# Energy Wholesale Market Review Week Ending 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014



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Week ending 3 January 2014

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#### Headlines

Lower gas prices pulled down power contracts this week. Annual April 14 baseload power dropped 1.7% to  $\pounds 52.6$ /MWh while its gas counterpart decreased 1.9% to 67.2p/th. Day-ahead power prices also fell, pulled down by lower gas, an increase in coal generation and rising wind forecast output towards the end of the week. Day-ahead baseload power dropped 6.3% to an average of  $\pounds 45.0$ /MWh. The annual clean spark spread rose 5% to  $\pounds 2.4$ /MWh as gas fell faster than power. The annual clean dark spread fell 2.9% to  $\pounds 20.9$ /MWh due to decreases in power while coal remained stable. Month-ahead Brent crude oil dropped 0.5% to a weekly average of \$111.0/bl on expectations that oil production in Libya may resume. Predictions of increasing US oil stockpiles supported the fall. Low trading activity following the holiday period pulled carbon prices down by 0.3% to a weekly average of  $\pounds 4.9$ /t.

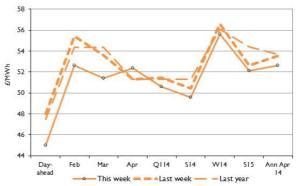
### **Baseload electricity**

- This week, long-term baseload power contracts fell on the back of lower gas prices. Summer 14 power dropped 1.7% to £49.6/MWh.
- Annual April 14 baseload also decreased 1.7% to £52.6/MWh and is now 1.3% lower than last month's value of £52.6/MWh.





- Day-ahead baseload power decreased 6.3% to £45.0/MWh compared to last week. It is now 16.8% lower than last month.
- A high level relatively less expensive coal generation pulled day-ahead prices down, while rising power exports from France increased supply.

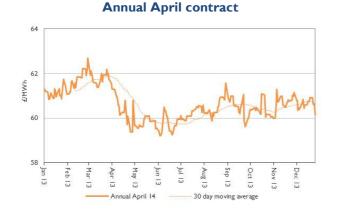


## Forward curve comparison

#### **Peak electricity**

£54.5/MWh.

- Peak power followed the decrease in gas, as weather related demand dropped on the back of higher temperatures.
- The annual April 2014 peak power contract decreased 1.3% to £60.2/MWh.



The day-ahead peak contract is 12.7% lower than

last month and is 2% lower than last year's value.

Day-ahead peak electricity dropped 7.4% to

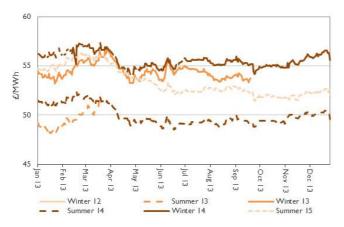




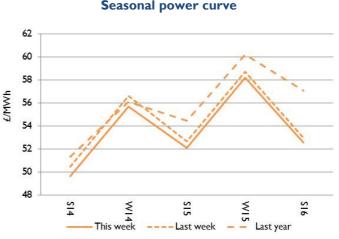
### **Seasonal power prices**

#### Seasonal power contracts

### Seasonal power curve



- On average, winter power contracts fell 1.3% over the week. Winter 14 power dropped 1.7% to £55.7/MWh.
- Summer power contracts decreased 1.2% on average over the week. Summer 14 power fell 1.7% to £49.6/MWh.

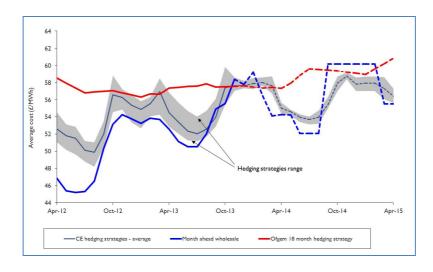


- The summer 14 power contract dipped 1.5% fromlast month's level of £50.4/MWh.
- The summer 14 power contract is now lower than the price in 2012, falling 3.3% from £51.3/MWh.

