Quick Reserve Phase 2 Onboarding

July 2025

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Onboarding webinar

1. Key dates
2. Additional data requirements
3. Prequal overview
4. SMP onboarding
5. OBP & Operational Metering
6. Settlements – API & Performance Metering
7. EAC
8. Day one timeline
9. Q&A

QR phase 2 Key Messages

Key Dates
- Ofgem Decision – 4th July 2025
- Commence Onboarding - Tuesday 8th July 2025
- Intended first phase 2 auction for non-BM access – 29th July 2025 (14:00)
- Intended first phase 2 operational day for non-BM access – 30th July 2025 (commencing at 23:00 29 July)

Onboarding
Providers are encouraged to reach out to your Account Manager ASAP. You'll be supported through the process to help you be ready for day 1 .

Service Terms and Procurement Rules
- **Service Terms –** Effective from 23:00 on 29 July
- **Procurement Rules -** Effective upon publication

To be published upon Ofgem decision (4th July 2025)

Enhanced Data Publication – inclusion of right to publish Availability Data and Baselines

Performance Metering – existing BM providers (and new non-BM) must commence submission of Performance Metering through Settlements API. Start testing now

Key requirements for QR Phase 2

There are some key process and system requirements being introduced for QR Phase 2 that affect all providers.

Performance Metering

All providers (BM and non-BM) must submit Performance Metering data for the Quick Reserve service through a new Settlement API interface with NESO

BM providers must ensure that full testing is complete before Phase 2 to ensure API interface and file submissions are fully operational.

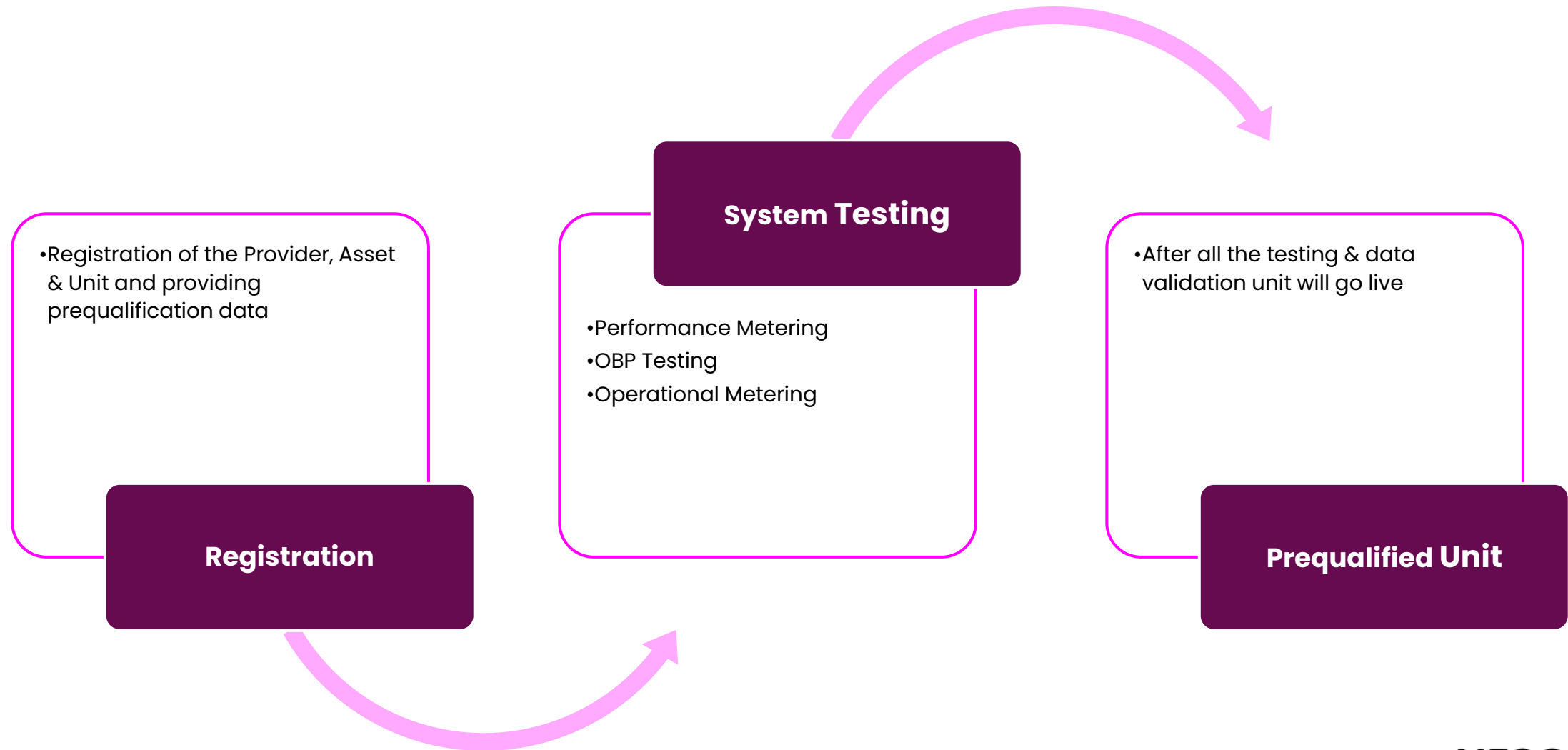**Non-BM providers** will need to complete full testing before pre-qualification is completed.

