

Treatment of Confidential Data in the GSO for Loss Factor Calculation

Background:

The Generic Stacking Order (GSO) is developed for the preparation of base cases and it contains both confidential (planned outages including turn-arounds) and non-confidential (such as metering point ID, dispatch order) generator data. Only the non-confidential content of the GSO is made accessible to public. However, in 2006 the full GSO is intended to make base case information open to all. Generator owners are concerned about the use of commercially sensitive data especially turn-around schedule in the GSO. Their concern is if the turn-around schedules can be extracted from the GSO then competitive information may be divulged. Thus generators have expressed the concern that planned outage data should be kept confidential in the loss factor methodology.

AESO offers two proposals that address generators' concern while ensuring representative generator output data is captured in the cases. In other words, the need for accuracy must be balanced with the need to respect confidentiality. The AESO believes that overall accuracy of the loss factor base cases would remain largely unaffected in either proposal.

Proposal 1:

In the development of loss factors, AESO will use 12 seasonal cases (high, medium and low for each season). Each case will contain MW output for each generator. AESO proposes to de-rate a plant output for the season during which the plant has the turn-around schedule. For example, if a plant plans to have the scheduled outage in October then the all three Fall dispatch amounts will be de-rated the same amount. The Figure 1 depicts an example scenario.

Figure 1 shows an average output of a plant in summer is 100 MW. The plant plans the turn-around schedule in October and the corresponding effect will be reflected in the GSO by de-rating the plant output to an average of 20 MW.

This proposal will not enable a competitor to determine exact dates of the outage schedule. One can definitely guess the season in which it appears and outage will occur.

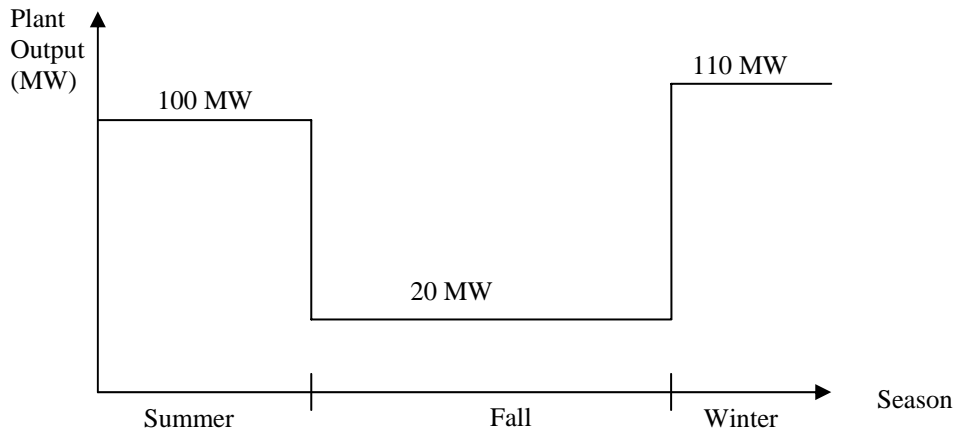


Figure 1: Representation of Proposal 1 for incorporating turn-around schedule.

Proposal 2:

AESO proposed a second option for the use of turn-around schedule in the GSO. According to this proposal the plant's output (under consideration) for any one of the seasonal cases (high, medium and low) will be made zero. The seasonal case will be chosen randomly (high, medium or low). This scenario is shown in Figure 2.

This proposal will also not enable an accurate estimate of the month of a season for the turn-around schedule. If a plant has approximately one month for maintenance then this proposal offers better reflection of actual scenario.

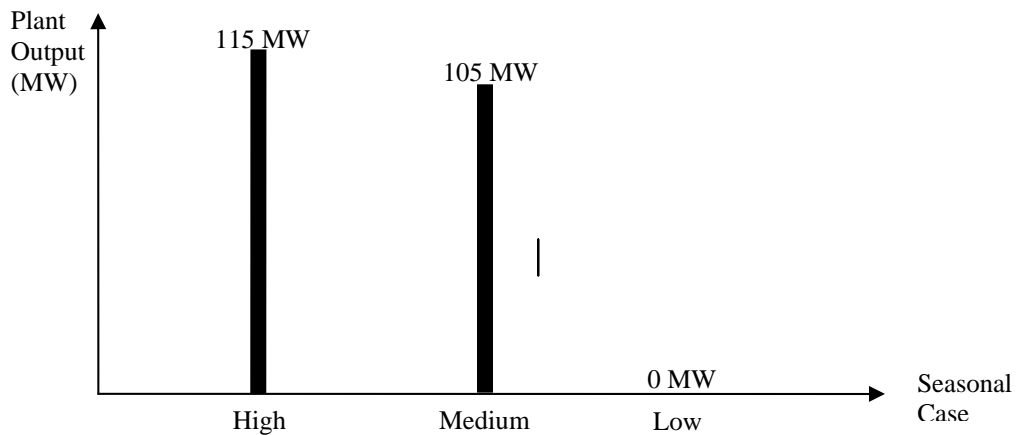


Figure 2: Representation of Proposal 2 for incorporating turn-around schedule.