



# FAQ CRM – Frequently asked questions on the CRM

The objective is to propose answers to the frequently asked questions Elia received on the CRM key milestones. Elia refers for the answers comprehension to the version of the Functioning Rules published on Mei 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 on its website. Disclaimer: This FAQ is a facilitation tool to the Belgian Capacity Remuneration Mechanism. It is a tool to help facilitate understanding of the CRM and associated documents. Any parties wishing to obtain a complete understanding of the law and its implementing decrees, the proposed rules of operation and the proposed capacity contract should refer to these documents, which are the only references to be relied upon for the application of the Belgian CRM.

# 1 FAQ on the participation assessment

Ω1

How are evolving the derating factors in time?

Α1

Derating factors settings are associated to an Auction and are decided by the Energy Minister. Once they are known, they apply to the upcoming related Auction and are fixed for the Transactions resulting of that Auction. The future potential of the capacity of the CRM Prequalified Candidate to acquire obligations is calculated on the update of the derating factors for the new Auctions or Secondary Market transactions.

Q2

Is the threshold of 1MW for the mandatory participation after application of the derating factors?

A2

Yes, the 1MW threshold applicable to the eligible capacities is to be considered after application of the associated derating factor.

Q3

Are my capacities above the threshold of 1MW (after application of the associated derating factor) considered as eligible capacities if their variable subsidies (operational aid) are stopping prior November 2025?

A3

Capacities benefiting from or entitled to receive operating aid in the 2025-2026 capacity delivery period shall not be required to submit a pre-qualification file.

However, capacities which benefit from or are entitled to receive operating aid in the period of capacity delivery 2025-2026 may submit a prequalification file with a waiver commitment.

However, capacities which will no longer benefit from and will not be entitled to operating aid in the 2025-2026 capacity delivery period shall be required to submit a prequalification file.

Several capacities in the Flemish Region qualify for an extension of their operating aid within the framework of a substantial change. There is therefore a right to operating aid, but this is conditional. In the context of the demand curve, these are considered ineligible capacities under the CRM.



If these capacities already know today that they will no longer use Flemish operating aid in the period of capacity delivery 2025-2026, they have to submit a pregualification file with a commitment to renounce.

If these capacities are not yet clear about a possible prolongation of the Flemish operating aid or participation in the CRM, they do not have to submit a prequalification file.

If these capacities already know today that they will close by the 2025-2026 capacity delivery period (officially published), they can submit a Fast Track prequalification file with the Opt-Out Out option.

Q4

If I don't have an installed submeter on the related capacity, am I under a mandatory participation to the Prequalification Process with my eligible production unit?

A4

Yes, the absence of a submeter dedicated to a production unit could not imply the removal of a mandatory participation to the pregualification process if applicable.

Q5

My CDS has not signed yet the Annex 14, what are the consequences for a CDS User?

A5

The CDS User is recognized in the CRM Functioning Rules as the Capacity Holder only if the CDSO signed the Annex 14 of the connection contract.

Q6

In the framework of a Grid User Declaration, does the legal obligation of the capacity holder (Grid Users or CDS Users) transferred to the mandated counterparty?

A6

No, the legal obligation of prequalification of a capacity holder remains on the Grid Users or the CDS User even if the Grid User Declaration is signed with another counterparty. Once the mandated counterparty do prequalify properly, it is its responsibility to inform the Grid User or CDS User of the Capacity.

Q7

Are each turbine of a windmills park considered individually for the prequalification mandatory participation?

Α7

No, the obligation is to be considered by park of the capacity type on the customer premise. So that 10 onshore windmills are considered as one in the assumption of the mandatory prequalification.

Q8

Can I cumulate energy market revenues (spot revenues, mFRR, aFRR revenues, ...) with the CRM remuneration?

Α8

Yes. The CRM is a financial support for the missing money. It comes on top of the energy market revenues but couldn't be cumulated with other functioning aid (variable subsidies, e.g. GC, WKK/CHP certificates) for the delivery period. Therefore, a conditional abandon of the subsidies could be declared in the prequalification. It will be conditioned to the successful selection in the Auction so that no functioning aid is lost due to the CRM in case of non selection in the CRM Auction. Please note, that the CRM is to be



considered as with reliability options, the Payback Obligation applies, implying that in the Delivery Period, the Energy Market revenues above the Strike Price have to be reimbursed for the Contracted Capacities.

