Public

Evidence Submission Q&A

Connections Reform Summer 2025 Webinar Series

NESO
National Energy System Operator

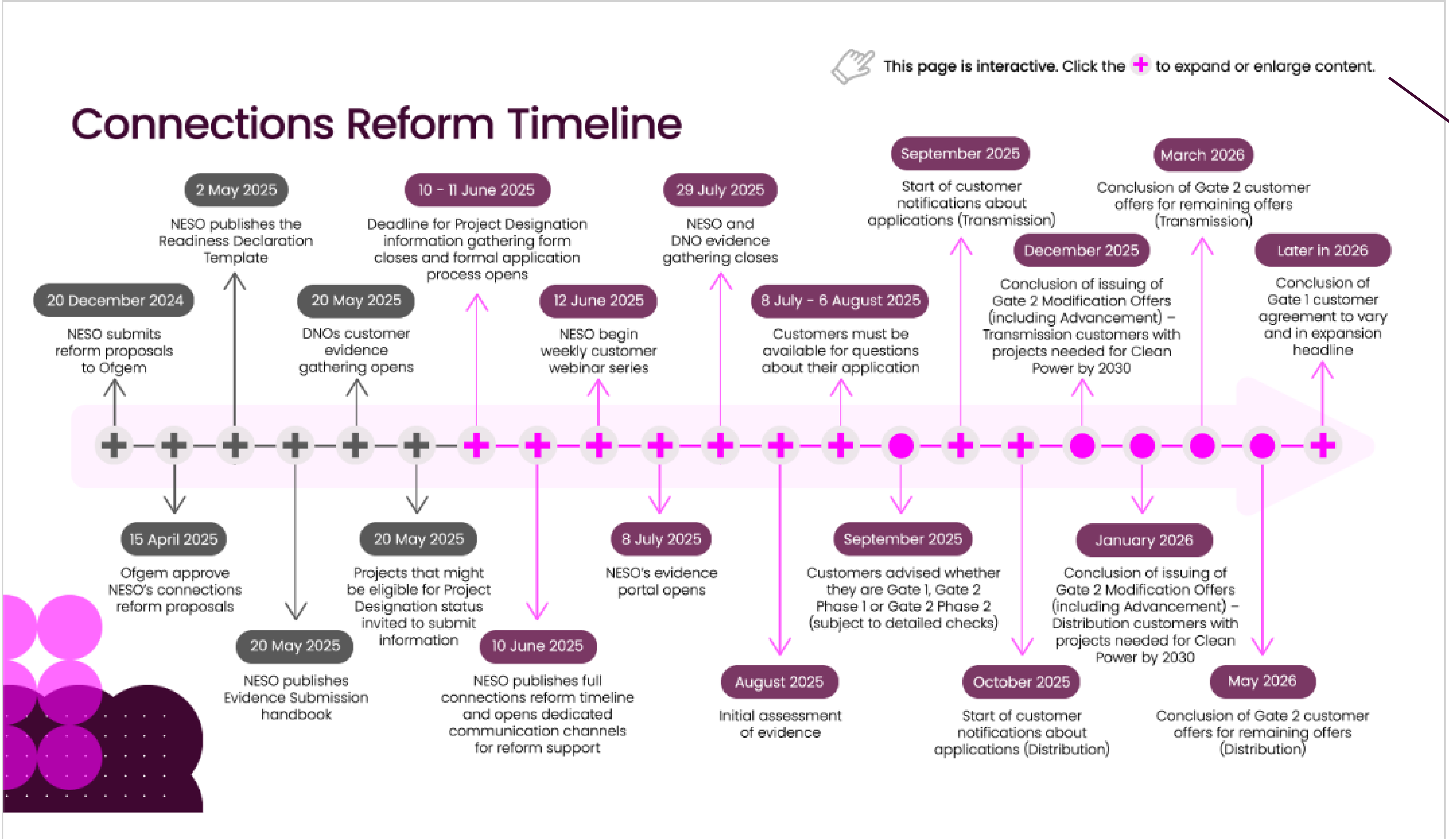
Agenda

1. Connections reform timeline
2. How to get help
3. Land Rights
4. Original Red Line Boundaries (ORLB)
5. Your Q&A

Timeline & Getting Help

Kate Garratt

NESO
National Energy System Operator



[Connections Reform | National Energy System Operator](#)

