Office of the State Controller

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

To: Chief Financial Officers, Vice Chancellors

From: Anne Godwin, Deputy State Controller

Date: March 4, 2019

Subject: Preparation for Upgrade of IBM Cognos PowerPlay Client for DSS Users

CC: Chief Information Officers, Fiscal Contacts

As announced in the February 1, 2019 memo, the North Carolina Accounting System Decision Support System (NCAS DSS) is currently being upgraded. The upgrade will go live on April 1, 2019. In order to view cube reports in the upgrade, users must have a new **version 11** of IBM Cognos PowerPlay installed on their computer during the month of April. Cube reports will continue to be available in the current version 10 of PowerPlay through the end of April, allowing users one month to transition. Custom cube reports will need to be converted in PowerPlay 11, with instructions provided in the updated Quick Start Guide once the upgrade is live.

Before starting the PowerPlay client installation process, some agencies may need to have their IT support personnel open ports on firewalls in order to connect to the new DSS servers. Make sure to include any VPN connections as well. TCP ports 9500 and 9662 should be opened bi-directional on <u>all</u> firewalls between the agency and DIT for servers 149.168.94.52 and 204.211.167.146. Agency IT support personnel may need to open a ticket with the Department of Information Technology for these rules to be implemented. This can be done before the April 1 go live date.

The upgraded DSS application uses **NCID authentication** for <u>both</u> cube reports viewed through PowerPlay 11 and static reports viewed on the web. All current users of DSS who view cube reports will have their NCID authorized automatically to view cube reports in the upgrade when it goes live. NCID accounts must be active and unlocked in order to login. For help with an NCID account, users must contact their agency or university NCID administrator.

DSS will also transition to a new web page on the OSC website. The new web page will include links to PowerPlay 11 installation files, installation instructions, an updated Quick Start Guide, an updated FAQ, and a DSS authorization form for new users. The current DSS web page https://ncasdss.ncosc.net/ will include a link to the new web page starting on the go live date.

We will send another memo by April 1, 2019 with further details on how to transition to the DSS upgrade. In the meantime, if you have questions please contact OSC Support Services at (919) 707-0795 or osc.support.services@osc.nc.gov.

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