Failure to submit data through the API route from [phase 2 go live] will result in no payment for the service.

Balancing Systems

Non-BM providers are required to interface with NESO's Open Balancing Platform (OBP) for declarations (inc Baselines), and dispatch and for operational metering through our iHOST platform - with full testing required before prequalification is completed.

Any questions please contact commercial.operation@neso.energy

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Prequalification Steps

Registration

- Registration of the Provider, Asset & Unit and providing prequalification data

System Testing

- Performance Metering
- OBP Testing
- Operational Metering

Prequalified Unit

- After all the testing & data validation unit will go live

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BM and non-BM Quick Reserve Requirements

Onboarding Step	System	BM	Non-BM
Registration of Units	SMP	✔	✔
Form B Submission	SMP	✔	✔
Receipt of CIAM credentials	Contract Mgr	✔	✔
Performance Metering Testing	STAR	✔	✔
Balancing System Testing	OBP	N/A	✔
Operational Metering Testing	iHost	N/A	✔
Receive EAC Access	EAC	✔	✔
Receipt of Form C	SMP	✔	✔

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SMP Onboarding

The Single Markets platform prequalification will open to providers Tuesday 8th July

In preparation for service go live we recommend new providers enter SMP, and begin setting themselves up
 for Quick Reserve Phase 2

- Set up your company on SMP

- Create your Assets and Units you wish to use for Quick Reserve phase 2

- Align your Units and Assets within SMP, for prequalification

- Submit new units for the service (updated minutes to seconds)

- Ensure Non-BM assets have MPAN populated for ABSVD validation

- Submitted units can then be used to trigger OBP testing

- Performance metering submission via API testing

- Operational metering submission via iHost

SMP Guidance is available online, as a user guide and demo videos and if you have any issues with SMP, please contact commercial.operation@neso.energy

What cannot be done at this point

- Full approval at Prequalification for the Quick Reserve service in SMP, including signing up to the service terms and procurement rules

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OBP

Providers can expect to follow the steps to the right throughout the **registration** stage when looking to verify their OBP credentials, ready for **prequalification** of the service.

