
Manual of Procedures for the ENTSO-E Central Information Transparency Platform

Version 3.4

10 November 2023

Notice:

This document reflects the status of the work of Transmission System Operator experts as of 10 November 2023 in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The document has been updated as foreseen under article 12(5) of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 2195/2017 of 23 November 2017, establishing a guideline on electricity balancing. To provide a comprehensive coverage of all publications on the ENTSO-E central transparency platform, the scope of this document also includes articles 183 through 190 of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 1485/2017 of 2 August 2017 establishing a guideline of electricity transmission system operation, as well as the transparency publications stipulated by the European platforms' implementation frameworks (as foreseen by articles 20 through 22 of the before-mentioned guideline on electricity balancing). It is based on the input received through the public consultation, following extensive informal dialogue with stakeholders, as well as bilateral meetings with ACER.

Such version of the Manual of Procedures is released for submission to ACER in accordance with the provisions of the Article 5 of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

This version 3.4 of the Manual of Procedures shall apply from 17 May 2024 and supersedes all previously published versions.

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1. Introduction and overview

1.1 Scope and Purpose

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the Regulation (EU) n°543/2013¹, hereafter referred to as the Transparency Regulation, this document aims at specifying:

- a) details and format of the submission of data by primary owners to TSOs;
- b) standardised ways and formats of data communication and exchange between primary owners of data, TSOs, data providers and the ENTSO for Electricity;
- c) technical and operational criteria which data providers would need to fulfil when providing data to the central information transparency platform; and
- d) appropriate classification of production types.

1.2 Readership

This document particularly addresses primary owners of data, data providers and data consumers. It nevertheless generally aims at providing any party with all the information necessary to submit or extract data to or from the ENTSO for Electricity central information transparency platform (hereafter the “transparency platform”).

This document should consequently become the source to find:

- 1) all information required for a data provider to develop and operate a system to submit data to the transparency platform, or do this interactively through a web browser; and
- 2) all information required to develop and operate a system to extract data from the transparency platform, or to do this interactively through a web browser.

It must nevertheless be noted that this document does not duplicate material published elsewhere. If such material is required, it is included by reference only. This is particularly important for definitions that are common to other domains such as network codes.

This document is constructed as an on-line resource in order to facilitate cross-referencing to other materials, such as the detailed data descriptions, Web Services [IEC 62325-504] and MADES [IEC 62325-503], definitions, Implementation Guides and interoperability test specifications. A PDF version of this document can be exported for download, but only the on-line copy is definitive.

1.3 How to use this Manual of Procedures

Chapters 1 to 4 provide general information about the transparency platform and the data it contains. Chapter 5 has information relating to technical standards and Chapter 6 includes additional information specific to data

