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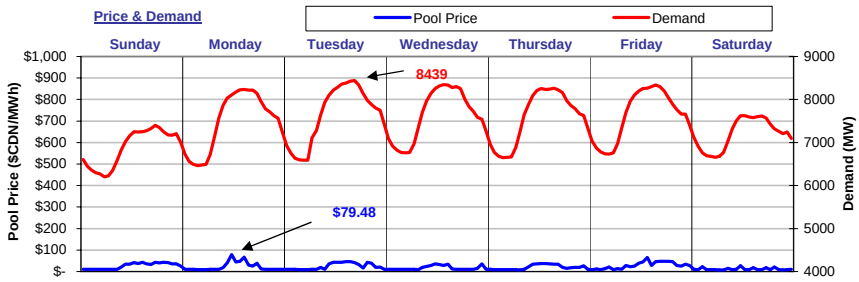
The Market Monitor

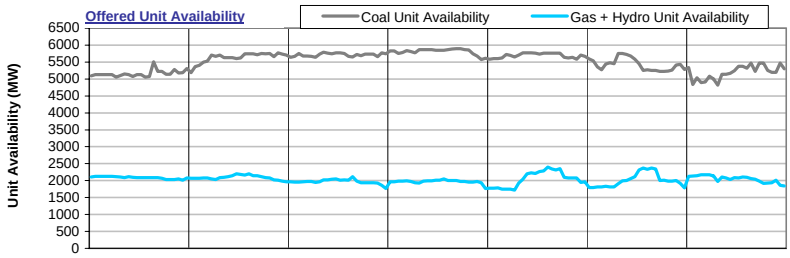
WATCHING THE MARKET : your fact source

Week Ending July 9, 2005

Weekly Highlights

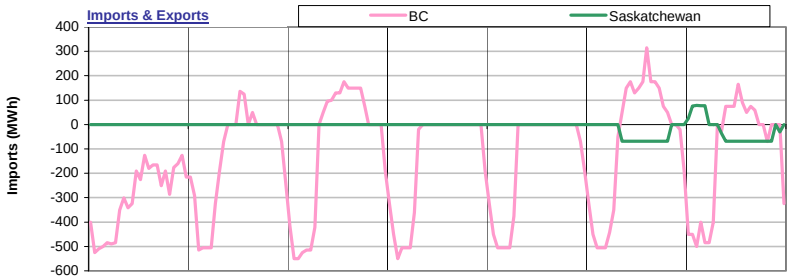


For the week ending July 9, 2005, Pool Price averaged $21.74/MWh and ranged from a minimum of $7.43/MWh in HE08 on Thursday to a maximum of $79.48/MWh in HE12 on Monday.
Demand reached a high of 8439 MW in HE17 on Tuesday and a low of 6202 MW in HE06 on Sunday
Average demand for the week was 7441MW.
Pool Price and Demand were positively correlated last week with an R-squared value of 0.38.

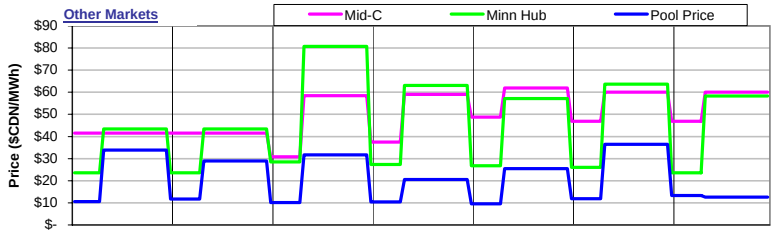


Coal Unit Availability averaged 5520 MW last week. This is an equivalent availability of 95% (based on MCR).
Gas and Hydro Unit Availability averaged 2033MW last week, which is an equivalent of 36% (based on MCR).

Availability numbers are based on MW offered into the energy merit order.

