

Information on how to become a BRP

The requirements and other important information on how to become a
Balance Responsible Party
23 October 2023

Dear Balance Responsible Party,

Thank you for showing interest in becoming a Balance Responsible Party (BRP) in the Nordic countries. The following agreements need to be signed to become a Balance Responsible Party (BRP): Imbalance settlement Agreement with eSett, Agreement with the settlement bank and eSett and Balance agreement with the TSO. This document will support you to get the prerequisites in place before balance responsibility can be initiated.

Following agreements and prerequisites need to be in place before balance responsibility can be initiated:

- Imbalance Settlement Agreement, signed at least one (1) month before the BRP starts market activity.
- Balance Agreement, signed at least one (1) month before the BRP starts market activity.
- Agreement with the Settlement Bank and eSett, signed at least one (1) month before the BRP starts market activity. Depending on the selected bank there are two alternative agreements:
 - Agreement on Right of Disposal of Cash Account and Cash Collateral.
 - Pledge cash account agreement (alternative agreement if the approved settlement bank is not part of the two account model). Please also fill out the Standard Settlement Instruction if this agreement is used.
- Standard Settlement Instructions, to define a release account for the excess funds in the pledged settlement account if the pledged settlement account model (one account model) is used.
- All country specific preconditions need to be met before the agreements are signed.
- Collateral must be in place at least three (3) weeks before the start.
- Establish readiness to receive invoices two weeks before the BRP starts market activity.

Further instructions in more detail are provided in the following document. Please follow the instructions about the required number of signed copies of each agreement carefully in case the agreements are signed physically. eSett will return one copy of each bilaterally signed agreement to the BRP.

If you have any questions, we are happy to assist you. You can reach us by sending e-mail to settlement@esett.com or submit a [service request](#). You can also reach us by phone +358 10 5018500.

Please let us know if you feel that it is important to arrange a Teams meeting to clarify any of the detailed instructions.

Best regards,

eSett

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The required agreements

1. Imbalance Settlement Agreement
2. Balance agreement
3. Account agreement
 - a. Cash and Collateral Account Agreement or Pledged account agreement
 - b. Standard Settlement Instructions (with Pledged account agreement)
 - c. MT101
 - d. MT940

1. Imbalance Settlement Agreement

In order to operate in NBS countries, the BRP shall enter into an imbalance settlement agreement with eSett.

The attachments of the agreement are available on our website:

- 1) *Fees* (www.esett.com/customers/agreements/)
- 2) *Collaterals* (www.esett.com/customers/agreements/)
- 3) *NBS Handbook* (www.esett.com/handbook)

The requirements for becoming a Balance Responsible Party in Nordic Imbalance Settlement are available in Appendix 1 of the Handbook.

eSett will send the pre-completed documents to the BRP for signing. Before signing them, please verify the following:

- Check that the company name, business ID and the company address in the Imbalance Settlement Agreement are correct. If they are incorrect, please contact eSett.
- If the agreement is electronically signed, attach an extract from the latest version (max 3 months old) of the Trade register and provide eSett the Contact information (name, phone, email) to the person(s) who has the right to sign on behalf of the company. You will receive a copy of the agreement after it has been countersigned by all parties involved.
- If the agreement is signed physically:
 - Add the name and title of the signatory in block capitals on page 11
 - Attach an Extract from the Trade Register and copies of the passports of the persons signing the agreements in order to verify the signature(s)
 - Return two (2) signed copies by post to eSett with the rest of the agreement specified in the document.

2. Balance Agreement

In order to be active in any NBS country, the BRP is required to have a valid Balance Agreement with the local Transmission System Operator (TSO): Energinet in Denmark, Fingrid Oyj in Finland, Svenska kraftnät in Sweden and Statnett SF in Norway. eSett will coordinate the signing process of the Balance Agreement on behalf of the TSOs.

eSett will send the pre-completed documents to the BRP for signing. Before signing them, please verify the following:

- Check that the company details are correct. If they are incorrect, please, contact eSett
- If the agreement is electronically signed, attach an extract from the latest version (max 3 months old) of the Trade register and provide eSett the Contact information (name, phone, email) to the person(s) who has the right to sign on behalf of the company. You will receive a copy of the agreement after it has been countersigned by all parties involved
- If the agreement is signed physically:
 - Attach an Extract from the latest version of the Trade Register and copies of the passports of the persons signing the agreements in order to verify the signature(s)

- Sign two (2) copies of the Balance agreement and return to eSett by mail
 - If you are active in Norway, send one copy to eSett
 - If you are active in Denmark, Sweden and/or Finland, send both copies to eSett.

