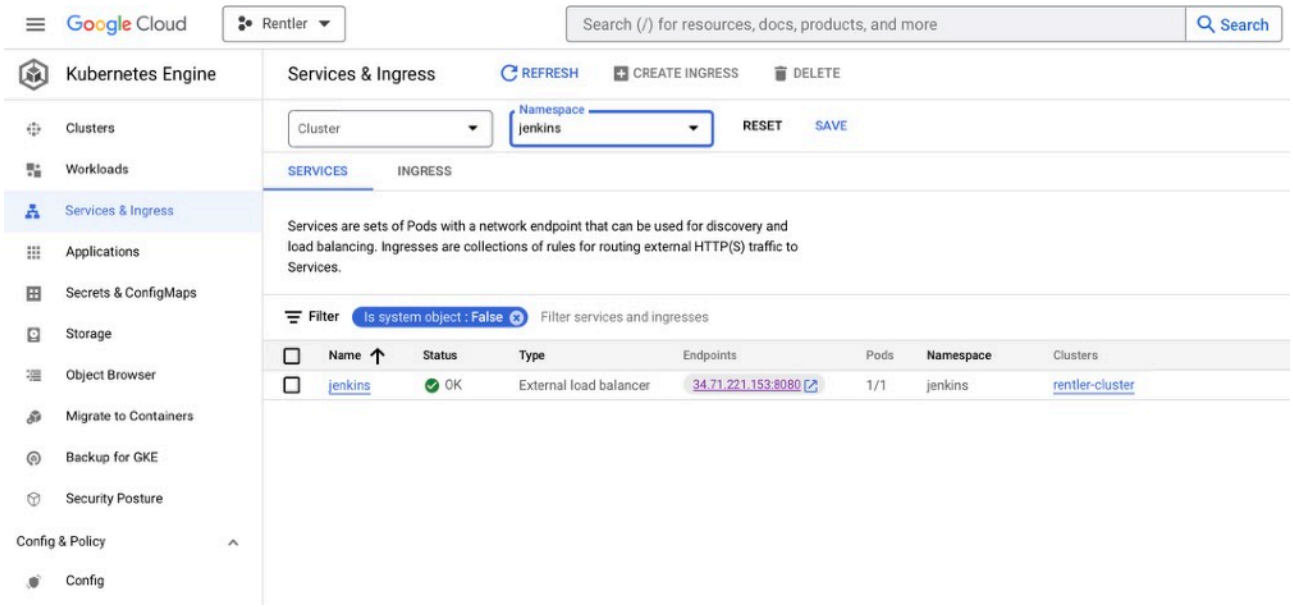
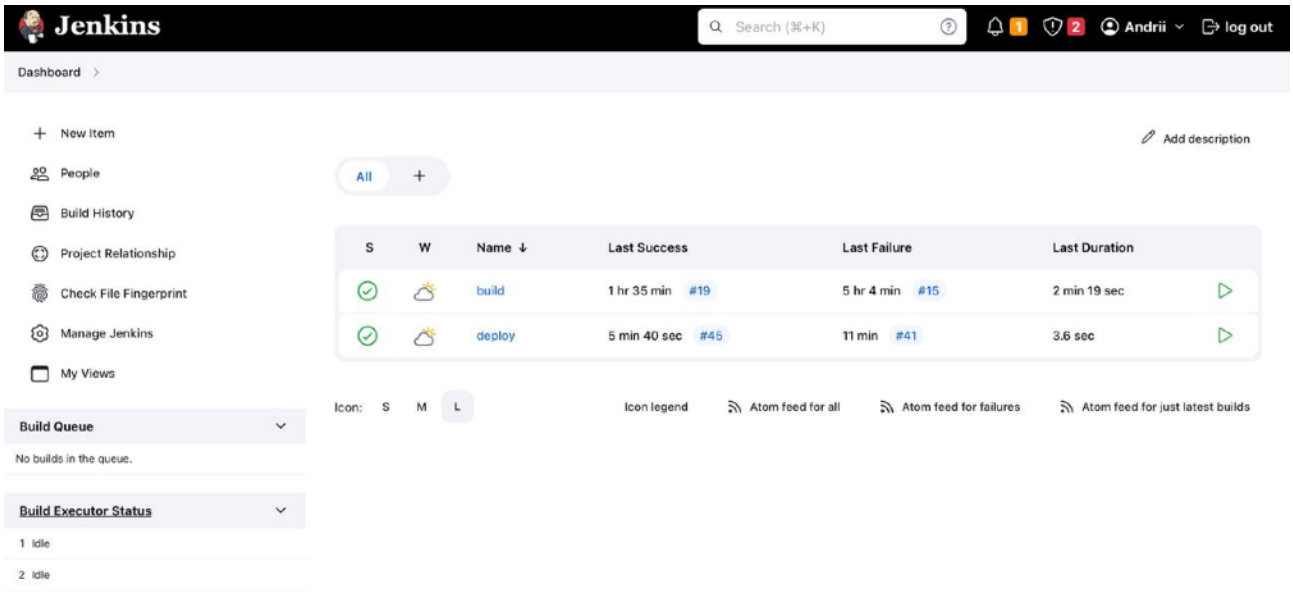
CD/CI Process Documentation using Jenkins and GKE

