

**Q&A Response from the
Market Participant Webinar
on Transfers**

Platform for Ancillary
Services (PAS)

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1. Introduction

A webinar was held by NGESO at 11.15am on Wed 8 January 2020, with invites to market participants. The session explained the delivery of the new European Balancing Guide-Lines (EBGL) which in short, provides the ability for pre-qualified providers to transfer existing STOR contracts. The new transfers system was demonstrated and a Q&A session was held at the end.

This document provides an account of the questions and answers captured along with some responses that were not answered during the event.

We have uploaded all transfers webinar related documents on the NGESO STOR webpage including all questions and answers captured along with some responses that were not addressed during the event, along with the slides that was presented.

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/balancing-services/reserve-services/short-term-operating-reserve-stor>

A recording of the webinar is available here:

<https://uknationalgrid.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/uknationalgrid/recording/playback/fe3821540f0a4c0ca74e1f71d66bd25e>

2. Questions & Answers

Q1: Do you get told why a transfer is rejected?

A: No, you don't get told why a transfer is rejected. All that is put is the transfer rejected data and time. You then get the confirmation email as the rejecter, telling you that it's been rejected. And the other provider will get a notification telling them that it has been rejected, but not why.

Q2: How long does this process take?

A: Everything takes as long as it did in this demo. It depends on how long it takes for the user to login to the portal, access the information and add or change things. If you were sat at your desk, refreshing the page the you can see the changes instantly.

Q3: Can I accept a transfer up to the settlement period?

A: No, a transfer can be accepted up to 23:00 of the previous business day. If we were using today as an example: a transfer must be accepted by provider B and must have the accepted status on it by 11pm tonight, so that the earliest opportunity of delivery could be for window one in the morning.

Q4: Why is this not a dual notification system? Will you be making it dual? Seems like a fundamental issue that I make a transfer, then a party changes its mind and cancels it. Surely both parties should be agreeing to any changes made at the same time.

A: We hold the position with provider A, although provider A and Provider B can be the same company. They have their agreements which is concluded outside of national grid ESO periphery. You are effectively using this as an informant to make the transfer subject to the business rules. And we continue the relationship with A. At present there are no plans to change that. But we do welcome the feedback.

Q5: Can you share the slides after the call?

A: Yes, we will distribute them out to you.

Q6: With aggregators who have sites in multiple locations, does that mean they can't accept a contract from an asset in a specific GSP?

A: You could accept a transfer from any other unit from inside that GSP Group. You could also send a transfer from that GSP Group as well. For example, if there is an aggregated unit made up from around different parts of the UK. What we would do it take from the biggest sub asset within that portfolio. Let's say that was based in one of the London based areas. We would then assign that as the GSP Group for the entire unit.

Q7: Is it for providers to find a party to transfer to or is this portal available for expressing options for transfers, i.e.: a market place for transfers.

A: This is not a market place and nor does EGBL stipulate that this should or needs to be a market place. National grids expectation is that an agreement would be made by provider A and provider B. However, during the demonstration you saw that if parties are interested to opt in and receive transfers from both the market sources, then that is possible as well. Obviously, it would be up to provider B to then contact provider A. We have created the facility for you to see who's interested in receiving transfers and make contact that way. Nevertheless, it can also be done separately by two parties.

Q8: Could a flexible contract be transferred to a BM unit?

A: It is not possible for a Flexible contract to be transferred to a BM Unit as the requirements on a BM unit are that it must make itself available for STOR at all times. i.e. it is not able to declare itself unavailable on the Friday at the week ahead stage. A NBM unit with a Committed contract can transfer its contract to a BM unit.

Q9: Does that mean that the contract details are just the site name?

A: This is referring to my comment where provider A can see who is open to receiving transfers. What would happen here is that provider A would look in to see which of the companies are interested. Provider B would then be notified of that incoming transfer request. Provider A would also be aware of who they sent it to. So, it does not go to the unit level, it's just at the company level at this point. It would then be up to provider B to then go and nominate which unit or portfolio they would like to receive that transfer on. For example, based on this demo there were two or potentially more units that can accept that transfer.

Q10: Do all providers have access to the CRM?

A: If you have an existing login to CRM via the VLP prequalification portal, then when we go live you will receive a new permission set onto your user. All that will happen is that this portal will appear on your login. You will access it using the same user details that you have. If you don't have access to the CRM, then you need to go through all the already existing processes to get a user and then you will get the access you need to access the portal we have built.

Q11: Are you going to review the GSP limitations.

A: Yes, we will review the GSP limitations. The reason for the GSP limitation is around security of supply. Where you are in the UK is based on the tender assessment principle. On day 1, what we can do is that we can allow transfers within the GSP going through. Once we can feed these systems with that type of data to allow real time security of supply, then we can start to take away these restrictions. The restriction is there to ensure security of supply. And this was the only way that on day one we could do that, unfortunately what I can't explain to you now is when we would be able to do that.

Q12: When is go live?

A: We are working for go-live on 31 January 2020.

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