

## Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	Electricity Balancing System (EBS) IT Subgroup
<b>Meeting number</b>	10
<b>Date of meeting</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2014
<b>Time</b>	10:00 – 13:00
<b>Location</b>	Live Meeting with audio

## 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
Afe Ogun	AO	National Grid
Steve Roberts	SR	National Grid
Sarvesh Kumar	SK	National Grid
Hari Chohan	HC	National Grid
Mark Bucknell	MB	Drax Power
Simon Piercy	SP	Trayport Contigo
Paul Hardy	PH	Siemens
Graham Bunt	GB	EDF
Erik Cummins	EC	EDF
Michael Joyce	MJ	E.ON
David Holt	DH	Dunstan Thomas
Francis Parker	FP	RWE
Simon Reid	SR	Scottish Power
Greg Newton	GN	Siemens
John Sherban	JS	Quorum

## 1 Safety

Robert confirmed that there were no fire alarm tests planned for today.

## 2 Introductions

All participants introduced themselves.

## 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.

## 5 Update on Timescales

Robert presented some slides on timescales. He advised that the high level timescales are unchanged since the last meeting.

## 6 Testing Update

The detailed plan was updated at the same time as the high-level plan and the published version still stands. Steve advised that the initial EDT/EDL type-tests were complete and there are resolutions for all the VMS-specific issues. All the resolutions that are available have been tested and Steve confirmed that all tests carried out had been successful. A resilient EBS environment is almost ready and once it is ready National Grid will be looking to carry out some informal type-testing to obtain an early view as to the interaction between the failover of servers within an EBS stack and the connection to EDL & EDT clients. This is pencilled-in for May this year.

Circuit connectivity testing is in progress and to date the EDL connections to 20 stations have been tested using both the main and back-up communications. 19 were completely successful with the other one having an issue when going from main to back-up, but it was otherwise successful. Tests at present are carried out every two weeks (on a Thursday). The same exercise will be carried for EDT commencing in April with the larger market participants. These tests are more complex than the EDL ones as they are carried out by the market participants and involve more parties e.g. market participants' network support, business etc.

**Action SK** – to contact parties to discuss and agree the planning of the EDT testing

## 7 EDL\* & EDT\*

Afe reported that a number of suppliers had indicated that they wished to have a VPN connection to the EBS EDL\* and EDT\* test services. Following this meeting a technical questionnaire will be circulated to these suppliers to gather the information required to configure the services.

The EDL\* toolkit has been reviewed by National Grid; the outcome of this being some work to make it more generic. This work is nearing completion and the toolkit should be available by the time of the next meeting – June 2014.

## 8 Progress of Industry Code Changes

Robert advised that the Grid Code GC0068 modification was approved by OFGEM on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

As requested by the industry the changes will be implemented in two parts. The changes to the fax forms in BC2 Appendix 3 and BC2 Appendix 4 will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014. All other changes will be implemented at EBS go-live, these relate to new and existing interfaces and associated time-limits, data definitions for the new EDT\* interface and the Data, Validation, Consistency & Defaulting rule changes.

Robert reported that a modification re BSC P297 has been raised to publish new and revised data supported by EDT\* on the BMRS. This is to send data to Elexon published on the BM reports website and via the TIPCO feed in order to maintain market transparency. This change has not yet been fully approved, but is expected to be recommended by the BSC Panel today, after which OFGEM will make a decision on this modification. OFGEM has a 25 working days KPI for their decisions – it is possible that this decision may be made more quickly than this given that it is related to the already-approved Grid Code change.

## 10 Communication Standards

Robert reported that the Interface Standards has been renamed as Communication Standards as it was deemed that this new title was more appropriate. The main addition relates to MPLS comms. There were no comments on the Communications Standards document and so Robert said that the intention would be to take it through the process of getting it adopted as a Grid Code Electrical Standard.

A question was raised by Graham Bunt – EDF regarding the withdrawal of the 64kbit BT kilostream and if the service only has a life of two years why was National Grid still using it? Robert advised that BT would stop supplying this service from March 2016, however, it wouldn't be withdrawn from service until March 2018. He went on to say that National Grid was not using kilostream for new EDL circuits and had a migration plan for existing services. It was for market participants to decide how and when they migrated their EDT services from kilostream.

**Action AO** – Find times for EDL Kilostream circuit replacement (part of OPTTEL project) and report back to the next meeting.

## 11 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014

As of the next meeting Antonio Del Castillo Zas will take over as chair of this meeting.

A decision will be made a month prior to the meeting whether it should be physical or virtual.

Paul Hardy - Siemens raised a question regarding having a private connection to the EDL\* & EDT\* test services and if the same restrictions apply re. testing as with the VPN connections? Steve advised that the same restrictions would apply as both EDL\* & EDT\* were dependent on the provision of server code for these services which was not yet available.