

Release Plan for IT Changes

Preliminary Plan for Release 45.1, June 2021

Changes to IESO systems planned as part of Release 45.1 are described below. Unless noted otherwise, the planned deployment dates are:

- Sandbox Build on April 22, 2021
- Non-Real Time Build on May 26, 2021
- Real-Time Build on June 2, 2021

For the annual 2021 IESO IT Release Schedule Web page, [click here](#).

There is one change planned in this release. Each change has a unique ID number.

- A1576 - Implementing New Authentication Method for Participants

Any modification from a previous release plan is noted in the description. More information about the IT Release Plan is found at the end of this document. Questions or concerns about IESO Release Plans can be sent to the email address, pending.changes@ieso.ca or directed to IESO Customer Relations.

ID A1576 - Implementing New Authentication Method for Participants

Type of change and implementation date variation

Real Time, Category 3. The Sandbox changes will be implemented the week of May 10, 2021. The Production change for Watchdox will be implemented the week of May 31, 2021. The Production implementation for all other applications listed below will be the week of June 14, 2021.

Stakeholder & Document References

A list of manuals that are scheduled to be revised will be included in the Target Release Plan.

Applications Impacted

Sandbox	Production
Online IESO	Online IESO
Transmission Rights Auction User Interface (TRA)	Transmission Rights Auction User Interface (TRA)
Energy Market Interface User Interface (EMI)	Energy Market Interface User Interface (EMI)
Dispatch Service User Interface	Dispatch Service User Interface
Outage Coordination and Scheduling System (OCSS) User Interface	Outage Coordination and Scheduling System (OCSS) User Interface
Prudential Manager	Prudential Manager
None	WatchDox
None	Portal Collaboration Communities

Reason for Change

As part of the portal refresh project, we will need to migrate off our current Oracle Access Manager solution to one that will better suit our needs. As a result, Portal applications that were previously leveraging Oracle Access Manager for their Identity needs will now use Okta.

Description of Change

This change will introduce a new way for Market Participants and External Users to register for and sign-on to our Portal Applications. This new Identity Provider will provide us with enhanced security and additional features that were not available to us with Oracle Access Manager. These features include but are not limited to:

- Support for Modern Authentication standards
- Adaptive Multi-Factor Authentication
- Self-Service password reset capabilities
- A Dashboard that will serve as single pane of glass to access IESO applications

Expected Impact

The applications listed above will change their authentication method to use the SAML protocol, this will allow them to be integrated into our new Identity Provider. Applications will experience a brief outage associated with this change. Exact Outage timelines will be communicated closer to the implementation dates. Existing Portal Users will need to log into a new identity provider which will be available at <https://portalsandbox.ieso.ca> in order to confirm their login details and set up their MFA

and Password Recovery Options. Users will be sent communication ahead of time with detailed instructions on how to register and login to this new portal. WatchDox and Portal Collaboration will be replaced by BlackBerry Workspaces. As part of this change we will also be migrating our existing Watchdox and Portal Collaboration Community users over to our new Identity Provider Service. Users will need to log into a new identity provider in order to confirm their login details and set up their MFA and Password Recovery Options. Users will be sent communication ahead of time with detailed instructions on how to register and login to this new portal. WatchDox data will be migrated over to BlackBerry Workspaces, please note there will be a 5 hour outage to complete the migration. Once migrated, access to this data should be seamless to the end users. Portal Collaboration Communities will be migrated in waves and users will be sent communications ahead of time with the date of when they can access their community in BlackBerry Workspaces. Users will continue to access Portal Collaboration until their community is migrated.

About the IT Release Plan

Four times a year, the IESO coordinates a release package of changes to IESO systems that will impact users outside the IESO. These changes are categorized as either:

- **Category 2** change (users will have to make a functional change, such as an update to a procedure), or
- **Category 3** change (users will have to modify a technical interface with an IESO system or solution).

For each release, three versions of the Release Plan are published:

1. Preliminary Release Plan
2. Target Release Plan
3. Final Release Plan

The IT Release Schedule provides the planned dates for each release. Dates for specific changes may differ from the calendar dates, but these will be provided in the Release Plan. For the full 2021 Release Schedule on the IESO Web page , [click here](#).

Sandbox Implementation is the date the change is deployed on the IESO Sandbox environment, used for testing and training.

Production Build is the date the change goes live. This may happen during either:

1. Real-Time Build for systems used to interact with the IESO-Controlled Grid or IESO-Administered Market, or
2. Non-Real Time Build for other systems used to interact with the IESO, such as those used for settlements or registration activities.

Efforts are made to minimize the impacts of system outages during planned releases. Planned outages are posted in advance on the IESO Planned IT Outages Web page. [Click here for a link](#).