

## Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	Electricity Balancing System (EBS) IT Subgroup
<b>Meeting number</b>	7
<b>Date of meeting</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
<b>Time</b>	10:00 – 12:30
<b>Location</b>	Live Meeting

## Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Company</b>
Robert Paterson	RP	Chair, National Grid
Sally Cox	SC	Technical Secretary, National Grid
Pete Smith	PS	National Grid
Dave Uzzell	DU	National Grid
Afe Ogun	AO	National Grid
Rob Apperley	RA	National Grid
Sarvesh Kumar	SK	National Grid
Jane Oates	JO	National Grid
Simon Piercy	SP	Contigo
Ian Mort	IM	Quorum
Mahesh Chauhan	MC	E.On
Michael Joyce	MJ	E.On
Nick Martin	NM	Dunstan Thomas
Paul Hardy	PH	Siemens
Graham Bunt	GB	EDF
Michael Packman	MP	EDF
Allan Viney	AV	Scottish Power
Nishal Shah	NS	BAML
Alex Marsh	AM	SSE
John Lucas	JL	Elexon
Paul Coates	PC	RWE
Stuart Green	SG	Dinorwig
Richard James	RJ	CGI
Erik Cummins	EC	EDF
Robin Whitfield	RW	EDF
Waikee Chung	WC	BAML

## 1 Safety

## 2 Introductions

Introductions were made from all participants.

## 3 Minutes of Last Meeting

No comments were received regarding the minutes from the Last Meeting. These were, therefore, agreed.

## 4 Review of Actions

The actions were reviewed and the action list updated.

Graham Bunt asked when can Market Participants re-commence testing as they were waiting for National Grid to complete various items of work? A response to this was covered in the Testing Update (Agenda Item No. 6).

## 5 Update on Timescales

The project has carried out a re-plan following issues encountered with the early deliverables. The new plan has been scrutinized at a greater level by all parties and will also involve longer parallel running of the two systems. A revised Market Participant Existing Interfaces Testing & Transition Plan will be circulated in due course. The same high-level timescales presented at this meeting will also be publicised by way of an industry newsletter later this week.

## 6 Testing Update

Dave Uzzell provided an update on testing, starting with the type-testing of EDL & EDT clients. On EDL, there was an issue that some of the low-level acknowledgement messages were not present, which impacted on the exchange of telemetry with some pumped storage stations. A fix has been produced for this, which we'll shortly have installed and then will re-test. It is possible that the absence of low-level acknowledgement messages could be the cause of a different issue with another EDL client system.

On EDT, Dave reported that the DIR and Is commands on EBS produce different responses to those from the existing BM System. National Grid are working with their supplier to look to modify the DIR and Is commands so they produce a similar output to that produced by the BM System. When this issue has been addressed, then we'll re-test with those EDT client systems affected.

Dave then moved on to Circuit Connectivity Testing and stated that the proxy is now in place at one of our sites, but work is still in progress to install it at the other one. Thus informal circuit connectivity tests can be performed on those EDL & EDT circuits whose main routes terminate at the site where the proxy has been installed. Once the proxy etc. has been installed at the other site, then the formal circuit connectivity testing will be able to start.

Graham Bunt asked that he be informed of which of EdF's Control Points had main EDL communications routes that terminated at the National Grid site with the proxy.

**Action SK** – Inform EdF of which of their Control Points have a main EDL comms route that terminates at the National Grid site where the proxy has been installed.

## 7 Proposal for Disabling MPs BM accounts after their successful migration to EBS

Pete Smith put forward some proposals and sought feedback on them from market participants and suppliers:

- EDT FTP accounts on EBS will not be enabled until the EDT transition from BM to EBS can start.
- EDT transition for Trading Agents will follow an agreed schedule
- Transition for a particular Trading Agent will be considered successful once one submission has been made to and processed by EBS.
- As soon as a Trading Agent has successfully made one submission to EBS, then it is proposed that their EDT account on the BM System be disabled.

A question was raised as to whether Market Participants would be able to make more than one submission prior to their BM account being disabled, which would help them to gain confidence. Pete advised that the reason behind the one submission then disable approach was to avoid the risks of submissions going to the wrong system, but he understood Market Participants' concerns and said that if a market participant wished to make multiple submissions to EBS to gain confidence in the new system, prior to their BM account being disabled, then National Grid would facilitate this. However, he did point out that at this stage the account would only be disabled and not removed. If a Market Participant subsequently has problems with submitting EDT to EBS, then for a limited period it would be possible to re-enable their EDT account on the BM System, but this would not be straightforward as sequence numbers may have to be reset etc. No BM EDT accounts would be removed until at least all the migrations were complete.

Pete then went on to discuss the use of DNS with EBS:

The use of DNS to connect to the BM System is actively encouraged. National Grid currently has three DNS servers which are used by Market Participants to resolve the BM DNS name. However, unlike the BM System, the operational EBS server will always be located using a single virtual address for EDT. A new DNS service will be made available for EBS via a single virtual ip address which is different to the one for EDT. As all that EBS DNS does is to direct EDT traffic to the single virtual ip address, then the use of DNS seems to be of little benefit. If Market Participants wish to use DNS for EBS, they should use the new service and DNS name from the point of EDT transition. All Participants will be sent an updated Market Participant Access document which will include the production and test DNS names and the DNS service's virtual ip address.

## 7 Communications

Jane advised that the Project Plan takes account of the Communication Strategy. At present there has only been one Industry Newsletter published, however, in future there will be 3 per year, working round the timetable for EBS IT meetings. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter will be published by the end of June which will give a high level comparison between Legacy Market Participant interfaces and New Market Participant interfaces. All Newsletters will be published on the EBS IT web-page. Links to all working Groups will be via the web-page and will include minutes, presentations and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

In order for National Grid to maintain an up to date External Parties contact list for the issue of Bulletins Market Participants have been asked to keep National Grid updated of any changes or additions to the existing list.

Updates on the progress and status will be issued as we get nearer 'Go-Live' and a Strategy for Transition and Cutover will include: support process, key contact numbers and any actions required.

## **8 Project Plan**

Robert talked through the new industry interfaces plan. He confirmed that it would be uploaded to the EBS IT web-page.

## **9 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Due to the works continuing at Wokingham it has yet to be decided whether the next meeting will be via Live Meeting or use the conference facilities at a nearby hotel for a face-to-face meeting. This will be reviewed in mid August to see what the content of the meeting looks like and hence whether it should be a physical or virtual meeting.

## **10 AOB**

A question was asked – what confidence was there in the new project timescales?

Robert advised that the significant change in timescales was a consequence of all parties looking in depth at what is required for the new system to go live and therefore there was reasonable confidence in the new timescales.