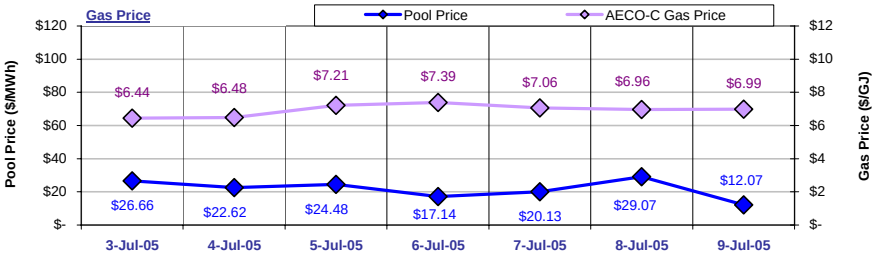


Alberta was a net exporter to BC last week with total exports equal to 23,963MWh.
Alberta was a net exporter to Saskatchewan last week with total exports equal to 1,391MWh.
Overall, Alberta exported 25,354MWh of electricity last week.



Pool Prices were generally lower than prices in Mid-C and lower than prices in Minn Hub last week.
Mid-C prices averaged $56.85/MWh on-peak and $42.00/MWh off-peak.
Minn Hub prices averaged $61.05/MWh on-peak and $25.63/MWh off-peak.

Prices in $CDN at an exchange rate of 1.2417.



The average AECO-C Gas Price last week was $6.93/GJ and ranged from a minimum of $6.44/GJ to $7.39/GJ.
Prevailing gas prices resulted in market heat rates ranging from a low of 1.73GJ/MWh to a high of 4.18GJ/MWh
The average market heat rate for the week was 3.16GJ/MWh.

