

Minutes	
Meeting name	Electricity Balancing System Group
Meeting number	9
Date of meeting	04 Jul 2012
Time	10:00 - 14:00
Location	National Grid, Wokingham

Attendees		
Name	Initials	Company
Campbell McDonald	CM	SSE (by phone)
Graham Bunt	GB	EDF Energy
John Lucas	JL	Elexon
John Norbury	JN	RWE
Nick Sargent	NS	National Grid (Chair/Technical Secretary)
Robert Paterson	RP	National Grid
Simon Peter Reid	SR	Scottish Power (by phone)
Peter Knight	PK	Centrica

Apologies		
Name	Initials	Company
Cem Suleyman	CS	Drax Power
Chris Morton	CMT	EDF Energy
Christopher Proudfoot	CP	Centrica
Dan Webb	DW	Seabank
Guy Phillips	GP	E.ON
Hannah McKinney	HM	EDF Energy
Ian Foy	IF	Drax Power
Joe Warren	JW	Open Energi
Lisa Waters	LW	Waters Wye
Mari Toda	MT	EDF Energy (by phone)
Martin Mate	MM	EDF Energy
Murray Rennie	MR	Intergen
Shaf Ali	SA	National Grid
Simon Amos	SAM	Barking Power
Stuart Middleton	SM	Intergen

## 1 Introduction

NS welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting.

## 2 Approval of Minutes from the last meeting

NS asked for comments on the minutes.

JN suggested that line 3 of item 5 should read “limited support” for small players, and not “lots”.

GCRP put the issue back out because the smaller players had the support of Ofgem CM. The wording should therefore reflect “some” support. Agreed JN  
Minutes updated to reflect “some” support and agreed by all.

### 3 Review of Actions

Action 11/05	Ongoing action. Revision to timeline being discussed as agenda item #7.
Action 11/11	This is a low priority action to be arranged when other EBS issues have been cleared off (RP). It will be left as live though (SA) so that it's not ignored (CP).
Action 12/19	Workloads of members have delayed this action. CM, GB, and SR will provide an indicative matrix ahead of the next meeting. See additional notes below.
Action 12/20	Email sent from SA to Tom Derry, GCRP secretary, on 12 June suggesting changes to GCRP minutes. Completed.
Action 12/21	CM to forward email to RP and hold discussion before next meeting due to unavailability ahead of meeting #9. Also part of action 12/22.
Action 12/22	SR and CM to discuss in support of action 12/21. See additional notes below.

**Action 12/19:**

JN asked how a matrix of unit level parameters according to synchronisation configurations would be used by a scheduler. There are a number of approaches (RP).

The only practical way of achieving a suitable interval value is to attach it to a unit as a time elapsed since last synchronisation (JN). Agreed (SR). We want something simple without slowing the scheduler down and this seems to be a pragmatic solution (JN).

There are still two views on this and people may still need to consider this in more depth? (RP). Would attendees agree if we modified this action to reflect JN's proposal which is more narrow than the current action? (RP).

JN is proposing the following: when you want to sync/de-sync a BMU, you specify a number of minutes since the previous unit at the station synchronised (RP).

We would have agreed if National Grid sync'd/de-sync'd in merit order but this isn't the case. The concept is acceptable but we would not be able to advise the sync interval for the next unit (SR).

Agreed, as we've not had sync intervals since NETA, but this is a step in the right direction (JN).

Ok, agreed (SR).

We may end up with a flexible definition of a station ie Longannet Part 1 and Part 2 (RP).

Sounds like synchronising groups? (JN SR).

**Action 12/22:**

SR reviewed existing National Grid information to find that EDL instruction codes only include thermal codes and not pump storage (SR).

ACTION: RP to review existing information for relevance to pump storage.

If the information is not in the Grid Code then it is speculative. Look under Governance of Electrical Standards on the website (JN).

JN delivered his definition of a sync interval:

*Synchronising Interval (SI): expressed in minutes, being the minimum time that must elapse before a BM Unit can transition from zero to a non-zero level, from the last BM Unit at the same Power Station that transitioned from zero to a non-zero level*

How will this affect pump storage? (SR).

Pumped Storage running on no-load waiting to pump or generate is assumed to be synchronised (RP).

## 4 BSC Pricing Issue

Held at Elexon two weeks ago (RP).

The meeting thought there might be a defect but not big enough to reintroduce start up and no load prices. However, there was a positive response to the other option of having separate Bid-Offer Data price ladders for different configurations (RP).

It will be for the MSM subgroup to evaluate configuration modelling proposals and present to the BSC group (RP).

There will be a gap between the issues meeting and the next MSM subgroup (RP).

## 5 EBS IT Subgroup Update

Key discussions with industry IT reps were the approaches to testing and transition issues (RP).

Key for this meeting – there was agreement that we should be looking at checking that market participant production systems could connect to the various “to be production” National Grid systems prior to go-live, but these tests should not involve data submissions which are risky and would have been done on test systems. The intention of the connectivity tests includes ensuring that there’s a clear route through all firewalls etc. for file submissions (RP).

Will there be a period of time when you’re on the current data then submit data to both systems? (PK).

Effectively yes as EDT can support a staged transition (RP).

Will the generator just submit to one location and National Grid manage it? (PK).

The generator will be able to control their move to the new system, and if necessary, back to the old system (RP).

Once everyone is transferred across, the old system will be closed off (RP).

EDL technology is getting quite old now, it would be useful to understand the future roadmap for EDL in terms of connectivity from NG (GB). What is the vision?

ACTION: RP will add to the action list for the IT subgroup meeting.

The detail of how some of these processes need to work is not available yet (SR).

There were some actions from the IT subgroup meeting setting a number of ways forward in some areas. Until we’ve consulted with industry IT reps on what the approach should be, we cannot map this out just yet (RP).

## 6 Finalisation of workgroup report on “Formalising TSL and other parameters”

A number of further amendments were made to the draft workgroup report and agreed by those present.

## 7 Review of Timeline

Some timescales are indicative at this stage (RP).

The data changes sections are new additions in response to the request at the last meeting to package up the changes into groups, so that first changes available do not have to wait for later and more complex ones, like configuration modelling.

From a BSC perspective, we would like to combine the changes to support the first and second group of data changes into one Elexon release. The third group of Data Changes is likely to require a modification to the BSC, whereas the first two probably would not (JL). Noted (RP).

ACTION: NS to circulate latest version.

ACTION: RP to revise for next meeting

## 9 Proposed meeting dates

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September agreed.

ACTION: For the next meeting, RP and NS to trial the use of MS LiveMeeting or similar for telecom participants.

## 10 Next Steps

Actions Arising:

RP to review existing EDL instruction codes and information to identify relevance to pump storage generation.

RP to identify the future roadmap for EDL in terms of connectivity from National Grid. To be added to the action list for the IT subgroup meeting.

NS to circulate the current version of the timeline to the attendees.

RP to revise the timeline for the next EBSG meeting.

NS and RP to trail the use of MS LiveMeeting or similar for telecom participants.

## 11 AOB

None.