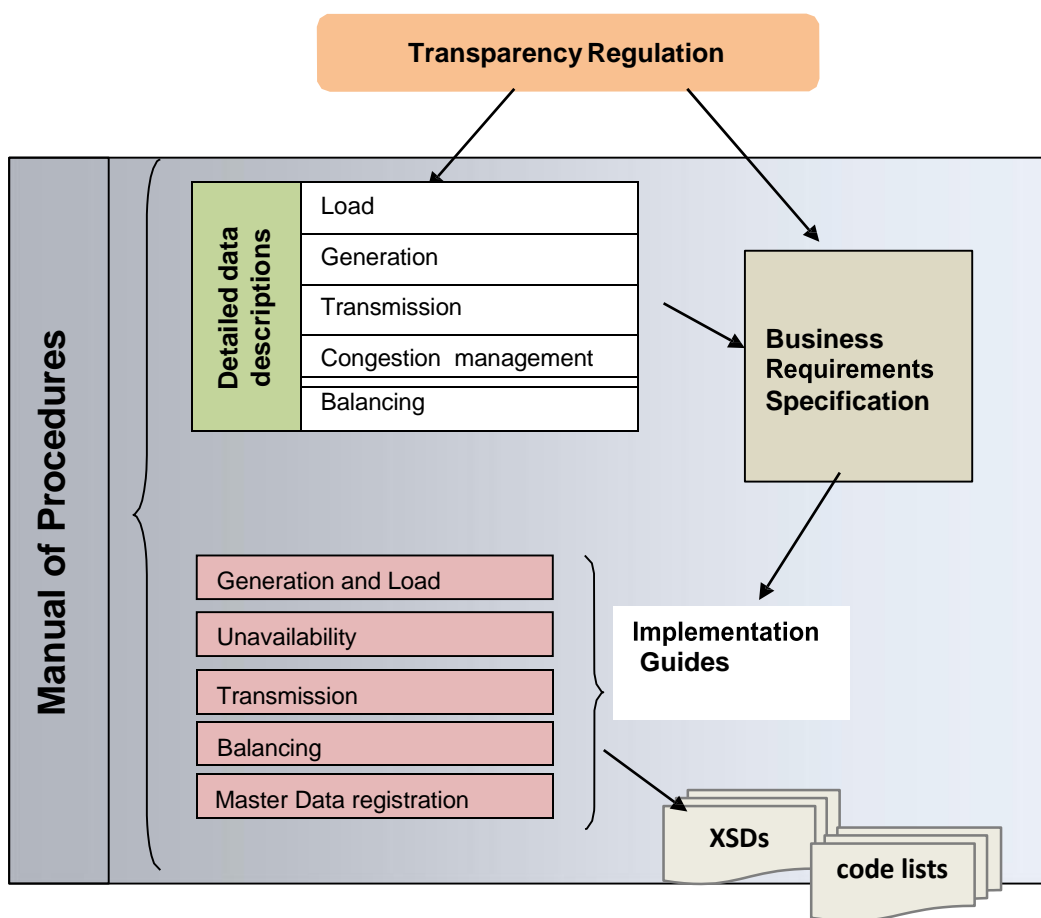
¹ Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, OJ L 163, 15.6.2013, p. 1–12

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providers, while Chapter 7 provides information for users of the data. Both Chapters 6 and 7 include references to standardised ways and formats of data communication for submitting and obtaining data.

The material referenced in this document builds on the Transparency Regulation as follows:

- the detailed data descriptions [2], [23] and [26] (see Chapter 3) define further the content and structure of the data which must be published in accordance with the Transparency Regulation.
- the business requirements specifications [12], [24] and [27] (see Chapter 4) explains how master data is pre-configured on the transparency platform, what are the business validation rules (both general and per data item) and how monitoring is carried out; and
- the implementation guides [5] to [9], [15] to [19], [22], [25] and [28] (see Chapter 5) define the formats and structures for data submission and download.



1.4 Historical Data

In accordance with the Transparency Regulation, the data shall be available for at least five years. The transparency platform will thus preserve these data for a period of five years from the effective date of their submission. It will be possible to select data within that time span directly on the transparency platform.

1.5 Data Quality

The quality of data published on the transparency platform is assured in the following ways:

- a) XML schemas required by the implementation guides (see Chapter 5) constrain the values and data types that can be submitted; and
- b) submitted data is subject to business validation rules as described in the business requirements specifications (see chapter 4). Erroneous data is rejected.

In the event that a data provider inadvertently submits numerically incorrect data it can be corrected by re-submission machine-to-machine or by human user having the necessary privileges (see Chapter 6).

1.6 Data Security

The integrity of data is assured in the transparency platform in two respects:

- a) data transfer methods used for submission are secure (see section 5.1) and only authenticated submitters can submit data to the transparency platform; and
- b) access controls prevent unauthorised modification of data once stored.

The use of web services [IEC 62325-504] and MADES [IEC 62325-503] access methods require the use of digital certificates. The ENTSO for Electricity operates a Certificate Authority function for MADES [IEC 62325-503] access. Digital Certificates issued by Certification Authorities duly validated by national or EU bodies will be accepted for Web Services (see section 6.4 on data channels for further information).