Market Participant Testing (MPT) intends to **prove connectivity, functional and technical integration, and conformance to the Service Terms and Business Logic for the Service** and is part of prequalification. It includes, but is not limited to:
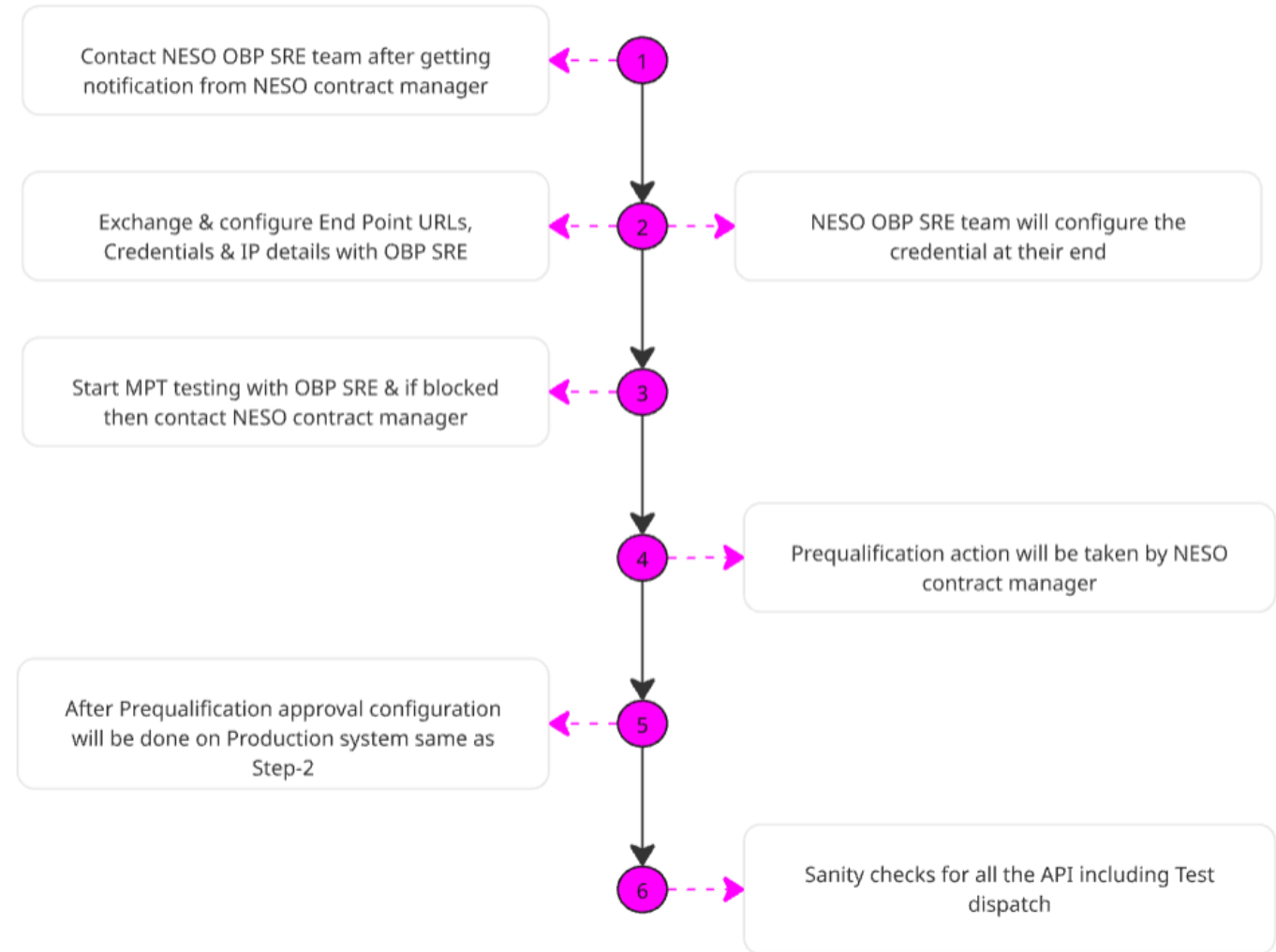
- Provision of unit PNs & Heartbeats

- Provision of Service Availability and Utilisation Price Declarations meeting contracts and crossover obligations, including Emergency redeclarations, as well as Optional service

- Process dispatch & cease instructions, with unit instruction profiles (including cross-overs) matching prequalified & dynamic parameters

- Error scenarios, not just the "happy path"

Helpful Information:
- Contract manager – commercial.operation@neso.energy
- OBP SRE Team – box.sre-notification@neso.energy
- OBP Web Service
- OBP Business Logic (NBM Quick Reserve)

Market Participants Actions | NESO Actions

1 — Contact NESO OBP SRE team after getting notification from NESO contract manager

2 — Exchange & configure End Point URLs, Credentials & IP details with OBP SRE | NESO OBP SRE team will configure the credential at their end

3 — Start MPT testing with OBP SRE & if blocked then contact NESO contract manager

4 — Prequalification action will be taken by NESO contract manager

5 — After Prequalification approval configuration will be done on Production system same as Step-2

6 — Sanity checks for all the API including Test dispatch

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Operational Metering

Existing Service Providers

Existing providers who are already providing Operational Metering for other balancing services should connect with their account manager at commercial.operation@neso.energy to submit evidence of their existing Operational Metering data.

New Service Providers

New providers need to register themselves for providing Operational Metering service and should connect with their account manager to ask for the Pro-forma & configuration file:

- The Pro-forma needs to be completed for the system configuration. Single Pro-forma can be used for more than one unit. And should be sent to the **Operational Metering team** (box.SmallBmuOpsMeter-neso@neso.energy) copying in your account manager.

NESO / Nortech will agree a date for connection of Operational Metering with the Market Participant.

1. NESO / Nortech provides Market Participant with configuration data
2. Market Participant and NESO test end to end connectivity and data points
3. Provider will receive confirmation about the connection

[Follow the operation metering technical document](#) for any technical details.

Performance Metering requirements

Performance Metering data for **both BM and NBM** units is expected with a second-by-second granularity, so that the meter value provided can be used for the settlement purposes.