#### Supplier hedging strategies

The annual April 14 gas contract climbed 0.9% in November to an average of 67.1p/th and the annual April 14 baseload power contract followed by rose 0.6% to £52.4/MWh. Higher priced winter contracts are feeding into retail prices and electricity and gas prices for this winter are expected to be 5% higher than last year. On 10 October SSE was the first of the Big Six to increase its tariffs. The company lifted both its gas and electricity tariffs by 8.2% on average. British Gas followed on 17 October with an average increase of 9.2%. The company cited network charges, wholesale energy prices and environmental and social obligations as reasons for the change. On 21 October, RWE nower raised its prices by 10.4%, Scottish Power subsequently announced an average increase of 8.5% in gas prices and 9% in electricity on 24 October and EDF announced a price rise of 3.9% on 12<sup>th</sup> November. E.ON was the last of the Big Six to announce a duel fuel price rise of 3.7% on 6 December.

Although both Ofgem's and our assessments show a similar overall trend, the incorporation of nearer-term prices makes our assessments more volatile than Ofgem's smoothed quarterly and seasonally based approach.



### Wholesale price snapshot

Key market indicators:

03/01/2014

	Gas (p/th)		Electricity (£/MWh)		Coal	Carbon	Brent crude
	Day-ahead	Year-ahead	Day-ahead	Year-ahead	(\$/t)	(€/t)	(\$/bl)
This week 3 Jan 14	65.25	67.23	45.00	52.63	81.70	4.82	108.52
ast week 27 Dec 13	69.25	68.55	48.00	53.53	82.30	5.05	111.78
ast month 6 Dec 13	70.90	68.45	54.10	53.30	82.00	4.64	111.30
ast year 4 Jan 13	63.40	67.13	47.50	53.70	93.16	6.37	111.50
Year-on-year % change	3%	0%	(5%)	(2%)	(12%)	(24%)	(3%)
Year high	118.00	71.15	86.00	54.25	100.70	6.49	118.81
Year low	54.75	65.93	41.40	50.67	80.70	2.70	97.70
This table shows the price this week compared with prices from the previous week, month and year. The graphs show the position of this week's prices with a red X and the range of prices over the year is represented by the black line.	90 + 85 - 80 + 75 - 70 - 65 -	$\begin{array}{c} 72 \\ 70 \\ 68 \\ 66 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	55 - 54 - 53 - 52 - 51 - 50 -	$ \begin{array}{c} 105 \\ 100 \\ 95 \\ 90 \\ 85 \\ 80 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c}7\\6\\-\\5\\-\\4\\-\\3\\-\\2\end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} 120 \\ 116 \\ 112 \\ 108 \\ 104 \\ 100 \\ 96 \\ \end{array} $

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### About EDW Technology Limited

EDW has an extensive history of developing, implementing and supporting its 'best of breed' retail electricity software solutions.

In 2000, EDW began building a revolutionary new electricity software platform to support the rigorous demands of the UK's deregulated electricity supply market – a market characterised by rapidly changing government regulation, business processes, market rules, industry dataflows and customer demands. EDW were founded as a provider of high quality, end-to-end IT services and we have remained true to that aim ever since, servicing a range of companies in the energy industry.

For over 13 years, our software product ERS has empowered business electricity suppliers to transform customer experience, improve business efficiency, reduce costs to serve and improve profitability.

EDW has a UK based team of 85 employees working from the EDW offices in Milton Keynes.

#### Industrial and commercial billing specialists

The industrial and commercial electricity supply market has unique business requirements that need to be serviced with a specialised set of IT system capabilities. Sophisticated business customers are willing to actively engage in the management of their energy accounts and solutions need to provide tools that support enhanced service interaction. EDW has gathered an extensive knowledge of the industrial and commercial market sector that enables the delivery of a powerful set of system capabilities essential to your requirements to service this complex and demanding market sector.

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