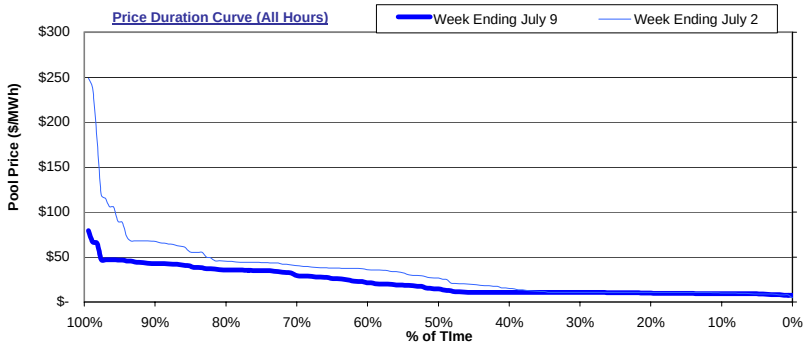
MARKET SURVEILLANCE ADMINISTRATOR

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

Wholesale Market

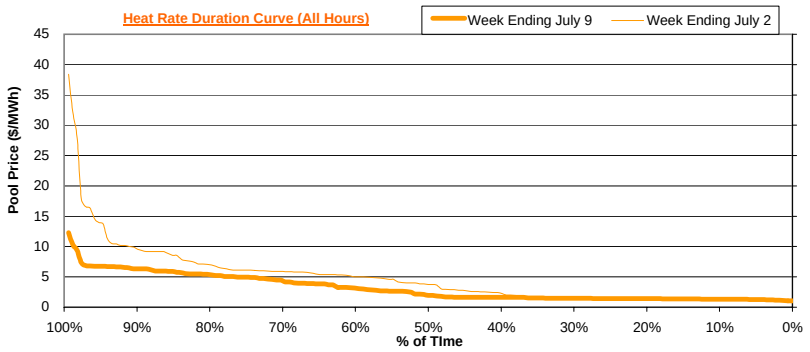
Weekly Market Statistics

	Sunday 3-Jul	Monday 4-Jul	Tuesday 5-Jul	Wednesday 6-Jul	Thursday 7-Jul	Friday 8-Jul	Saturday 9-Jul	Average	Last Week	% Change	YTD
Pool Price											
Average	$ 26.66	$ 22.62	$ 24.48	$ 17.14	$ 20.13	$ 29.07	$ 12.07	$ 21.74	$ 33.82	-35.7%	$ 47.47
On-Peak	NA	$ 28.98	$ 31.69	$ 20.49	$ 25.50	$ 36.52	$ 12.62	$ 25.96	$ 42.25	-38.5%	$ 55.78
Off-Peak	$ 26.66	$ 9.90	$ 10.07	$ 10.44	$ 9.41	$ 14.18	$ 10.99	$ 16.11	$ 22.58	-28.7%	$ 33.82
COV	0.52	0.89	0.61	0.57	0.57	0.54	0.45	0.59	0.76	-22.7%	
Heat Rate											
Average	4.14	3.49	3.39	2.32	2.85	4.18	1.73	3.16	5.04	-37.4%	7.03
On-Peak	NA	4.47	4.39	2.77	3.61	5.25	1.80	3.72	6.07	-38.8%	8.32
Off-Peak	4.14	1.53	1.40	1.41	1.33	2.04	1.57	2.41	3.40	-29.1%	5.38
Demand											
Average	6,885	7,490	7,649	7,637	7,583	7,636	7,203	7,441	7,128	4.4%	7,460
Minimum	6,202	6,466	6,586	6,757	6,652	6,727	6,653	6,578	6,333	3.9%	6,017
Maximum	7,401	8,235	8,439	8,342	8,266	8,338	7,625	8,092	7,696	5.2%	9,236
Coal Unit Availability											
Average	5,158	5,636	5,716	5,812	5,693	5,425	5,197	5,520	5,181		5,235
Utilization	88%	97%	98%	100%	97%	93%	89%	95%	89%	5.8%	90%
Gas and Hydro Unit Availability											
Average	2,087	2,093	1,970	1,972	2,048	2,008	2,050	2,033	1,993		2,145
Utilization	44%	44%	41%	41%	43%	42%	43%	36%	35%	0.7%	38%



The price duration curves show the % of time that prices were at or below a certain value during the week.
For the week ending July 9, prices were at or below:

$20/MWh	57% of the time
$50/MWh	98% of the time
$100/MWh	100% of the time
$250/MWh	100% of the time
$500/MWh	100% 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 July 9, implied market heat rates were at or below:

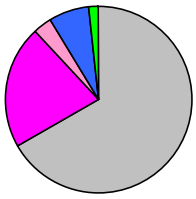
5.0 GJ/MWh	77% of the time
10.0 GJ/MWh	99% of the time
15.0 GJ/MWh	100% of the time
20.0 GJ/MWh	100% of the time

Market Share Statistics

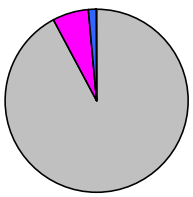
By Fuel Type:

Coal | Gas - Cogen | Gas - Other | Hydro | Other

Weekly Generation by Fuel Type

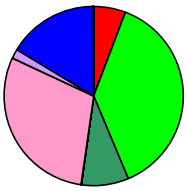


Weekly Price Setting by Fuel Type



By Submitting Customer:

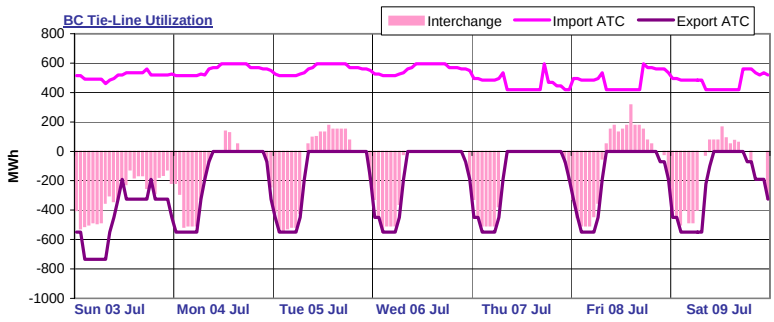
Weekly Price Setting by Submitting Customer



Last week, coal units were responsible for 66.7% of the generation in the province and set price 92.1% of the time. Gas-cogen units accounted for 21.3% of the generation and set price 6.3% of the time last week while other gas units made up 3.3% of generation and set price 0% of the time.

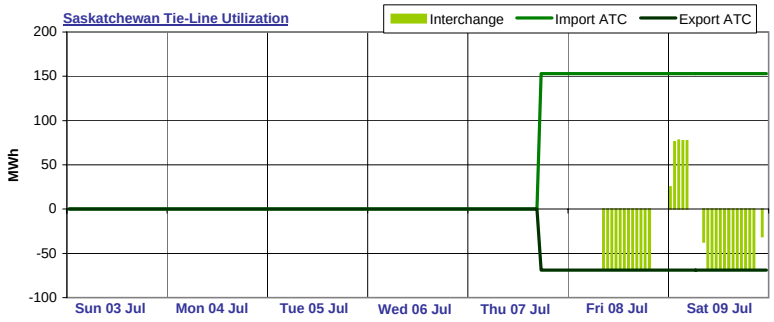
A total of 7 market participants set price last week. Two market participants set price more than 20% of the time last week. The top price setter set price 37.5% of the time and the top five price setters set price a total of 98.4% of the time.

