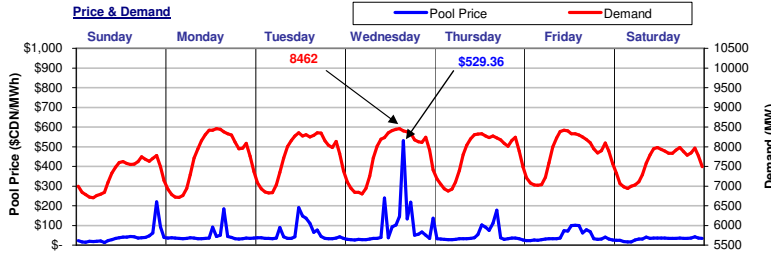


# The Market Monitor

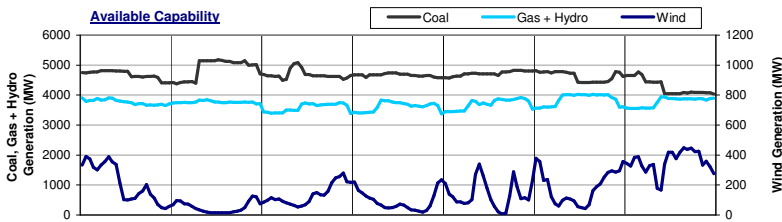
WATCHING THE MARKET : your fact source

Week Ending April 24, 2010

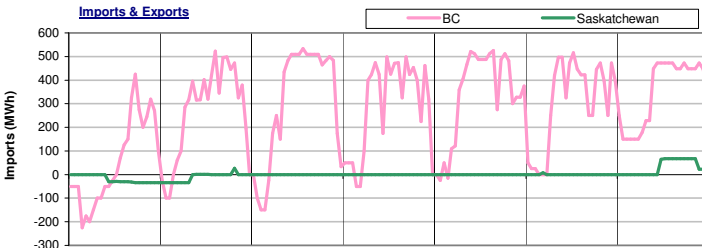
## Weekly Highlights



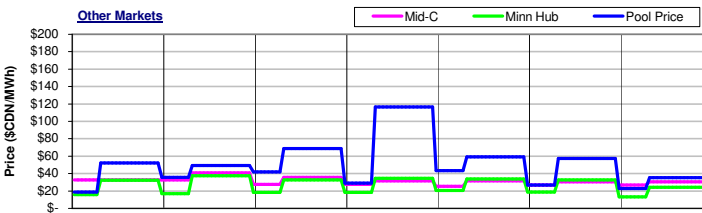
For the week ending April 24, 2010, **Pool Price** averaged \$52.29/MWh and ranged from a minimum of \$13.45/MWh in HE08 on Sunday to a maximum of \$529.36/MWh in HE16 on Wednesday. **Demand** reached a high of 8,462 MW in HE15 on Wednesday and a low of 6,706 MW in HE05 on Sunday. Average demand for the week was 7,700 MW. **Pool Price** and **Demand** were positively correlated last week with an R-squared value of 0.16.



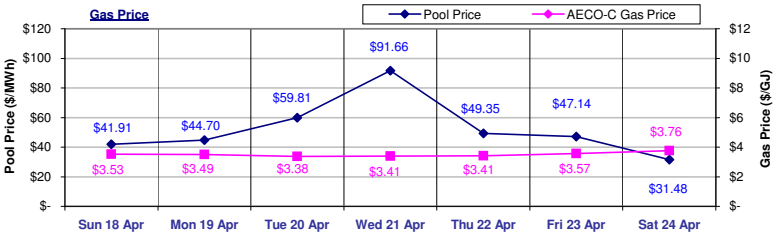
**Coal Unit Availability** averaged 4649 MW last week. This is an equivalent availability of 80%. **Gas, Hydro and Other Unit Availability** averaged 3723 MW last week, which is an equivalent of 66%. **Wind Generation** averaged 166 MW last week. This is an equivalent availability of 26%. Availability numbers are based on MW offered into the energy merit order.



