Registration guide
Balancing Mechanism Units (BMUs)

Apr 2026

NESO
National Energy System Operator

Contents

1. Introduction

Overview

This document is a guide to the process of registering Balancing Mechanism Units (BMUs) with the National Energy System Operator (NESO). This guide is intended both for parties who are entering the market for the first time and for those who already have BMUs registered with ELEXON but now wish to or are required to register such BMUs with NESO. In summary, NESO will register BMUs with an FPN flag selected as 'Yes'.

The BMU registration process with NESO is a separate process to the ELEXON registration process.

ELEXON and NESO can be contacted at:

ELEXON: bscservicedesk@cgi.com - telephone 0370 010 6950

NESO: telephone 0800-085-4806

Although this document deals specifically with BMU registration, references are also provided where possible giving additional information on related registration steps.

Main points to note

Each Party that has responsibility for Exports and/or Imports onto the Transmission System must ensure that the Plant and/or Apparatus which gives rise to those Exports and/or Imports are comprised in registered BM Units. The Central Registration Agent (CRA) administers this registration process for ELEXON. Section K of the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) defines this obligation, and the BMU registration process is detailed in the Balancing and Settlement Code Procedure (BSCP) 15, "BM Unit Registration". The BSC and the associated BSCPs can be found on the ELEXON website www.elexon.co.uk, under BSC and Related Documents.

In addition to the requirement to register with ELEXON, there is an obligation in some instances for parties to register their BMUs with NESO, in its role as National Energy System Operator (NESO). The Grid Code obliges parties to register depending on type and size criteria with NESO. Parties may also choose to register smaller BMUs in order to participate actively in the Balancing Mechanism. Interconnector Users are required to register BMUs, regardless of capacity, in pairs (Import & Export expressed as Demand & Generation BMUs).

Once a BMU is registered with NESO, the Lead Party must submit Physical Notifications (PNs) for that BMU. The PNs for a BMU are the expected levels of Export or Import, as at the Transmission System Boundary, for that BMU. This is done using a communication system known as EDT (Electronic Data Transfer). Participants may also wish to be active in the Balancing Mechanism, for which a separate system known as EDL (Electronic Dispatch Logging) will be required. These two systems are distinct and separate from any links between the party's system and those of ELEXON or its Agents.

The detailed process of BMU registration is given in BSCP15, “BM Unit Registration”, a subsidiary document to the BSC. This guide does not aim to summarise BSCP15, but to indicate the steps that parties will need to take to complete the registration process with NESO.

Any interested party is advised to contact NESO and ELEXON on their respective help desks. Those whose BMUs are already registered with ELEXON should be aware that they will still have to contact ELEXON to register the change in FPN status of their BMUs from No to Yes.

Routes to the Balancing Mechanism

Traditional Route to the BM

The traditional route requires signing a NESO Connection Agreement. These take the form of: Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement (BEGA), Bilateral Embedded Licence Exemptible Large Power Station Agreement (BELLA), Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA). BCAs are required for new connections to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). Embedded generators can enter either a BEGA or a BELLA.

The Connections Team are responsible for taking parties through the connection process to go live within the BM. Please visit the Connections Team website for some more information .box.transmissionconnections transmissionconnections@neso.energy

Through this process parties will be required to accede to the Connections and Use of System Code (CUSC), through NESO and the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) through ELEXON.

Supplier Route to BM Access

The supplier route requires a party to be a registered supplier with ELEXON who will issue 14 supplier base BMU’s. Parties cannot use these BMU’s to actively participate in the balancing mechanism. Parties will be required to register Additional BMUs to actively participate. Under this route aggregation is permitted but is limited within Grid Supply Point Groups (Distribution Network Owner areas).

Commercial Operations/Account Managers can share the agreement required to actively participate with Additional Supplier BMU’s. This includes an appendix outlining the various technical and Grid Code requirements.

Through this process parties will be required to accede to the Connections Use of System Code (CUSC), through NESO and the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) through ELEXON.

Wider Access to the Balancing Mechanism

Wider access aims to make the Balancing Mechanism market more accessible to non-traditional providers and aggregators.

- Improved route for submission of data at an aggregated level;
- Introducing the concept of a Virtual Lead Party (VLP) who will be able to register BMUs as small as 1MW and
- Enhancing the interface between NESO and market participants so data submission is more efficient and cost-effective for smaller and aggregated units.

More information about Wider Access to the BM is available on the Balancing Mechanism Wider Access page of the NESO website. To discuss opportunities offered by Wider Access and the API, please contact NESO via your account manager or email commercial.operation@neso.energy.com . Alternatively, view the WA API Overview document https://www.neso.energy/document/179746/download on the NESO website.

Virtual Lead Party (VLP)

This route was developed for TERRE (Trans-European Replacement Reserve Exchange), so is the newest route to market and has a different registration process for those wishing to participate in the BM. Please visit this webpage to understand more about TERRE. NESO are also using this route to deliver Wider Access.
This route requires registration as a VLP through NESOs new online registration system. Parties will register Secondary BMUs with both NESO and ELEXON. Through this process, you will also be required to accede to the Connections Use of System Code (CUSC) through the NESO Connections Team (transmissionconnections@nationalgrideso.com) and the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) through ELEXON.

