

Public

Connections Reform Next Steps Webinar

13 May 2025

Agenda

Item	Timings
1. Welcome and changes to the connections methodologies	15 mins
2. Update on additional documentation	10 mins
3. Gate 2 to Whole Queue high-level timeline	5 mins
4. Project Designation	5 mins
5. Q&A	25 mins

Changes to the connections methodologies

Changes to Methodologies

Changes following Ofgem's decision	Gate 2 Criteria Methodology	Connections Network Design Methodology	Project Designation Methodology
Removal of references to WACMI "Pause"	✓	✓	
Update Protection Clause 2a	✓	✓	
Update Protection Clause 3	✓	✓	
Clarify requirement for embedded customers to resubmit Queue Management milestone evidence	✓		
Typographical and other consequential changes	✓	✓	✓

Changes to Protections (2a)

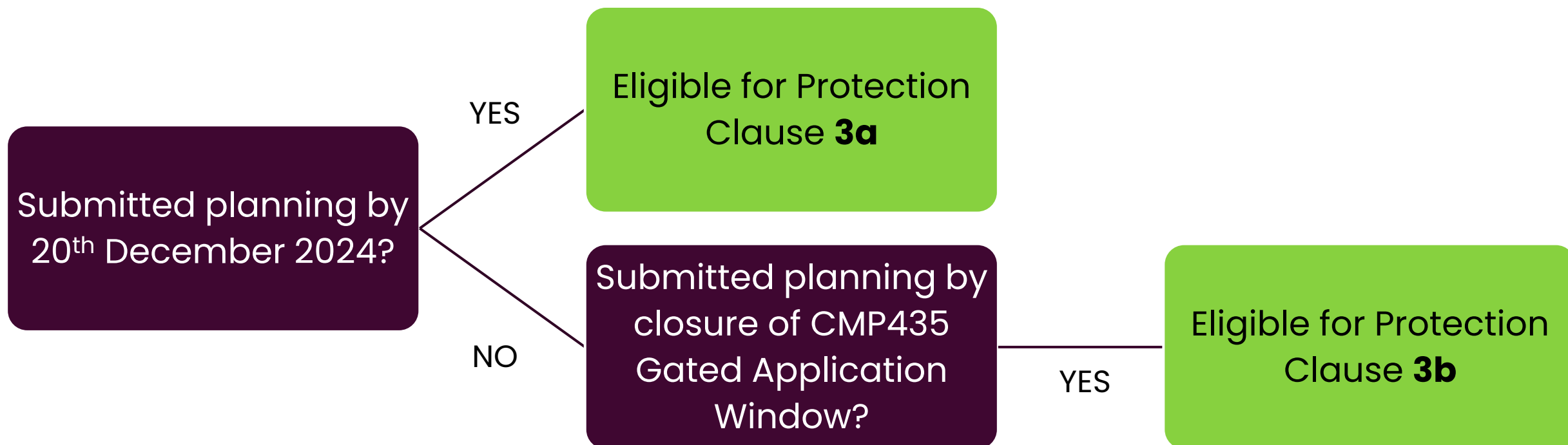
Protection Clause 2a (CMP435)

- Projects that are eligible for Protection Clause 2a will now also have their connection date and Point of Connection protected **if they are contracted to connect in 2027 or earlier**
- M7 is **not** required to be eligible for this enhanced protection of date and PoC, unless the project does not require planning consent

Projects connecting in 2026 or earlier can still be covered by Protection Clause 1 if they submitted planning after 20th December 2024 and obtain this in time for CMP435, however these projects will still need to have met M7

Changes to Protections (3)

Scenario: Project receives a Gate 1 offer in CMP435. Has since obtained planning consent and applies again in CMP434.



