

Outage Management Redesign (SE-109) Feedback on Redesign Transition Plan



On July 8, 2013 stakeholders were asked to provide feedback on their preference and ability to transition from the existing outage management process to both an interim and final process redesign. This feedback will be used to develop an effective transitioning plan for both market participants and the IESO.

The following assumptions were presented to guide stakeholder feedback:

- Interim process will be similar to the re-designed near-term daily process and retain some of features of the existing process
- Interim process would be supported by existing software (minimal changes)
- The final process redesign will require a new software solution
- Two plans are available to transition from the interim to final processes depending on the software vendor and their development process:
 - *Staged Implementation*, where transition would gradually proceed from the interim process to the near-term daily & weekly processes and to final inclusion of the mid-term quarterly process
 - *One-Time Implementation*, where transition would proceed directly from the interim process to the final process

Based on the assumptions above, stakeholders were asked to answer the questions below. Feedback was received from the following SE-109 members:

- Gerdau
- Goreway Power Station
- Northland Power Inc. (Kingston Generating Station)
- Ontario Power Generation
- Portlands Energy Centre

The IESO has summarized the answers in aggregate form. The IESO thanks the members for their feedback and will consider it in the development of a transition plan and further discussions through SE-109.

1. *Would you be ready to transition to an interim process in Q1 2014? If not, please explain the internal and external barriers would prevent you from doing so.*

All members would be ready to transition to an interim process by Q1 2014 given the assumption that the interim process would be supported by existing software and be similar to the near-term daily process.

2. *Considering the potential impact on your existing processes and software solutions, which strategy would you prefer to transition with: Staged Implementation or One-Time Implementation? Please explain.*

The majority of members prefer to transition from the interim to final processes under one-time implementation as it would be easier to manage from a business planning and project management perspective. One member supported the interim process acting as a transition piece towards the final process and encouraged a stage-implementation between stages of the final process as a good way to sort out any process or software opportunities/risks as the software is developed.

3. *Based on your preference in 2 above, how long do you think it would take to transition between the stages outlined above? Please explain by providing the steps you would need to take.*

All members reported minimal effort in transitioning from the existing to interim process. Feedback on transitioning from the interim to final process ranged from three months to two years; however members did report a definite schedule could not be determined until details of the software solution were known. Transitioning steps include business planning, staff training and software testing.

4. *What form(s) of training would you expect to receive to help with transition from:*

a. Existing Process to Interim Process

b. Interim Process to Final Process (staged or one-time implementation)

All members reported only high level training would be required to transition to the interim process such as presentations and process documentation. For transition to the final process, the majority of members supported more extensive training such as site visitations, sandbox type demonstrations, and user guides.