



# Provider of Choice: POCSA Updates

February 18-20, 2025

**PROVIDER OF CHOICE**

**POST  
2028**



# Overview

Provide an initial assessment of the changes, costs and timeline for the development of the Provider of Choice Slice Application (POCSA).



# Expected Changes from SCA to POCSA

## Changes required in shifting from hour-ahead to day-ahead:

- Right to Power (RTP) election locked for day-ahead schedule (hour ending [HE] 1-24)
  - *(vs ~30 minutes before-the-hour for Regional Dialogue [RD] Slice)*
- Simulator parameters locked 3 hours before customer RTP election
  - *(vs ~55 minutes before RTP election for RD Slice)*
- SOA (Storage Offset Adjustment) corrects inflow forecast errors 48 hours later
  - *(vs 3 hours later for RD Slice)*
- New constraints not binding during locked period
  - *(same as RD Slice, but first available hour to take effect is HE1 of next unlocked period)*
- Constraint violations resulting in energy reductions assessed 168 hours later
  - *(vs current hour for RD Slice)*

# Expected Changes (cont.)

## Other changes expected due to compliance and best practices:

- Improve cyber security  
(some already being implemented in RD Slice)
- Standardize and upgrade technology  
(remove tools that no longer provide functionality)
- Enhance testing infrastructure

# POCSA Estimated Costs

Total cost estimate: **\$1.4 million – \$2.7 million.**

- The cost estimate assumes four major areas of work:  
(1) business analysis, (2) development,  
(3) quality assurance, and (4) coordination.
- The estimate does not include Power Services staff time as a cost.
- BPA does not expect it will need to purchase any licenses to update the application.

**NOTE:** This is an estimate in advance of having formal requirements documents. It is based on design to-date as documented in the contracts plus discussions with the Slice SMEs and developers. It does not include Power Services staff time in the cost.

# POCSA Development Timeline

Date	Action
November 2025	Draft version of SWRS manual
January 2026	Project kick-off with Provider of Choice Slice/Block customers
June 2026	Finalize SWRS manual
September 2026	Publish customer facing API specification
June 2027	Performance test ready version of simulator complete
March 2028	Slice Operating Forum (SOF) finalizes functionality test procedures
May 2028	Functionality test complete
August 2028	POCSA Go-Live
October 1, 2028	Provider of Choice power deliveries start

Note: Schedule subject to change upon refinement of the development plan.

# Next Phase Engagement

- We expect that most of this work will be appropriate to collaborate with future Slice customers and would not need to take place in public forums.
  - Plan to commence the PoC Slice Operations Forum (SOF) later this year.
- Topics expected to come up during customer engagement:
  - Testing requirements
  - Customer API changes
  - Technology changes
  - Slice 101 presentation
  - DA scheduling challenges

# Operational Challenges

One example of a topic to be discussed: ‘Unlocked water’:

- BPA recognizes that the day-ahead timeframe will pose challenges
- Because constraint changes are restricted, sudden changes may occur at midnight between one locked day and the next.
- To allow customers to meet these challenges, BPA will explore a way to implement what we are calling ‘Unlocked’ or ‘Reshaped’ water
  - Although total RTP election is determined on a day-ahead basis, customers would be allowed to reallocate generation (i.e. reshape water) between projects during the remaining hours of the locked period
  - The total RTP (rounded MW) must still match exactly for every locked hour
  - More discussion to come before we implement this





***Questions?***