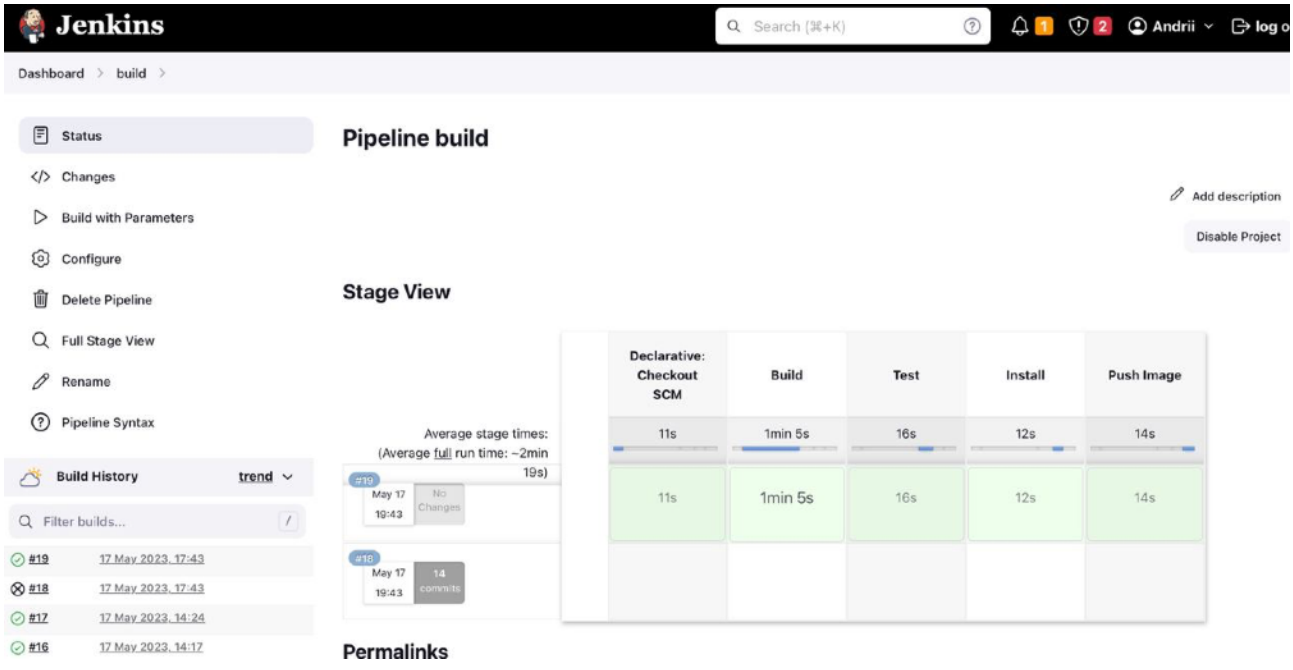
We implemented CD/CI process using Jenkins deployed as a service on Google Kubernetes Engine because it is considered one of the best tools due to such advantages as scalability, flexible plugin ecosystem, robust security features, support for Infrastructure as Code (IaC), and seamless integration with GKE's scalable infrastructure.



