



GCDF – Increase in the number of instructions

02 Aug 2023

Background

The Balancing Programme

- The ESO has initiated a programme to update the tools and capabilities within the control room in readiness for net-zero operation
- Details of the programme can be found at the following location [Balancing programme | ESO \(nationalgrideso.com\)](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/balancing-programme)
- The programme holds quarterly face-2-face reviews (all are invited to attend)
- The first production release of our new IT platform, called the Open Balancing Platform (OBP), is due on 15th December 2023
- This provides the control room with a new capability called Bulk Dispatch Optimisation (BDO)
- It is our intention that BDO will be applied in two zones – the “Small BMU Zone” and the “Battery Zone”
- BDO will automatically create instructions to meet a given zonal target MW and so we are expecting an increase in the number of instructions to those BMUs that are in these two zones
- Initially, there will be no change for BMUs in any other zone
- However, in future releases we would hope to include more zones covered by BDO
- Today we would like your feedback on the increase in the number of instructions and would this cause you any issues

Maximum number of instructions

BDO has been designed to handle the following non-functional requirements

	Maximum taking into account down stream systems (such as existing EDL)	Theoretical maximum (to be tested without downstream systems)
Number of instructions per BDO run	300	1000
Maximum rate of sending instructions	5/s	25/s
Limit of the total of inflight instructions	100	300

- It is highly likely that the actual number of instructions will be less than this per BDO run
- Actual numbers will be determined during testing and fine-tuning over the next few months

Next Steps

- Request that you share these figures with your software providers
- Provide feedback to the ESO on the capabilities of your IT systems
- ESO to evaluate if some BMUs should be left out of a zone so that BDO will not automatically instruct them (instead we will use existing manual processes)
- ESO to share test results via our Optimisation Stakeholder Forum