Changes to Protections (3)

Protection Clause 3a (CMP434)

- All projects with 'existing agreements' that submitted planning on or before 20th December 2024 will now be eligible for full protection under Clause 3a
- Full protection means these projects are allowed to exceed both the zonal and GB permitted capacities
- A 'decision' (refusal or non-determination) is no longer required **before** the closure of the CMP435 application window; projects that are in earlier stages of the process when the application window closes will still be protected if they ultimately go on to obtain consent
- There is no longer a requirement to submit an appeal following non-determination
- As before, this protection clause will apply in **any** future CMP434 window, not just the first window following CMP435

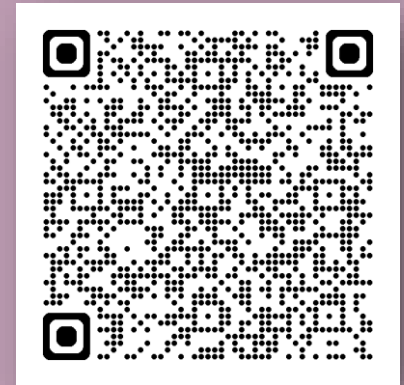
Protection Clause 3b (CMP434)

- All projects with 'existing agreements' that submitted planning **after** 20th December 2024 will be partly protected under Clause 3b
- They will be allowed to exceed the zonal permitted capacity, but must still be within the GB total permitted capacity
- As before, this protection clause will apply in **any** future CMP434 window, not just the first window following CMP435

Changes to Protections

	Protection Clauses				
	1	2a	2b	3a	3b
CMP435 or CMP434?	435	435	434	434	434
Guaranteed place in queue?	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Connection date and Point of Connection (PoC) protected?	YES	If 2027 or earlier	N/A	N/A	N/A
Allowed to exceed zonal permitted capacity?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Allowed to exceed GB permitted capacity?	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO

"Permitted Capacity"
= CP30 capacity
minus built and
operational capacity



**Clean Power 2030
Action Plan:**
Connections
Reform Annex

Update on additional documentation

Updates to existing and new supporting guidance

Published version to support G2WQ submission CMP 435) and the enduring process (CMP 434)

Queue Management Guidance (updated)

LoA Guidance (updated)

Published version to support 'enduring' connections process (i.e CMP 434)

Guidance on Material Technology Changes

Guidance on Gated Modification Applications

Interactivity Guidance (updated) – *draft*

Additional documentation (1 of 2)