Interties

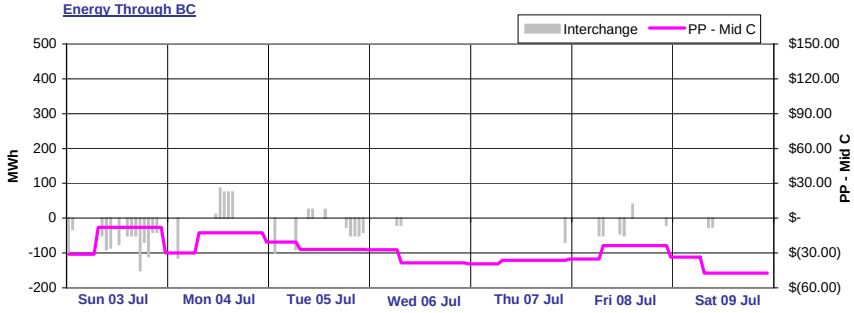


BC import capacity was 5% utilized last week while BC export capacity was 71% utilized. Energy was being imported into Alberta over the BC tie-line 20% of the time and exported out of Alberta over the BC tie-line 48% of the time last week. There was no activity on the BC tie-line 32% of the time last 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.

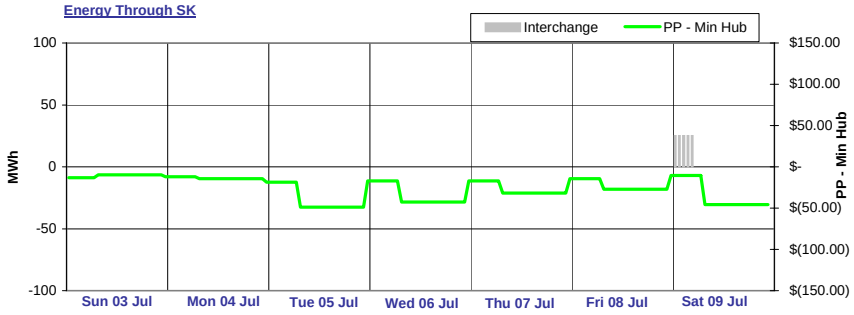


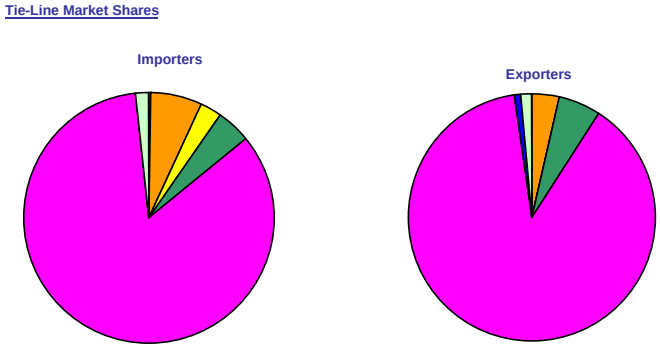
Saskatchewan import capacity was 4% utilized last week while Saskatchewan export capacity was 45% utilized. Energy was being imported into Alberta over the Saskatchewan tie-line 3% of the time and exported out of Alberta over the Saskatchewan tie-line 15% of the time last week. There was no activity on the Saskatchewan tie-line 82% of the time last week, as this interconnection was out of service for the majority of the week.



Last week, Alberta spot prices were mostly lower relative to prices in the Pacific Northwest as represented by Mid-C index prices, supporting export activity across the Alberta BC interconnection.

Alberta prices were generally lower than prices in MAPP as represented by spot prices at the Minnesota Hub, which generally supported export activity across the Alberta - Saskatchewan interconnection.

