

Overview of FTRs

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Key issues

- 1. Locational price risk
- 2. Why is locational price risk an issue?
- 3. What causes locational price risk?
- 4. What is an FTR?
- 5. FTR design
- 6. Debated issues
- 7. Next steps



Locational price risk



Price differences (monthly ave)





Price differences (monthly ave) Intra - island





Why is locational price risk an issue?



Example – purchaser at OTA





OTA purchaser hedged at OTA





OTA purchaser hedged at BEN



ELECTRICITY Example - locational price risk for TEMANA HIND purchaser at OTA





Overall effect on market

- Retail sector weakens competition in areas subject to higher locational price risk
- Hedge market makes it harder for buyers to shop around for competitive offers
- Dynamic effects tends to encourage fragmented market



What causes locational price risk?



Example – no locational price difference



Total purchaser payments equal total generator revenue



Example – locational price



Total purchaser payments exceed total generator revenue



Effect on risk management





What is an FTR?



Key concepts that describe an FTR

- FTRs give holders the right to a cash payment defined as the difference in spot price between two nodes – in this case between Benmore and Otahuhu
- FTR settlement is (largely) funded from a portion of the loss and constraint excess
- FTR funding allows more FTRS to be sold in one direction than in the other direction



Example – OTA purchaser





Effect of FTRs





FTR design



FTR market design

- Initial market for NZ has following features:
 - Two pricing nodes : OTA, BEN
 - Each FTR contract has monthly term, initially offered out one year
 - Progressive auction mechanism
 - Independent FTR manager (EMS)
 - Settled by clearing manager (NZX)
 - First auction May 2013
 - Four products offered



Four initial products



'Firmness'/'Revenue Adequacy'



- High degree of 'firmness' to FTR payments
 - FTR volume offer represents portion of grid capacity (to cover expected grid outages & average transmission losses)
 - FTR payments funded from loss and constraint excess and auction revenues
 - Each FTR will be progressively auctioned through time
 - Later FTR auctions may be reduced/cancelled
- Ultimately, any shortfall in revenue to meet FTR payments would lead to scaling for relevant month
- FTR manager responsible for managing the volume of FTRs – consistent with Code



FTR – life cycle





Benefits of FTRs

- Dovetails with energy risk management products (futures, CFDs)
- Promotes hedge market competition
- Promotes retail competition
- Can be used to satisfy prudential security



Debated issues



Do FTRs add to market power?

- Concern expressed by some that FTRs might increase market power
- Initially offered to only two nodes
- Traded markets and transparency generally promote competition
- Nonetheless, Authority will include as part of wider market monitoring



Cost of FTR market

- FTR market establishment and operation costs met initially from levy
- Authority has announced intention to consider other options as market matures
- May transition to trading participants meeting costs



Effect on dynamic efficiency

- Near term benefits of FTRs are clear
- Potential longer-run dynamic benefits
 - Counter tendency for market to remain fragmented
 - Promote 'national market' mind-set among participants
 - Increase size of opportunities for new entrants



Next steps



Technical amendments

- Currently considering technical Code amendments:
 - Scaling rules for FTRs in revenue shortfalls
 - FTR treatment if default occurs
 - FTR invoicing issues
 - FTR treatment if delay occurs in publishing final prices



Go-live date

- First auction May 2013
- Activities:
 - FTR allocation plan and FTR prudential security assessment methodology released
 - Software being developed & tested
 - Training will begin
 - Registration will begin



Potential developments

- FTRs could be expanded in future:
 - Better facilitate secondary trading
 - Reconfiguration auctions
 - Intra-island solutions
 - New pricing nodes
 - Locational rental allocations (LRAs)
 - Treatment of losses/firmness/term
 - Continue to align with forms of energy hedges