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A checklist for a new electricity supplier

1 Get familiar with the existing instructions

At the beginning it the most important to become familiar with the current instructions, technical instructions and standards for information exchange on the electricity retail market can be found from Fingrid's [Datahub Services portal](#). At [Finnish Energy's website](#) you can also find some important instructions such as 'Electricity market procedural instructions' and 'Message exchange procedural instruction'.

The amendment to the Electricity Market Act concerning the services of the centralised information exchange system for electricity market entered into force on 1 February 2019. The amendment obliges electricity market participants (suppliers and DSOs) acting on the Finnish retail market to use Datahub's services. The market participants must also take the preparatory actions required to implement Datahub in accordance with [the Go-Live plan for centralised information exchange services \(Datahub\) for electricity market and Data Migration Plan](#).

The market participant must make their own go-live plan for the implementation of the Datahub and submit the plan to both Fingrid Datahub and the Energy Authority. The market party must also enter into a data migration agreement with Fingrid Datahub. Fingrid Datahub Oy monitors the progress of market participants' preparatory actions through periodic surveys / a tracking tool in [Titta](#) service. Datahub will be launched in Finland in 2022.

2 Notify eSett

eSett Oy, on behalf of the three Nordic TSOs, takes over the operational responsibility for imbalance settlement in Finland, Norway and Sweden. eSett also grants to new market participants market party ID's. All electricity market parties need to have a valid market party ID. The ID is used on information exchange between the balance responsible party/parties and other actors in the field. To be able to get an own ID a new supplier has to contact settlement@esett.com. eSett maintains a list of the existing ID's [here](#) (Retailers list).

A new supplier has to inform eSett before starting sales in one or more Nordic countries. A new market party has to inform [the correct imbalance settlement structures](#) in the eSett's imbalance settlement system. Informing to eSett must be done latest 14 full days before starting of delivery. eSett creates a new supplier to the imbalance settlement system and gives user ID's to the Online Service. Balance responsible party, grid owner or metering responsible party cannot update their structures regarding to a new supplier before eSett has created the supplier to the imbalance settlement system. Before informing eSett a supplier has to agree about their open delivery with a balance responsible party.

The new supplier's balance responsible party/parties must inform eSett all their suppliers before starting open delivery. A grid owner and a metering responsible party need to update new consumption and production data structures to eSett's imbalance settlement system.

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Read more about reporting schedule and gate closer times on [eSett's website](#) (Handbook 3.5.7).

3 **A balance service agreement**

A new supplier has to take care of the balance responsibility, which means that all electricity suppliers must deliver as much electricity as their customers consume. To ensure the balance responsibility supplier has to make a balance service agreement with some balance responsible party. The balance responsible party takes care of the supplier's open delivery, balance settlement and balance reporting. Check out the list of the balance responsible parties from [eSett's website](#). It is also possible that the supplier takes care of these services on its own, in this case the balance service agreement will be made between the supplier and Fingrid. It should be noted that the balance responsible party must follow [Fingrid's instructions](#) on balance settlement.

4 **The agreement on data exchange services**

The agreement on data exchange services is signed between **Fingrid** and all electricity market parties in Finland. The agreement gives market parties right to use all data exchange services provided by Fingrid (e.g. metering point register, contact information table, Datahub Services portal etc.). The law entitles Fingrid to charge market parties for providing these services. Fingrid's information exchange service promotes the correctness of the information exchange and the development of efficient procedures and the use of unified messaging standards. Before starting to operate in electricity markets contact tiedonvaihto@fingrid.fi and conclude the agreement. Read more about the agreement [here](#).

5 **Use of an operator or a service provider for the exchange of information**

A new supplier must ensure the safe and smooth information exchange. All actors operating in the electricity market use EDIEL messaging when communicating with each other in a standardized way. The practice in the industry is to use an operator that is specialized in electricity market messaging. A new supplier is expected to conclude a contract with one of the operators to be able to send and receive messages successfully.

6 **Standardized EDIEL messaging**

EDIEL Messaging is used in retail market for informing other relevant market parties about new customer contracts, updating contract information and deliver measured consumption data. New supplier has to ensure that the messages they send meet the requirements. With Fingrid's test and certification service market parties can verify that their software setup fulfils the requirements on the decree of the Ministry of the Employment and the Economy on the data exchange for reporting electricity deliveries (273/2016). The certification process can take up to 2 weeks (depending of a new supplier's messaging preparedness), so note that you must book enough time for the testing. When the agreement on data exchange services is concluded and certification order is signed Fingrid grants the required user information for testing and certification service.

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7 Publish your contact information to the contact information table

Fingrid's [Datahub Services portal](#) provides a contact information table that is intended for market parties to find the contact information of the other market parties in Finland for PRODAT and MSCONS messaging, collection and balance settlement. In order to facilitate the information exchange between the actors, a new supplier should publish their contact information to the contact information table at least seven days before starting sales or 22 days before the first delivery. The market parties have full responsibility to keep the information up to date and accurate. To be able to get access to the Datahub Services portal the agreement on data exchange services must be concluded.

8 Notify grid owners

A new supplier has to inform all relevant grid owners before starting sales. The notification must be done by e-mail at least seven days before starting sales or 22 days before starting of delivery. The notification should contain at least the market party ID, ID for data exchange, operator, open supplier, business ID, address, email, phone number and a contact person. To find the grid owners contact information for the notification use [the contact information table](#).

9 Introduction of the centralized information exchange system – Datahub

In spring 2015, Fingrid launched a project to clarify information exchange on the electricity retail market and make it more efficient. In 2022, data sent between electricity consumers, suppliers and distribution companies will be stored in a Datahub, where it will be equally available to all market operators. When concentrating all essential electricity use information in one place, the datahub will speed up, simplify and improve the actions of all parties. Furthermore, the centralised solution provides all parties with equal, simultaneous access to the information.

The amount of information that is being exchanged and gathered in the datahub will increase comparing the amount of today. The business processes and the demands for the data quality will cause changes and tasks for all market parties. That is why it is important that the market parties go through the data in their systems and prepare themselves for the changes. To enable implementation of Datahub The market participants must take the preparatory actions required accordance with [the Go-Live plan for centralised information exchange services \(Datahub\) for electricity market and Data Migration Plan](#).

- Read more about the [Datahub project](#)
- Watch [Datahub video](#)

10 Cooperation with other actors and development

In the industry continuous reforms are made and the instructions get new updates. A new supplier has to ensure that the information about the reforms and the changes reaches the right people in the company. There are also a wide range of trainings

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available organized by different organizations, which help to get more information about the changes in the field and other current issues. We advise all actors to take actively part in trainings, as well as to organize the company's internal trainings to be able to develop staff's expertise.

Cooperation between the actors is a prerequisite for functioning retail markets. Occasionally incorrect practices appear and the market parties should inform each other immediately in these cases for quick correction. Invalid operation is rarely intentional and there are a lot of situations that need to be sort out together with other actors.

The development group for electricity market information exchange is an advisory committee working in conjunction with Fingrid. The purpose of the group is to promote the efficient, equal and fair information exchange. Find more information about the development group for electricity market information exchange [here](#). Finnish Energy's retail markets development group of practices is responsible for developing procedures, you can submit questions related irregularities in the instructions, as well as developing proposals for the instructions to Finnish Energy's development group.