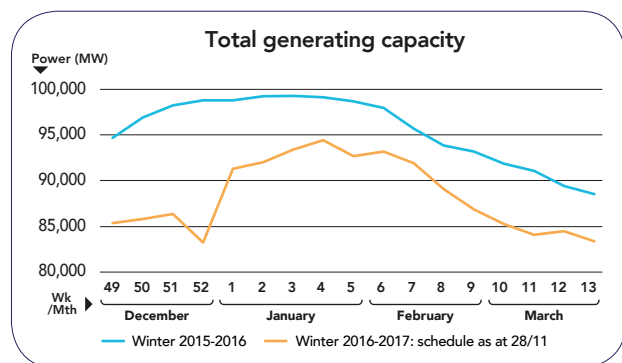
The latest assessments based on information provided by electricity generators on 28 November have confirmed the prospect of resorting to exceptional, incremental measures in order to deal with a cold spell or contingencies in generation capacity. The availability of generating facilities and consumption curtailment reserves is essential to maintaining a balance between supply and demand, and thus guaranteeing a supply of electricity throughout the winter period.

1. Lower generating capacity in December

The predicted availability of nuclear capacity has been lowered for December in light of the announcement that Dampierre NPP unit 3 and Civaux NPP unit 2 will both remain shut down.

In contrast to the information published on 8 November, water reservoir stocks have increased and are now comparable to those declared in November 2015.

The graph below depicts predicted generating capacity based on information available on the customers' portal of the RTE website², as at 28 November 2016.



2. Reduced availability of imports

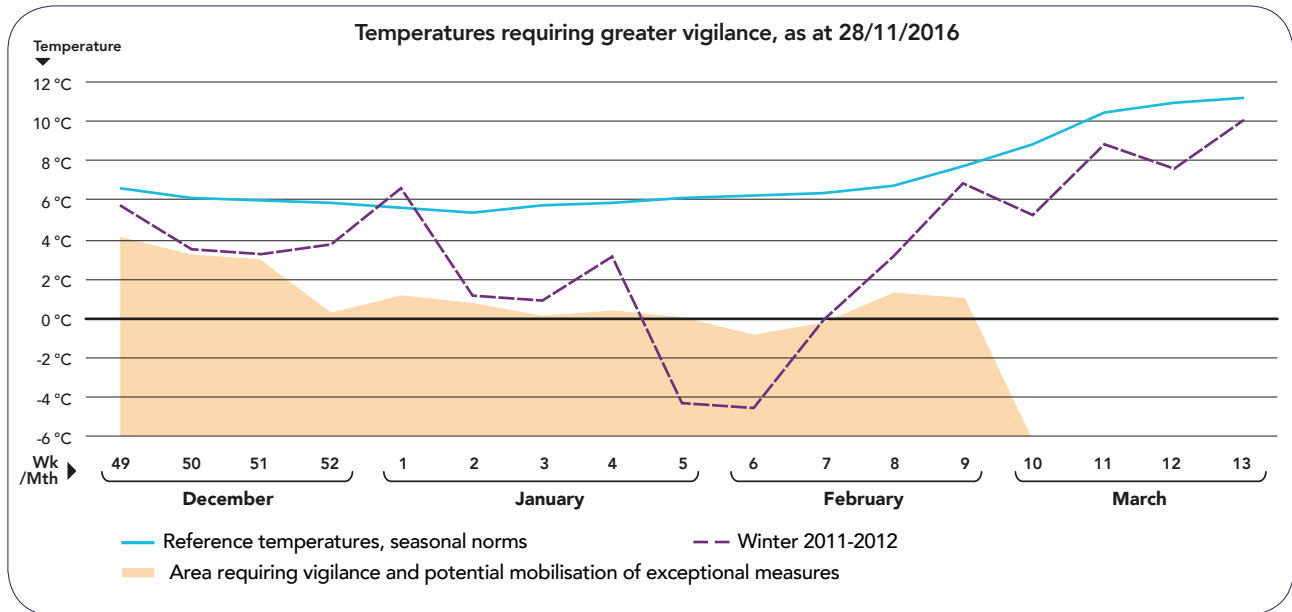
The updated analysis factors in downwardly-revised import capacity and lower projected supply capacity from neighbouring countries (see the ENTSOE Winter Outlook Report, www.entsoe.eu). Several bordering countries may not be able to export electricity to France due to supply-demand balance constraints - and some may themselves

have to fall back on imports during similar periods to France. For several weeks, RTE has been working closely with neighbouring grid operators to optimise import solutions for those countries whose supply-demand balances may come under strain.

(1) http://www.rte-france.com/sites/default/files/analyse_h_2016.pdf

(2) RTE publishes, without delay or modification, the information it is given by electricity producers. RTE devotes space on its website to disclose unavailabilities, which constitute inside information according to Regulation REMIT 1227/2011, but does not act on behalf of the producers under the terms of this regulation. The publication of inside information is the entire responsibility of the producers.

3. A winter of continued, heightened vigilance



To estimate the risks to security of supply, RTE examines the impact of a significant number of combinations of contingencies in generation, contingencies in consumption, and availability of import capability.

The graph below depicts - for the peak-consumption-day of every wintertime week - the gap between normal temperatures (blue curve) and the trigger-temperatures at which RTE may consider deployment of its exceptional measures to maintain the supply-demand balance on the French electricity system (yellow-shaded area).

Changes since the last publication in November are as follows:

- ▶ December remains under heightened vigilance.
- ▶ For January and February 2017, when consumption levels are higher, the supply-demand balance comes under slightly more strain due to the reduced availability of imported electricity.

Over the next three months, working in close collaboration with Météo France offices, RTE will remain vigilant and pay particular attention to signs of temperatures reaching the 'vigilance area'.

In the event of a cold snap – considering the current profile of availability for generating facilities, consumption curtailment reserves and import capability - RTE may deploy incremental, exceptional measures to guarantee supply-demand balance and maintain an electricity supply to as many customers as possible, as detailed in the analysis published on 8 November.

For RTE, this is a reminder of the role that customers can play in reducing consumption, particularly during a cold spell. For the record, on working days, demand for electricity peaks between 8am and 1pm in the daytime, and between 6 and 8pm in the evening.