

Update for Market Participants

Wider Access to the GB Balancing Mechanism

11 December 2019

Wider Access is now live

As previously announced, we have been preparing changes to various NGENSO systems and processes, as have ELEXON for BSC systems, to enable Wider Access (WA) to the GB Balancing Mechanism (BM).

The essential changes have now been made, and the BM is ready to receive additional market participants from **today, Wednesday, 11 December**. We have also issued a [press release](#) today.

There will be an additional phase of Go-live which will allow us to meet our reporting requirements under the Electricity Balancing Guideline (EBGL) from **Wednesday, 18 December**.

Market testing

As part of implementation preparations, NGENSO and ELEXON have successfully completed a course of testing with an initial group of market participants, who will create their own web-based Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to provide Electronic Data Transfer (EDT) and Electronic Despatch and Logging (EDL) to NGENSO.

Virtual Lead Parties

Ofgem has now approved CUSC Modification Proposal 295: Contractual Arrangements for Virtual Lead Parties (Project TERRE). This allows NGENSO to implement this change into the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) and enable market participants to accede to the industry codes as Virtual Lead Parties (VLPs).

VLPs can now gain a fuller picture of their commitments and obligations, which they are obliged to meet by signing the CUSC. This detail is now set out in the latest version of the CUSC document, which NGENSO updated on Friday, 6 December.

NGESO Balancing and ENC Compliance Programme