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2. Terms

For the purpose of this document, the definitions established in the Union legislation apply, i.e. definitions established in the Directive 2009/72/EC, in Regulation (EC) N° 714/2009, in Commission Regulations establishing network codes that have been adopted according to Article 6(11) of Regulation (EC) N° 714/2009 and in the Transparency Regulation.

In addition, many definitions are provided on the ENTSO for Electricity Metadata Repository website. (See [14]).

This is the master repository for definition of terms and covers the majority of terms found in this document.

The following additional terms may be useful to readers of the document:

a) **Master Data:**

Master Data means the details of key business entities referenced on the transparency platform, such as parties, areas, resource objects (such as production and generation units). Master data changes slowly compared to the market, operational and forecast data submitted to the transparency platform and is managed either by the transparency platform administration team or by data providers where appropriate (in particular the resource objects).

b) **Reference Data:**

Reference Data means static codings of common entities or values, often externally defined, such as country codes, currencies, measurement units, and also production (fuel) types, and other coded value lists included in EDI code lists. Reference data changes rarely and is managed by the transparency platform administration team. Reference data will be used to validate data submitted to the transparency platform and to enrich the published data.

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3. Detailed Data Descriptions

The Detailed Data Descriptions [2], [23] and [26] offer further interpretation of the data required by Article 5(a) of the Transparency Regulation. The document provides guidelines on how to calculate the data prior to submission and specifies the actors considered as primary owners and providers of the data, respectively. When applicable, guidelines for submitting updates of the data are provided.

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4. Business Requirements Specifications

The business requirements specifications (BRS) describe how data is submitted to and acknowledged by the transparency platform as required by Article 5(a) of the Transparency Regulation, what validations are performed and how data is processed and eventually published.

Similarly to the Detailed Data Descriptions, the business requirements specifications contain dedicated chapters for each of the articles 6 to 17 of the Transparency Regulation, article 12 of the guideline on electricity balancing and the applicable articles of the implementation frameworks for the European platforms.

The BRS also describes the master data and reference data that must be recorded on the transparency platform prior to any data submission.

The business requirements specifications are provided in separate documents [12], [24] and [27].

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5. Implementation Guides and EDI Standards

5.1 Introduction

The implementation guides define standardised ways and formats of data communication and exchange between primary owners of data, TSOs, data providers and the ENTSO for Electricity as required by Article 5(1)(b) of the Transparency Regulation. The described data exchange formats within the implementation guides shall ensure that a common interface can be provided between different software solutions. These documents make use of XML schemas and code lists defined by the ENTSO for Electricity which can be found on the ENTSO-E web site [11].

The detailed data descriptions (see Chapter 3) distinguish four categories of data (load, generation, transmission and balancing) to be reported under the Transparency Regulation and includes data on unavailability under each of these categories. While there is an implementation guide for each of these four categories, a fifth implementation guide is dedicated to data on unavailability. This reflects the commonality of data structures for exchange. There is also an implementation guide for the extraction of data from the transparency platform. Further, separate implementation guides have been established for the reporting foreseen by article 12 of the guideline on electricity balancing, for the applicable articles of the implementation frameworks for the European platforms and for articles 183 through 190 of the guideline on electricity transmission system operation.

5.2 Electronic Document Interchange (EDI) Standards

5.2.1 Implementation Guide for Generation and Load Transparency Process

The implementation guide for the generation and load transparency process is provided in a separate document [5].

5.2.2 Implementation Guide for Unavailability Transparency Process

The implementation guide for the unavailability transparency process is provided in a separate document [6].

5.2.3 Implementation Guide for Balancing Transparency Process

The implementation guide for the balancing transparency process is provided in a separate document [7].

5.2.4 Implementation Guide for Transmission Transparency Process

The implementation guide for the transmission transparency process is provided in a separate document [8].

5.2.5 Implementation Guide for Configuration Transparency Process

The implementation guide for configuration transparency process is provided in a separate document [9].

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5.2.6 Implementation Guide for Capacity Allocation Configuration

The implementation guide for the capacity allocation configuration is provided in a separate document [17].