Route	Contract	Relevant NESO Team
Traditional	Connection Agreement, Registered as a Primary Balancing Mechanism Unit (BMU).	Connections Team transmissionconnections@neso.energycom
Supplier	Registered Supplier and Additional Supplier BMUs created.	Commercial Operation (Account Manager) – commercial.operation@nationalenergyso.com
Virtual Lead Party	Registered and completed through our new electronic portal. Parties sign a VLP agreement and units register as secondary BMU's	Commercial Operation - commercial.operation@nationalenergyso.com

System Requirements

There are number of system requirements before a unit can become active in the BM, to ensure they can communicate with the Electricity National Control Centre (ENCC). These systems are:

- Electronic Dispatch Logging (EDL)
- Electronic Data Transfer (EDT)
  - or WA API (Wider Access Application Programming Interface - Combined EDL/EDT functionality)
- Control or System Telephony
- Operational Metering data provision

Please see Section 3 and 4 for further information on EDT, EDL and Control Telephony

Control Communications

Electronic Data Transfer (EDT) and Electronic Dispatch Logging (EDL) are 2 systems which are used for control communications. EDT allows the BMU to submit technical and commercial parameters about the unit and EDL allows the ENCC to send instructions to the BMU.

To ensure the appropriate communications systems are in place parties can:

- Utilise an existing connection that your business already has.
- Utilise another company's connection with their agreement.
- Engage with NESO's IS team on a new WA API (Application Protocol Interface) system. This team may be contacted at box.wideraccessapi@neso.energy.com . Please see the Wider Access webpage for further information.

Operational Metering

Active BMU's are required to supply operational metering data on the volumes they deliver, with variations depending on the type of generating technology. NESO have developed a new cloud-based operational metering solution capable of providing a low-cost, high-volume, future-proof product which meets the needs of NESO and new participants.

Parties can access a high-level document of the new Operational Metering Submission API on the Wider Access webpage. Following this, parties will be granted access to a secure platform for further technical details as they are ready to develop a solution and progress to testing. Please contact OpsMetering OpsMetering@neso.energy

Associated Requirements

CUSC

All users of the NGET Transmission System must accede to the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC). Further information about CUSC may be found on the NESO website at https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/connection-and-use-system-code-cusc Connections Team within NESO offers information and assistance to new customers and may be contacted directly on box.transmissionconnections@neso.energy . Alternatively, the cusc.team@neso.energy.com can help.

eGAMA

eGAMA (Electricity Generation Availability and Margin Analysis) is NESO'S system for receiving submissions of generator availability.

All BCAs must submit capacity availability to eGAMA – i.e., Directly connected to the Transmission Grid System (including NGET, SPT and SHET)

If embedded connected, this will depend on the size in MWs if in the following criteria:

- >= 10MW in North Scotland – SHET
- >= 30MW in South Scotland – SPT
- >= 100MW in England and Wales – NGET
- All physical interconnectors (not the Interconnector BMU pairs)
- All OFTO connected windfarms

For further details on your OC2 eligibility to submit availability to eGAMA or to request access to eGAMA please reference this URL: eGAMA | National Energy System Operator

For any queries regarding eGAMA please contact box.modellingandinsight@neso.energy .

Interconnector BMUs

Companies wishing to trade across the England-France Interconnector or the Moyle, BritNed, EWIC, NEMO, IFA, IFA2, Eleclink and NS Link, Greenlink and Viking Interconnectors must be registered with ELEXON as an Interconnector User. Each Interconnector User will register two BMUs, one for demand and one for generation (being respectively export from and import to the GB Transmission System).

Users of the Interconnectors to other countries must fulfil a number of other criteria with the relevant interconnector owner and the transmission system operator at the remote end of the link, including the signing on to the Access Rules. These Access arrangements are outside the scope of this document, but interested parties are advised to contact the interconnector owner for more information

IFA/IFA2 - interconnectors.customerenquiries@nationalgrid.com

BritNed - customer.enquiries@britned.com

Nemolink - customer.service@nemolink.co.uk

EWIC - eastwestinterconnector@eirgrid.com

Moyle - info@mutual-energy.com

Eleclink- team.eleclink@eleclink.co.uk

North Sea Link - Box.NSL.Operations@nationalgrid.com

Viking Link - interconnectors.customerenquiries@nationalgrid.com

Green Link -

EDT/EDL/API/Control Telephony Communications

Consideration must be given to the timescales required for the installation and testing of communication links if they are required.

NESO now offers two options for dynamic exchange of data – Electronic Data Transfer (EDT) and Dispatch & Logging (EDL) – for the purpose of accessing the BM:

- Connections of new private circuits using NESO's telecommunications network provider via traditional, fixed-line technology
- Connection to the WA API infrastructure using web services and internet-based connectivity.

All new small BM participants can connect directly to the new the WA API infrastructure. However, they may also opt to use an intermediate hosting service, provided by a preferred commercial vendor.

Please note that thresholds (MW) apply to BMUs for permitted use of the WA API, which can be found in the Communications Standards https://www.neso.energy/document/142106/download document on the NESO website.

If using a traditional fixed-line solution, please note that it may take up to 6 months to install and complete. The NESO registration form must be returned to NESO a minimum of 6 months in advance of the anticipated connection date if such communications are required.

It is worth noting for BMUs which the participant has indicated will be BM Active that both EDT and EDL (and Control Telephony, if required) must be fully functional before the BMU can connect to the transmission system.

Please Refer to Sections 3 and 4 for further information.

Data Upload

After NESO registration, there is a subsequent data upload process, if applicable, to upload the BMU to the NESO BM Dispatch System.

The timescales to complete this step should also be factored in when completing the registration form. This part of the process requires a minimum 2-month lead time, prior to an anticipated future data upload date. If new EDT/EDL/CT is required as a part of the registration, the 6-month lead time detailed above will include time for this step to be completed. Please see (Section 5).

Without a requirement for any new EDT/EDL/CT, the NESO registration form must be returned at least 2 months in advance of the anticipated connection date, in order to meet any data upload deadlines as outlined above.