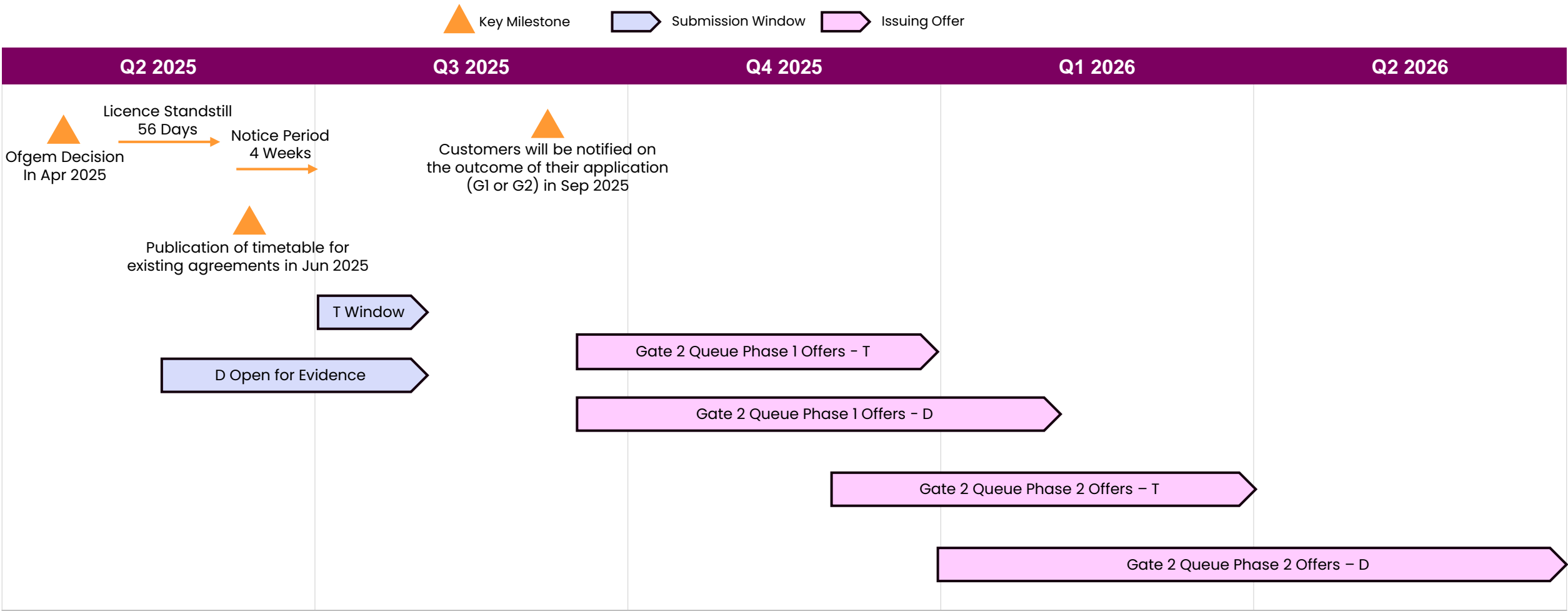
Title	What it does	Changes	When
NESO LoA guidance (<i>draft published 30th April</i>)	Explains requirements for G1 and G2 connection applications relating to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original Red Line Boundaries/ Red Line Boundaries • Minimum acreage requirements (energy density table) • Letter of Authority/ Letter of Acknowledgement 	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cover note explaining key changes due to CMP 434/435 - Since 30th April, added summary table comparing requirements across Gate 1 and Gate 2 	12/05/25
NESO Queue Management guidance (<i>draft published 30th April</i>)	Explains requirements for Queue Management evidence submission (does not apply to embedded projects)	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cover note explaining key changes due to CMP 434/435 - Since 30th April, added minor clarification to explain how we identify the MW capacity when checking Planning Consent docs (relevant for Protections in G2WQ) 	12/05/25

Additional documentation (2 of 2)

Title	What it does	Changes	When
NESO Gated ModApp guidance	<p>Provides guidance on what is a Gated Modification under connections reform, and classifies various Modifications Applications as being Gated or non-Gated</p> <p>Applicable under enduring reform once a Gate 1 or Gate 2 connection agreement is in place; not relevant for G2TWQ</p>	New	12/05/2025
NESO Material Technology change guidance	<p>Clarifies the treatment of technology change requests, including principles by which technology changes may be considered 'material' and consequent impacts on relative queue positions of projects</p> <p>Applicable under enduring reform once a Gate 1 or Gate 2 connection agreement is in place; not relevant for G2WQ</p>	New	12/05/2025
NESO Interactivity guidance (published as draft for two weeks)	<p>Outlines process NESO and TOs undertake when two applications are submitted at the same time, but which cannot both be accommodated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated to reflect change in scope due to CMP 434. Otherwise no changes 	<p>12/05/25</p> <p>Consulting on this draft for two weeks</p>