Q9

May I abandon my other variable subsidies conditionally to a success in the Auction?

A9

Yes. The CRM is a financial support for the missing money. It comes on top of the energy market revenues but couldn't be cumulated with other functioning aid (variable subsidies, e.g. GC, WKK/CHP certificates) for the delivery period. Therefore, a conditional abandon of the subsidies could be declared in the prequalification. It will be conditioned to the successful selection in the Auction. The CRM support may be cumulated with other types of investment subsidies that are not considered as functioning aid (as described in the proposal Royal Decree on cumul).

Q10

Is the CRM only in supporting the direction of available capacities to provide electrical energy or to decrease consumption?

A10

Yes, the CRM is supporting the availability of the capacities to propose a production or consumption decrease availability. An increase of the consumption is then not considered in the framework of the CRM and has no added value for the CRM objective.

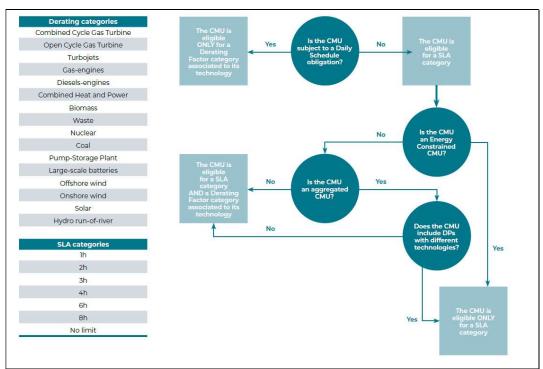
Q11

Which Derating Factor is applicable to my capacity/delivery point in the framework of the Prequalification process?

A11

The CRM Candidate follows the decision tree and deducts in the below table of the Derating Factors category which one is applicable and inserts such information in the Prequalification File.





Q12

What does the capacity with 'Daily schedule' stand for?

## A12

A capacity is considered with Daily Schedule obligation if it has an individual MW schedule obligation, which is today considered for TSO connected production units with an installed capacity above 25MW. All others are considered as without Daily Schedule Obligation.

Q13

If I don't want to participate in the CRM Auction and I'm not under a mandatory participation in the prequalification process, are there any administrative steps?

A13

No, the Capacity Holder of of a non-eligible capacity has no obligation to act in the prequalification process. Nevertheless, he may create a set of capacities complying with the CRM participation requirement to prequalify but has no obligation to do so.

## 2 FAQ on the Prequalification Process

Q1

Is an additional CMU sufficient to cover the prequalification obligation of the Law for the eligible capacities?

A1

This element is under discussion with the Authorities.

Q2

How do I prequalify my capacity in a Fast track prequalification process without submeter and related



#### EAN as it is a mandatory field?

A2

If no submeter is applicable to the eligible capacity performing a Fast Track Prequalification process, then the CRM Candidate is allowed to enter the EAN of the Access Point to which the capacity is connected.

If this case occurs for multiple capacities behind the same access point, the same EAN of the access point is used and the last digit of the EAN is replaced by A (the 1st), B (the 2nd), C (the third), ...

Q3

May I aggregate in a CMU my recognized Delivery points of my Steam Turbine and of my Gas Turbine if one of those has an installed capacity above 25MW?

A3

No, aggregation is not possible in that case. If the turbines (or other production capacities) are recognized in the Individual MW Schedule Schedule obligation as above 25MW and TSO connected (named with daily schedule), those delivery points participate in individual CMU (each).

Q4

In case of intention to participate in the Auction, does the absence of the right metering requirement imply an additional delivery point in the Prequalification Process?

A4

Yes, The absence of the metering requirements (Annex A1 of the Functioning Rules) of a capacity is implying that the delivery points shall be considered as an Additional Delivery point in the Standard prequalification process.

Q5

Are there no possible Opt-Out OUT for the existing capacities in Y-4?

A5

It is possible to select an Opt-Out in the Y-4 for predefined reason to be selected for either the full or entire volume of the capacity. The selection of an Opt-Out OUT category is limited in Y-4 to the cases listed in the Functioning Rules section 5.4.2.2.1,, all other reasons related to existing capacities are leading to an Opt-Out IN category and imply a consideration in the reduction volume for the Auction.

