

03/12/2025-27/01/2026

# Balancing Programme: OBP Delivery Increment (DI)21 Closure Report



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## Executive Summary:

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Following on from 2 Delivery Increments (DIs) of delivering significant value, DI21, especially when stretching over the Christmas period, was going to be tough to follow. It achieved 76% of planned scope to test completion, with all but 2 of those features in the final stages of test. The main release was the first major change since Release 3.0 and OBP strategic which is a key proving point for our new platform and continued our philosophy of frequent, uninterrupted change.

OBP release 3.1.0 introduced significant changes to multiple areas of OBP, including the first deployment of Pumped Storage instruction capabilities, enhancements of the Price Stack to allow multi-select filtering on Zones and Constraints as well as the inclusion of metering data and improvement to the Demand Predictor algorithms. The main success was the achievement of our Ofgem milestone, a technical go live for the National Dispatch Optimiser, which will be benchmarked and validated against the Legacy Dispatch Advice over the coming months.







## DI21 Completion Report – Success Against Commitments

### Committed Goals







 Exceeded
  Met
  Partially Met
  Not Met
  Deliver
  Develop
  Elaborate

Type	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description	Delivered Value
	EDL/EDT Market Participant Testing	EDL/EDT		We are able to perform EDT and EDL validation with a provider this DI.	We have conducted successful EDT testing and EDL with the CTC message client. EDL Market Participant Testing (MPT) will start in DI22 once the required network changes have been delivered.
	OBP Strategic Deferral List	OBP Strategic		Completion of remaining deferrals from the launch of OBP Strategic.	We deferred 43 items as part of Nov 2025 go-live out of which 9 are to be addressed as part of continuous platform improvements as part of future roadmap and 1 to be completed along with migration of dependent applications to NESO Azure. Out of







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Type	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description	Delivered Value
					the remaining 33, 14 items have been completed.
	Dynamic Response	Ancillary Services		Launch of BM and NBM Dynamic Response Services	Launch of BM and NBM Dynamic Response Services delayed due to additional requirements for audit as well as 3 defects found 2 days before launch that required resolution. Will now launch early DI22 for BM and 1 <sup>st</sup> March for NBM.
	Slow Reserve	Ancillary Services		Ability to test both inbound and outbound flows with half of the SR participants.	Work has completed development and is to be tested once the team have capacity to integration test ahead of formal MPT in DI22.
	Dispatchable Price Stack	All Instructions		We can provide the Control Room with improved multi-dispatch from a restriction aware Price Stack enhanced with wind situational awareness including	We have delivered the wind situational awareness work but work remains for restriction/service aware details which are part of the wider work happening in DI22.

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Type	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description	Delivered Value
				Power Available along with all remaining "standard" AS Instructions	
	Step Change (Parts 1 and 2) + EPC Enhancements	All Instructions		The ability to enable dispatch from all zones.	Release deferred into DI22 due to defects which have since been resolved and the prioritisation of BM Dynamic Response.
	Pump Storage State Changes	All Instructions		The ability to prove BOAs for Pump Storage units paired with a state change instruction.	This has been proven and is due for launch in DI22.
	MVAR/Voltage and ITRIP	All Instructions		Start work on MVAR/Voltage and ITRIP with a confirmed plan for delivery in DI22.	Stability pathfinders due to launch in DI22 with work on a trainable solution of MVAR/Voltage refined and started development as planned.

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Type	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description	Delivered Value
	Pump Storage Part 3.1	All Instructions		Fully refined user stories and designs for remaining pump storage work in DI22.	Fully refined user stories and designs for remaining pump storage work in DI22.
	Manual Instruction Extensions and AIR	All Instructions		Fully refined user stories and designs for AIR and Manual Instructions in DI22.	Manual extension work is fully ready and in delivery in DI22. AIR elaboration has issues that will continue into DI22 for delivery in DI23.
	Dispatchable Price Stack	All Instructions		Fully refined user stories and designs for service aware, dispatchable price stack functionality in DI22.	Designs for how this will integrate into the baseline still pending with the high-level solution understood and in implementation. Features still not fully ready for implementation.

DI21 Delivery Summary

At the start of DI21 planning, 73 features/enablers were committed to be delivered to the definition of complete, with 50 planned for elaboration and refinement in readiness for DI22.

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Our feature completion count is 76% of plan (56 features) with 15 of the outstanding 17 closing system test (ST) imminently.

**DI21 Closure:** 56/73 features delivered vs committed which is 76% of the DI scope. All bar 2 of the outstanding features are in ST and should close soon. The detail is as follows:



- **EDL/T** – 3 features not completed however, none are critical path. 1 relates to deferring the endpoint manager MFE due to prioritisation of stability pathfinder and MVAR work, 1 is in ST with 2 outstanding defects and 1 is related to code scanning issues which will be moved to DI22 due to EDT/L MPT defect fixes.
- **All Instructions** – 2 due to the movement of step change (1) and pump storage (1) which has 3 outstanding defects blocking closure of ST.
- **Ancillary Services** – 3 overall. 1 due to the impact of release movements for DX, 1 not being able to move into ST because of test capacity (which is now resolved and moving forward) and 1 due to delayed development resultant of Instruction Generator component refactoring complexity.
- **Forecasting** – 1 accuracy metrics related ticket has been carried into DI22. All other features complete.
- **UX** – 2 related to price stack and MWI changes which need squad support to integrate in DI22 which was not previously believed to be needed.
- **Platform** – 6 of the Platform related features have been carried into DI 22 → 3 are related to EDL/T reporting, 2 related to Azure migration, one is a defect.

