

## Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	Electricity Balancing System (EBS) IT Subgroup
<b>Meeting number</b>	17
<b>Date of meeting</b>	17 May 2016
<b>Time</b>	10:00am to 12:30pm
<b>Location</b>	Holiday Inn, Winnersh Triangle

## Attendees

Name	Initials	Company
Antonio del Castillo	AdC	Chair, National Grid
Sally Cox	SC	Technical Secretary, National Grid
Sarvesh Kumar	SK	National Grid
Pete Smith	PS	National Grid
Ann Morgan	AM	National Grid
Afe Ogun	AO	National Grid
Hitesh Patel	HP	National Grid
Phil Johnson	PJ	National Grid
Paul Hardy	PH	Siemens
Allan Viney	AV	ScottishPower
Simon Reid	SR	ScottishPower
Graham Bunt	GB	EDF
Erik Cummins	EK	EDF
Mark Hutton	MH	EDF
Dave Holt	DH	Dunstan Thomas
Andrew Chaplin	AC	Dunstan Thomas
Gurpal Singh	GS	OFGEM
Michael Joyce	MJ	EON - Teleconference
Andrew Gorton	AG	Drax - Teleconference
John Sherban	JS	Quorum
Paul Usher	PU	Quorum
Richard James	RJ	CGI
Claire McConnell	CMcC	SSE
Damian Jackman	DJ	SSE
Alan Souch	AS	RWE – Teleconference
Stuart Green	SG	Dinorwig
Greg Shevill	GS	Intergen – Teleconference
Stuart Saint	SS	Marchwood Power
Richard Bird	RB	Marchwood Power / Taylor Made Computer Solutions

## 1 Previous Meeting (Minutes and Review of Actions)

The Minutes from the previous meeting were not agreed at the meeting. One week was given for comments to be received.

The actions were reviewed and the action list updated. A copy of the action list has been attached in the email sent out with these minutes.

## 2 EBS Programme Update

Antonio del Castillo (AdC) provided an update of the programme. User Acceptance Testing has run as planned since mid-March. Some scenarios exposed a number of issues, mainly related with situational awareness and case feasibility. These now need changes/fixes from the software supplier. UAT Cycle 2 is now required and this will have an impact on the plan.

Further EBS software releases, 1.3.3 and 1.3.4, are scheduled for delivery at the end of May and end of June respectively.

The impact to the overall plan has been taken into consideration, avoiding EBS transition activities over the autumn clock-change and keeping clear of the industry customary Christmas IT change freeze. This has resulted in a six-week delay to the EBS Go-Live date, which is now set for 8 November and the BMRS cut-over date, which is now set for 30 November.

Control Room operator training started in early May and runs for the next five months with a total of 11 Modules planned to be delivered.

## 3 Industry Testing Update

Sarvesh Kumar (SK) gave a brief update on the high-level testing plan. He advised that the Formal EDT Type Tests, which started at the end of March, are progressing well. The few observations noted are non-functional in nature. The fixes for these observations are expected in June.

The Formal EDL Type Tests have been initiated and defects identified during non-functional testing. The EDL Type Tests will continue once these fixes have been received. This is anticipated towards the end of June.

Following the successful completion of EDL and/or EDT Type Test with each software supplier, National Grid will issue a certificate and National Grid will compile a new approved product register for EDL and EDT applications.

National Grid has already included multiple instructions testing in the Type Test schedule and three suppliers have passed. AdC offered a brief explanation about the reasons for tests include multiple instructions such as BOAs and AS instructions being sent to the same generator with the same log time.

**Post meeting note:** National Grid expressed the need to be able to issue multiple BOA instructions to a BMU unit with the same log time. Subsequent to the meeting, National Grid received feedback explaining that this approach is very difficult for operators without automated instruction following systems.

National Grid recognises these concerns and can confirm that the existing practice of only issuing one BOA to a BMU unit will be maintained with EBS.

National Grid will consult with the industry if the practice is to change in the future. While there are no current plans for this change, National Grid would like, at a point in time to be mutually agreed, to test the software which enables the capability to be delivered.

Testing is also in progress with the Interconnectors, three of which have been completed and the last one is being scheduled. A few observations have been noted and the fixes are expected to be delivered in June.

End-to-end BMRS interface test has been completed with CGI / Elexon.

Additional dynamic data modification (P297, EDL\*/EDT\*) is already developed in EBS and its testing is in the planning stage with Elexon for a targeted implementation date of June 2017.

## 4 Transition Plan

Pete Smith (PS) confirmed that there have been no significant changes to the structure of either the External Plan or the Transition Strategy. All agreed phases for external testing and transition, previously discussed, remain the same.

PS reminded all Market Participants that a summary of all the activities can be found in the EBS External Testing and Transition Overview document.

PS reiterated that the key programme driver is Quality. The testing is becoming more detailed as more users become involved. He went on to explain that although the defects are becoming fewer, they are more complex and ensuring quality more demanding. Extensive testing has been performed on the Market Information (MI) interfaces – EDT/EDL.

Despatch pre-trials will be done in September over short periods of time, just a few hours over a demand plateau, whereby EDL will be disconnected from BM and connected to EBS. The despatch pre-trials will be directed at proving and perfecting the despatch trial process. The purpose of the despatch trials in October, when EBS will be issuing instructions to Market Participants, is to extend this mode of operation for longer periods and at different times of the day, until we don't revert back to the Balancing Mechanism system and EBS becomes 24/7, i.e. EBS Go-Live.

Four weeks after EBS Go-Live, National Grid will transfer the BMRS interface onto EBS, which is defined as the 'Point-of-No-Return'. At this point EBS becomes the master system regarding auditable information. From that point onwards Market Participants will be requested to migrate their EDT application onto EBS as soon as reasonably possible. The BMRS cutover date will be communicated to the market in advance.

Passwords for EDT application will be sent out four weeks ahead of EDT access validation. The EDT password setting and changing process was set up 15 years ago when NETA go-live. The Digital Risk & Security team are reviewing it, in accordance with current best practice and we are waiting on confirmation to go ahead to produce the EBS EDT passwords.

AdC confirmed that transition communications strategy was the same as presented at previous meetings. Final dates will be provided four weeks ahead of Access Validation. Weekly bulletins will be sent, beginning one month before transition.

## 5 BSC Contact Details

AdC requested confirmation from all Market Participants that their contact details are correct. This should be confirmed through the BSC parties.

National Grid will send the email requests by the end of the month.

**6 Closure (Any Other Business, Date of Next Meeting)**

EBSIT Meeting 18 is at the Holiday Inn, Winnersh Triangle, on 19 July, 2016.