

Balancing Mechanism (BM) Resilience Improvements

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Topics

- ◆ Why are we making changes to the BM Infrastructure? What are the benefits?
- ◆ What are the changes?
- ◆ What does it mean to market participants?
- ◆ What actions are required from market participants?
- ◆ Timescales
- ◆ Next Steps
- ◆ Issues / Queries

Why are we making changes to the BM Infrastructure? What are the benefits/?

- ◆ Currently hot DR capability is provided by a single production cluster.
- ◆ The changes will...
 - ◆ decrease the number and duration of unplanned outages of the production service.
 - ◆ decrease the duration of planned outages to the production service, especially for application upgrades.
 - ◆ provide increased resilience in terms of business continuity.
- ◆ Thus maximising the time for which Market Participants can change Physical Notifications and Bid/Offer Prices.

What are the changes?

- ◆ Addition of 2nd production cluster
 - ◆ for fully representative installation, performance and soak testing prior to implementing a new application release.
 - ◆ To allow a cluster swap with a short outage for promoting a new application release into production.
- ◆ Provision of a separate Disaster Recovery (DR) server at an additional site.
- ◆ New standard Domain Name Server (DNS) infrastructure for the three sites to increase resilience.

What does it mean to market participants?

- ◆ With the increase to 5 servers now supporting the production BM service, participants are requested to use DNS. This will enable the fastest reconnection to whichever server is providing the online service.
- ◆ Participants will therefore need to work with our new DNS service name, DNS server IP addresses which will resolve to IP address of the server providing the online service.

What actions are required from market participants?

- ◆ If you use EDT (PN/prices) or EDL (BOAs/redecs), you will need to make
 - ◆ Configuration changes
 - ◆ Firewall changes
 - ◆ participate in network access tests associated with your network connections to us.

Changes Specific to interface

- ◆ EDT (PN/prices)
 - ◆ implement or change current DNS configuration to locate our DNS service (highly recommended)
 - ◆ any firewall access changes for our new DNS and production server IP addresses (mandatory)
- ◆ EDL (BOAs/redecs)
 - ◆ firewall access changes for our production server IP addresses (mandatory)

Timescales

- ◆ External Testing - detailed scope and format to be confirmed by mid March, and emailed to those using EDT and EDL.
- ◆ External Testing from early May 2007
- ◆ Transition to new DNS infrastructure June 2007
- ◆ Go-live on 2nd Cluster and additional DR node – July 2007

Next Steps

- ◆ Market Participants
 - ◆ Identify current configuration areas (IP Stacks, Firewalls etc)
- ◆ National Grid
 - ◆ Firm up timescales
 - ◆ Specify details of changes and testing
 - ◆ Communicate above to market participants (those with EDT or EDL)

Issues / Queries

- ◆ Log a call with our National Grid IS Servicedesk on 0800 085 4806 or +44 1246 524081
- ◆ Please quote BM Business Continuity – Tactical Enhancements
- ◆ Or send an email to James Sidwell, Project Manager – james.sidwell@uk.ngrid.com