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Day-Ahead NTC-Methodology

Swiss Northern Borders

Version 1.0 vom 4. Dezember 2025
Verfasst von Swissgrid

Contents

1	Background and Approach	2
2	Process Timings Adjustments	3
3	Annex	3

1 Background and Approach

From 4 December 2025, Swissgrid will implement an optimised approach for calculating day-ahead NTCs on Swiss Northern Borders. The implementation of this adapted methodology is a prerequisite for the go-live of the "Interim Solution CH" of the Core capacity calculation region, which is expected for Q1 2026. This interim solution is a first step towards improving the coordination of the determination of cross-border capacities at the Swiss Northern Borders together with the Core region. The interim solution will be replaced at the latest with the go-live of the day-ahead capacity calculation of the new capacity calculation region Central Europe¹.

The basis for calculating the NTCs on Swiss Northern Borders is the "SNB NTC Capacity Calculation Methodology" and the "Core-SNB Cross-Regional Validation Methodology" approved by the Core Regulators and EICOM as set out in the Annex. The process consists of two steps, on the one hand the calculation of the NTCs at the Swiss Northern Borders (SNB) and on the other hand the validation of these. A high-level overview can be found in Figure 1.

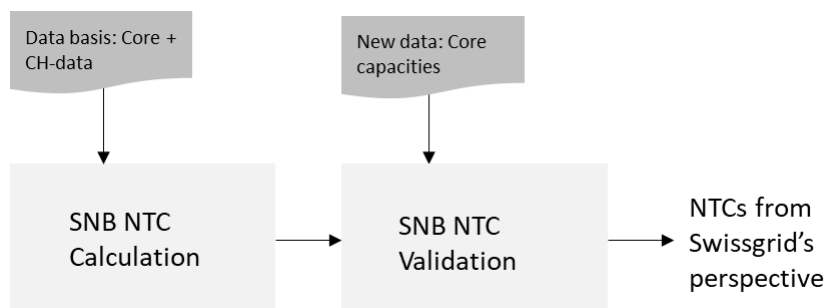


Figure 1 - Schema of NTC-Calculation on Swiss Northern Borders

Compared to the previous NTC method, this approach represents a significant improvement. Latest network models and international information and forecasts are now used to calculate capacities. The calculation takes place on an hourly basis and includes a sophisticated optimization of measures to maximize capacities. The calculated NTCs thus reflect the predicted grid situation in the best possible way.

The following differences from the approved methodological package are necessarily implemented:

1. Calculation only from Swiss side

The NTC calculation is not carried out centrally and is not binding for the neighboring TSOs. Swissgrid will implement the methodology purely on the Swiss side. The coordination of the final NTCs will continue to take place bilaterally. The principle continues to apply that the "smaller" value from the bilateral comparison is used for allocation.

2. Usage of maximum values and distribution of remaining capacity

Due to the bilateral comparison principle, it can happen that the values proposed by Swissgrid significantly exceed those of the neighboring TSOs. This would create unused capacities. To counteract this, Swissgrid uses "caps" at the level of the historical maximum for each border and direction. Excess NTC on a border – which exceeds the cap – is distributed to the remaining borders to ensure optimal use of available capacity. Swissgrid may adjust those caps.

¹ The Day-Ahead Methodology in the region Central Europe will calculate the cross-zonal capacities of the whole region (former Core + Italy North) as well as on the Swiss borders. The methodology was approved by the regulators of the Central Europe Region. The implementation is foreseen for the year 2028.

3. Adjusted "Relative Sharing Key" during validation

Until the implementation of the interim solution, Swissgrid has no possibility of coordination with Core. This means that congestion caused by the combination of i) capacities from Core region and ii) Swiss NTCs can only be solved by reducing the values of NTCs on Swiss Northern Borders. Provided that no other relieving measures such as redispatch or topological measures are available. Methodologically, this corresponds to an RSK of "100:0". After implementation of the interim solution, the RSK will be adjusted.

2 Process Timings Adjustments

As a result of the new process, contrary to the current timings of D-2 18:15, the final NTCs will not be available **until 07:00 on day D-1**. This is due to the fact that current (live) data from the Core capacity calculation process are used for the calculation of the NTCs, which are only available during the night between D-2 and D-1.

The implementation of the method starts at the borders with France and Germany. The border with Austria will be added at the beginning of 2026.

3 Annex

The underlying documents, which describe the calculation process in detail, can be found here:

- i) [SNB NTC Capacity Calculation Methodology](#)
- ii) [Core-SNB Cross-Regional Validation Methodology](#)