5.2.7 Implementation Guide for Flow-based Parameters Transparency Process

The implementation guide for the Flow-based Parameters Transparency Process is provided in a separate document [18].

5.2.8 Implementation Guide for Transparency Platform Data Extraction Process

The implementation guide for the Transparency Platform Data Extraction Process is provided in a separate document [19].

5.2.9 Implementation Guide for Transparency Platform EB GL Process

The implementation guide for the Transparency Platform EB GL Process is provided in a separate document [22].

5.2.10 Implementation Guide for European Platforms

The implementation guide for the transparency publications foreseen by the European platforms' implementation frameworks is provided in a separate document [25].

5.2.11 Implementation Guide for SO GL

The implementation guide for the transparency publications foreseen by the guideline on electricity transmission system operation is provided in a separate document [28].

5.3 Other applicable Standards

The following other standards further define the operational characteristics of the transparency platform:

- IEC 62325-451-1 Acknowledgement business process (see [15])
- IEC 62325-451-5 Problem statement and status request business processes (see [16])

Other Market Information messages in RSS and ATOM formats (see [30])

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5.4 Identification Coding

Certain data whose publication is foreseen by the Transparency Regulation require identification of the specific asset they refer to. This is the case for instance for forecast generation (Art14. (1)(a) and (b) of the Transparency Regulation) or for information relating to the unavailability of generation and production units (Art 15 (1)(a) to (d) of the Transparency Regulation) and Actual Generation (Art 16(1)(b) Transparency Regulation).

To identify those assets, the transparency platform uses the Energy Identification Coding (EIC) Scheme (see [11]).

- To obtain EIC identifiers for your assets whose information should be reported in accordance with the Transparency Regulation, please contact your [Local Issuing Office \(LIO\)](#).

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6. Information for Data Providers

6.1 Assessment of a Data Provider and Prior Agreement

Introduction

In accordance with Article 4(1) of the Transparency Regulation, primary owners of data should normally submit their data to their TSOs in a manner that allows TSOs to process and deliver the data to the ENTSO for Electricity. This is without prejudice to the right of TSOs to delegate this activity to a third party.

The Article 4(2) of the Transparency Regulation opens an alternative to the submission of data by the primary owner of data to the TSO. Indeed, the Article 4(2) foresees the possibility for primary owner of data to *“fulfil their obligation [...] by submitting data directly to the central information transparency platform provided they use a third party acting as data provider on their behalf.”*

This opportunity is open *“in order to make best use of existing sources of transparency, [so that] the ENTSO for Electricity [is] able to receive information for publication through third parties such as power exchanges and transparency platforms”².*

The Article 4(2) further states that *“this way of submitting data shall be subject to the prior agreement of the TSO in whose control area the primary owner is located. When providing its agreement the TSO shall assess whether the data provider fulfils the requirements referred to in point (b) and (c) of Article 5(1).”*

This section therefore establishes the requirements referred to in point (b) and (c) of the Article 5(1) Transparency Regulation and the process which TSOs should follow when assessing the compliance of a data provider with the above-mentioned requirements.

Requirements to be complied with by Data Provider

The requirements referred to in point (b) and (c) of Article 5(1) Transparency Regulation relate to:

- *“standardised ways and formats of data communication and exchange between primary owners of data, TSOs, data providers and the ENTSO for Electricity”*; and
- *“technical and operational criteria which data providers would need to fulfil when providing data to the central information transparency platform”*.

These requirements are detailed in Chapter 4 on business requirement specification and Chapter 5 on implementation guides and EDI standards.

Assessment of Compliance with the Requirements

The TSO in whose control area the primary owner of data is located should assess whether the data provider fulfils the requirements and, in the affirmative, provide its agreement for the primary owner of data to submit its data via the data provider acting on their behalf.

² See Recital (12) of Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets.

