UK Power

This page serves to document some information I found regarding the UK power grid and the data available in relation to it.

Data providers

The national grid itself provides some real-time (ish; delayed by 2 minutes) data, but there is additional data provided by other parties.

- Elexon - I have no idea who they are, but they provide per-megawatt usage of individual power sources.

Data sources and formats

Elexon

There are a number of data sources available from Elexon's “API”, in varying formats. The data permitted to be automatically downloaded is listed at https://www.elexonportal.co.uk/SCRIPTING

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/fuel/download/latest

XML document of the following structure:

- GENERATION_BY_FUEL_TYPE_TABLE
  - INST
    - FUEL
      - Properties
        - TYPE - String, fuel type code
        - IC - Boolean (Y=True, N=False), indicates if the fuel source is an interconnect
        - VAL - Integer, usage in megawatts
        - PCT - Float, percentage of total usage
    - Properties
      - AT - DateTime
      - TOTAL - Integer, total usage in megawatts
  - HH
    - FUEL
      - As defined in 'INST'
    - Properties
      - SD - Unknown
      - SP - Unknown
      - AT - Timestamp range

            - TOTAL - Integer, megawatts
    - LAST24H
        - FUEL
            - As defined in 'INST'
        - Properties
            - FROM_SD - Unknown
            - FROM_SP - Unknown
            - AT - Timestamp range
            - TOTAL - Integer, total megawatts used during the reporting period
    - LAST_UPDATED
        - Properties
            - AT - DateTime

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/RCRC_FILE

CSV format, list of settlements, unknown utility.

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/SSPSBPNIV_FILE

CSV format, list of settlements with buy and sell prices and net imbalance volumes

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/REGISTERED_BMUNITS_FILE

CSV format with extraneous header, not fully sure but it seems like a list of companies who buy and sell energy

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/REGISTERED_PARTICIPANTS_FILE

CSV format with extraneous header, list of companies that trade energy

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/TLM_FILE

CSV format, unknown content lol

https://downloads.elexonportal.co.uk/file/download/BESTVIEWPRICES_FILE

Excel document, unknown content

Elexon also provide data through a more formal API, as well as through message queueing systems including AMQP, but I haven't explored that and don't have the energy to.

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