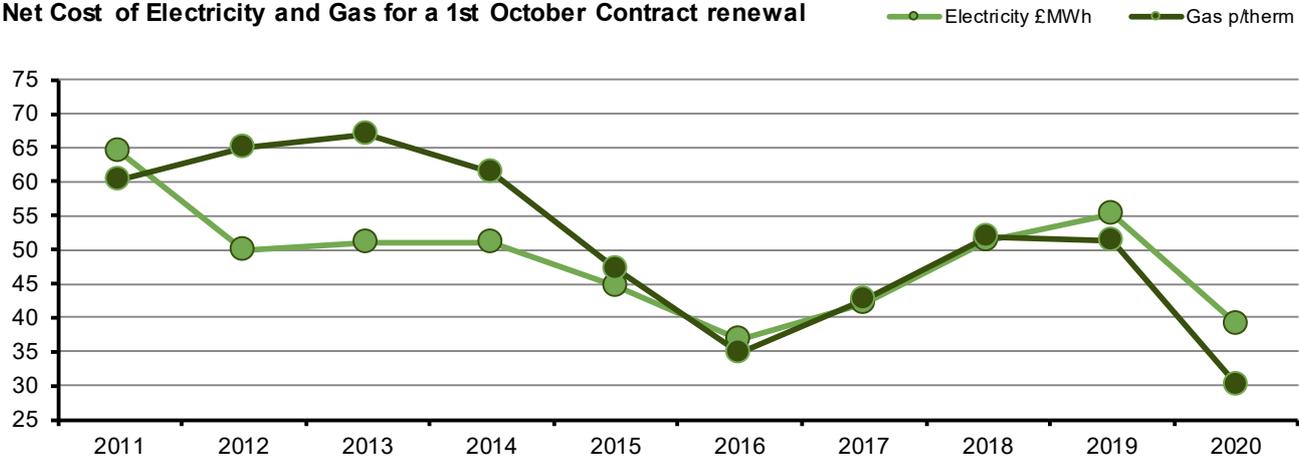


Report issued: 6th May 2020

Net Cost of Electricity and Gas for a 1st October Contract renewal



Electricity: base load cost - excludes distribution, taxation and supplier margin and costs

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
64.40	49.94	51.01	51.14	44.61	36.85	42.05	51.30	55.25	38.93

Gas: core gas cost - excludes distribution, taxation and supplier margin and costs

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
60.17	65.02	66.80	61.33	47.00	34.67	42.55	51.74	51.18	29.98

Week commencing 27th April 2020

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)	Market Index
Start	\$21.12	24.47	£36.67	\$38.60	-22.7
End	\$26.40	25.65	£36.29	\$39.15	-21.6

British NBP prompt prices strengthened early last week as temperatures dropped off and South Hook LNG terminal underwent an unplanned outage. Curve contracts subsequently weakened through the trading week, as LNG cargoes to the UK look set to remain high, despite an increase in demand from France due to planned nuclear outages. Fears over storage capacity also pressured prices, with overall demand set to remain low for the foreseeable future. The front-end gained some support later in the week however, from announcements by natural gas producers that they would seek to reduce output. The UK power curve largely tracked movements in the NBP market last week, with the Week Ahead contract being the only one to close in positive territory. Weakness in carbon markets added downward pressure to power prices, whilst expectations of warm weather and sustained high LNG flow over the coming weeks also contributed. Bearish sentiment prevailed through to the end of the week, with no indication forthcoming of how and when the UK would unwind the nationwide lockdown.

Week commencing 20th April 2020

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)	Market Index
Start	\$28.07	26.58	£37.82	\$44.60	-20.1
End	\$21.12	24.47	£36.67	\$38.60	-22.7

British NBP fell last week, in keeping with bearish sentiment across the commodity complex. NBP prompt prices fell to the lowest level seen since 2006 at the start of the week, and low prices at the front end remained a theme for the rest of the week. As a nation with one of the highest LNG terminal capacities in Europe, the UK has been receiving high numbers of LNG cargoes, which helped maintain pressure on NBP prices. This resulted in a wide discount to European hubs and high export levels to the continent throughout last week. Cross-commodity bearish sentiment pressured the UK power curve downward at the beginning of last week. Carbon and NBP were both weak, with a glut of LNG in the UK and selling activity in the oil markets feeding through. Losses were passed through to the UK power market accordingly. Near and far curve contracts continued the downward momentum, although some support came from surging French power prices amid nuclear outage extensions. Prompt power contracts conversely made strong gains, as reduced renewable generation and lower temperatures raised the prospect of stronger demand and higher generation costs.

Week commencing 13th April 2020

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)	Market Index
Start	\$35.28	27.06	£37.50	\$46.00	-18.2
End	\$28.07	26.58	£37.82	\$44.60	-20.1

The NBP market softened for much of last week as strong flows from domestic LNG and reduced demand off the on-going COVID-19 pandemic continued to apply pressure. Low wind generation provided partial support as output fell to a low as 11GW in NW Europe; 15% of its max output last month. The announcement of reduced nuclear output in France however saw further-dated contracts lift as CCGT plants are seen as the marginal unit for any reduction in French nuclear output. Prompt Power prices continued to be pressured for much of last week despite UK wind generation never rising above 6GW as the partial shutdown of the domestic economy continues to reduce demand, notably in the high intensity manufacturing sectors. Increased gas demand from France however did see spark spreads widen, helping the Winter'20 contract to rise.

Week commencing 6th April 2020

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)	Market Index
Start	\$30.12	26.14	£35.36	\$45.20	-19.3
End	\$35.28	27.06	£37.50	\$46.00	-18.2

The British NBP curve had a strong start to the week, driven by gains in carbon as early indications emerged that continental Europe could be past the peak of the pandemic. Trading subsequently fluctuated between positive and negative territory through to Thursday, with positive sentiment across the wider commodity complex being offset by bearish demand fundamentals; particularly in the prompt. Warmer than normal temperatures and high LNG flows looked set to continue through April. However, whilst the prompt finished the week significantly down, near and far curve contracts closed stronger following OPEC+ cuts and further news of European lockdowns being rescinded. The UK power curve also made strong gains at the beginning of last week, buoyed by the rally in carbon markets, whilst Prompt prices also rose against a reduction in wind generation. The push higher continued through Tuesday, but prompt and near curve sold off on Wednesday as carbon and oil stagnated, tracking downward due to higher than normal temperatures and continued poor demand outlook. Nonetheless, with the wider commodity complex settling significantly up for the week despite a muted reaction to the OPEC+ meeting, the power curve retained gains throughout the curve.

Disclaimer: The above information is based on current market data available at the time of producing this document and is subject to change. ECA cannot be held responsible for movement in the commodity market.