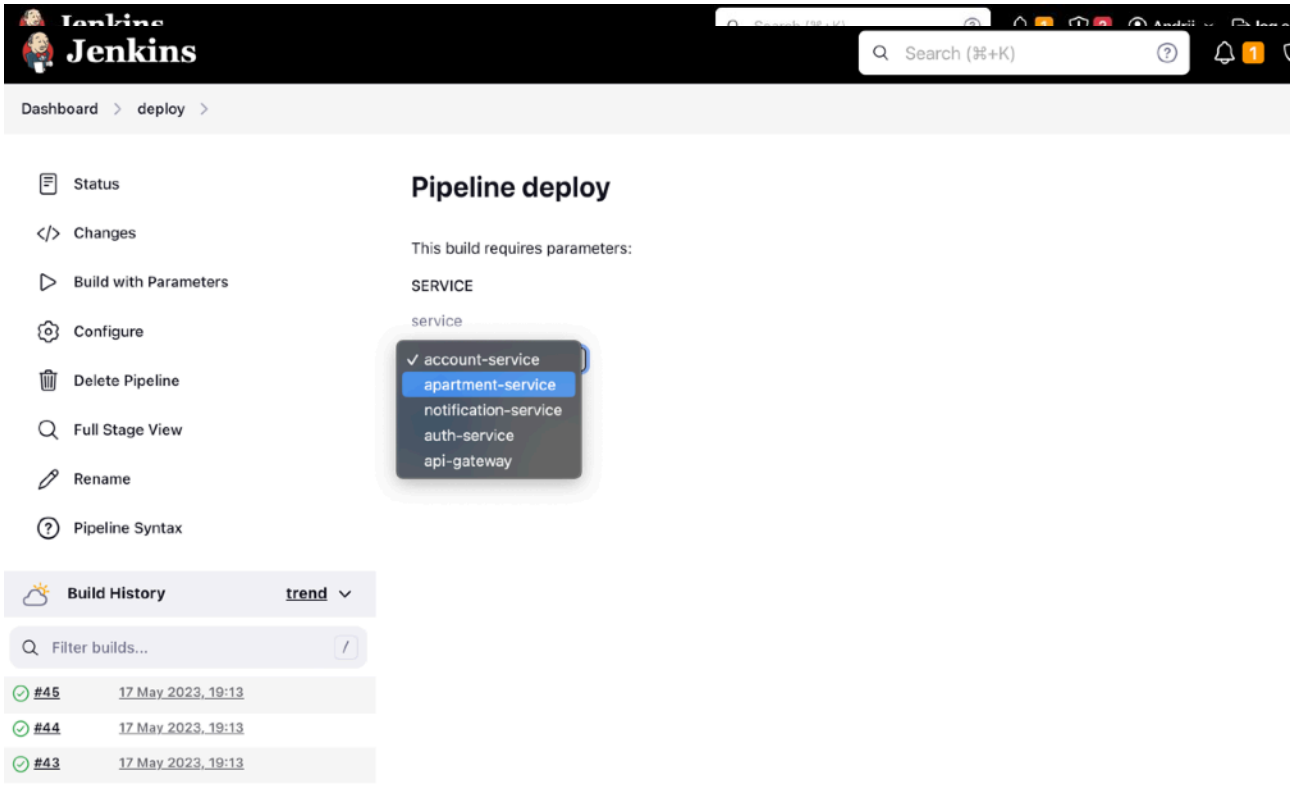
The CD/CI process implemented using Jenkins and GKE consists of two jobs: **build** and **deploy**. The process is as follows:

1. Build Job:
    - This job is automatically triggered on a commit to the GitHub repository.
    - It starts by pulling the code from the GitHub repository.
    - Automated tests are executed to ensure the quality of the code.
    - If the test coverage is insufficient, the build job fails.
    - The Maven artifacts generated during the build are installed to the Artifact Registry.
    - A Docker image is built using the Maven artefacts from Artifact Registry.
    - The Docker image is then pushed to the Container Registry.
    - Kaniko is utilized to build Docker images because it enables secure and efficient image building within the Jenkins agent container without requiring privileged access or the use of a Docker daemon.