Q6

What is the aim of the financial security of 10000€/MW for the existing CMUs and 15000 of 20000€/MW for the additional or specific CMUs?

A6

As the Auction is based on a gate for the offers, all bids will compete in the Auction algorithm at the same moment, meaning the selection of the awarded bids will discard some other offers. The discarded bids imply a release of the associated/part of the Financial Security. Nevertheless, as the selection implies an automatic Capacity Contract for the awarded CRM Prequalified Candidates, it avoids gaming. On top, the service obligations in the Pre-delivery Period are to be covered by a sufficient incentive to deliver. As no payments are foreseen in the Pre-delivery period to the Capacity Providers, the Financial Security purpose is then to be seen as collateral in case of non-payment of the potential penalties. As reminder, the Financial Security of the Additional CMU is partially released in the Pre-Delivery period with the achievement of key milestones, with a value set at 10000€/MW once becoming Existing CMUs.

Q7

What is the ultimate deadline for the Prequalification Process of the upcoming Auction?



A7

The ultimate deadline is the 15th of June 2021 for the Prequalifications files submission. Please note that the Prequalification Files submisssion could only occur in case of validated Application Form by Elia of the CRM Candidate, a mandatory step that may take up to 5WD on its own, this is to be considered to respect the 15/06 deadline. No extension is foreseen (except in case of IT fallback procedure). Therefore Elia invites the CRM actors to introduce them properly in May 2021 in order to facilitate the process.

Q8

How can I decrease my participation in the CRM Auction if I assume my potential Eligible Volume in MW after application of the derating factor remains too high in comparison with my capability to deliver the service on the (pre-)delivery period?

A8

By default in a standard prequalification file, the Opt-Out is settled at zero MW for the CMU, this could be modified by the CRM Candidate. The Opt-Out permits to decrease the Eligible Volume partially of entirely. The Opt-Out is to be declared on the Nominal Reference and this before application of the derating factor. It is not possible increase the Eligible Volume through the Opt-Out, its only purpose is to decrease the potential Eligible Volume for the upcoming Auction.

Q9

May I already enter a Prequalification file for 2022?

A9

Yes, after the Prequalification file validated in 2021, the results remains valid in time at the condition the rules are not evolving in time. In case, those evolves, then the CRM Candidate will be requested to confirm or update.

Q10

Do I have to submit a prequalification file each year?

A10

On the principle, for each organized Auction by the Minister, it is possible that the Capacity Holder has to or could submit a prequalification file. Of course, Elia plans to facilitate the re-use and the confirmations of the previous parameters already filled-in in the Prequalifaction Process with enhancements capabilities.

Q11

How do I submit my declaration for commitments and waivers as mentioned in section 5.2.1.2.2. in my prequalification file?

A11

In order to allow a CRM Candidate to submit this new Commitments and Waivers declaration as required in the Functioning Rules, ELIA is currently modifying its CRM interface. This will allow - from 31.05.2021 - the submission of such a declaration for each CMU concerned. In line with other requirements in the Functioning Rules, the identification of the CMU(s) concerned by this declaration is the responsibility of the CRM Candidate and is not automatically checked in the interface.

Q12

How do I submit my declaration for energy transition commitments as mentioned in section 5.2.1.2.3. in my pre-qualification file?

A12

In order to enable a CRM candidate to submit this new declaration for energy transition commitments as required



in the Functioning Rules, ELIA is currently modifying its CRM interface. This will allow - from 31.05.2021 - the submission of such a declaration for each CMU concerned. In line with the other requirements in the Functioning Rules, ELIA will manually check - during the analysis of the pre-qualification file - that each additional CMU for which an investment file is requested from the CREG; fuelled by fossil fuel and of the "production unit" type does indeed submit such a declaration.

Q13

How can I understand the new concept of Associated Delivery Points as mentioned in several chapters of the Functioning Rules following the CREG decision and published on 14.05.2021?