Please note that the registration of the BM unit is not the only pre-requisite for the data upload into NESO systems. Operational signal and metering data for the unit must also be received by NESO systems before the upload of the BMU can be included.

Please refer to Section 5 for further information.

EIC Codes

This is part of NESO Registration. The BMU/s being registered will also require EIC code/s. Please refer to Section 6 of this guide for information.

ELEXON registration in parallel with NESO registration

Registration with ELEXON is separate process to registration with NESO.

Parties should aim to start ELEXON registration processes either prior to, and/or in parallel with, NESO registration. You will require the BMU ID first from NESO (see Section 2).

New entrants to the market must accede to the BSC Framework Agreement before BMU registration can be completed. This is done through ELEXON, who will advise on the process.

ELEXON appoints a Central Registration Agent (CRA) to administer the registration process, and it is to the CRA that the relevant BSCP15 forms are submitted. The CRA will then pass the information to NESO.

Please consult www.elexon.co.uk for guidance on the BSCP documents detailed below. They are mentioned here for awareness only. ELEXON will advise regarding the process and what is required.

BSCP25

For Transmission Connected BMUs, this BSCP relates to Registration of Transmission System Boundary Points, Grid Supply Points, GSP Groups and Distribution Systems Connection Points.

BSCP20

When BMUs are being registered, there is an associated registration process for registering metering systems for generation and demand BMUs (those not registered with the Supplier Meter Registration Service), demand BMUs directly connected to the NGC transmission system, and metering systems directly associated with system connection points.

Although this registration process is a BSC obligation, NESO is heavily reliant on the use of such metering information. Metering data for any metering systems that are registered through BSCP20 are forwarded to NESO through the Central Data Collection Agent I012 daily report. This data helps populate Network Demand data in order that cost-effective planning of the transmission system is facilitated.

BSCP15 4.1 Registration of Primary BM Unit for a CVA Metering System

Please refer to www.elexon.co.uk for detailed guidance.

You should aim to register with ELEXON in parallel to the NESO registration. ELEXON guidance states you should register with them at least 30 working days, prior to the Effective From Date (EFD).

ELEXON will send the BSCP15 4.1 form to NESO for approval of the Effective From Date (EFD) for the BMU. NESO will require the EFD with FPN flag of ‘yes’.

If parties are registering Supplier Additional BM Units they will need to use this form to register with ELEXON.

BSCP15 4.14 Registration of Secondary BM Unit

Please refer to www.elexon.co.uk for detailed guidance.

Only a Virtual Lead Party can register Secondary BM Units. For information on Virtual Lead Parties you can also refer to:

https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/european-network-codes/meetings/introduction-virtual-lead-party

For all enquiries and support on Virtual Lead Parties and Secondary BMUs with NESO please contact commercial.operation@neso.energy.com or your Customer Account Manager.

Other BSCP15 Sections of relevance once a BMU is registered with NESO.

The following may be relevant whilst a BMU is registered with NESO. Please refer to www.elexon.co.uk for detailed guidance if required. NESO can only action the associated changes once the ELEXON paperwork is received.

BSCP15 4.2 De-Registration of Primary BM Unit

Until ELEXON send this form to NESO, we are unable to deregister the BMU from their systems.

BSCP15 4.4 Mid-Season Changes of Positive and Negative Primary BM Unit Metered Volume Estimates

Until ELEXON send NESO this document, NESO are unable to amend the registered figure (MW) held in their systems for the BMU. If data submissions are higher than the maximum validation limit (the registered MW value) for the BMU in NESO systems, please approach ELEXON.

BSCP15 4.11 Change of CVA Primary BM Unit Lead Party (CoPBLP)

Until ELEXON send this form to NESO, NESO are unable to change the lead party of the Primary BMU in their systems. Currently this does not apply to Virtual Lead Parties and Secondary BMUs. The BSC doesn't envisage the lead party of a Secondary BMU will change, just the sites within them.

BSCP15 4.15 De-Registration of Secondary BM Unit

Until ELEXON send NESO this, NESO are unable to deregister the BMU from their systems.

2. Registration Process

Obtain the NESO BMU ID

For parties registering primary BMUs via the compliance, supplier or VLP route to market the NESO BMU ID to be used for the registration should be obtained from bmu.registration@neso.energy .

The NESO BMU Registration team will create the BMU ID and issue it the party in an e-mail.

You will need the BMU ID provided by NESO for your ELEXON registration (See Section 1). The NESO BMU ID is used by ELEXON, and the associated Settlement ID(s) are normally based on the unit name.

The NESO BMU ID should be obtained a minimum of 6 months in advance of your anticipated connection date. This is to allow time for installation of new communication systems – EDT, EDL, Control Telephony - if required (Please refer to Sections 3 and 4) and for directly connected assets in E&W to allow for the Transmission Operator (TO) to notify NESO of the DSS (Data Set Switch) date, following which there may or not be an HVSCC, and for those in Scotland the HVSCC date.

If not a directly connected asset, or if no new EDT/EDL/Control Telephony is required, then at least 2 months should be factored in for the lead times for data upload to NESO systems (See Section 5).

Whilst the overall BMU registration process and timelines remain the same, BMU registration with NESO has recently moved away from the submission of an electronic version of an MS Word document being returned to the registration team to commence registration to using an online portal, the Single Markets Platform (SMP), into which market participants now enter their registration data directly.

The NESO BMU registration team (contactable via bmu.registration@neso.energy will continue to check the data entered by the market participant and subsequently approve participant's applications once they are in submitted status in the tool in much the same way as previously. As noted above, the process for requesting BMU IDs remains as is; please continue to reach out the registration team to request NESO BM unit IDs prior to commencing a registration application as we need to check that these are unique, follow the relevant naming convention for the type of asset being registered and are not in use or have previously been allocated elsewhere.