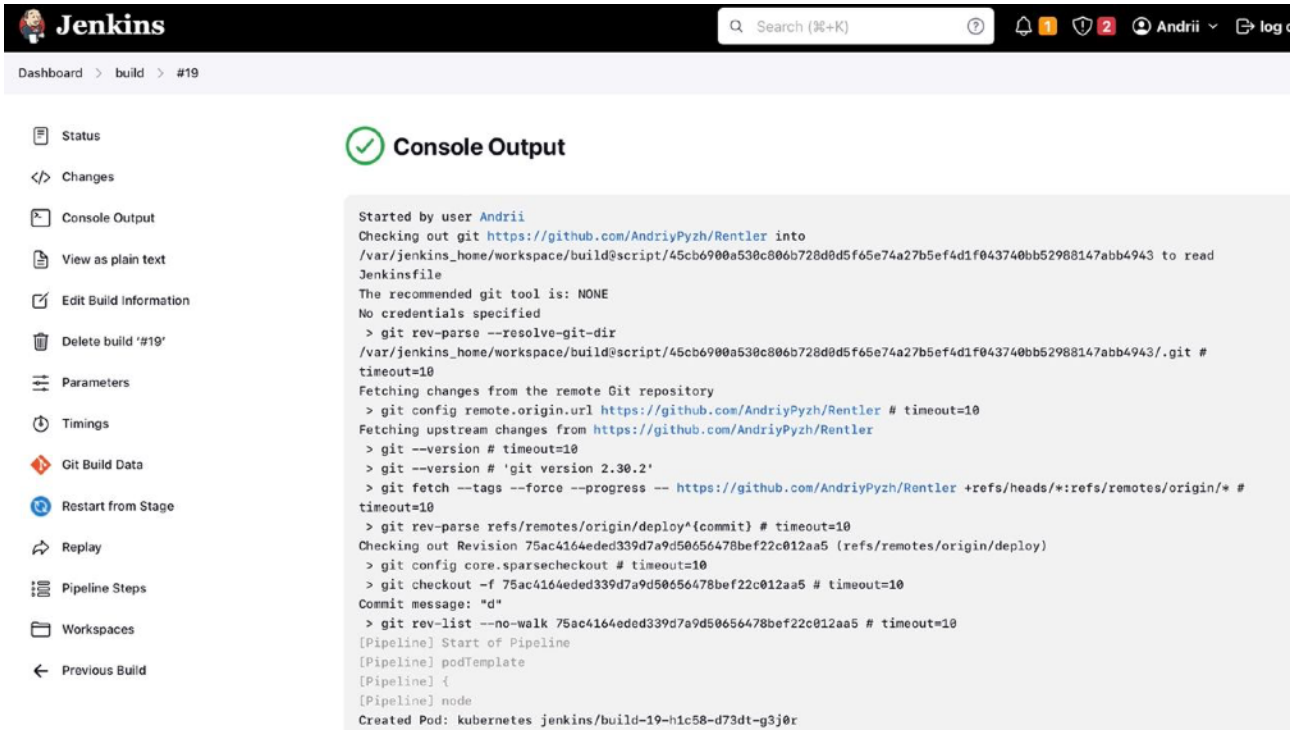


2. Deploy Job:
    - This job is responsible for deploying the Docker image to GKE.
    - It pulls the Docker image from the Container Registry.
    - The image is deployed to the Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE) cluster.
    - If the build job fails, the deploy job uses the previously built Docker image to ensure a fallback option.