New ways to get help

Get answers fast

1. Check the handbook: Evidence Handbook | National Energy System Operator

2. Search our FAQs: Information

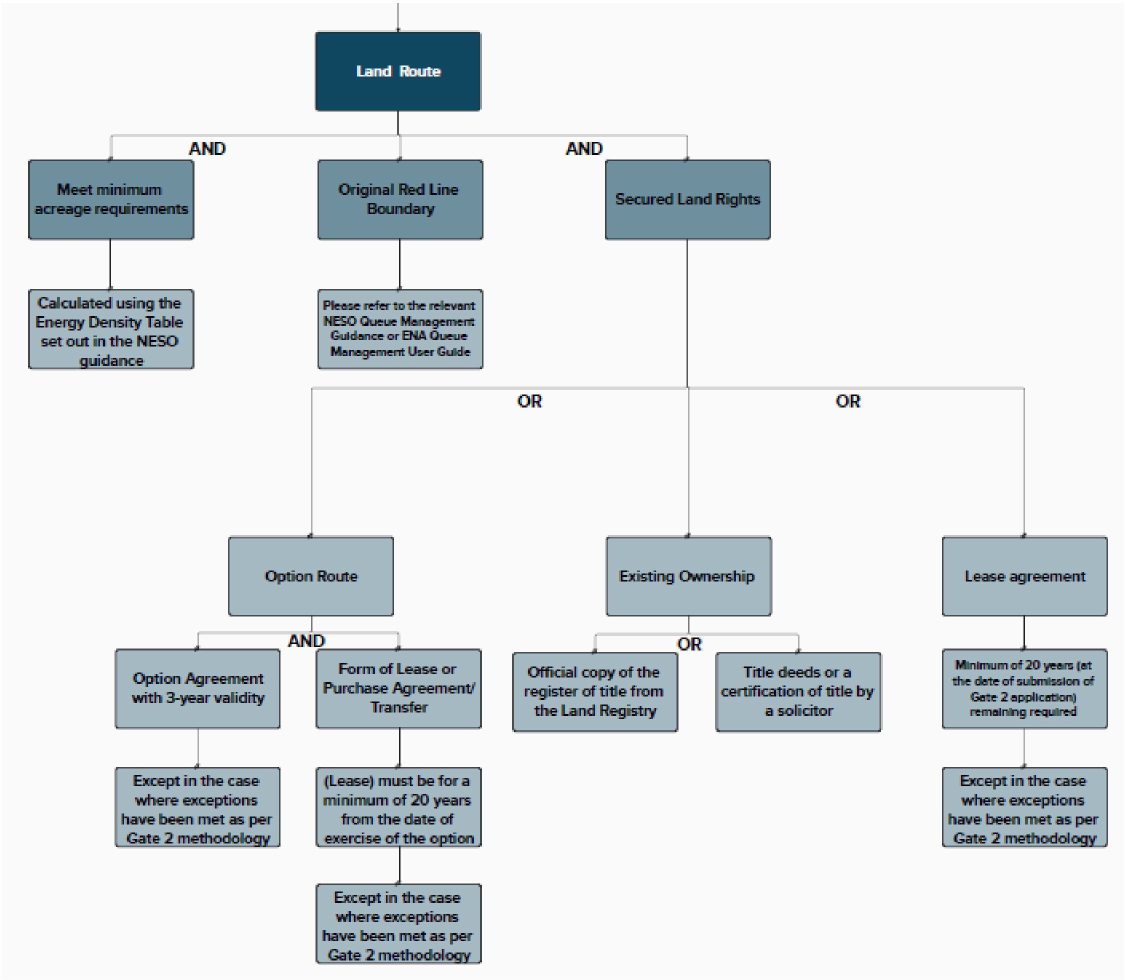
3. See our On Demand Video Library, past webinars and sign up to new Webinars: Connection Reform webinars and on demand videos | National Energy System Operator

4. Contact our dedicated help team via your portal or our direct email: Contact Connections Reform | National Energy System Operator

Land rights

Paul Mullen

There are 3 broad routes to evidence a project has secured land rights:



Handbook Text (p.37)

For each land parcel the customer has secured land rights for, the customer must select as appropriate from the following:

- A: Option agreement
- B: Option agreement: exception
- C: Option agreement: lease or purchase agreement
- D: Existing land lease
- E: Existing ownership

Note: Where Option A is selected in respect of a/each land parcel, Option C is then also required, as the associated lease(s) or purchase agreement(s) as provided for in the option will need to be evidenced alongside the option agreement(s). If a customer has an exception under Option B, the customer will also need to select Option B, as well as Option A and Option C.