The SMP online portal can be found at the following webpage Balancing Mechanism Wider Access | National Energy System Operator. For more information on how the platform is intended to work please refer to the Webinar recording of 23 January 2025 which is also accessed from the above page. In addition, you may also find the Q&A sessions material accessed from the Onboarding and Registrations tab on the same page helpful in answering any queries you might have. The SMP user guide is available from the page.

For parties wishing to access the market as a Virtual Lead Party please initially contact commercial.operation@nationalenergyso.com. The same timescales apply if the VLP participant intends to use fixed line communications.

In all events - the application should be completed in SMP at least thirty working days prior to the ELEXON 'Effective From Date' requested by the Market Participant.

Interconnector BMU registrations – if applicable you should also contact the additional relevant parties (Section 1 Associated Requirements) regarding your registration.

Additional Supplier BMUs/Aggregated BMUs

If parties are requesting registration forms for aggregated BMUs, please be aware that there is a required naming convention for these BMUs. These BMU IDs will be prefixed AG-, followed by the appropriate GSP area code and company name.

When requesting a BMU ID if you are aware that there may be future aggregation, please make this known from the outset so that appropriate BMU IDs can be assigned to you. This discussion should take place with your account manager prior to engaging with the BM Registration team.

Complete Registration Data in SMP

Field	Input
Lead Party	
Lead Party Name	The Company or owner who is registering the BM unit
Organisation ID (ELEXON Party ID)	Allocated to the party registering the BMU by ELEXON
EIC Party Code	The EIC Code of the company or owner who is registering the unit. The 'responsible' party.
Contract Type (BCA/BEGA/BELLA)	If registering via the Compliance process, otherwise N/A
Registered Company Number	The Companies House number of the party registering the BM unit.
Lead Party Address	Address of the Company or owner who is registering the BM unit
Contact Name	Name of the contact for the Company or owner who is registering the BM unit, and is authorised to act on their behalf
Contact E-mail	Email address of the Contact Name above
Contact Telephone No.	Telephone number of the Contact Name above
BSC Signatory	If you are a new entrant to the market you must accede to the BSC Framework Agreement before registration with NESO can be completed. Please contact ELEXON to do so. Answer YES.
Trading Agent	
Trading Agent 9 Character Code	For Interconnectors, this field is already completed.
Trading Agent Address	The Trading Agent is the agent that submits BMU data via EDT to NESO. The BMU is unable to participate in the Balancing Mechanism without doing so. The Trading Agent can be the Lead Party or any Trading Agent acting on their behalf. *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*
Contact Name	Contact name for the Trading Agent *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*
Contact E-Mail	Contact e-mail for the Trading Agent *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*
Contact Telephone No	Contact phone number for the Trading Agent *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*
Trading Point	
Trading Point Address	The physical location (address) which houses the hardware that will send EDT submissions for the BMU to NESO. The Trading Point location is not that of a hosted provider (if using hosted solution). *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*

Managers Name, Contact E- mail, Tel No.	Complete accordingly for the Trading Point. Note – another company can be nominated to act as Trading Agent on behalf of the registering party
Operational Trading Point Tel No.	Telephone number of the Trading Point *Please note if registering an Interconnector this section has already been completed and no input is required.*
Operational Trading Point Fax No.	Fax number of the Trading Point
Contact Name	Contact Name for the Trading Point
Contact E-mail	Contact E-mail for the Trading Point
Contact Telephone No	Contact phone number for the Trading Point
EDT System Provider	The name of the hosted or managed service provider (if using) or indicate own
Control Point	
Control Point Address	The physical location of the EDL (Electronic Data Logging) system or the address from which the asset is controlled. This is also the location at which the NESO Electricity Control Centre can contact you. The Control Point location is your own location, not that of a hosted provider (if using hosted solution).
Control Point	The Control Point ID via which this asset will be controlled. *This ID should be known to you. If not please provide the NESO BMU ID of another unit or units which currently use this control point.*
Managers Name. Contact E- Mail, Tel No	Complete accordingly for the Control Point
Operational Control Point Tel No	The 24x7 manned phone number that NESO Electricity Control Centre can use to contact you in real time. This must not be a phone number allocated to an individual.
Operational Control Point Fax No.	The fax number that NESO Electricity Control Centre will use to contact you in real time. Must not be a number for an individual. This must be a 24/7 manned number
EDL System Provider	Either own or the name of the managed service provider used
Control Telephony installed?*	Is the unit equal to or greater than 50MW? If yes provide the control telephony number which the NESO control room will use to contact your control room operative. This number should be contactable 24 x 7.
System Telephony installed?	Is the unit less than 50MW? This must be a dedicated PSTN telephone line installed solely for the purpose of communicating with NESO. This number must be contactable 24x7 dependent upon unit size.
***If not the Operational Control Point Number noted above**	The manned number which will accept telephone instructions for the unit. This number must be contactable 24x7
Location of Manned telephone number	Location of the above telephone number.
Joint System Incident	