A13

ELIA notes that this is a cross-cutting process, with a significant influence on the pre-qualification procedures and the auction, among others. With regard to the prequalification procedure, ELIA sets the following operational modalities:

- Each associated delivery point must be identified by the CRM applicant when preparing its prequalification file. To do so, it will be possible to select a dedicated check box in the CRM interface. This change is currently being implemented and will be available from 31.05.2021;
- The prequalification of the corresponding aggregated CMU will be done as for a classical CMU, via the CRM interface. As such, the selectable Derating Factor (only one derating factor is selectable for a CMU) in the CRM interface for the CMU will correspond to the CMU Derating Factor without consideration of the associated delivery points;
- The consideration of the associated delivery points and the determination of the corresponding residual eligible volume will be done on the basis of a manual process, implemented outside the CRM interface and in parallel to the "classic" prequalification. During this process, ELIA will collect from the CRM applicant who has notified the presence of associated delivery points to ELIA (via the check box mentioned above) the second reduction factor of the CMU (including the associated delivery points), and will thus be able to determine the second eligible volume of this CMU, and the corresponding residual eligible volume.
- These additional parameters will be added to the notification of the results of the prequalification process for the relevant aggregated CMU, so that the communication organised via the CRM interface includes and formalises all relevant elements. These developments represent significant changes and will therefore be implemented by the end of July (when the first notifications of the results of the prequalification procedure could be sent).

Q14

Where may I find the latest template of the Financial Security to be filled in?

A14

Clean and approved templates for the bank guarantee and the affiliate guarantee in NL/FR/EN "version 14/05/2021" on the website of Elia:

EN: https://www.elia.be/-/media/project/elia/elia-site/electricity-market-and-

system/adequacy/crm/20210514 template-financial-security en.docx

FR: https://www.elia.be/-/media/project/elia/elia-site/electricity-market-and-system/adequacy/crm/20210514 template-financial-security fr.docx

NL: https://www.elia.be/-/media/project/elia/elia-site/electricity-market-and-



## system/adequacy/crm/20210514\_template-financial-security\_nl.docx

Q15

#### Do I need to provide an original version to Elia?

A15

Indeed, on top of the Prequalification Files in which you are required to provide the Financial Securities, those original documents have to be sent by courrier to:

Attn: Nicolas Koelman (Key Account Manager Adequacy)

Elia Transmission Belgium

Keizerslaan 20 1000 Brussels

Belgium

Q16

## In case of cash payment / cash deposit of the Financial Security, on which account should it be provided?

#### A16

In case of a cash payment, please find the account details below:

Account Holder: Elia Transmission Belgium SA

• IBAN: BE 39 0018 6737 8019

BIC/SWIFT: GEBABEBB

Bank: BNP PARIBAS FORTIS

Q17

#### Which expiry date for the financial security related to the Y-4 Auction is to be submitted?

### A17

In line with the Functioning Rules, the submitted Financial Securities should cover the full Validity Period.

The end of the Validity Period for the Y-4 Auction for the Delivery Period that starts on 1st November 2025 is:

For an Existing CMU: 21/10/2026
For an Additional CMU: 16/11/2026
For a Virtual CMU: 16/11/2026

Q18

## Based on which version of the Capacity Contract, did I submit my Prequalification Files (prior 15/06/2021)?

A18

The proposal for capacity contract was indeed not be approved before 15 June 2021 as there are still some key elements to be discussed between Elia and CREG, and as the final proposal will then submitted to public consultation.

It should be noted that the Functioning rules do not require CRM Candidate to "acknowledge" the capacity contract, but to undertake to comply with the provisions of the contract and to sign it if he is selected during the auction. With regard to these commitments, nothing prevents the CRM Candidate from subscribing to it as of now, even if he does not yet know the final content of the contract; in the worst case, if the contract finally approved is unacceptable to him, he will always have the possibility to notify an opt-out and not submit any offer in the auction.



## 3 FAQ on the Auction

Q1

Are the volume of Fast Track prequalification processes considered in the CRM?

A1

Yes, the Fast Track prequalification process is developed for the Capacity Holders of the eligible volume having a mandatory participation in the Prequalification Process for a production capacity but having no willingness to offer a bid in the Auction, and therefore are performing a full Opt-Out. Through the Opt-Out notification, it is assesses if the Opt-Out is IN (contributing to adequacy) or OUT (not contributing to adequacy). In the CRM Auction, dummy bids are inserted for the capacities of the Fast Track Prequalification process having an Opt-Out IN. In all cases, the dummy bids never imply any Capacity Contract for the capacities following a Fadt Track prequalification process.