Reform timelines

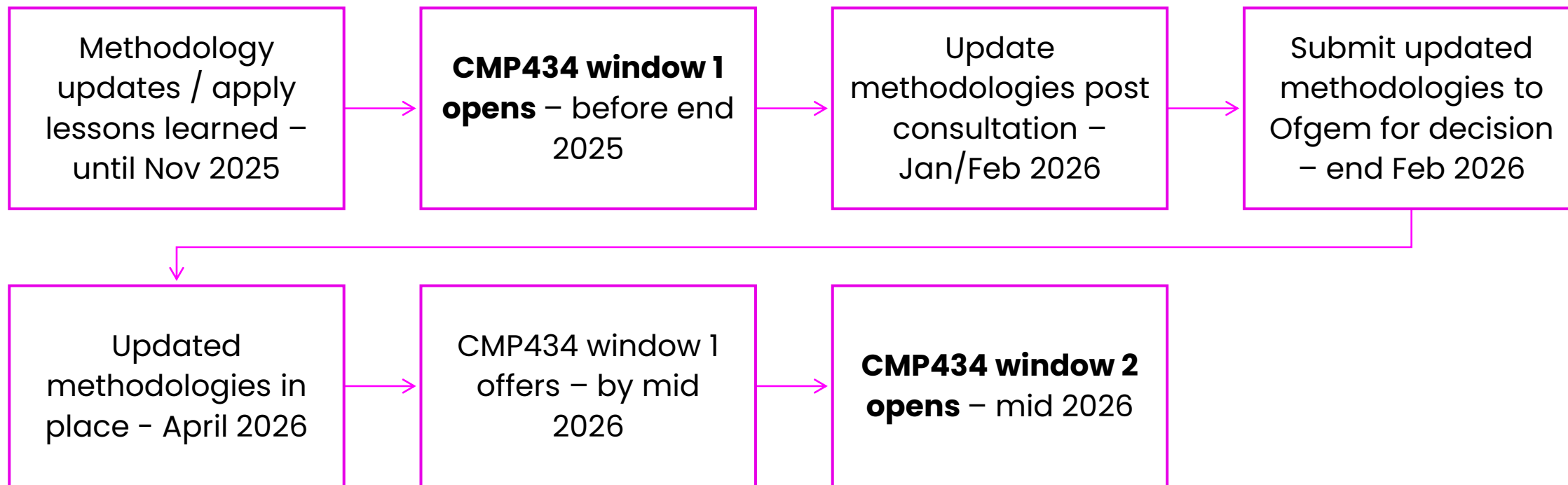
G2TWQ Plan



Notes:

- DNO will start accepting evidence this month.
- T window is expected to open in July, the exact date will be confirmed with at least 4-week notice.
- NESO will continue sharing guidance documents and hosting webinars for customers in the lead up to the window, details of these will be shared via our website.
- Queue Phase 1 Offers will be prioritised

Year ahead indicative plan



Project Designation

Project Designation

1. **Designation process is separate to the G2TWQ evidence submission process – applying for designation does not mean you have applied for Gate 2 and vice versa**
2. We will share draft project designation submission materials shortly for innovative and long lead time projects.
3. We encourage anyone who is going to seek designation to familiarise themselves with the materials and engage bilaterally ASAP.
4. Prospective applicants may provide information using the draft submission materials at anytime and we encourage you to do so.
5. We intend to make final submission materials available on 11 June – applicants who have provided information early will still need to make a formal application.
6. **We will make reasonable endeavours** to decide on all applications before G2TWQ evidence window closes, but this may not be possible.
7. If we receive an application for designation after 15 July **we will definitely not** be able to make a decision before G2TWQ evidence window closes.

For further information contact: Neil.Copeland@neso.energy

Upcoming events:

- **Date tbc (End of May)**
Reform Readiness Declaration Webinar

Register your interest below:



Q&A

Modapps and Modapp fees (1)

EC

Ed Crussell

2 weeks ago

12 

For projects that apply for an accelerated gate-2 offer but receive either no change to connection date or a Gate-1 offer, will the modapp fee be refunded?



Anonymous

5 days ago

12 

Why is a modapp required to request acceleration of connection date? The date is in all cases worse than wished for. You are then modapping something into what you wanted to begin with. No longer first ready (and aligned), first connected



Anonymous

21 hours ago

0 

- Is submission of ModApp required to request advancement of contracted connection date? - What documents to use for ModApp to request advancement of contracted connection date?



Anonymous

5 days ago

2 

what will be the mod app process and fees for DNO connections? Historically there has been no formal process for developer to mod app with DNO



Anonymous

4 days ago

4 

What will the new mod-app process be and how much will it cost? Given that the intention for it is only to change the date, is the intention that the cost of this 'advancement mod-app' is much lower than the cost of typical mod-apps?