Alberta was a net importer from **BC** last week with total imports equal to 45,836 MWh. Alberta was a net importer from **Saskatchewan** last week with total imports equal to 50 MWh. Overall, Alberta imported 45,886 MWh of electricity last week.



**Pool Prices** were generally higher than prices in **Mid-C** and higher than prices in **Minn Hub** last week. **Mid-C** prices averaged \$33.53/MWh on-peak and \$28.57/MWh off-peak. **Minn Hub** prices averaged \$32.65/MWh on-peak and \$17.46/MWh off-peak. Prices in \$/MWh at an exchange rate of 1.012.



The average **AECO-C Gas Price** last week was \$3.51/GJ and ranged from a minimum of \$3.38/GJ to \$3.76/GJ. Prevailing gas prices resulted in market heat rates ranging from a low of 8.38 GJ/MWh to a high of 26.92 GJ/MWh. The average market heat rate for the week was 15.05 GJ/MWh.

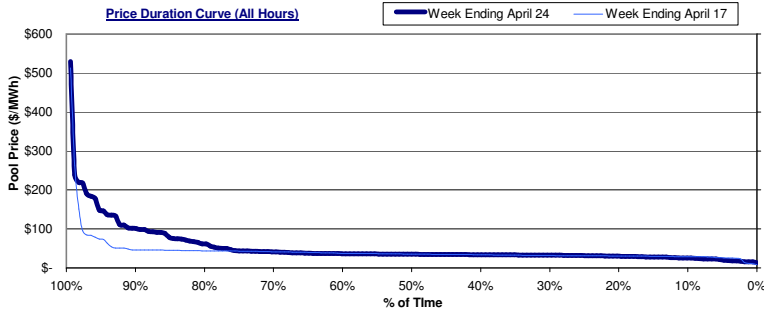


Alberta's Market Surveillance Administrator is in place to monitor the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of all electricity markets within the province. The **Market Monitor** is a weekly publication by the MSA intended to educate industry participants and the public on market activities for the [previous week](#). Any questions regarding the material in this publication should be directed to MSA staff. Our contact information is available on the MSA website: [www.albertamsa.ca](http://www.albertamsa.ca)