Joint System Incident Tel No.	The number to be used in Joint System Incidents between yourself and NESO, and should be manned 24 x 7
OFTO	
OFTO Control Point Address	The address of the OFTO Control Point
Managers Name, Contact E- Mail, Tel No	Complete accordingly for the OFTO Control Point
Joint System Incident Tel No.	The number to be used in Joint System Incidents between yourself and NESO, and should be manned 24/7
BM Unit Details	
NG BMU ID Code (Asset ID)	This will be provided for you via contact with the NESO BMU Registration team. Leave blank for the NESO BMU Registration team to complete
Asset Location (Postcode)	The postcode of the asset (if a single site) or the location of the asset contributing the largest MW if aggregated)
Geo location	For single site or co located, embedded or directly connected assets their precise geographical location or in the case of an aggregation the location of the largest MW contributor in the group.
FPN Flag	Will the BMU use EDT communications? State YES or NO. Please note bid/offer data will not be permitted to be submitted for the unit if NO is selected.
EDL/BM Active Flag (will the BMU use EDL?)	State YES or NO if the BMU will be using EDL and be active in the Balancing Mechanism. Please note bid/offer data will not be permitted to be submitted for the unit if NO is selected
WA API or Fixed-line EDL (will the BMU use EDL or the WA API?)	Tick the relevant section. Please note that connection-criteria exists for use of the API, which can be found in the Communications Standards document
BMU Type	State whether the BM unit is a Generator GEN, Demand unit DEM, External Pool Member EPM (Interconnector), Pump Storage PST, Site, or Additional Supplier.
EELPS Type (Scotland only)	State whether the BM unit is a Generator GEN, Demand unit DEM, External Pool Member EPM (Interconnector), Pump Storage PST, Site or Additional
BMRS Fuel Type	Please select from one of the choices listed. If the fuel type is not listed, please add. The fuel type chosen will relate to the data flow to the electricity market for the unit.
NG Validation Limit	State the maximum MW figure you wish to register for each unit. This is the figure you require the maximum PN to be. This should be expressed as a whole number. If integers are noted they will be rounded down. Please bear in mind you will not be able to submit Physical Notification data submissions above the registered capacity of the unit. For Interconnector BMUs there will be two boxes to complete. One for the Generation unit and one for Demand.

GSP (Grid Supply Point for the Asset)	The infeed (or direct connection) point to the relevant Transmission Owner's System. E.g., Bolney 400kV
Distribution Network Operator	The relevant Distribution Network Owner, into who's system the BMU is connecting into. E.g. Western Power Distribution - WPD
DNO Connection Point	The infeed (or direct connection) to the relevant Distribution Network Owner's System. E.g. Brighton 33kV
Settlement ID (ELEXON ID)	Obtain this from ELEXON when you register with them, and state here if known

Who can sign the NESO application?

In all events where the NESO Registration data requires completion, please refer to the guidelines below.

The Lead Party must be signatory for:

- New NESO registrations
- COPBLP – Change of Primary BM Unit Lead Party
- Changes for BM Active field

It is acceptable for the Trading Agent to sign if:

- Change of Generating Capacity/Demand Capacity
- Change of Trading Agent informed to us (CoTA)

The Control Point or Lead Party can sign for:

- Change of Control Point/Control Point address changes

NESO process the application

Upon receipt of the completed application and the associated BSCP15 4.1/4.14 form, the BMU Registration team will begin the registration process. The team require 30 working days for this part of the process.

Prior to/during this time your Elexon registration (Section1) can be progressing in parallel.

If the unit is to be BM active parties should complete their applications NESO in the timescales advised in Section 5, in order to meet the target data upload date required.

EDT/EDL/WA API/Control Telephony requirement

NESO will review the information the participant provides in SMP in relation to Control Point and Trading Point/Trading Agent. Although the BMU details alone can be registered much sooner, the lead times to install new EDT/EDL/Control Telephony, if required, will take longer to complete.

If new EDT/EDL/Control Telephony is required, NESO IT teams will liaise with you regarding your requirement.

Past experience has shown that participants can take up to 6 months or more to install and test the required fixed line communication links with NESO. This is likely to increase the lead time for BMU registration (with Elexon) beyond the minimum 30 working days laid down in BSCP15, a factor that interested parties should keep in mind with their Elexon registration. This is because the Elexon BMU registration process requires NESO to approve the Effective From Date, however NESO can only do so once the required communication links are ready.

See Section 3 and 4 for further information on EDT, EDL and Control Telephony including information on the new Wider Access Application Programming Interface (WA API) which the NESO Electricity System Operator (NESO) has in put place, to enable access to the GB Balancing Mechanism for small generating units.

ELEXON send NESO the completed BSCP15 documentation

The Effective From Date (EFD) is the date the BMU is registered in the CRA (Central Registration Agent) systems and determines the actual time and date that the BM Unit will be recognised in the Settlement System. Please contact ELEXON for more information regarding EFDs.

BSCP15 refers to the TCCD (Transmission Company Commissioning Date). This is the date from which the BMU is first traded through NESO systems. In the case of a BMU that is also being registered with ELEXON for the first time, it should correspond to the EFD of the BMU.

Upon ELEXON registration completion, ELEXON will send NESO the BSCP15 forms for approval of the Effective From Date (EFD).

Following receipt of this, NESO must then issue an acceptance or an objection statement to ELEXON within 5 working days.

Acceptance or rejection of the EFD by NESO

NESO can only approve this EFD if the Trading Agent for the BMU has working EDT communications.

Once NESO accept this date, the unit is entered into NESO systems, and data will be published to the market for the BMU. Data submissions relating to periods from the TCCD onwards may be made, in line with the Data Validation, Consistency & Defaulting Rules6

Acceptance or rejection of the EFD by NESO if the unit was previously not registered with ELEXON

The BMU may have been registered with NESO, but had not registered with ELEXON previously.

If parties wish to register with ELEXON, they will later send the completed paperwork to NESO for approval of the EFD. If it is also your intention to become BM Active, please consider data upload timelines in Section 5 and information on page 19-20.