The process should respect the following steps:

- 1) Submission by the primary owner of data of a request to the TSO, for its prior agreement. The request should:
 - a. clearly identify the data provider which would provide its services to the primary owner of data;
 - b. provide the necessary contact details allowing the TSO to directly contact the data provider;
 - c. indicate the data the primary owner of data will provide through this data provider;
- 2) Assessment by the TSO of the data provider's compliance with the requirements referred to above. This assessment should take the form of an interoperability test organised with the support of the ENTSO for Electricity in accordance with the specifications established in the sub-section 6.2.2;
- 3) Registration with the ENTSO for Electricity of the data provider which successfully passed the interoperability test, in accordance with the requirements established in the sub-section 6.2.1.; and
- 4) Agreement of the TSO for the primary owner of data to submit its data via the data provider.

TSOs should proceed to the assessment within a period of two months from the submission of the request.

6.2 Data Provider Responsibilities

6.2.1 Registration

Data providers are required to register with the ENTSO for Electricity and to provide contact information for technical and business queries. Data providers must also indicate the area(s), border(s) and transparency regulation article(s) for which they will submit data.

Once the ENTSO for Electricity has recorded the Data provider in the platform, data providers can create and update user accounts, including those for machine-to-machine submission to the transparency platform. Name and email address are required for user accounts.

Contact details for the service desk and for the transparency platform administration team at the ENTSO for Electricity will be provided.

6.2.2 Interoperability and Compliance Testing Regime

Before submitting data, data providers are requested to complete interoperability and compliance testing with the transparency platform. This includes also connection and transfer methods. A test environment is available for this purpose. To arrange testing, contact must be made with the transparency platform service desk.

The transparency platform interoperability test specification is provided in a separate document [10].

6.2.3 Registration and maintenance of Master Data

Data providers must register certain information on generation and consumption units and transmission assets, prior to submitting the data items referencing those resource objects. The master data shall be synchronised or updated on the platform whenever it changes. Registration and maintenance shall be performed according to the Configuration Implementation Guide (see [9]).

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6.2.4 Monitoring of Data Submissions

Data providers are encouraged to make regular checks that their data is received and published as expected. The transparency platform will, where appropriate, monitor data arrival against expected submission times as defined in the Transparency Regulation.

When submission of data by a data provider becomes overdue, the data provider is notified by transparency platform using the methods described in the EDI Problem Statement Document [see 16] and optionally also by email.

Each data provider can access on the transparency platform an overview of his pending and erroneous data submission, per transparency regulation article. The user interface allows data provider to query each data instance for further details. Data providers can turn the monitoring option on and off as they wish. The monitoring is activated per default.

6.3 Data Submission Channels (machine-to-machine)

Introduction

The transparency platform has three communication channels through which data can be submitted by external systems. These communication channels are:

- a) Market Data Exchange Standard (MADES) [IEC 62325-503] (see [3])
- b) Web Services [IEC 62325-504] (see [4]); and
- c) Secure File Transfer (*ftps*).

These are described in more detail in the following sub-sections. Normally, a data provider is expected to use only one of these channels for all data submissions. Nevertheless it is possible to use a combination of several channels if necessary.

Communication Channels

a) **MADES [IEC 62325-503]**

MADES specifies a framework for asynchronous communication, providing reliable message delivery, independently of underlying communication infrastructure. It relies on non-proprietary standards for communication protocols, data integrity, signing and confidentiality, peer access point and party authentication and identification (https, SOAP, x.509 etc.)

A reference package implementation of the MADES software (“Energy Communication Platform” – ECP) necessary to implement MADES connection locally is available from the ENTSO for Electricity. The ECP software is validated for common operating environments and the license for local use for the purpose of connection to the transparency platform is free of charge to data providers.

Data providers are of course also free to develop their own implementation of the MADES standard. This would nevertheless require more extensive validation to demonstrate compliance with the MADES standard in addition to the transparency platform connection compliance.

b) **Web Services [IEC 62325-504]**

The transparency platform supports a set of web services that provide all the functionality required to interact with the transparency platform in a secure and reliable form.