3. Account Agreement and MT-agreements

Choose your settlement bank

Each Balance Responsible Party is required to open a settlement account in one of the preapproved settlement banks. A list of approved settlement banks is available on www.esett.com/customers/settlement-banks/. Other banks domicile in EEA can also be approved as a settlement bank if the bank applies for and fulfills the model's requirements. The Settlement Bank Agreement is available also on www.esett.com/customers/settlement-banks/.

Two or one account model is used depending on settlement bank readiness

Use the tri-party agreement called Agreement on Right of Disposal of Cash Account and Cash Collateral (two account model) or if the approved settlement bank is not yet part of the two account model, the Pledged Cash Account Agreement (one account model) should be used instead. For review, template for two account model [Cash and Collateral Account Agreement](#) and the one account model [Pledged account agreement](#) are available on our website.

The essential difference between the one account model and the two account model, is having the cash collateral account separate from the settlement account, meaning one pledged account for collaterals and another one for settlements (debit and credit invoices). This allows the cash (settlement) account to have a credit limit or be a part of a cash pool, and it is not pledged to eSett. In the one account model, BRP must always request a release of excess funds from eSett due to account's pledged status. More detailed information can be found in our [Handbook](#) in chapter 8.4. Required Banking Setup.

Sign the agreement and establish needed account(s)

The following steps are needed to establish a settlement account:

- Open a settlement account in one of the approved settlement banks in the chosen invoicing currency (see the rules for available currencies per country NBS handbook, Chapter 8.8)
- eSett will send the tri-party account agreement template together with the Imbalance settlement agreement. Fill in the following information in the Account Agreement in cooperation with the settlement bank:
 - Company name, address, business ID
 - IBAN number
 - BIC code
 - Currency
- Sign the Account Agreement in cooperation with the settlement bank. Bank will send the agreement to eSett for the final signature.
 - If the bank allows signing the agreement electronically, this option should be preferred. Please attach an extract from the latest version of the Trade register (max 3 months old) and provide eSett the Contact information (name, phone, email) to the person(s) who has the right to sign on behalf of the company.
 - If the agreement is signed physically, please send an extract from the Trade register and copies of the passport(s) of the person(s) signing the agreements to verify signature(s).
 - Return three (3) copies to eSett by post one month before starting market activity.
 - eSett will return one signed agreement to the BRP and one to the bank.
- Sign the MT101 and MT940 documents with the settlement bank and send copies of them to eSett together with the Account Agreement. MT101 and MT940 are bank-specific forms and are available at each bank. If two account model is used both accounts needs to have MT documents signed
 - MT101 (authorisation to debit the account as per request for transfer received by swift from eSett's settlement bank). The details are as follows:
 - Forwarding bank: Nordea Bank Finland Plc, swift code NDEAFIHH,
 - contact: accountmanagement.fi@nordea.com
 - Instructing Party: eSett Oy

- MT940 (authorisation to send balance reporting information by swift to eSett's settlement bank).
The details are as follows:
 - Receiving company: eSett Oy, swift code NDEAFIHH, contact: finance@esett.com
 - Receiving bank: Nordea Bank Finland Plc, swift code NDEAFIHH,
 - contact: accountmanagement.fi@nordea.com

Releasing excess funds from pledged account

- **If the selected Settlement bank is using one account model** (information can be found from the list of approved settlement banks)
 - [Standard Settlement Instructions](#) needs to be filled out and delivered to eSett to define a release account for any excess funds from the pledged account. More information can be found on the next page and [on our web page](#).
- In two account model excess funds from pledge account is always released to non-pledge settlement account.