Anonymous

22 hours ago

0 

Can you please provide a proforma for the Gate 2 acceleration mod app, and an indication of the fee?

Modapps and Modapp fees (2)



Anonymous

4 days ago

2

How are Mod Apps for acceleration requests to be completed? Via Portal or downloaded forms to upload as attachments within evidence submission?



Niall Stuart

4 days ago

1

Are you able to share yet if a request for advancement or capacity reduction will require developers to submit all the information associated with a 'normal' mod app or if it will be a lighter touch process?



Anonymous

5 days ago

8

To reduce TEC we have to submit a ModApp. How do we do this when applications are paused on the portal? Is a full suite of application documents required? Does it also require invoice to be issued and paid before the window closes?

Guidance Documents



Richard Knights

20 hours ago

2 

Does NESO's land policy require additional land to be contiguous?



Anonymous

4 days ago

2 

Have u published Significant Modification Application Guidance & Material & Technology Change Guidance yet. If not do you have a publication date

TEC Reduction, Securities & Liabilities (1)



Anonymous

5 days ago

1

Are cancellation fees expected for reduction of TEC?



Anonymous

5 days ago

10

Can you please expand on Tec Reduction fees, in particular for connections further out in time? The reduction is capacity may not be by free choice but due to new requirements (gate 2) introduced. As such seems unreasonable to charge?



Morgan

4 days ago

0

Please confirm cancellation charging does not apply when removal of a technology results in an associated reduction to TEC?



Anonymous

5 days ago

9

For Cancellation Charges, can you please explain why they would apply if part of a connection is progressed to Gate 2 but not if zero capacity under the connection is progressed to Gate 2? Seems counterintuitive?



Barry Matthews

5 days ago

4

Due to having less time to assemble land / get a permit due to this process, how will NESO charge cancellation fees for reducing TEC? i.e. if developers have longer to assemble the land, they wouldn't need to reduce

TEC Reduction, Securities & Liabilities (2)



Anonymous

5 days ago

2

Will a project's fixed liabilities be carried through into the Gate 2 offer or will they be recalculated based on the new reinforcement requirements?



Anonymous

4 days ago

0

Will payments for intertripping and lodged sums for financial securities be fully reimbursed for projects that are now unviable due to delayed connection dates, and will there be no further liability for cancellation charges?



Anonymous

5 days ago

1

For the upcoming grid security posting, is this handled as the latest (existing arrangements extended, as is, without a change?)



Ed Crussell

2 weeks ago

9

If a Gate-2 offer is provided in Q1'26 with significant security liability, will those securities need to be placed for the April period? It may be impossible for many companies to place 7-figure securities with 30-days notice.



Chris Jones - Knight Frank

7 days ago

6

As connection Reform is now likely to be completed in Q1 26, can the pause on securities be extended to end of this period?

Gate 1



Anonymous

4 days ago

2 

If we wish to get Gate 1 offers, do we need to submit anything?



Anonymous

5 days ago

4 

Do we apply for Gate 1 or just not apply for Gate 2?



Anonymous

4 days ago

1 

What happens if you request an advancement from e.g. 2037 to 2028, and the offer you get is a restricted 2028 offer, but you would have preferred a firm 2030 connection. If you reject this 'restricted' offer - will you revert to gate 1?

Hybrid projects

MB

Matias Bertola

6 days ago

4 

Co-located/hybrid projects are materially impacted. Designs / planning and viability could be at risk with a single technology. How are you dealing with this? What can NSIPs in this situation past examinations/pre-consent do?



Anonymous

5 days ago

4 

Will all successfully aligned Hybrid projects receive two contracts (one for each technology) or a single combined contract?

BM

Barry Matthews

5 days ago

4 

Where developers have hybrid projects, will NESO be issuing 2 (or 3) separate offers if different technologies receive different gated offers? (i.e. one technology gets a gate 2 offer and the other a gate 1 offer)

RK

Richard Knights

20 hours ago

2 

What is the process for only offering connection for some technologies of hybrid projects? Will all hybrid projects be considered in this way?

