

Report issued: 5th April 2023

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



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

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
42.88	45.90	35.30	43.15	48.13	43.59	32.98	60.53	214.93	141.6

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

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
58.15	49.30	30.79	43.09	48.60	43.78	25.93	49.68	243.01	144.85

#### Week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
<b>Start</b>	\$75.22	118.09	£129.31	\$134.50
<b>End</b>	\$79.54	135.61	£140.30	\$149.00

The week started stable despite the arrival of cooler weather across the UK and Europe, as forecasts emerged of colder temperatures in Europe for April, Gas prices firmed and continued on this theme for the remainder of the week. Power prices followed Gas. Also contributing to these increases was the news of the Strikes at three French LNG terminals restricting send out resulting in an increase in exports from the UK to Europe. Further extensions to French nuclear reactors and other power capacity curtailment due to industrial action across the country pressured Power prices. Europe's storage is currently 56% full, forecasts suggest that this could reach 95% by the end of the Summer.

#### Week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
<b>Start</b>	\$73.00	119.79	£130.23	\$131.50
<b>End</b>	\$75.22	118.09	£129.31	\$134.50

Spot contracts across most European natural gas hubs and the NBP rose over the previous week with a cold spell forecasted for the end of March resulting in prices buoying. Robust storage levels for this time in the year, and some countries showing net injections could be attributed to why futures prices continued to move lower across the curve. Ofgem, the UK energy regulator approved the new interconnection agreement relating to the BBL on 24 March, which will see increased export capacity to the Netherlands draw nearer. UK baseload prices on the prompt rose, with prices for the rest of the curve seeing bearish sentiment tracking losses of gas

#### Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
<b>Start</b>	\$81.86	147.03	£152.38	\$135.00
<b>End</b>	\$73.00	119.79	£130.23	\$131.50

EDF have stated that there will be extensions to the industrial action which is taking place over Macron's pension reform plans in France by another week, to March 23. The current strike action has delayed further reactor returns from various nuclear reactors across the fleet, and has led to an average output of around 35 GW, which is below the expected output for March. The current strikes have been estimated to have affected more than 20 GW of various energy generation facilities, across the period of demonstrations which began at the start of this month. Via the IUK interconnector, Belgium are receiving maximum quantities of imports from the UK, with high downstream flows from Belgium toward France in the wake of reduced current capacity. LNG is also being diverted from French terminals to others such as UK and Germany at this time. Despite all of this, prices across the NBP and European hubs dropped by the close of the week. Power followed the same sentiment, with other commodities all falling.

#### Week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
<b>Start</b>	\$84.98	126.55	£136.69	\$125.00
<b>End</b>	\$81.86	147.03	£152.38	\$135.00

Last week saw the first highly bullish week for quite some time, as prices increased as much as 15% due to French LNG outages due to strikes and further unplanned maintenance on Norwegian gas fields. Temperatures last week saw lowest below seasonal normal of the year, before slightly rising again before the end of the week. Increasing LDZ demand due to lower temperatures put more pressure on the market and storage and with low UK wind generation, the bulls entered the market once again. News broke that there were significant damage to a French nuclear reactor and minor damage to a further seven, sent the market into their bullish week.

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.