
2021 Roundtable meeting with Inside Information and Transparency

Platforms

18 November 2021 from 15:30 to 16:30

Microsoft Teams session

MINUTES

(Chatham House Rule, no names in quotes during the meeting)

Represented institutions	Remarks
ACER, MIT department	
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Bulgartransgaz	
Central European Gas Hub AG	
Deutsche Börse AG	
Elia Group	
Energinet Elsystemansvar A/S	
ENTSOG	
European Energy Exchange AG	
Gas Transmission Operator GAZ-SYSTEM S.A.	
Gassco AS	
Gestore dei Mercati Energetici S.p.A.	
Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE)	
Nord Pool AS	
OMI, Polo Español S.A. (OMIE), MIBGAS S.A.	
SEEBURGER AG	
Solien, s.r.o.	
Towarowa Gielda Energii S.A.	
Webware Internet Solutions GmbH	
Yélé Consulting	

1. OPENING

1.1 Introduction and approval of the agenda

After the welcome address and the introduction of the presenters, the agenda of the meeting was approved.

2. ACER ACTIVITIES

2.1 Data polling issues

ACER presented the most common errors made by Market Participants (MPs) and/or IIPs in the reporting of Urgent Market Messages (UMMs), either in the content of the message, or in incorrectly applying the schemas for reporting, which causes data polling issues. The two main errors that ACER highlighted were the reporting of empty XML elements when the field is optional instead of leaving the element out altogether (e.g. <fieldName></fieldName>) and the reporting of EICs not compliant with the EIC value type pattern for specific fields. A participant inquired whether including the optional fields within the XML file and reporting the field with a blank space as value would be considered compliant with the schema. ACER responded that this depended on whether the field had a defined pattern, but that in general, this approach should be avoided.

In this regard, ACER asked the participants whether they apply any data validation to ensure compliance with the schema. Some participants reported that in some cases, the service agreements in place between the IIPs and the MPs do not allow to use any validation rules in the platform and that usually the only check in place is the one on the 16-character limit of the EIC. They also specified that validation is easier for the UMMs reported through a platform's graphical user interface (GUI) but difficult to apply for UMMs reported through a web service interface, and applying validation only for some interfaces would mean inconsistent treatment of data submitted by MPs. In relation to the question posed by ACER, two platforms informed that they have validation rules during the on-boarding of new MPs. In their intervention, they specified that the EIC-X codes are checked against the ENTSO-E database, and the EICs for market area are checked against internal databases. Based on this feedback, ACER concluded that validation is possible to some extent.

2.2 Way Forward

ACER informed the participants that it is exploring the feasibility of sending automatized reports to the IIPs with the status of the seven data polling per day and the number of records collected per each polling. Such reports would be sent both for approved IIPs and for the IIPs in phase 2 of the IIP assessment. Moreover, ACER specified that in the current pull-module based on RSS feeds, the UMM data collection implementation was kept rather simple. The participants reported that they would be more than happy to have the report available in order to check the status of their UMMs, since they currently did not receive feedback on whether their message arrived to ACER correctly.

2.3 Electronic format for reporting – scheduled date for termination

As this topic was covered during the 2021 Joint roundtable meeting with AEMPs and Inside Information and Transparency Platforms, ACER confirmed that the agreed date to discontinue UMMGasSchema_V1 and UMM ElectricitySchema_V1 was 1 June 2022.

3. AOB

In their final remarks, the chair of the meeting thanked all the participants for attending the 2021 ACER Roundtables. Both ACER and the participants agreed that an important benefit of such meetings was the possibility of direct and fruitful interaction.