

GB Wider Access API Phase 1 Go-Live successful

18 Sep 2020

We are delighted to announce the successful Phase 1 Go-Live on 17 September of the Application Programming Interface (API) for Wider Access (WA) to the GB Balancing Mechanism (BM).

First user

Our project team has spent many months building and testing the WA API, with support from a number of market participants and their software providers as external test partners. Tesla is the first software provider to use the API for one of their clients – FRV and Harmony Energy’s battery storage facility at Holes Bay in Dorset. Our project team has worked closely with Tesla this year as our partner for this Go-Live, on which we have just issued a [press release](#).

Landmark capability

Wider Access is all about removing barriers to entry, facilitating competition, providing cost-effective routes to market, and enabling participation of smaller and aggregated units. The API is a cost-effective solution for smaller providers, as an alternative to traditional fixed lines, for Electronic Data Transfer (EDT) and Dispatch & Logging (EDL). It enables new technologies, such as renewables and battery storage, as well as traditional technologies, to interface with the BM. This will make our operations smarter and more flexible, and brings us a step closer to ‘zero carbon’ capability by 2025.

Well done and thank you

We have had to deal with a number of challenges since the beginning of the year. This started with replanning, including resilience planning due to the impact of COVID-19 since March, and a BM system hot patch failure in July, which was resolved in August.

So we are particularly pleased to say that the Go-Live was smooth with no impact on the NGENO Control Room or other systems and processes. Further phases to enhance the API will follow.

This was a great collaborative effort between a number of teams across National Grid IT, the NGENO business and our market test partners. Thank you to everyone who has been involved for making yesterday such a success.

Any questions?

Please contact your account manager, or our IT programme:

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