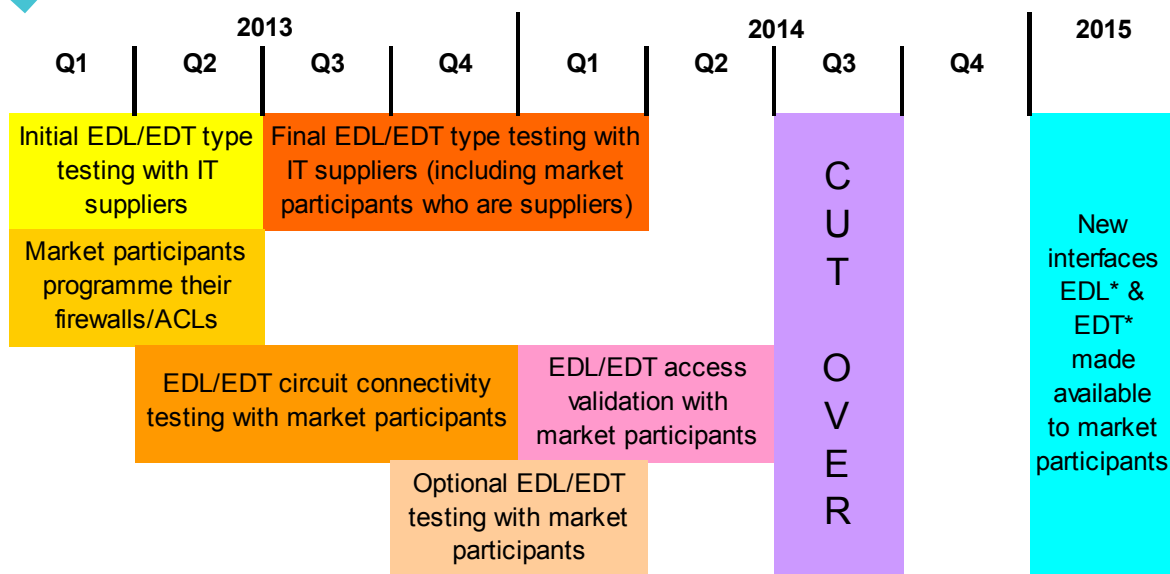# Electricity Balancing System

This is the second in a series of Industry Newsletters, designed to provide an update on the project's status and items of interest to the Industry. These newsletters will be produced more frequently in the lead up to Transition and Cutover with details of the strategy for implementation and practical information such as support processes and key contacts.

Revised EBS Project Timeline

	2013					**2014**			**2015**
Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		

Initial EDL/EDT type testing with IT suppliers

Final EDL/EDT type testing with IT suppliers (including market participants who are suppliers)

Market participants programme their firewalls/ACLs

EDL/EDT circuit connectivity testing with market participants

EDL/EDT access validation with market participants

Optional EDL/EDT testing with market participants

CUT OVER

New interfaces EDL* & EDT* made available to market participants

What is the project doing currently?

The project is revising the detailed project plans consistent with the high-level timeline shown above. When the revised external plan is ready, we will publish it on the EBS IT web-page.

Type-testing of IT suppliers' EDL and EDT systems has been taking place to ensure they work with EBS. In this context, IT suppliers include those market participants who provide their own EDL and/or EDT systems. Type-testing has been broadly successful, with a few issues arising, mostly related to the change in operating system from the existing Balancing Mechanism system to EBS.

Market participants are in the process of programming their firewalls and/or Access Control Lists so that they can communicate with EBS.

IT Frequently Asked Questions

The first issue of the IT Frequently Asked Questions targeted at market participants' IT staff and their system suppliers is now available on the EBS IT web-page, address shown below.

Minutes of meetings, presentations, guidance documents and plans can also be found on the same web-page.

Any Other Questions?

For business and general IT questions, please email: ebs.it@nationalgrid.com

For IT testing questions, please email: integration.testing@nationalgrid.com

EBS IT web-page: http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gridcode/workinggroups/EBS+IT+Subgroup/

Legacy Market Participant Interfaces

EBS will support the legacy market participant interfaces of EDL and EDT for up to five years after Cutover.

EDL (Electronic Dispatch Logging)

- EDL connects National Grid and Control Points (normally a power station)
- Allows National Grid to send BOAs, Ancillary Service and other instructions to Control Points
- Allows the Control Point to send National Grid revisions to Export and Import Limits and Dynamic Parameters (current day)
- National Grid provides the leased line, MPLS or ISDN telecommunications associated with EDL

EDT (Electronic Data Transfer)

- EDT connects Trading Points to National Grid
- Allows market participants to send the following to National Grid:
    - Physical Notifications
    - Bid-Offer Data Prices
    - Export and Import Limits
    - Dynamic Parameters (Day Ahead)
- Market participants provide the leased line, MPLS or ISDN telecommunications according to their requirements

New Market Participant Interfaces

The new interfaces of EDL* and EDT* are planned to be made available to market participants from around six months after Cutover.

EDL*

- From National Grid to Control Points (normally a power station)
- Allows National Grid to send BOAs, Ancillary Service and other instructions
- Adds a facility to send change of target frequency and simultaneous tap instructions
- Instructions are encrypted so can go via the internet as well as leased lines etc.
- If a Control Point wants to send data to National Grid, the Control Point system calls EDT* to do this

EDT*

- From Trading Points or Control Points to National Grid
- Single means of data submission to National Grid i.e. replaces EDT plus data submission part of EDL
- Allows market participants to send National Grid:
    - All the data supported by EDL & EDT (except the discontinued Day-Ahead Dynamic Parameters)
    - Items of Ancillary Services Operational Data currently communicated by fax e.g. frequency response availability and reactive power capability
    - BMU registration changes
- Market participants can submit data:
    - Computer-to-computer in a similar way to EDL and EDT
    - Web-page XML file up-load
    - Type it into a web-form
- The telecommunications options are:
    - Leased line, MPLS or ISDN
    - Internet (with appropriate security)