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The web services specification for the ENTSO for Electricity Transparency Platform is provided in a separate document [4]

c) Secure File Transfer (ftps)

For data providers who are expected to submit only small number of data or to submit on an irregular basis, secure file transfer will be made available as an alternative to the two previous communication channels. As this method does not provide the same degree of reliability and security (e.g. non-repudiation), this method is not preferred for regular and/or large-scale data submission. A digital signature of a message which is included in MADES and the WebServices specification adds additional security measures over an FTPS connection, such as non-repudiation

6.4 Submission Acknowledgement

Data submission is acknowledged in accordance with the IEC Acknowledgement process.

The IEC Acknowledgement document is provided in a separate document [15].

6.5 Data Submission via Website

In addition to the machine-to-machine interface for submission of data, it is also possible to load data through the transparency platform web portal. This includes uploading of files, and entering and modifying individual values through web forms. Access to these facilities on the web portal requires login with a user account to which the necessary privileges are granted.

Templates for reporting under transparency regulation articles 9.1 and 11.4 are provided in separate documents: [20] and [21], respectively.

6.6 Validation of Submitted Data

The submitted data is subject to two stages of validation:

- a) against EDI standards as described in the implementation guides – XML schema compliance; and
- b) against business rules configured on the transparency platform.

Examples of business rules are:

- Is the submitter permitted to submit this data for this area?
- What is the expected number of values per business day?

The complete set of business rules is provided in the business requirements specifications, (see chapter 4).

6.7 Version Control and Updating of submitted Data Files

Data providers are able to update previously submitted data. This is done by re-submitting the XML document. A replacement XML document should have the version number incremented. Technical rules for versioning are provided in detail in the implementation guides (see Chapter 5). All versions of submitted files are retained by the platform.

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6.8 Checking and Updating Data Values

Data providers are able to access the administration section of the platform to check logs of the processing of their data. Data providers can also drill down into submitted data directly through the platform GUI to view underlying values and to modify the data (such updates are logged and validated as if a new file was submitted).

6.9 Managing Users

Users are able to create and administer their own user accounts. The transparency platform administration team can grant additional privileges to enable data providers to monitor, check and correct their data. Further details are provided in the Administration Guide (available on the ENTSO-E website under the section Information for data providers and data consumers).

6.10 Configuration Management – Reference and Master Data

Any changes in information about market participants, borders, bidding zones or other master or reference data applying to more than one data provider will be managed by the transparency platform administration team. Further details are provided in the Administration Guide [available on the ENTSO-E website under the section Information for data providers and data consumers].

Changes will be announced to the relevant parties in advance and updated values will be available for download from the transparency platform.

The transparency platform administration team should be informed if data providers observe that any values in the shared master or reference data require an update.

6.11 System Messages

Information for data providers on the operation of the transparency platform, such as changes to reference data or planned unavailability of any function on the transparency platform, are disseminated through a number of channels. A notice board is available on the landing page of the web interface and it is also possible to subscribe to message delivery through email. Further details are provided in the Administration Guide [available on the ENTSO-E website under the section Information for data providers and data consumers].

6.12 Support and Service Levels

The transparency platform is in operation 24/7. Scheduled downtime should normally not exceed 30 minutes and will be notified normally not less than 24 hours in advance.

In case of technical problems with data submission, please contact the service desk using the contact details provided to you as a data provider.

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7. Information for data consumers

7.1 Registration

It is not necessary to register to access the transparency platform. Nevertheless some advantages are provided with registration. By registering, a user can for instance specify a default selection of data to be displayed when logging in. The user can also specify preferences for the display; time zone for example. It is necessary to register as a user in order to download data or query for data via restful API or data repository.

7.2 Website

The transparency platform is designed to be easy to use without any training, allowing a smooth navigation between the data domains. It supports the most commonly used browsers and ENTSO-E will make its best efforts to continuously adapt the user interface to evolving industry trends.

The transparency platform can also be accessed using mobile devices and tablets.

The transparency platform will by default display the most recent data. Users are able to expand the view, thereby accessing additional information such date and time of submission and older versions of the data.