3. Trading Agent – EDT considerations

EDT – Electronic Data Transfer

It is a requirement of the Grid Code that any BMU registered with NESO must submit an accurate indication of its intended MW position, in the form of a Physical Notification (PN). This is achieved by means of an EDT link, (an ISDN or leased line with associated hardware and software). The link is paid for and is the responsibility of the Lead Party. It is used for the submission of dynamic data and parameters, for example, MEL/MIL (Maximum Export Limit / Maximum Import Limit) data and, as required, day-ahead dynamic data and BOD (Bid Offer Data).

A list of EDT suppliers with software type tested can be provided by NESO on request.

Participants make EDT submissions to the NESO systems using an account and password provided by NESO. Each user (called a Trading Agent) is identified by a unique nine-letter code.

It is possible for a participant to operate more than one Trading Agent; conversely, a participant may choose to have a third-party act as their Trading Agent and submit data on their behalf, thus avoiding the need for EDT installation.

Each Trading Agent must have identified contact personnel for the receipt of passwords and to agree any password changes. The physical location from which EDT files are submitted is called a Trading Point.

It should be noted that once you elect to use EDT for a Trading Agent, PN submissions may only be made using EDT; other forms of communication, including facsimile, email and telephone submissions, are not permitted.

If no new EDT is required, at least 2 months should still be factored in for lead times for data upload to NESO systems (See Section 5).

Complete the application

Once the NESO BMU Registration team receive the completed application, the Trading Agent and Trading Point for the BMU can be identified.

If it is identified that new EDT is required for the Trading Point location, then the BMU Registration team will create the unique nine-letter Trading Agent code.

EDT is the responsibility of the 3rd party generation company/trader. Please refer to A Guide to EDT, EDL and CT with NESO.

Network Access Tests and BPITs Testing

New EDT systems must undergo Business Process Interface Tests (BPITs) before they may be used for data submission. NESO is only responsible for carrying out the tests at the NESO end and the generator and their suppliers conduct the tests from their locations and are responsible for any costs incurred there.

Completion of new EDT

Upon completion of NESO testing, a Qualification certificate is issued to the participant. Completion can take up to 6 months.

The BMU Registration team will be in touch to complete processes such as issuing the password and requesting authorised password changers.

Prior to your connection date/completion you may also be requested to send a 0 PN to test the EDT.

Change of Trading Agent

At any point in time, each BMU within the NESO systems is assigned to a particular Trading Agent.

A Change of Trading Agent (CoTA) - often associated with a CoPBLP (Change of Lead Party) - changes the BMU assignment in relation to data, at an agreed date and time.

A CoTA is agreed between the party and NESO. It does not involve ELEXON or the CRA. NESO require 10 working days' notice if the "new" Trading Agent already exists and is qualified and tested.

Since all Trading Agents must have completed Qualification, if the CoTA is to a new Trading Agent requiring new EDT, the lead time will depend upon the time taken for the new Trading Agent to complete qualification. The effective from date for the change of Trading Agent can only be agreed by NESO once new EDT is completed/known to be complete by then.

How to request a Change of Trading Agent

An updated version of the registration application is required for NESO to ascertain and effect the changes required. The Trading Party can sign. Please contact bmu.registration@neso.energy if you have any queries.

Change of Lead Party (CoPBLP) -Trading Agent considerations

If a BMU is transferred from one Lead Party to another, the process is known as a Change of Primary BMU Lead Party, or CoPBLP. This is covered under BSCP15/4.11. The CoPBLP process needs to be undertaken with ELEXON. NESO will also require an updated copy of the NESO registration form to be completed for the BMUs in question, to ascertain the changes required.

Timescales

The CoPBLP is subject to 5 working days' notice with ELEXON. However, the time for NESO to effect the change will depend upon the Trading Agent and Control Point requirements. It may be possible for a CoPBLP to be implemented by NESO in 5 working days if there is no Change of Trading Agent.

If a change of Trading Agent is involved:

- If the new Trading Agent has existing certified EDT with NESO (already in use) then 5 working days
- If new EDT is required, 6-months lead time will apply

As a starting point the party should contact bmu.registration@neso.energy so that requirements can be discussed and associated timescales identified.

4. Control Point – EDL Considerations

EDL – Electronic Dispatch Logging

Any BMU (exceptions apply for Interconnector BMUs) may be designated to be Active in the Balancing Mechanism. This means that Bid and Offer volumes and prices may be offered to NESO, as System Operator, to be used in balancing generation and demand on the Transmission System. The Bid Offer Data is submitted via EDT, but a separate communications system, EDL, is used by NESO to relay Bid Offer Acceptances to the Control Points of such BMUs, over a permanent link. The EDL communications line is funded by NESO.

NESO also allows the EDL link to be used by participants to submit short-term changes to MEL/MIL data and for real-time dynamic parameter submissions.

If no new EDL/Control Telephony is required, at least 2 months should still be factored in for lead times for data upload to NESO systems (See Section 5).

Exemption

If you elect for the BMU not to be BM Active, there is no requirement for the Control Point to have EDL. The generator will not be allowed to submit Bid/Offer data (via EDL) unless they participate in the Balancing Mechanism.

We do still require the Control Point information to be provided in full on the NESO registration form.

Control Telephony

If fixed line EDL is being installed, Control Telephony will also be installed by default. Control Telephony also requires a 6-month lead time to install. As we progress our Wider Access work we will review the options regarding control telephony for smaller BMU's.

If a unit has no EDL, System Telephony is the usual recommendation for BMUs under 50MW. For System Telephony, just a dedicated PSTN line for the sole use of contact with the NESO is required. This would be funded by the market participant.