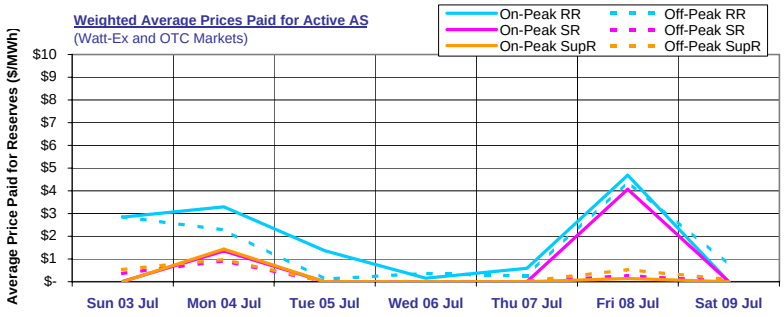




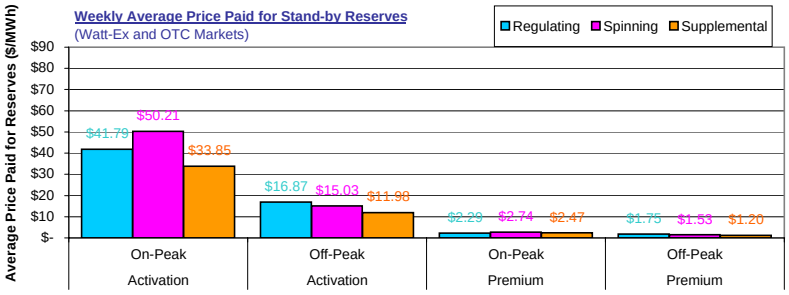
Last week, there were a total of 6 importers. The most active importer had a market share of 84.2% while the second most active importer had a market share of 6.9%. There were a total of 6 exporters last week. The most active exporter had a market share of 88.6% while the next largest exporter had a market share of 5.7%.

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

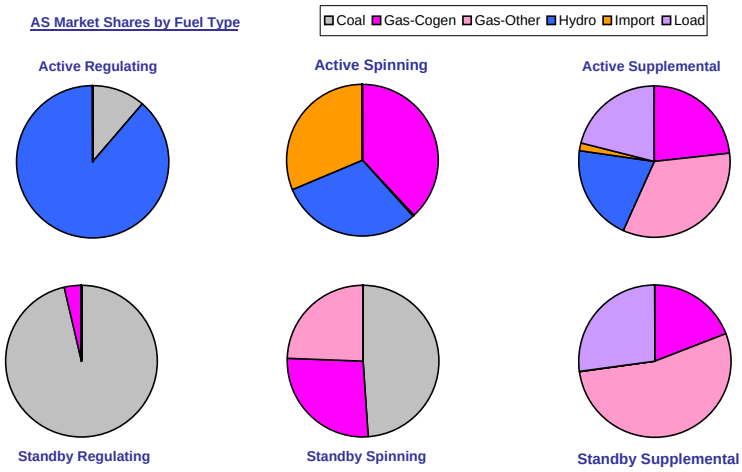
Ancillary Services Market



Average on-peak prices paid for active ancillary services last week were $1.84/MWh, $0.79/MWh and $0.23/MWh respectively for active regulating, spinning and supplemental reserves.
Active average off-peak prices were somewhat lower and averaged $1.51/MWh, $0.09/MWh and $0.23/MWh for active regulating, spinning and supplemental reserves respectively.



Weekly average activation prices for stand-by reserves ranged from $11.98/MWh for off-peak supplemental reserves to $50.21/MWh for on-peak spinning reserves.
Weekly average premium prices ranged from $1.20/MWh for off-peak supplemental reserves up to $2.74/MWh for on-peak spinning reserves.



Last week hydro units had the largest market share in the active regulating reserve market with 88.6%. In the active spinning reserve market, gas cogen units had the leading market share with 38.1% while in the active supplemental reserve market, gas other units dominated with a 33.3% market share.

Coal units dominated the standby regulating reserve market with a 96.4% market share. Leading market share in the standby spinning market was held by Coal units with a 49.0% market share. In the standby supplemental reserve market, gas other units had the leading market share with 53.8%,

Glossary

HE	Hour Ending
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 + holidays (prevailing Mountian 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)
COV	Coefficient of Variation The standard deviation of a series of numbers divided by the mean of the same series of numbers. Used as a measure of volatility.
ATC	Available Transfer Capacity 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.
Sparkspread	Sparkspreads 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.

MARKET SURVEILLANCE ADMINISTRATOR

For helpful suggestions on how to interpret information in the Market Monitor, please refer to: www.albertamsa.ca/files/MMhelp.pdf