# Wholesale Market

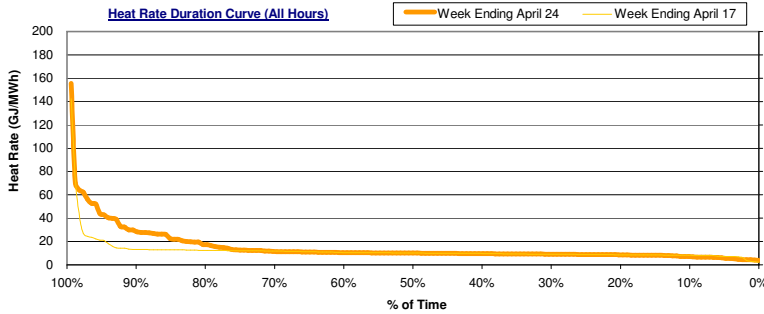
## Weekly Market Statistics

	Sunday 18-Apr	Monday 19-Apr	Tuesday 20-Apr	Wednesday 21-Apr	Thursday 22-Apr	Friday 23-Apr	Saturday 24-Apr	Average	Last Week	% Change	YTD
<b>Pool Price</b>											
Average	\$ 41.91	\$ 44.70	\$ 59.81	\$ 91.66	\$ 49.35	\$ 47.14	\$ 31.48	\$ 52.29	\$ 42.23	23.8%	\$ 41.95
On-Peak	NA	\$ 49.41	\$ 68.86	\$ 116.57	\$ 59.27	\$ 57.27	\$ 35.42	\$ 64.47	\$ 50.35	28.0%	\$ 49.54
Off-Peak	\$ 41.91	\$ 35.27	\$ 41.69	\$ 41.85	\$ 29.53	\$ 26.88	\$ 23.62	\$ 36.06	\$ 31.40	14.9%	\$ 30.81
COV	0.99	0.72	0.73	1.21	0.74	0.56	0.23	0.74	0.45	64.0%	
<b>Heat Rate</b>											
Average	11.89	12.79	17.69	26.92	14.48	13.20	8.38	15.05	11.95	26.0%	9.44
On-Peak	NA	14.14	20.37	34.23	17.38	16.04	9.42	18.60	14.24	30.6%	11.15
Off-Peak	11.89	10.10	12.33	12.29	8.66	7.53	6.28	10.32	8.89	16.1%	6.93
<b>Demand</b>											
Average	7,294	7,760	7,781	7,819	7,811	7,847	7,588	7,700	7,768	-0.9%	8,275
Minimum	6,706	6,715	6,829	6,800	6,877	7,023	6,940	6,841	7,014	-2.5%	6,706
Maximum	7,779	8,461	8,356	8,462	8,327	8,416	7,978	8,254	8,254	0.0%	9,806
<b>Coal Unit Availability</b>											
Average	4,684	4,891	4,684	4,666	4,722	4,625	4,274	4,649	5,021		5,268
AC/MC	81%	84%	81%	80%	81%	80%	74%	80%	87%	-6.6%	88%
<b>Gas, Hydro and Other Unit Availability</b>											
Average	3,768	3,765	3,580	3,620	3,702	3,854	3,773	3,723	3,819		3,897
AC/MC	67%	66%	63%	64%	65%	68%	67%	66%	67%	-1.7%	69%



The price duration curves show the % of time that prices were at or below a certain value during the week. For the week ending April 24, prices were at or below:

\$20/MWh	5% of the time
\$50/MWh	77% of the time
\$100/MWh	89% of the time
\$250/MWh	99% of the time
\$500/MWh	99% of the time



The heat rate duration curves show the % of time that the implied market heat rate was at or below a certain value during the week. For the week ending April 24 implied market heat rates were at or below:

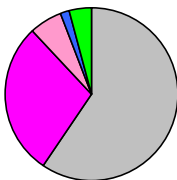
5.0 GJ/MWh	4% of the time
10.0 GJ/MWh	49% of the time
15.0 GJ/MWh	79% of the time
20.0 GJ/MWh	83% of the time

### Market Share Statistics

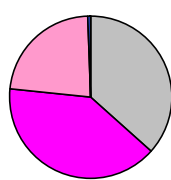
By Fuel Type:

Legend: Coal (grey), Gas - Cogen (magenta), Gas - Other (pink), Hydro (blue), Other (green)

Weekly Generation by Fuel Type

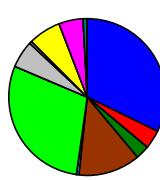


Weekly Price Setting by Fuel Type



By Submitting Customer:

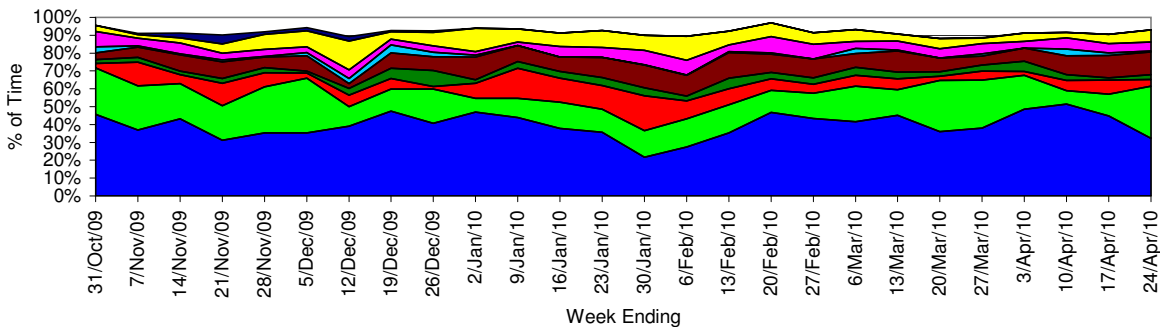
Weekly Price Setting by Submitting Customer