Via the new API, a file will represent 1 submission per unit, for a given day, for contracted or optional settlement periods plus subsequent settlement period (for cross overs), with 1 data point recorded per second.

The table below refers to the file structure.

QR_UID_YYYYMMDD(Contracted_Day).csv

Column Name	Column Description	Data Type	Mandatory/ Optional	Sample Value
NESOUnitID	NESO Unit Code	String	Mandatory	ABCD-1
DateTimeofMeterReading	Datetime of the meter reading in GMT and format is YYYY-MM-DDTHH24:mm:ss	Date	Mandatory	2024-10-17T23:00:00
MeterReading	Meter reading in MW	Numeric (up to 6 dec. places)	Mandatory	3.9

More detail can be found in the 'API Specification' section of our **Quick Reserve Performance Metering Data File Specification** document published in the NESO website.

Contact Details: Contract manager, Commercial.operation@neso.energy
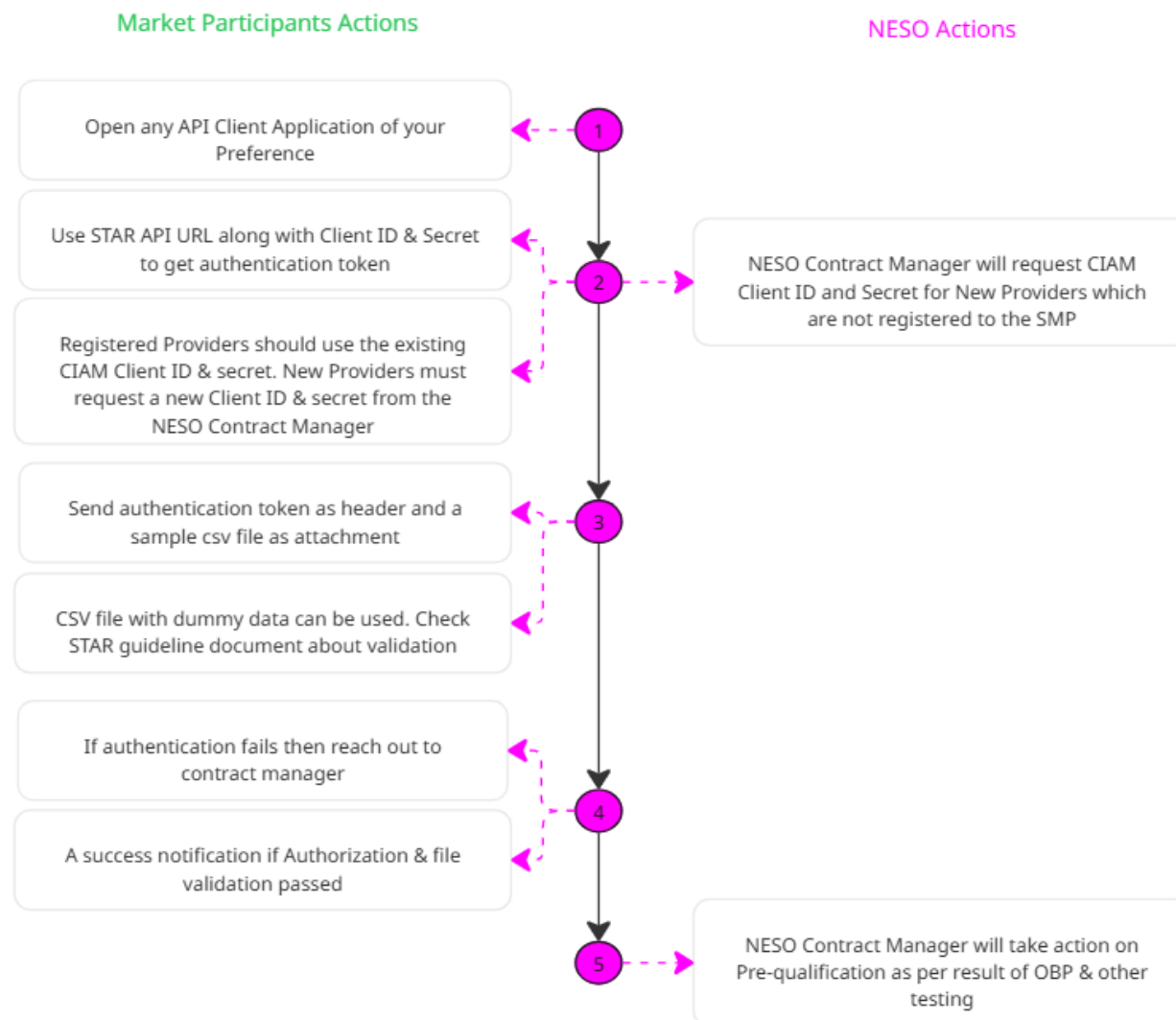
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Performance Metering onboarding

Performance Metering set-up and testing is a requirement by **both BM and non-BM** participants.