Complete the Registration application

Once the NESO BMU Registration team receive notification that the application is complete, the Control Point for the BMU can be identified.

If new EDL is required, our IT teams will contact you to discuss and progress the EDL installation with you.

The same applies with Control Telephony – if it is identified that Control Telephony is required the NESO IT team will be in touch to progress.

Please refer to A Guide to EDT, EDL and CT with NESO.

BPITs Testing

New EDL systems must undergo Business Process Interface Tests (BPITs) before they may be used for data submission. NESO is only responsible for carrying out the tests at the NESO end and the generator and their suppliers conduct the tests from their locations and are responsible for any costs incurred there.

Completion of new EDL

Upon completion of the NESO testing a Qualification certificate is issued to the participant. Completion can take 6 months or more.

After EDL completion, and data upload of the BMU to our systems, one of the final steps would be for your Control Point to configure the EDL at your end and send a 'Path' for the BMU. For any queries regarding this please contact bmu.registration@neso.energy.com.

Change of Control Point

Each BMU within the NESO systems is controlled via a particular Control Point.

Since all Control Points must have completed Qualification, if the change is to a new Control Point requiring new EDL/CT, the lead time will depend upon the time taken for the new Control Point to complete qualification. NESO can only agree the date for the new Control Point to take effect once new EDL/CT is completed/known to be complete by then.

When the change of Control Point does occur, you will notice a brief interruption to the EDL communication to us (few minutes).

If the change involves a move to an existing functional and tested control point such changes are co-ordinated by NESOs IT team and generally take place on an agreed date approximately every 6 weeks. Please contact bmu.registration@neso.energy.com who will put you in touch with the IT team to arrange timing.

When can the Control Point change occur?

A change of Control Point may be requested for an agreed date but NESO's IT teams will do their best to facilitate this date but may not always be able to do so due to other planned scheduled works which would preclude the change taking place at that time. Considerations for the agreed date for a control point change (some may apply to a control point move) include:

- ·Whether EDL is complete?
- ·Whether CT is complete?
- If EDL/CT is complete/present, when the next NESO data upload occurs (Section 5), or as above on a mutually agreed date dependent on availability of NESO IT teams (may also depend on operational circumstances on the planned date)
- ·The date must always be a weekday and will usually take place between 10:00 and 11:00

If the Control Point move involves a change to the EDL software being used, the BPITS testing process must be performed again against the new software and confirmed satisfactory.

How to request a Change of Control Point

An updated version of your BMU application in SMP will be required.

Please contact bmu.registration@neso.energy.com if you have any queries.

BM Active change and associated Control Point change

BM Active

In some cases, a party may not have registered with ELEXON under BSCP15, but with NESO only, depending on the connection agreement, e.g. BELLA agreements. If later the party wishes to participate in the Balancing Mechanism and undertake the BSCP15 process with ELEXON, the ELEXON timescales will still apply.

How to request a Change to become BM Active

An updated SMP BMU application is required for NESO to ascertain and effect the changes required. The Lead Party can sign. Please allow a minimum 2-month lead time.

The updated application should indicate that the BMU now wishes to become BM Active. A Control Point with an EDL connection is a requirement for this.

When can the Change to become BM Active occur?

Regardless of EDL requirement, NESO require a minimum of 2 months' notice for such changes. This is to allow time for the data upload for the change (See Section 5). The NESO registration form must be returned with this minimum timescale.

It may be a compliance requirement of the BMU's contract to have EDL. In the cases of BELLAs moving to BEGAs these must have an Operational Notification and satisfy the technical requirements of their BEGA Appendix F (EDT/EDL/CT) etc.

Change of Lead Party (CoPBLP) — Control Point considerations

If a (Primary) BMU is transferred from one Lead Party to another, the process is known as a Change of Primary BMU Lead Party, or CoPBLP. This is covered under BSCP15/4.11. The CoPBLP process needs to be undertaken with ELEXON. NESO will also require an updated version of the registration application to be completed to ascertain the changes required.

Timescales

The CoPBLP is subject to 5 working days' notice with ELEXON. However, the time for NESO to effect the change will depend upon the Control Point requirements. It may be possible for a CoPBLP to be implemented by NESO in 5 working days, if there is no Change of Control Point.

If a change of Control Point is involved:

- If the new Control Point has existing certified EDL with NESO (already in use) then 5 working days
- If new EDL is required, 6-months lead time will apply.
- If Control Telephony changes are involved 2 months' lead time may apply

Please get in touch with bmu.registration@neso.energy.com so that requirements can be discussed and associated timescales identified.

5. Data Upload to NESO Systems

Following on from registration, the BMU is uploaded to the NESO BM Dispatch system. Please note Interconnector BMUs, Supplier Demand BMUs, and Supplier Base BMUs do not require this.

These data uploads are known as 'SORT Static Configuration Updates', which occur on a two-monthly cycle.

Key points to note for data updates

Dates are planned with a 2-month gap between the last update and the next occurrence. However, the actual date of the last data upload will determine the next date.

Dates can be revised nearer real time, depending on:

- ·Other system outages (including late notice emergency system outages)
- ·On the day, Control Room and system conditions may stop the data upload going ahead

Changes to become BM Active can only occur during a data update. If requesting to become BM Active when previously not, either 6 or 2-month lead times will apply depending on EDT/EDL/CT requirements.

Regularity of Updates

Please consult the table in Appendix A for current planned Data Upload dates.