Key Features of the CD/CI Process:

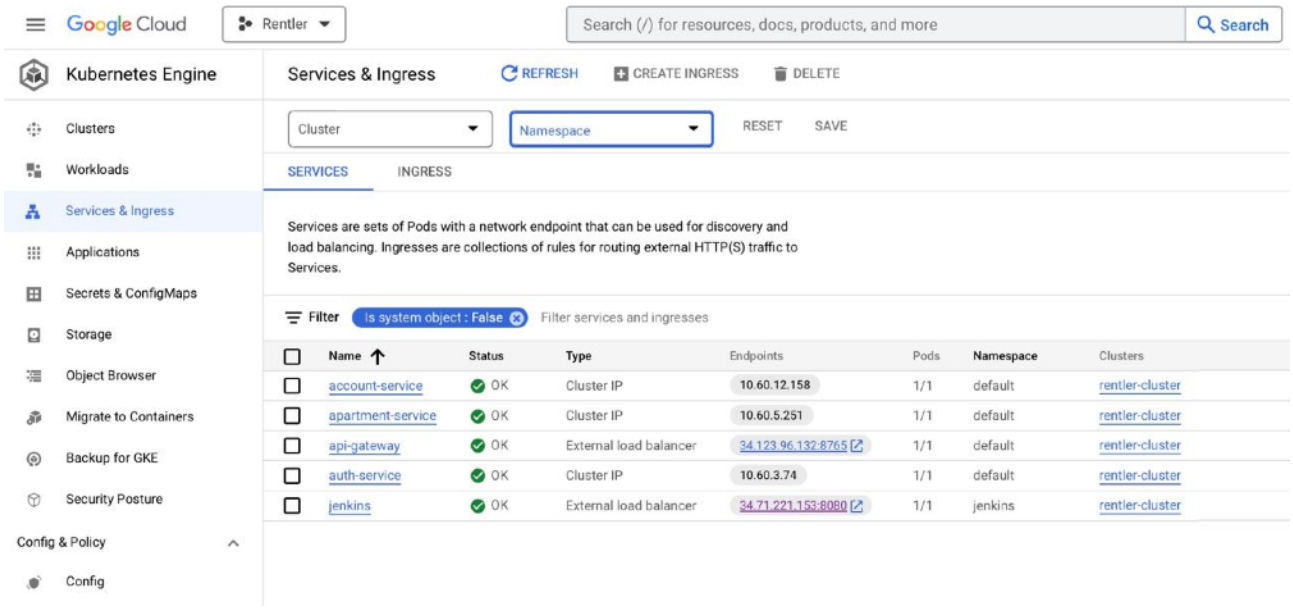
- **Automatic Triggering:** The build job is automatically triggered on each commit to the GitHub repository, ensuring a continuous integration process.
- **Test Coverage Check:** If the test coverage is found to be insufficient during the build job, the process fails, indicating the need for improvement in test coverage.
- **Parameterization:** Both the build and deploy jobs are parameterized, allowing flexibility to build and deploy any service to GKE as required.
- **Dynamic Agent Creation:** Jenkins creates agents such as Maven and Docker using GKE resources, ensuring efficient resource utilization and scalability.



Both the **build** and **deploy** Jenkins jobs are created from a Jenkinsfile, which provides several benefits:

- using a Jenkinsfile allows for version control, ensuring that the pipeline definition evolves with the codebase and making it easier to track changes and collaborate.
- it enables reproducibility and consistency by defining the exact steps and configurations required for the CD/CI process. This ensures that every execution follows the defined pipeline, reducing errors and inconsistencies.
- Jenkinsfile promotes automation by codifying the pipeline, eliminating the need for manual configuration and reducing human error.

Overall, the use of Jenkinsfiles for defining Jenkins jobs enhances maintainability, repeatability, and scalability of the CD/CI process.



As a result, we implemented CD/CI process with Jenkins and GKE that provides a streamlined and automated workflow for building, testing, and deploying services, promoting faster development cycles and improved software quality.