The BRP is responsible for its own bank costs.

Other important information to remember

Collaterals

Collateral is a precondition to operate as a BRP in Finland, Norway and Sweden. Collateral required by eSett is not a precondition for a BRP in Denmark. Collateral can be placed as an on-demand guarantee (issued by the settlement bank), as cash collateral (on the settlement account) or a combination of these two.

- The collateral must be in place at the latest three weeks before the start of settlement operations
- The on-demand guarantee template can be found on www.esett.com/customers/settlement-banks/. No changes can be made to the text. The following information should be completed:
 - Company name, address, business ID
 - Settlement bank, address, business ID, email, contact person
 - Amount
 - Currency
 - Signature of guarantor
- The on-demand guarantee has to be delivered to eSett by courier
- Cash collateral shall be deposited in the above settlement account

In order for eSett to define the collateral requirement before sufficient data for calculating the dynamic collateral (see NBS Handbook, Chapter 9.3), the BRP needs to provide an estimation of its:

- Average production per week, MWh
- Average consumption per week, MWh
- Average bilateral and PX market sales volumes per week, MWh

An estimate of the above figures shall be sent to eSett at the same time as providing information to eSett about the imbalance settlement structures and technical connectivity.

Standard Settlement Instructions

The BRP should inform eSett about the account to be used for releasing the excess collateral only when the One account model is used.

The excess collateral will be released to a specified account, called “release account”. The release account must be in an approved settlement bank.

The settlement bank will not allow the BRP to withdraw any funds from its pledged settlement account or cash collateral account without eSett’s approval. For more information, see NBS Handbook, Chapter 9.8.

How to add a release account:

- 1) Fill out [this Standard Settlement Instructions template](#) and send it to settlement@esett.com together with a copy of the latest version (max 3 months old) of the Trade register. Please also include the name, e-mail and mobile phone number of the authorized signee. eSett will then start the electronic signature process.
- 2) Add the chosen release account in Online Service in the following way: Administration – Market Party Detail – Accounts – Request New Account Registration. Fill out the details and choose “Release account”. Do not tick the boxes for “Pledged” or “RFT Bank Account”. Send for approval.
- 3) eSett will match the details on the SSI with the Online Service Account request and approve or reject it. Once the account is approved, it is ready to be used.

Preparations for invoicing

The BRPs have to establish readiness to receive invoices and complete the following tasks two weeks before the start date at the latest:

- The BRPs need to sign an agreement with an e-invoice operator to receive e-invoices

- Agree with the e-invoice operator on the format in which eSett's e-invoices will be provided by the operator
- Inform eSett of the selected e-invoice operator and the BRP's e-invoicing address
- In case the BRP does not want to receive e-invoices, eSett needs to be informed of an email address to which the invoices will be sent as PDF files
- The invoices are also available in the Online Service that is our customer portal.

The BRP has to ensure that the balance of the settlement account includes the outstanding debit amount of the current week's invoicing plus the collateral requirement by the end of the business day each Monday.

Imbalance settlement structures and technical connectivity with eSett

All market participants are responsible for submitting their structural information to eSett well before their activity begins in the Nordic Imbalance Settlement model. These templates for structures are available at www.esett.com/customers/new-market-participants/. The structural template files that relate to BRPs are *Company*, *BRP*, *RE* and *Connection Details*. BRPs are responsible for completing and submitting the files to a service request or to settlement@esett.com at least one month before the BRP starts market activity. In relation to structures and data communication, coding schemes and some details involved in them can be found in Chapter 10.4 of the Handbook.

eSett establishes a new BRP and will give BRP's administration user permission to eSett's imbalance settlement system Online Service after BRP has placed the needed collateral towards eSett.

A description of the eSett services is found in Chapter 10 of the Handbook, and information about technical connectivity with the eSett services is provided in the documentation www.esett.com/customers/data-communications/.

Other required registrations and approvals

Allowed Market Party coding schemes per country			
Country	GS1 (GLN)	EIC	National code
Denmark	X	X	
Finland	X	X ¹	X ¹
Norway	X		
Sweden	X	X	X

¹ Only for market participants outside of the scope of the Finnish Datahub. For example, a RE/BRP that has only trades or a DSO with only a production grid and no connection to distribution or transmission grids.