Providers can expect to follow the steps to the right throughout the **'registration'** stage when looking to verify Performance Metering, ready for prequalification of the service.

More detail can be found in the 'API Specification' section of our **Quick Reserve Performance Metering Data File Specification** document published in the NESO website.

Contact Details: Contract manager, Commercial.operation@neso.energy

Market Participants Actions

NESO Actions

Open any API Client Application of your Preference — 1

Use STAR API URL along with Client ID & Secret to get authentication token

2 — NESO Contract Manager will request CIAM Client ID and Secret for New Providers which are not registered to the SMP

Registered Providers should use the existing CIAM Client ID & secret. New Providers must request a new Client ID & secret from the NESO Contract Manager

Send authentication token as header and a sample csv file as attachment — 3

CSV file with dummy data can be used. Check STAR guideline document about validation

If authentication fails then reach out to contract manager

A success notification if Authorization & file validation passed — 4

5 — NESO Contract Manager will take action on Pre-qualification as per result of OBP & other testing

Performance Metering API

Service Providers need to set up an API Client application to be able to send requests to Settlement APIs. Your Contract Manger will request CIAM client ID and secret for new providers who are not already registered to SMP.

As tested by NESO

- NESO has used 'Postman' client for internal testing.

- It is easy to set up and user-friendly.

- NESO team can demonstrate and support the set-up of 'Postman' client for Service Providers.

- Please refer to our guidance document for step-wise process that should followed during testing.

Other options

- Service providers are free to use any other API Client application (example –SOAP UI, or Insomnia)

- Service providers can also use custom code or command-line HTTP tools like cURL.

Link: **Quick Reserve Performance Metering Data File Specification**

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EAC Auction Design

Single market for response and reserve
- Frequency Response services (Dynamic Containment, Dynamic Moderation, Dynamic Regulation) and the new Reserve services (Quick Reserve, Slow Reserve) are procured simultaneously in a single, pay-as-clear auction

Co-optimisation
- The auction clearing algorithm is able to select between alternative provider offers and alternate NESO requirements to better optimise the overall market clearing

Sell order submission
- Sell Orders can be submitted through either 1) Market Participant User Interface (UI) or 2) EAC API.

Overholding
- The auction clearing algorithm may clear a quantity of service in excess of NESO requirements if this better optimises the market

Useful links
- EAC Webpage: [Enduring Auction Capability (EAC) | National Energy System Operator](#)
- EAC Market Design Explainer: [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- EAC API Guide: [Home](#)
- Recording on co-optimisation: [QR 1 drop-in session (24 October 2024)](#)

EAC Auction Access

Sandbox Environment

- Providers are able to access the sandbox environment to test bid submissions via the UI or API calls.
- Sandbox UI URL – https://sandbox.eac.neso.production.n-side.com/marketparticipant
- SMP Registration is NOT required for entry into the sandbox
- If you wish to register for sandbox or require API connectivity information, please contact sherry.li@neso.energy

Production Environment

- Providers will need to register themselves on SMP for unit registration and should connect with their account manager for more information.
- Once fully approved you will be able to access the EAC production environment via CIAM authentication https://eac.neso.production.n-side.com/marketparticipant
- API credentials for the production environment will need to be requested from minesh.solanki@neso.energy

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Day 1 Activities

Service Terms and Procurement Rules

- **Service Terms –** Effective from 23:00 on 29 July (D)
- **Procurement Rules –** Effective upon publication

To be published upon Ofgem decision (4th July 2025)

Prequalification Complete (SMP) - Form C issue commences from 09:00 on 28th July (D-2)

Auction Access

- First units will have access to EAC from 15:00 on 28th July (D-2), and eligible to make submission for the 14:00 auction on 29th July (D-1).
- Final EAC registrations for first auction to be done by 10:30 on 29th July (D-1)

OBP Access

- First access will be enabled from 00:00 on 29th July (D-1)
- We ask providers not to submit declarations for any period prior to 23:00 29th July (D)
- Baselines (PN) should be submitted shortly after 17:00 on 29th July (D-1) for 23:00 29th July (D)

Performance Metering

- Begin submitting Performance Metering from 23:00 on 31st July (D+2)

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Q&A

Thanks for attending