Q2

Does the Auction occurs each year for Y-4 and each year for Y-1 as of 2024?

A2

The upcoming Auctions are organized based the instruction of the Minister of Energy on a yearly basis. Once requested, Elia prepares the upcoming Auction and the associated prequalification process.

Q3

How are the different Opt-out declarations handled and to which status are they leading for the auction (Opt-out IN / OUT)?

A3

As the consequences reserved for opt-out declarations (§149 et seq. of the Functioning Rules) have raised some questions, Elia wishes to communicate transparent information to the market on this subject by means of the table below:

Category opt-out	Opt-out volume	related CMU	Classification of opt- out volume for Y-4 auction	Legal justification
"Other" - signed connection contract but with indication of <b>not ready in</b> <b>time</b> for start of delivery period	1	i	OUT	§151, bullet 2
Definitive closure or definitive structural reduction of capacity notification in accordance with <b>article 4bis</b> of the Electricity Act	I	Ī	OUT	§151, bullet 3
Volume indicated as not contributing to adequacy, being associated to the non-firm capacity as part of a connection with flexible access, referred to in article 170 of the Federal Grid Code	/	,	ОИТ	§151, bullet 4
Volume included as decommissioning condition in 'conditional' EDS related to another CMU	I	į.	IN if no bid related to the CMU with the conditional EDS is selected. OUT otherwise.	§ 152
	full	new built, i.e. a CMU for which a renunciation of rights document has been provided during the PQ file submission	OUT	§ 151, 1e bullet & § 149*
"Other"		Other	IN	§ 153
	partial	new built, i.e. a CMU for which a renunciation of rights document has been provided during the PQ file submission	IN if at least one bid related to the CMU has been selected in the auction. OUT otherwise.	§ 149*
		Other	IN	§149*

<sup>\*</sup>Note that § 149 is a general rule we appeal to:



149. The purpose of the classification of Opt-out Volumes is to determine whether these volumes will contribute to adequacy during the Delivery Period to which the Opt-out Notification relates. Opt-out Volumes that are considered to contribute to adequacy are classified as 'IN', while Opt-out Volumes that are not considered to contribute to adequacy are classified as 'OUT'.

# 4 FAQ on the Capacity Contract

Q1

Are there any negociable clause?

A1

No, the Capacity Contract of the CRM is a regulated contract, approved by CREG. No clause could be modified. The Transactions are well updated in the Annexes in case of Contractual modifications or Secondary Market transactions impacts.

Q2

What is the impact on my potential contractual obligations of the Derating Factors evolution in time?

A2

Derating factors settings are associated to an Auction and are decided by the Energy Minister, therefore those are also associated as a feature of the Transactions of the Capacity Contract resulting from awarded bids in the Auction. Once they are known, the apply to the upcoming related Auction and are fixed for the Transactions resulting of that Auction. The future potential of the capacity of the CRM Prequalified Candidate to acquire obligations is calculated on the update of the derating factors for the new Auctions or Secondary Market transactions.

Q3

What is the nature of the assessment by Elia of the 'all reasonable efforts' obligation for the CRM actors?

A3

The assessment by Elia will be a marginal assessment, meaning that Elia is not assessing the efforts as if it had to do or had done the effort itself, as this is not the case. 'All reasonable efforts' means at least that no deadlines are missed, efforts are being made to revert to the authorities when their deadlines are passed, action is taken to answer questions from neighbours, lobbyists, public authorities, an appeal is filed in due time against a refusal to grant the permit, ...



# 5 FAQ on the Pre-delivery Period

Q1

In the Functioning Rules, it is specified a frame of 36h in case of pre-delivery test (or prequalification process test). What should be defined as duration to validate the parameters during the test? For the Energy Constrained CMUs, is this test related to the SLA chosen number of hours, could it last that amount of chosen hours?

A1

Within the framework of the prequalification, in paragraph 110 of the functioning rules (absolute value of the difference between the lowest QH measurement over the test duration and the minimum highest QH measurent and zero), this delta is to be considered over the test period and it will therefore not require within the framework of a demonstration of the Service for 36h. The delta must be observed between QHs in this timeframe of 36h. This is also explained in Appendix A14 of the Functioning Rules.

