

Report issued: 20th September 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
50.72	42.67	41.13	45.99	64.70	51.15	45.75	113.94	410.01	107.83

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

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
58.25	42.33	36.79	45.45	70.12	46.99	34.67	114.67	484.80	126.4

Week commencing 11th September 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
Start	\$90.75	123.66	£109.23	\$112.90
End	\$93.59	126.40	£107.83	\$125.00

Market uncertainty remained which was largely caused by the possibility of supply disruptions in Norway and Australia. Norway continued to experience reduced gas flows due to ongoing maintenance works at various gas fields. Full walkouts were set to start at the two Chevron sites mid week. Amid the strikes, Chevron Wheatstone LNG facility also experienced faulty operations effecting production. This disruption was set to affect 25% of LNG production at the facility. Although a volatile week, prices remained relatively stable week on week.

Week commencing 4th September 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
Start	\$88.15	127.53	£111.73	\$114.25
End	\$90.75	123.66	£109.23	\$112.90

Markets were relatively stable to start the week and even saw some small losses. This was in spite of the backdrop of impending strike action in Australia impacting two critical LNG plants and ongoing Norwegian outages due to maintenance. Mild long-term weather forecasts and healthy LNG supply helps to negate these bullish drivers at first. However, by the end of the week the markets had moved higher as an extension to the strike negotiations failed to achieve a resolution, and stoppages began in the early hours of the 8th September. Multiple extensions to the ongoing maintenance in Norway also fed into the bullish movement.

Week commencing 28th August 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
Start	\$83.94	125.31	£113.13	\$118.75
End	\$88.15	127.53	£111.73	\$114.25

The nervousness in the Market continued as Unions gave Chevron warning that strikes would begin as early as September 7th at two critical LNG plants in Western Australia. The action affects 500 workers, and stoppages might last up to 11 hours per day. These two LNG plants are expected to deliver approximately 7% of global supply, largely to Asia. Seasonal maintenance continued to weigh on prices which saw Norwegian flows reduced by nearly 40%. An increase in temperatures was forecast to help reduce demand. Prices saw the week end in a similar position to the start with volatility seen in the interim.

Week commencing 21st August 2023

	Oil (bbl)	Gas (ppt)	Power (MWh)	Coal (MT)
Start	\$84.04	133.85	£116.42	\$114.50
End	\$83.94	125.31	£113.13	\$118.75

The week opened strong on Gas & Power as Australian LNG workers prepared for a possible walkout if salary negotiations did not result in an agreement by Wednesday. The likelihood of strikes beginning as early as September 2nd puts upwards pressure on prices. Markets remained sensitive mid week tracking the outcome of the talks between Union and Woodside before significant losses were seen, up to 15% drop in prices on some contracts. This came as there was a strong indication that an agreement would be reached although not definite. The fundamentals took hold by Friday with climbing prices as gas flows from Norway, particularly from the Troll and Aasta Hansteen fields, were at their lowest in two months due to restricted capacity.

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.