The cut-off dates listed denote when the NESO registration team must be in receipt of the fully completed NESO registration form (if relevant) (or the asset must be in submitted and approved status in the Single Markets Platform), The team must also be in receipt of, and have approved, the Elexon BSCP15 4.1 form (primary BM units) or the BSCP15 4.14 form (secondary units) and have agreed the effective from date requested by the market participant and Elexon for the registration. BPITS (Business Process Interface Tests), if required, should also be completed and certified by this time. Finally operational signal tests must also be in place and signed off by NESO prior to the cut-off date for each upload. Control or system telephony for the asset must also be place.

Directly connected assets in E&W should factor in an additional step in the registration process. This is to allow for the DSS (Data Set Switch) programme for the asset to take place (following which there may or may not be an HVSCC (High Voltage System Change Certificate) to enact) and for those in Scotland the planned HVSCC date. The relevant transmission owner will advise you of the dates planned for these activities.

The DSS programme and HVSCC must have been completed and any additional testing required to enable the opsmetering@neso.energy team to sign off operational signals no later than the cut-off date for the SORT upload being targeted.

bmu.registration@neso.energy.com can be contacted for confirmation of the next available dates if you have any concerns regarding meeting timescales.

These dates are dependent upon operating conditions on the day and are subject to change.

Appendix A – BM Systems Upload Dates

BM Systems Upload Dates 2026

Month	Notification by	Submission by	Cut-off date	Implementation	Back-up date
	Confirm which units intend to enter SORT and their Operational Metering Signals test have been booked	Complete and submit unit and asset registration in SMP	Complete any remaining requirements for BMU Registration NESO confirm the units are included in SORT	Planned date for NESO to add the new BMUs to the BM Systems	Reserve date in case operational system issues prevent Implementation on the day
May	--	--	28/04/2026	20/05/2026	27/05/2026
July	26/05/2026	16/06/2026	23/06/2026	15/07/2026	22/07/2026
September	04/08/2026	25/08/2026	01/09/2026	23/09/2026	30/09/2026
November	06/10/2026	27/10/2026	03/11/2026	25/11/2026	02/12/2026

We are currently working to schedule dates for 2027 and will publish them as soon as they are known.

BM Systems Upload Dates (SORT Upload)

Appendix B – EIC Codes

All BMUs registering with NESO will require EIC codes (Energy Identification Codes).

The Energy Identification Coding scheme (EIC) provides a unique identification of the market participants and other entities active within the Energy Internal European Market (IEM). It is widely used in the Electronic Document Interchange (EDI).

The EIC is only a code scheme and it is not a right or authorisation to trade energy. NESO are the electricity Local Issuing Office (LIO) for Great Britain and are authorised to issue EIC Codes. Please note EIC codes must have been requested by the cut-off date for the SORT data update being targeted.

How to obtain the EIC code

Please visit https://www.neso.energy/lio-eic-codes for information on EIC codes and application forms to apply for EIC codes.

The EIC codes you will require will be W (unit) and/or X (party).

Please contact .box.lio@neso.energy for all EIC related enquiries.

How does the EIC code impact my NESO Registration?

The EIC code application is separate to the NESO registration process. You do not need to wait for registration to complete before applying for an EIC code/s. Whilst progressing your registration with NESO you should separately contact box.lio@nationalenergyso.com to commence your EIC application.

You should aim to obtain your EIC code/s in advance as they will ultimately be included in ELEXON generation reports (B1610).

Further information ENTSO-E

For detailed information regarding EIC codes please visit the ENTSO-E webpage https://www.entsoe.eu/data/energy-identification-codes-eic/

NESO submit all issued EIC codes to the ENTSO-E CIO (Central Issuing office) for their approval. ENTSO-E approved EIC codes can be found here: https://www.entsoe.eu/data/energy-identification-codes-eic/eic-approved-codes/

Appendix C – References

1. The **Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC)** contains the rules and governance for trading in the Balancing Mechanism and Imbalance Settlement process. All licensed electricity companies are obliged to be a party to the BSC; other parties may choose to do so. ELEXON is the Balancing and Settlement Code Company (BSCCo) defined in and created by the BSC. The BSC and the associated Balancing and Settlement Code Procedures (BSCPs) can be found on the ELEXON website www.elexon.co.uk, under BSC and Related Documents.
2. NESO and users of the Transmission System are required to comply with the Grid Code. The Grid Code covers all material technical aspects relating to connections to and the operation and use of the Transmission System or, in as far as relevant to the operation and use of the Transmission System, the operation of the electric lines and electrical plant connected to it or to a distribution system. The Grid Code also specifies data which system users are obliged to provide to NESO for use in planning and operation of the Transmission System, including demand forecasts, availability of generating sets and intended dates of overhaul of large generating sets. The Grid Code may be found on the website at: https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/codes/grid-code-gc
3. The detailed rules for gaining access to and use of the England-France Interconnector, including the participation requirements, the tender process and the auction process. The IFA User Agreement is the agreement between users and the joint owners of the England-France Interconnector giving effect to the IFA Access Rules. Please see website for further details: http://ifa1interconnector.com/news/updated-access-rules-notice-of-go-live-1-jan-2018/
4. The **Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC)** is the legal document which forms the basis of the contractual framework for connection to, and use of, National Grid's high voltage transmission system. Holders of a generation, distribution or supply license are required to be a party to the CUSC Framework Agreement and comply with the CUSC. Information about the CUSC and the associated charges may be found on the NESO website under https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/codes/connection-and-use-system-code-cusc
5. The **Data Validation, Consistency & Defaulting Rules** is a Grid Code Associated document, which defines the rules for data validation and consistency checking which will be applied to Balancing Mechanism data received from Trading Agents and Control Points. It also covers defaulting rules to be applied in the absence of expected data. This document may be found on the NESO website, under: https://www.neso.energy/document/34066/download