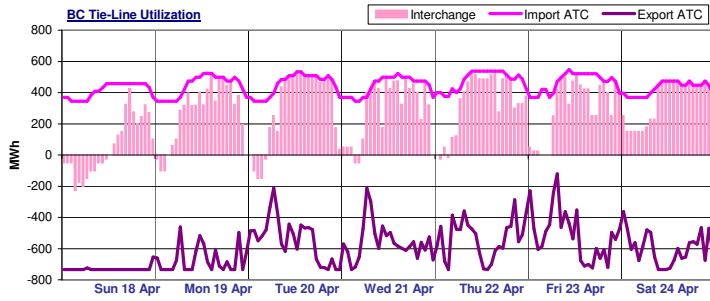
Last week, coal units were responsible for 59.4% of the generation in the province and set price 36.7% of the time. Gas-cogen units accounted for 28.7% of the generation and set price 40.0% of the time last week while other gas units made up 6.0% of generation and set price 22.8% of the time.

A total of 11 market participants set price last week. Two market participants set price more than 20% of the time last week. The top price setter set price 32.3% of the time and the top five price setters set price a total of 86.7% of the time.

Weekly Price Setting by Submitting Customer

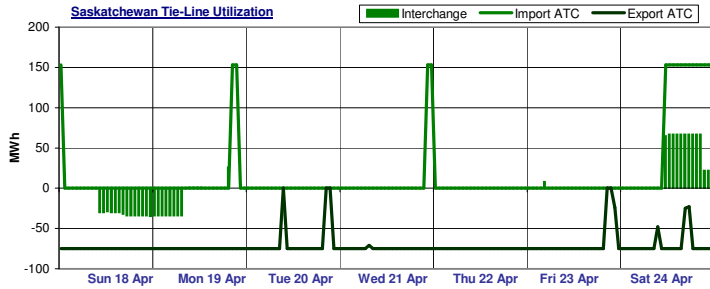


# Interties

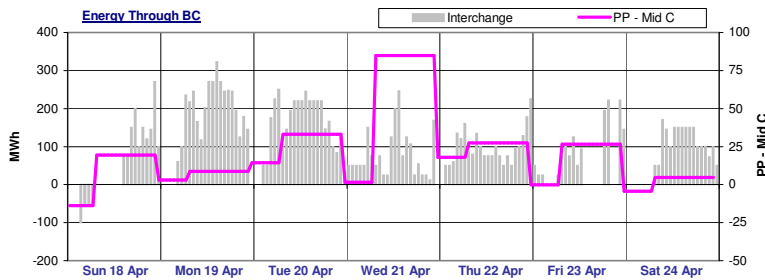


BC import capacity was 62% utilized last week while BC export capacity was 3% utilized. Energy was being imported into Alberta over the BC tie-line 81% of the time and exported out of Alberta over the BC tie-line 14% of the time last week. There was no activity on the BC tie-line 5% of the time last week.

Note: External reserve contract volumes have been subtracted from the BC import ATC as this capacity is not available to import energy into Alberta.



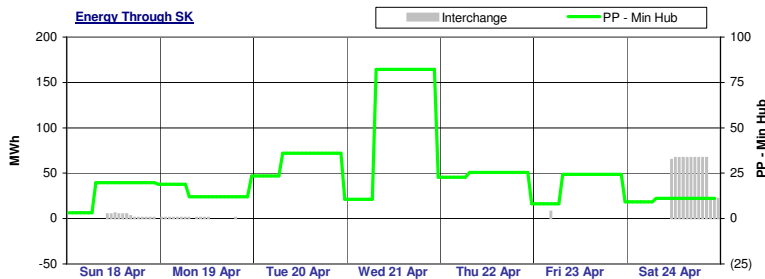
Saskatchewan import capacity was 27% utilized last week while Saskatchewan export capacity was 6% utilized. Energy was being imported into Alberta over the Saskatchewan tie-line 11% of the time and exported out of Alberta over the Saskatchewan tie-line 13% of the time last week. There was no activity on the Saskatchewan tie-line 76% of the time last week.