Protections



Anonymous

19 hours ago

1

For projects which will benefit from PC3 eligible in a future CMP434 window • Can such projects still apply to the 435 window for capacity? • If still being considered under 435 then will it be precluded from applying to the 434 window?



Anonymous

22 hours ago

0

Can a project rely on Strategic Alignment Protection 2(a)(iii) if it holds a Capacity Market contract for a proportion of the full TEC for that project?



Anonymous

5 days ago

2

What about connections applying for the latest LDES contracts? we wont know if been successful until after Gate 2 process, and so we could see BESS projects with land go into Gate 1 as not required but then be awarded LDES contracts



Anonymous

4 days ago

1

If a project successfully obtains an LDES contract, but does not receive a Gate 2 offer through the G2tWQ process, will it receive an 'interim gate 2 offer' or equivalent?

Data and Information



Anonymous

2 weeks ago

6 

Why aren't you publishing transparent information on queue entry dates and milestones met to help understand potential queue formation outcomes?



Anonymous

19 hours ago

1 

Will transmission connected projects still be notified ahead of time of whether or not they have been successful in Gate 2? Will such notification provide an indicative date or simply information on whether or not Gate 2 has been passed?



Anonymous

4 days ago

0 

What is point of EA Register having an Opt-out option, surely everyone will opt out and then you have no register?



Anonymous

4 days ago

0 

TEC Register Shortfall Does NESO plan to raise a CUSC mod to update the TEC register to include demand and also include provision to publish the outcomes from the G2TWQ process?

Misc (1)



Anonymous

2 weeks ago

0

Recent network connection dates have been beyond 2030, rendering applying for planning permission redundant. Will there be future projections for projects with distant grid connection dates who haven't sought planning permission?



Barry Matthews

5 days ago

3

What happens if someone mod app's and states that they can connect sooner than our project, yet we could also connect in that same timeframe but haven't mod app'ed due to the risks associated with that?



Anonymous

4 days ago

0

Portal stats It would be useful for NESO to publish actual service levels against target service levels following the changes to the communications being via the portal rather than directly with Customer Managers. Any plans?



Anonymous

2 weeks ago

14

Will there be financial compensation for those of us who have committed significant funds towards development projects, in good faith, towards contracted connection dates, which will now no longer receive viable grid connection dates?



Chris Jones - Knight Frank

7 days ago

0

Can NESO please confirm is CMP417 will be implemented prior to the end of Connection Reform?



Anonymous

1 week ago

0

As an LA, I have a bank of small to medium parked projects that proved unviable due to expensive reinforcement fees. We could resuscitate some where we had given up on grid connections when they lapsed. How can we get back on board?

Misc (2)



Anonymous

5 days ago

0

We submitted an application and paid the fee before the pause in February, and addressed all queries prior to 12/2. NESO advised this was withdrawn without advising the specific reasons. Can this project participate in G2TWQ?



Anonymous

5 days ago

1

If we do not accept a transitional offer, is the capacity still secured and do we remain in Gate 1 until the next Gate 2 window in 2026?



Anonymous

5 days ago

1

Will NESO stage grid offers with multiple connected wind farms that have secured land rights but varying planning statuses, including some consented, some in planning, and some refused?



Ian Curry

23 hours ago

0

Are the User Progression Milestone dates calculated from the revised Gate2 offer issuance date and the revised Gate2 offer connection date. If so how is the M1 milestone calculated? There seems to be a mismatch.



Andrew Allan

5 days ago

1

Is a project considered as "Staged" if you are ModApping an operational site to add a Technology? Or only if there are multiple stages of offers that are not yet connected?



Anonymous

22 hours ago

0

What is the planning of next steps in the Gate 2 connections reform (NESO) process? (most important: G2 evidence window)

Upcoming events:

- **Date tbc (End of May)**
Reform Readiness Declaration Webinar

Register your interest below:



Thank you