Denmark

When Energinet have received the signed balance agreement from eSett, Energinet will commence credit rating of the BRP. If any issues arise, e.g. demand for collateral towards Energinet, Energinet will contact the BRP directly.

Depending on the services provided by the BRP (production, consumption or balancing reserves), Energinet will contact the BRP to clarify required system access (DataHub, Operation Planning ...), e.g. grant access to systems, configure secure connection, perform testing etc. Energinet will contact the BRP directly to align what is required.

Detailed information about becoming a BRP in Denmark and technical setup will be coordinated between the BRP and Energinet. Contact information towards Energinet is electricitymarket@energinet.dk.

More information for new market participants in Denmark: www.en.energinet.dk/Electricity/New-player

Sweden

Before initiating the process of signing the agreement with eSett, the Balance Responsible Parties operating in Sweden shall enter into an Ediel agreement with Svenska Kraftnät after having successfully performed the Ediel testing procedures. More information can be found at:

www.svk.se/aktorsportalen/it-systemsupport/anvanda-ediel/
www.ediel.se
www.svk.se/aktorsportalen/for-nya-aktorer/

Norway

Companies operating in Norway are required to register as a company in Norway. Foreign businesses will find more information about registration here: www.brreg.no. Upon signing the balance agreement and the settlement agreement, the customer must provide a copy of the company certificate. The customer also needs to provide a copy of the trading concession (licence) issued by the regulator, NVE. The application form is available at www.nve.no.

A BRP who has normal production has to register at Landsentralen at least two weeks before they start the operations in Norway.

In addition, the Balance Responsible Party shall be registered and approved for message exchange on www.ediel.no.

More information about registration with the communication coding schemes GS1 (GLN) for the market participants is available at www.ediel.no/info/faq/1/53 and www.gs1.no/gln.

More information for new market participants in Norway: www.elhub.no/aktorer-og-markedsstruktur/opprette-endre-og-avslutte-aktorer/sjekklister-for-nye-aktorer/

Finland

Companies operating as a Balance Responsible Party in Finland are required register with the European Register of Market Participants (Remit). More information about registration can be found at: www.energiavirasto.fi/markkina-avonta or www.acer-remit.eu/portal/european-register or remitrekisteri@energiavirasto.fi.

More information about registration with the communication coding schemes EIC and the GS1 codes is available at www.fingrid.fi/en/electricity-market/market-integration/european-co-operation/eic-codes/ and www.gs1.fi.

If a BRP will have in his retailer role with consumption or production in a Finnish metering grid area, then an information exchange services agreement with Fingrid Datahub is required: <https://palvelut.datahub.fi/en/datahub/laskutus-ja-palvelusopimukset>.

If a BRP or retailer will be in the scope of Datahub (production or consumption in distribution grids), a GS1 code is needed for the market participant. Otherwise, an EIC or national code is sufficient.

More information for new electricity suppliers: www.fingrid.fi/en/electricity-market/datahub/datahub-services/instructions-for-new-electricity-suppliers/.

Establishing a Balance Responsible Party into eSett's settlement system Basse

eSett is able to establish the BRP into eSett's settlement system Basse right after: 1) All needed agreements mentioned earlier in this guideline documentation are signed between the parties 2) All needed settlement structures to establish a BRP including invoicing details are provided to eSett. eSett will start to invoice balance responsible parties from the same week they are established to Basse. As long as the balance responsible party does not have any settlement data, only a weekly fee will be invoiced.

The collateral must be in place latest three weeks earlier than the BRP can be active in market. eSett will give BRP's administration user permission to eSett's imbalance settlement system Online Service after BRP has placed needed collaterals towards eSett.

eSett's Newsletters

eSett recommends that new BRPs subscribe to eSett's Newsletter to get important market news and information. In addition, eSett sends out System and Maintenance Announcements also by email newsletter. You can subscribe to both newsletters on eSett's webpage <https://www.esett.com/newsroom/newsletter/>.