## DI22 Objectives





Below is an extract of the DI22 Objectives from the DI Programme Plan. For the Commitment (Committed/Stretch), any items with an asterisk (\*) are required achieve the definition of done (to be in production and in use). Items without the asterisk are to be delivered to the definition of complete - completion of system test and may be foundational change for future releases.

- Confirmed features for Build/Test DI22 – 60
- Confirmed Elaboration Features for DI22 – 49





PI	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	Successful completion of EDL market participant testing with first party	EDL/T	Market participant testing in progress with significant proportion of market for both NBM Slow Reserve and EDL/EDT laying the foundation for cutover and mastering	With EDT testing being successful, the focus in DI22 is to progress EDL in market participant testing.
 Develop	Successful integration testing of profile reversals with BM	EDL/T	In readiness for the EDL/T transition, OBP needs to prove it can profile submissions and send back to BM so that the output can be validated.	We have the ability to profile submissions from BM and return them back to BM for situational awareness.





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PI	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	Dynamic Response fully live on OBP	Ancillary Services	Dynamic Response fully live on OBP	Completion of the production release and cutover of BM and NBM Dynamic Response services.
	Readiness of a prototype for MVAR/Volt dispatch ready for Control Room familiarisation	Ancillary Services	Transmission teams need up to 3 months of training as they have not had hands on experience with OBP.	A functional, E2E MVP of MVAR/Voltage solution in a training environment for users to start familiarisation.
	We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures	Strategic	We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures	Module lag from last development commit and production version no longer than 14 days  ST Regression pack is enforced in the pipeline to provide fast feedback to squads.  Updated operational procedures related to the OBP Strategic deferral list.
	Control Room has ability to dispatch MW instructions for all	All Instructions	Control Room has ability to dispatch MW instructions for all zones, including Pumped Storage – continuing with	All zone instructions can be sent from OBP in the control room, including pump storage with state change instructions


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PI	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	zones, including Pumped Storage – continuing with improved instructions journey (restrictions awareness, power available, manual extend)		improved instructions journey (restrictions awareness, power available, manual extend)	within an improved instruction journey. This will not include manual extensions for pump storage, AIR, ITRIP, MVAR or telephone instructions.
 Develop	We will integrate with PEF and fetch wind profiles. Control room users can update real time prediction values directly on graph	Forecasting	We will integrate with PEF and fetch wind profiles. Control room users can update real time prediction values directly on graph	The ability to see updated real-time prediction values within RTP based on integrating with PEF.
 Develop	Improved UI for usability and improved journey flow, along with new data table and charts being rolled out to key screens that are Clock Change compliant Role	UX	Improved UI for usability and improved journey flow, along with new datatable and charts being rolled out to key screens that are Clock Change compliant Role based access	Faster load times and performance improvements for key areas where front end slowness is visible.

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PI	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	based access implemented for initial screens ready for full roll out		implemented for initial screens ready for full roll out	
	Commence delivery of Constraint Optimisation	Constraints	Starting development that will enable optimisation within a single constraint to deliver in DI23.	A working optimiser to enable constraints for battery and small zones whilst starting work to enable optimisation for wind units based on what they are currently doing.
	Enhance NDO along with more accurate input data	NDO	Further validations comparing with LDA to help with control room adoption.	This feature aims to mitigate risks around NDO acceptance by users - it will involve offline testing, as well as testing with actual production logs of NDO advices and facilitate comparisons with LDA/MDA
	Elaboration of remaining instruction work	All Instructions	Closure of elaboration for remaining instruction work in readiness for EDL/T.	Completed shaping and design work for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AIR</li> <li>- Telephone Instructions</li> <li>- ITRIP</li> </ul>
	Completion of OBP Strategic Deferral List	OBP Strategic	Completion of remaining deferrals from the launch of OBP Strategic.	There are 9 pending items from the deferral list that can be broadly classified

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PI	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
				into defects, and P1 readiness prerequisites. Dependency on RBAC to resolve some of the prerequisites for P1 readiness is planned.
	Start the Azure tenancy migration from National Grid to NESO for non-production OBP services	Platform	As part of the NG/NESO separation, the platform team need to rebuild development and test environments and path to production in a new Azure subscription owned by NESO.	Deliver the development clusters and pipelines on NESO Azure whilst readying work to conclude this initiative in DI23.

Abbreviations:

- **AIR:** Automatic Instruction Repeat
- **AS:** Ancillary Services
- **BM:** Balancing Mechanism
- **BMU:** Balancing Mechanism Unit
- **BOA:** Bid Offer Acceptance
- **BP2:** Business Plan 2
- **CHT:** CNI Health Team

- **CNI:** Critical National Infrastructure
- **DAP:** Data Analytics Platform
- **EDL:** Electronic Dispatch Logger
- **EDT:** Electronic Data Transfer
- **IEMS:** Integrated Energy Management System
- **ITRIP:** Intertrip
- **MDA:** Modern Dispatch Advisor
- **MNZT:** Minimum Non-Zero Time
- **MPLS:** Multiprotocol Label Switching
- **NDO:** National Dispatch Optimisation / Optimiser
- **OBP:** Open Balancing Platform
- **PEF:** Platform for Energy Forecasting
- **PI:** Programme Increment
- **SRE:** Site Reliability Engineer
- **UI:** User Interface
- **UE:** User Experience