

Barr River hydro scheme

Monthly report - February 2023

1 Summary

A relatively dry month but the plant responded well to the water available. A grid outage in the middle of the month fortunately coincided with low water levels. There was a grid and breaker trip that was quickly resolved but this was then followed by an issue with one of the spears. A workaround was put in place the same day and the plant has been operating satisfactorily since then.

2 Monthly generation & revenue

Parameter	Value
Actual generation (FIT meter), kWh	447,449
Average generation in month, kWh	547,677
Forecast generation in month (P50), kWh	554,678
Actual relative to forecast	80.7%
Rainfall relative to 1991-2020 average by month	56%
Calculated generation ¹ kWh	459,640
Actual relative to calculated generation, kWh	-12,191
Actual relative to calculated generation, %	-2.7%
Approximate revenue in month ²	£31,298

¹Calculated generation is based on river level data and seeks to establish the expected generation with no performance issues. The expected power and energy calculations are being calibrated and will be refined over the coming months as more data is gathered.

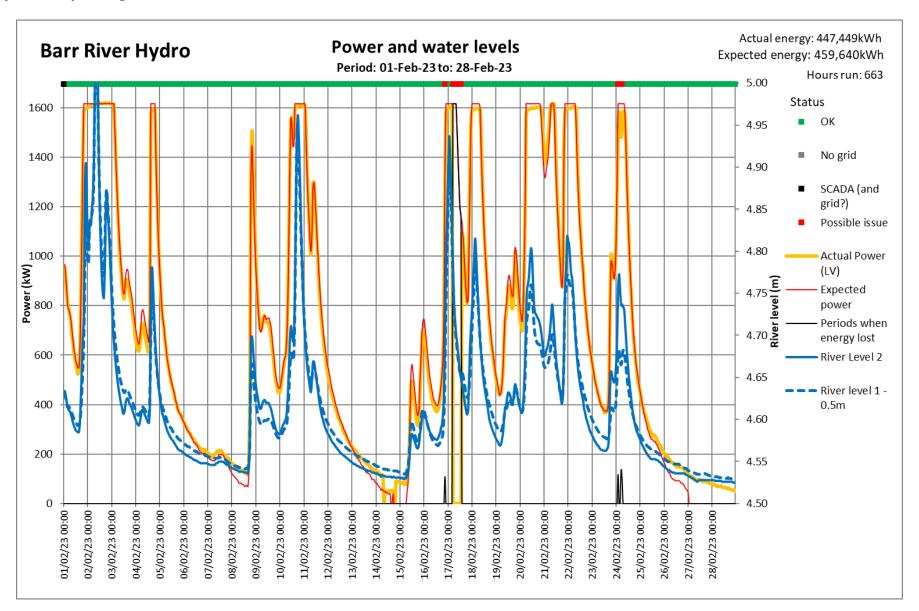
² Export revenue based on reported export and estimated GDUoS charges.

Export meter	Value
Export, kWh	394,975
Variance to generation, kWh	-52,474
Variance to generation, %	-11.7%

EDF export statement shows no missing data but reports no export from on 1st & 2nd of the month. Recorded generation during that period was 60,881kWh. Suspected ongoing issue from late January.



3 System reporting





3.1 Scheme anomalies to calculated generation

Date/time	Details	Action required
14/02/2023	50kW grid constraint in place, power limited from 07:00 to 19:00	None
17/02/2023	Various G99 issues in early morning, one trip, which it recovered from and then one that lead to breaker tripping.	NT attended and reset breaker, plant restarted ok.
17/02/2023	Issue with spear 1 opening too slowly lead to F137 trip.	CINK contacted. Alva extended timeout on spear 1. Hydraulic lines may need to be cleaned – to be addressed on next service.
24/02/2023	Power lower than expected when spears fully open. This has been an issue for some time now and has been gradually increasing in severity. Investigation has been conducted previously and recently reviewed, there is no obvious cause. Most likely cause is considered to be an issue with the spears or spear opening measurement.	CINK contacted to seek their opinion.

3.2 Other system events

Date/time	Details	Action required
None to report		

3.3 Head loss

Target head loss at full power	Current head loss at full power	Status
14.5m	14.51m	Further increase. Now over target. Pigging required. Quotation requested from Stuart Stankey, to be chased.



3.4 Temperatures

Parameter	Temperature at or near full power, °C	Alert level, °C	Parameter	Temperature at or near full power, °C	Alert level, ⁰ C
Generator DE bearing	35	85	Generator winding 1	62	145
Generator NDE bearing 1	40	85	Generator winding 2	60	145
Generator NDE bearing 2	43	85	Generator winding 3	64	145
Turbine room	18	30	Power cabinet (RG1)	28	42

3.5 Vibration

Parameter	Vibration at or near full power, mm/s	Alert level, mm/s		Alert level, mm/s Parameter		Alert level, mm/s	
Generator DE	0.41	3.0		Generator NDE	1.12	3.0	



