

Master File Data Exchange Project Update

Introduction

This document serves to provide Market Participants an update on the Master File Data Exchange Project and to announce that the project is nearing completion. Beginning in May of 2008, the CAISO requested feedback from Market Participants regarding the User Interface (UI) and Application Programming Interface (API) the CAISO has been developing to enable automation of the Generator Resource Data Template (GRDT or RDT) and Intertie Resource Data Template (IRDT or RDT) data change process for existing resources. The CAISO subsequently held several web-based conference calls after which a final list of project features was decided upon that would provide the greatest benefit considering budget and time constraints. Development has been progressing over the last year. The CAISO has planned a web conference during the week of June 8th to discuss project status and upcoming activities. A Market Notice will be sent out during the week of May 25th announcing the date and time of the conference call.

Project Overview

The Master File Data Exchange project will provide authorized external users with the ability to access their RDT information and will require Scheduling Coordinators to submit changes for existing resources through either a UI or API, in a secure fashion. Features include the following functionality:

- View and download approved RDT data in a standardized format by SCID. Users will be able to select the RDT data for a single resource ID or All resource IDs associated to the SCID for a selected Trade Date. (XLS for UI, API per XSD format)
- Upload/submit revised RDT files to CAISO for existing resources in a standardized format by SCID (XLS format for UI, XML format for API)
 - Submitted RDT will include the existing approved data for the resource IDs with modifications made only to the data fields that are being changed.
- View RDT submission processing status (UI and API)
- View a list of resources that have approved changes for a future date range (UI and API)

Along with the new capability, the RDT templates are being revised as follows:

- Remove unused data fields from the GRDT, modify field names to be consistent with internal database, and designate additional fields as read-only.
- Reorganize GRDT columns on Resource tab.
- Incorporate data elements previously included in the Expanded Data Reports into the GRDT and IRDT formats, and include additional data elements.
- Eliminate Expanded Data Reports.

Out of scope items identified during 2008 discussions, and other enhancements identified through user testing, will be added to the application roadmap for future project consideration.

Impact to RDT Update Process and the BPM for Market Instruments

The current process of emailing a GRDT or IRDT request to the CAISO to change data parameters on existing resources is described in Attachment B of the Business Practice Manual (BPM) for Market Instruments. This BPM will require modifications to reflect the new process for submitting these types of changes through either the UI or API. When this project moves to production, the CAISO will only accept requests for changes to RDTs on existing resources through either the UI or API. A summary of the proposed changes to the BPM will be presented at the July BPM Change Management Meeting.

API Technical Specification Review

On May 29, 2009, the Technical Specification will be posted on the CAISO website in the Master File Data Exchange section of the Master File page, and will be on the agenda at the System Interface User Group (SIUG) meetings on June 16th and June 30th. Participants who will be utilizing an API should carefully review the document. Any questions regarding the Technical Specification may be addressed at the SIUG meetings, or by submitting an email to the email addresses specified in the document.

Test Plan

Before testing can begin, users must request a digital certificate to gain access to the testing environment. The environment that will be used for testing of the UI and API will not be integrated with other systems. The goal of testing in this environment is to ensure RDT data retrieval and submission works properly. Any data changes made through testing of the services will be for testing only and will not be applied to Production.

- **User Access**
See User Access section for instructions on requesting a digital certificate.
- **Testing and Training Information**
A number of training documents have been developed to aid the user in testing of the new UI and API, including a Computer Based Training (CBT) and User Guide. Additional information will be provided, including testing scenarios, how to report issues, and providing other feedback. These materials will be made available on the CAISO website at the end of June and will be located on the Master File page in the Master File Data Exchange section.
- **Testing Participation**
Testing is required of all Scheduling Coordinators with a need to submit RDT data. The CAISO's goal is to ensure all authorized Market Participants will be able to submit an RDT through the new channels once the project moves to production. Upon implementation of the project in September of this year, the current RDT formats will no longer be accepted.
- **Testing Support**
Technical and business support of the testing environment will be during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

User Access

UI and API access requires the standard CAISO digital certificate for each SCID, which can be requested using the Application Access Request Form (AARF). Clients are responsible for requesting certificates for their Vendors via the AARF.

Please review the interface and role descriptions below to determine who in each organization needs access. For the Master File UI, please utilize the Application Access Request/Change form. For the Master File API, please utilize the Integration Access Request Form. Both forms will be available at this link: <http://www.aiso.com/pubinfo/info-security/certs/index.html>. Please enter all required user information at the top, select the Master File entry in the application section, the appropriate Master File role, and the "S" or "Staging" environment for both forms. Please note, a separate certificate request will need to be submitted for Production before the project reaches implementation. A revised AARF for Production will be provided at a later date and a Market Notice will be sent to report when it is available.

The identified Point of Contact (POC) for each Market Participant must complete and submit the appropriate form for each interface and user as applicable, and then email the completed forms to CertRequest@caiso.com. Organizations will be limited to three user certificates for the initial testing effort. Additional certificates will be considered as required to confirm user readiness.

Master File Application and Role Information

The Master File UI and API each provide the same functionality. Access to functionality is controlled by the user's role. Two roles are available: Viewer and Operator.

- **Viewer Role** - the Viewer role has permissions for these key activities:
 - View and download RDT in a standard format
 - View and download a report on Approved Changes in a standard format
- **Operator Role** - The Operator role includes the Viewer Role permissions and has additional permissions as follows:
 - Upload/submit revised RDT via the standard format
 - Check the status of submitted changes

Actions Needed Near Term

- Watch for Market Notice announcing web conference and mark your calendar.
- API users, review Technical Specification and present questions to SIUG meetings on June 16th and June 30th.
- Submit AARF to request Stage user access by June 10th.
- Participate in BPM Change Review Process.