The same logic applies to the pre-delivery test.

Q2

Are long maintenances of the existing assets possible in the pre-delivery period?

A2

It is of course possible to perform maintenances on the existing capacities during the pre-delivery period. Nevertheless, as the concept is to monitor the capabilities of the capacities to deliver the Service as of November 2025, , the pre-delivery obligations at specific moments called Pre-delivery controls in the Section 8.3.1., the Capacity Provider shall consider those controls in its maintenance planning in order to avoid Pre-delivery control penalties resulting from a Missing Capacity.

Q3

As an Additional CMU, what are the penalties under the functioning rules for not obtaining (a) permit(s) at the moment of control  $t_{control\ 1}$ ?

A3

As a result of questions raised by the market regarding the procurement of permits, Elia wishes to share with the market the following information:

347. In case of positive Missing Volume determined on an Additional CMU at the moment of control  $t_{control \ 1}$ , ELIA applies the following financial penalty:

Financial penalty (in EUR) = 
$$\frac{1}{2} \times \beta$$
 ( $\frac{\notin}{MW}$ ) × Missing Volume (MW)

This means that Beta is being divided by 2 on t1. Beta is determined according to §349:

349. The amount is equal to 20,000 €/MW if the Permitting Milestone is relevant for the concerned project and not reached yet at the moment of control. However, this amount may be reduced to €10,000/MW, if the Permitting Milestone remains relevant for the concerned project and is not reached yet at the moment of control, but the Capacity Provider demonstrates to Elia that all reasonable efforts have been made to reach the Permitting Milestone.

The amount that has to be paid on t1 in case they provided all reasonable efforts is therefore



5000 \* missing volume

Moreover, §351 says:

351. The financial penalty of an Additional CMU at the moment of control  $t_{control \, 1}$  can be applied by ELIA for a maximum of three consecutive times on the same Total Contracted Capacity of the CMU. The possibilities for contract termination in this context are detailed in the Capacity Contract.

It is then further explained in the contract that the capacity holder can terminate, the decision of the CREG of 20/8 states:

"In case of application of the financial penalty at the time of control tcontrol1 for an Additional CMU, the CAPACITY PROVIDER has a deadline of thirty (30) Working Days to notify ELIA of its decision to terminate the Contract by registered letter or e-mail with acknowledgment of receipt. Such termination is only effective as from full payment of the financial penalty by the CAPACITY PROVIDER. Upon the third application of the financial penalty, ELIA is also authorised to notify to the CAPACITY PROVIDER its decision to terminate the Contract by registered letter or e-mail with acknowledgment of receipt."

In other words: the penalty of 5000\* (if all reasonable efforts have been made) the missing volume is applied a maximum of 3 times, if the capacity holder does not terminate in the meantime. If he determines on August 31. 2023 that he still does not have the permit, he can

- Pay 1x 5000 \* missing volume and be 'released' from the contract.

Failing to terminate the contract and continue trying to obtain the permit: if, after an additional year, he still does not have a permit, a further penalty of 5000\* (if all reasonable efforts have been made) the missing volume will apply.



# 6 FAQ on the Delivery Period

Q1

What is happening for the CMU without Daily Schedule if the Reference Price is above the Strike Price and the Declared Market Price? What is happening if the Reference Price is below the Declared Market Price and above the Strike Price?

**A1** 

If the Reference Price is above Strike Price and the Declared Market Price, and is an AMT hour, the Volume Required is the associated volume to the partial Declared Day Ahead Price (DDAPp) and ELIA uses the Required Volume for Availability Monitoring during AMT Hours where a Payback Obligation occurs. The Payback Obligation is calculated in that case on the positive difference between the Reference Price and the Declared Market Price, if this one is higher than the strike price. In the other scenario, if the Reference Price is below Declared Market Price but above the Strike Price, no Available Capacity is calculated and the Payback Obligation is at zero.

Q2

Is the CRM Service requiring a net injection on the grid?

A2

Not especially, the Service is provided at the delivery point and the Obligated Capacity is compared with the Available Capacity which is not especially requiring an injection on the grid. As reminder, the Availability checks are performed on the Availability of the capacity and not especially on the activations, increase for production capacities, or reduction of consumption for demand side response.