3.6 Recommended and ongoing actions

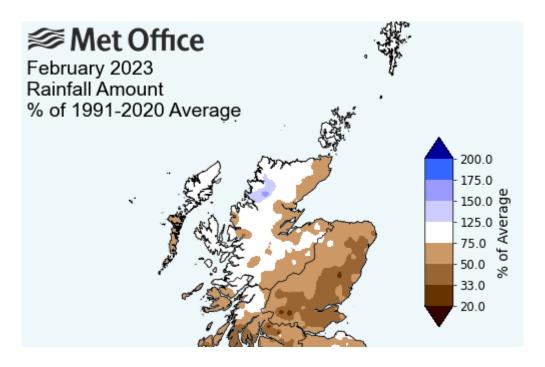
Action	Responsibility	Status
Install power quality monitoring equipment at grid connection to address grid trips affecting the generator breaker and requiring a site visit.	GHC	SSEN fitted the monitoring equipment on 6 th February. The logger will record 4 weeks' data, SSEN will then recover it and analyse that data. A trip occurred on the 17 th February, so this should have been captured by the logger. GHC to follow up with SSEN.
Services to be arranged	MorVolts	LOLER checks complete. MorVolts to send inspection report.
Fire extinguisher testing	MorVolts	To be arranged (awaiting MCDC fire extinguisher service contract for existing CO2 extinguisher only)
Order replacement level sensors	MorVolts	Three ordered and expected on site w/c 6/3/2023.
Investigate meter reading errors and discrepancies in export billing	GHC	June and August 2022 resolved and paid.
Chase SSE for details of planned outage in 2024	GHC	SSE have provided further details, JH has forwarded to NT and AR. RH to provide update following SSEN meeting in January.
Housekeeping in turbine house	MorVolts	Spares to be arranged on shelves/in cupboard. Underway.
Powerhouse temperature dropped to 1C on 8/12/22 and 14/12/22	MorVolts	MorVolts to check frost setting of heaters and adjust if necessary. MorVolts to advise if this has been addressed.
Spares stock to be reviewed	GHC	CINK asked to review spares list and advise if any other spares recommended – CINK chased, no response yet Generator breaker spares ordered and arrived. Transformer breaker spares requirement to be checked by RB Switchgear on next attendance (note – will require HV isolation and therefore AP attendance).
Ongoing ACB servicing to be implemented	GHC	Quotation from RB Switchgear accepted by MorVolts. RB Switchgear informed. Charlie Robb informed that RB Switchgear will now do transformer oil sampling. Service schedule updated.



Maintenance schedule and training to be reviewed	GHC	CINK to check maintenance schedule including inconsistencies relative to alarm messages. CINK to confirm scope of caretaker tasks and training/documentation required. MorVolts to review and advise whether further training/documentation required. JH to chase CINK.
Arrangements to be established with Colin Thwaites for HV switching/isolation	GHC	CV awaited from Colin for GHC records. Colin has visited site.
Plans to be put in place for pigging	GHC/DAM	JH has requested proposal from DA Macdonald for pigging.
Chase up export payment for late January and early February when scheme was generating but no export recorded.	Morvolts	January issues raised with EDF.



4 Rainfall



Rainfall this month (rain gauge), mm	138
Western Scotland rainfall in month with respect to 1991-2020 long term average	56%



5 Scheme annual performance summary

FY 2022/3	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	YTD
Actual generation kWh	247,605	424,386	286,501	329,058	257,505	238,578	692,787	709,873	223,709	633,347	447,449		4,490,798
Average generation since commissioning	247,605	424,386	286,501	165,261	174,610	297,736	672,489	693,043	368,179	594,556	547,677	240,688	4,472,041
Forecast generation (P50)	369,360	226,766	188,561	195,146	280,601	387,431	582,631	618,214	620,057	695,941	554,678	611,047	4,719,387
Actual relative to forecast	67.0%	187.1%	151.9%	168.6%	91.8%	61.6%	118.9%	114.8%	36.1%	91.0%	80.7%		95.2%
Rainfall relative to 1991-2020 average	77%	126%	104%	74%	65%	93%	134%	112%	89%	104%	56%		94%
Calculated generation kWh	253,540	432,296	294,437	330,341	257,587	239,724	700,013	748,966	295,507	639,670	459,640		4,651,722
Variance to calculated generation kWh	-5,935	-7,910	-7,936	-1,283	-82	-1,146	-7,226	-39,093	-71,798	-6,323	-12,191	-	-160,924
Variance to calculated generation %	-2.3%	-1.8%	-2.7%	-0.4%	-0.0%	-0.5%	-1.0%	-5.2%	-24.3%	-1.0%	-2.7%		-3.5%
Approximate revenue ¹	£28,994	£50,244	£33,677	£38,789	£30,177	£27,894	£108,061	£111,476	£34,832	£44,660	£31,298	-£833	£581,222
Capacity factor (monthly)	20.5%	39.0%	23.8%	28.2%	21.4%	20.5%	57.5%	60.9%	18.6%	52.5%	41.1%		34.6%
Industry wide RoR capacity factor	19.4%	34.6%	18.3%	15.5%	15.5%	11.9%	55.8%	59.0%	32.6%				29.2%

¹Export element of revenue updated to reflect actual export and rate.