7.3 Direct Data Downloads

In addition to consulting published data on the transparency platform's web interface, datasets can be downloaded on demand from the web pages. Downloads are formatted in XML in accordance with the implementation guide for the data domain (Load, Generation, Unavailability, Balancing and Transmission – see Chapter 5). Downloads in xlsx and csv formats are also available.

7.4 Data Subscriptions

Data consumers may subscribe to all published data, except for PDF documents. To subscribe, the registration of a receiving web service or a MADES/ECP endpoint is required which then has to be associated with the preferred Regulation Article(s). When new data in the areas subscribed is published, a corresponding download file will be pushed to the registered service.

The web services and MADES/ECP specifications for the transparency platform are provided in separate documents [3] and [4].

7.5 Restful API

A restful API grants synchronous, fast access to limited data volumes via the https protocol. By invoking a URL (Get method) or submitting a status request document using the Post method, data consumers may download published data. Further details are provided in the [user](#) guide.

7.6 File server

The SFTP server provides asynchronous access to larger data volumes. Data is organized in monthly files that are refreshed on an hourly basis, reflecting new or updated publications. Further details are provided in the [user](#) guide.

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7.7 RSS and ATOM web feeds

Data consumers may subscribe to receive Other Market Information (OMI) messages in RSS and ATOM formats. Please note that OMI messages only are provided in this channel.

7.8 Enquiries – Support and Service Levels

The transparency platform is in operation 24/7. Scheduled downtime will be notified normally not less than 24 hours in advance through the noticeboard and will normally not exceed 30 minutes duration. In the event of transparency platform unavailability, data submissions and publication will be queued. The contracted availability of MADES/ECP is no less than 99%.

For further information please see the contact information section of the transparency platform website.

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8. Classification of Production Types

Article 5 of the Transparency Regulation specifies that the ENTSO for Electricity develops a Manual of Procedures specifying “*appropriate classification of production types referred to in Articles 14(1), 15(1) and 16(1).*”

Production types will be required for information related to forecast generation (Art14(1)(a) and (b)), information relating to the unavailability of generation and production units (Art 15(1)(a), to (d)) and Actual Generation (Art 16(1)(b)).

EIC codes corresponding to the Production Types can be found in the ENTSO-E code list [13].

Production Types

	Class	Sub-Class	Complete Term
	Biomass		Biomass
	Fossil	Brown coal/Lignite	Fossil Brown coal/Lignite
	Fossil	Coal-derived gas	Fossil Coal-derived gas
	Fossil	Gas	Fossil Gas
	Fossil	Hard coal	Fossil Hard coal
	Fossil	Oil	Fossil Oil
	Fossil	Oil shale	Fossil Oil shale
	Fossil	Peat	Fossil Peat
	Geothermal		Geothermal
	Hydro	Pumped Storage	Hydro Pumped Storage
	Hydro	Run-of-river	Hydro Run-of-river and pondage
	Hydro	Water Reservoir	Hydro Water Reservoir
	Marine		Marine
	Nuclear		Nuclear
	Other renewable		Other renewable
	Solar		Solar
	Waste		Waste
	Wind	Offshore	Wind Offshore
	Wind	Onshore	Wind Onshore
	Other non-renewable		Other
	Other		Energy Storage

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9. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

- [1] Transparency Regulation (Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013)
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:163:0001:0012:EN:PDF>
- [2] Detailed Data Descriptions
Detailed Data Descriptions v3r4 (available on ENTSO-E website)
- [3] Market Data Exchange Standard (MADES)
Market Data Exchange Standard (MADES) [IEC 62325-503:2018](#)
- [4] Web Services specification for the ENTSO for Electricity Transparency Platform
[IEC 62325-504: Utilization Of Web Services For Electronic Data Interchanges On The European Energy Market For Electricity](#)
- [5] Implementation Guide for the Generation and Load Transparency Process
Generation and Load Transparency Process v4r2 (available on ENTSO-E website)
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