

## Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	Electricity Balancing System (EBS) IT Subgroup
<b>Meeting number</b>	6
<b>Date of meeting</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2013
<b>Time</b>	10:00 - 15:00
<b>Location</b>	National Grid Wokingham

## 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
Steve Roberts	SR	National Grid
Afe Ogun	AO	National Grid
Rob Apperley	RA	National Grid
Sarvesh Kumar	SK	National Grid
Vinayak Sonawane	VS	National Grid
Simon Piercy	SP	Contigo
Paul Fothergill	PF	Quorum
John Sherban	JS	Quorum
Ian Mort	IM	Quorum
Erik Cummins	EC	EdF
Mahesh Chauhan	MC	E.ON
Nick Martin	NM	Dunstan Thomas
Paul Hardy	PH	Siemens
Graham Bunt	GB	EdF
Allan Viney	AV	Scottish Power
Daniel Bowman	DB	Centrica
Michael Joyce	MJ	E.ON (teleconference)
Mark Houston	MH	Logica (teleconference)
Alan Souch	AS	RWE (teleconference)
Paul Coates	PC	RWE (teleconference)
Stuart Green	SG	Dinorwig (teleconference)
Susan McNicholl	SM	ESB (teleconference)

## 1 Safety

RP opened the meeting by thanking everybody for attending both in the room and by teleconference. He advised participants of the arrangements should there be a fire alarm.

## 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

Attached

## 5 Update of Timescales

A review of the EBS Project plan has now been undertaken and the 'Go Live' date has been moved back to 27<sup>th</sup> November 2013. A copy of the revised plan has now been published on the EBS IT web page. GB asked that should the 'Go Live' date slip much further when would be the next earliest possible date. It was thought that this would be the end of January 2014 as a result of the heightened change controls around Christmas and the preparatory activities required prior to 'Go Live'.

GB stated that market participants would need three or four weeks' advance notice of the confirmed 'Go Live' date.

There was a general request that the EDT cutover plan should avoid scheduling any activities on a Friday.

### Action – PS

In the EDT cutover plan, don't plan any cutover activity on Fridays.

## 6 Testing Update Type Testing Circuit Connectivity Testing

### Type Testing

Steve thanked everybody who had assisted Sarvesh with the progress that has been made. This has been very successful.

A couple of issues have been identified, one of which was that the BM EDT FTP service only returns the file name in response to a list command, whereas the EBS EDT FTP service returns the whole path. Some issues have been resolved; others are in the process of being resolved. Where there are vendor-specific issues, National Grid will organise bilateral calls with them to discuss and agree a way forward.

Q – How would EBS handle duplicate file names?

### Action – SR

Include in the EDT type test the duplicate file name submission and acknowledgement scenario.

### Circuit Connectivity Testing

Subject to the test proxy being in place, circuit connectivity testing with Market Participants starts will start in April and run until the end of June.

The Market Participant Access document has been circulated detailing the IP addresses etc that should be used for EBS test and production. Market participants have been using this information to update their firewalls and access control lists – a few have completed this activity. When this is complete circuit connectivity testing can proceed. Connectivity test scripts have been drafted and these will be circulated shortly.

**Action SR** – Draft circuit connectivity test scripts to be circulated by the end of the month

### **Other Testing**

#### **Action SR**

Extend the title of the optional testing to EDT & EDL rather than just EDT.

#### **Action – Market Participants**

To e-mail [integration.testing@nationalgrid.com](mailto:integration.testing@nationalgrid.com) if they want to take part in the optional EDT and/or EDL testing. Prerequisites are EDT/EDL client test systems and appropriate telecommunications to connect them to National Grid's EBS test systems.

## **7 EDL & EDT Access Validation Proposals**

PS stated that the access validation activities will start around the time that the various tests with market participants and suppliers are nearing completion. Validation, as opposed to testing, will only involve Production architecture. There was general agreement that access validation should validate as much of National Grid's and market participants back-up infrastructure as possible, such that when a failure occurs in production, there is confidence that the back-up systems can connect.

It should only require configuration changes at the market participant end, as opposed to any coding, and these should be easily reversible should this be required.

### **Purpose**

This will demonstrate if the systems are able to connect at an application level.

### **Arrangements**

The EDL access validation will be in the context of outages to the production EDL service on the existing BM Systems. For EDT it will involve market participants connecting to EBS "to be production" environments. EDT access validation will not require an outage to the production EDT service and consequently the windows available for validation will be longer (multiple days) for EDT than for EDL. Unlike EDL, once a market participant had successfully completed EDT access validation, then they would not need to repeat it in the remaining windows. The view was that market participants should be able to undertake EDT access validation at a time of their own choosing within the windows, rather than there being a pre-determined schedule. Also, some market participants may wish their suppliers to undertake the testing for them, so the workload on suppliers needs to be taken into account. As National Grid would not necessarily be aware that a market participant had undertaken EDT access validation, then market participants would need to inform National Grid of the activities undertaken and their success or otherwise.

### **Action – SR**

Add an EDL access validation test to the EDL type test

For both EDL and EDT, there is planned to 3 cycles of access validation – the third being a contingency that will only be used if required.

### **EDT Access Validation Options**

PS detailed three, not necessarily exclusive, options for EDT access validation. The general view was that option 3 was the highest risk option, but that it may suit some smaller market participants who submit EDT infrequently and do not have a test system. Option 3 is also, in effect, a dry-run of the changes that market participants will need to make as part of EDT cutover. Therefore, all 3 options will be retained, with the view being that each market participant could choose their preferred option. PS will draft and circulate a document detailing all the above.

## 8 EDT Transition Schedule Discussion

### **EDT Migration**

PS presented some slides and discussed the arrangements for EDT transition. He re-iterated that the intention was that it was not a 'Big Bang', rather a phased migration of market participants over a number of days after the EBS system has gone live. Should there be problems migrating a market participant to EBS, they could go back to submitting data to the existing BM Systems while the issue is resolved. RP added that moving a market participant back to submitting to the existing BM Systems after they had submitted data to EBS would be more problematic as it would involve loss of the data that had been submitted to EBS. He did point out that this was a very low probability scenario, given all the testing that will have taken place. GB accepted that it was low probability, but asked that the arrangements for this be documented.

### **Action PS**

Include in the documentation for EBS cutover a section detailing the roll-back arrangements.

This led to PS discussing when market participants' accounts on the BM System should be deactivated after their move to EBS. The general view was sooner rather than later to reduce to opportunity for error – accounts could always be re-activated if required.

### **Action PS**

To come up with proposals as to when we deactivate market participants' BM Systems EDT accounts after they have successfully moved to EBS.

## 9 Communications

RP said that National Grid would shortly be publishing the first issue of the EBS IT FAQs, which would be published on the EBS IT web-page. When the FAQs have been published, then National Grid will e-mail all Market Participants and Suppliers on the EBS IT and wider Technical Contracts list. The same will be done when the FAQs are updated.

### **Action RP**

Upload this meeting's slides and the agreed minutes of the last meeting to the EBS IT web-page.

## 10 Dates of Next Meetings

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013

RP acknowledged that consideration needs to be given nearer 'Go Live' as to whether we need more frequent teleconferences / meetings to discuss specific issues.

## 11 AOB

Questions were raised around the specifications for EDT\* and EDL\*. AO stated that an initial version of EDT\* tool kit had already been distributed and the EDL\* tool kit would be sent out in due course. RP said that these would be finalised once the revised Grid Code text that is currently being drafted has been agreed with the industry and approved by OFGEM.

### **Action RP**

Work up a plan for the activities associated with EDL\* and EDT\*.