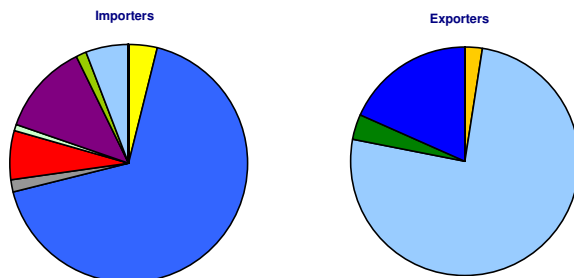
Last week, Alberta spot prices were mostly higher relative to prices in the Pacific Northwest as represented by Mid-C index prices.

Alberta prices were generally higher than prices in MISO as represented by spot prices at the Minnesota Hub.

Note: Platt's day-ahead strip prices used in energy through BC and SK graphs.



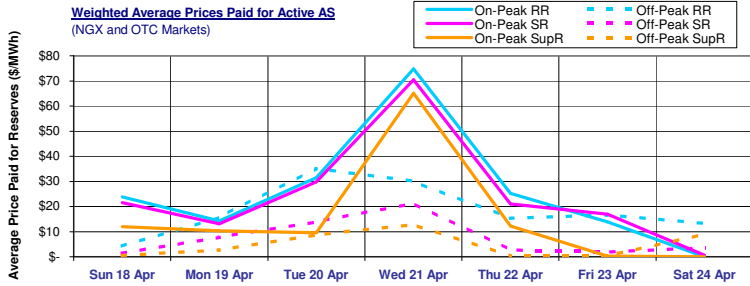
## Tie-Line Market Shares



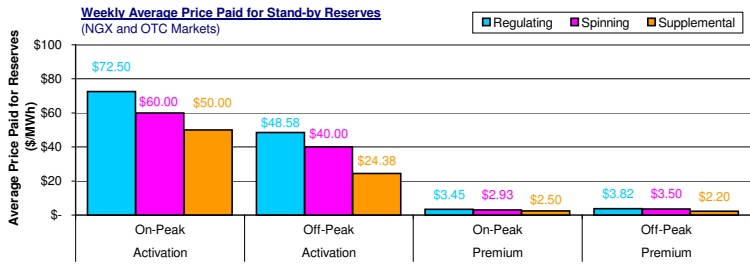
Last week, there were a total of 8 importers. The most active importer had a market share of 67.3% while the second most active importer had a market share of 12.4%. There were a total of 4 exporters last week. The most active exporter had a market share of 75.7% while the next largest exporter had a market share of 18.4%.

Note: Market shares are based on the combined activity on both interties.

# Ancillary Services Market

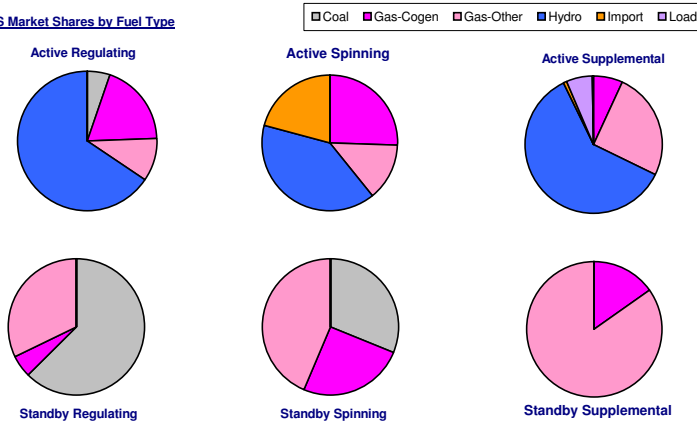


Average on-peak prices paid for active ancillary services last week were **\$26.47/MWh**, **\$25.00/MWh** and **\$15.81/MWh** respectively for active **regulating**, **spinning** and **supplemental** reserves.  
Active average off-peak prices were **lower** and averaged **\$19.05/MWh**, **\$7.52/MWh** and **\$4.88/MWh** for active **regulating**, **spinning** and **supplemental** reserves respectively.



Weekly average activation prices for stand-by reserves ranged from **\$34.28/MWh** for **off-peak supplemental** reserves to **\$72.50/MWh** for **on-peak regulating** reserves.  
Weekly average premium prices ranged from **\$2.20/MWh** for **off-peak supplemental** reserves up to **\$3.82/MWh** for **off-peak regulating** reserves.

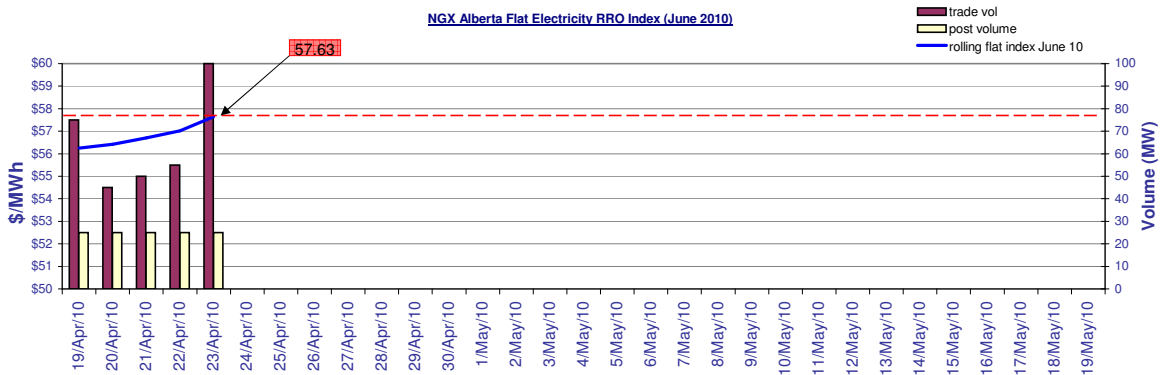
## AS Market Shares by Fuel Type



Last week **hydro** units had the largest market share in the **active regulating** reserve market with **65.6%**. In the **active spinning** reserve market, **hydro** units had the leading market share with **40.0%** while in the **active supplemental** reserve market, **hydro** units dominated with a **60.5%** market share.

**Coal** units dominated the **standby regulating** reserve market with a **62.5%** market share. Leading market share in the **standby spinning** market was held by **gas** units with a **43.6%** market share. In the **standby supplemental** reserve market, **gas** units had the leading market share with **84.8%**.

# RRO Procurement



# Glossary

- On-Peak Hours**  
In Alberta: HE08 through HE23, Monday through Saturday (prevailing Mountain time)  
In Mid-C: HE07 through HE22, Monday through Saturday (prevailing Pacific time)  
In Minn Hub: HE08 through HE23, Monday through Sunday (prevailing Central time)
- Off-Peak Hours**  
In Alberta: HE01 through HE07 + HE24 (of the same day), Monday through Saturday + HE01 through HE24 Sundays (prevailing Mountain time)  
In Mid-C: HE24 (of the previous day) through HE07 (of the day in question), Monday through Saturday + HE01 through HE24 Sundays + holidays (prevailing Pacific time)  
In Minn Hub: HE24 (of the previous day) through HE07 (of the day in question), Monday through Sunday (prevailing Central time)
- ATC**  
A measure of the maximum energy flow possible in one direction across an intertie.
- Market Heat Rate**  
The prevailing Pool price divided by the prevailing gas price.
- Sparks spread**  
Sparks spreads give an indication of the revenue available to cover costs after fuel costs have been paid. A positive spread indicates it is more economical to buy gas and generate electricity while a negative spread indicates it is more economical to buy electricity from the grid.