Original Red Line Boundary (ORLB)

Paul Mullen

ORLD – an overview

Mandatory info that needs to be included and examples of what it should look like are in Appendix 3 of Evidence Submission handbook

Appendix 3: Original Red Line Boundary (ORLB) Examples

Note: The provided examples are for illustrative purposes and may not be drawn to scale.

We provide examples below of the expected format when submitting the ORLB. This format should be used for both single and multiple parcels of land.

J. Smith Generation Project Limited

Site Address:
Land South of Murton Substation, Pit Road, Murton, Seaham

Postcodes (nearest):
SR7 9JP

Technology Installed:
10.0MW of Battery Energy Storage System (Energy Arbitrage)

Land Acreage of site:
0.5011 Acres

Grid Coordinates (WGS84 Format):
Northerly Extreme Latitude: 54.806
Northerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.395

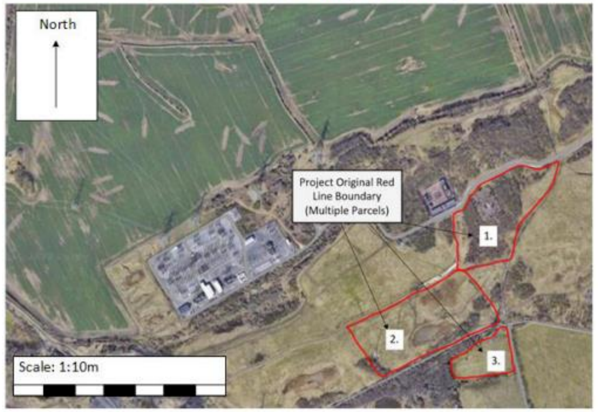
Easterly Extreme Latitude: 54.806
Easterly Extreme Longitude: -1.394

Southerly Extreme Latitude: 54.805
Southerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.396

Westerly Extreme Latitude: 54.805
Westerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.397

Figure 7: Satellite image with single parcel of land

J. Smith Generation Project Limited



Site Address:
Land South of Murton Substation, Pit Road, Murton, Seaham

Postcodes (nearest):
SR7 9JP

Technology Installed:
30.0MW of Solar PV

Land Acreage of site:
Parcel 1: 0.5011 Acres
Parcel 2: 0.6011 Acres
Parcel 3: 0.2011 Acres

Grid Coordinates (WGS84 Format) Whole Site Area:
Northerly Extreme Latitude: 54.806
Northerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.395

Easterly Extreme Latitude: 54.804
Easterly Extreme Longitude: -1.395

Southerly Extreme Latitude: 54.800
Southerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.394

Westerly Extreme Latitude: 54.802
Westerly Extreme Longitude: - 1.400

Figure 8: Satellite image with multiple parcels of land

download the handbook

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ORLB – an overview

Key background

The CMP434/CMP435 created concept of the ORLB is a new requirement and is not related to any previous red line boundary submissions at transmission.

- However, embedded projects will need to continue to comply with any existing DNO red line boundary policies and will need be mindful of these when providing the ORLB. Please contact your relevant DNO here in relation to what is allowable, if you are uncertain.

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ORLB – an overview

Key background

ORLB is for the Project Site

ORLB **does not need to match** the entire secured land boundary or any planning consent boundary (but it could do).

ORLB **needs to be within the secured land and cover the minimum acreage** for the Installed Capacity within the ORLB confirmed as meeting the Gate 2 Readiness Criteria

There is not a requirement for separate technology ORLB.

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ORLB – an overview

Grid Coordinates

Specifically on Grid Coordinates of your Project Site:

- Longitude and Latitude in WGS84 format to 3 decimal places of Northerly, Easterly, Southerly and Westerly extreme coordinates of project site. **Format has been consulted on and approved by Ofgem.**
- Decimal format (not degrees, minutes, seconds)
- We require Grid Coordinates for the ORLB which includes the Project Site (and not individual land parcels).

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Your questions: ORLB

1. Can ORLB be completely different from the RLB submission at point of grid application?
2. Can we request a Gate 2 offer using a site change from the original application RLB, with new site having Land Rights? Would this be via ModApp?
3. Does the Original Red Line Boundary (ORLB) align with the Secured Land Rights Boundary (SLRB)?
4. I have secured already the minimum acreage required for all my TEC. Could I submit a larger RLB than the option that I have secured as I have under negotiation?

Your questions: ORLB

1. Regarding WGS84 coordinates, 3dp is not accurate, we suggest 12dp. Have NESO considered this?
2. It seems there is no provision to enter multiple land parcel site address and grid coordinate detail for same connection in G2TWQ declaration form. Pls update.
3. For projects with offshore and onshore areas, what is required for ORLB and grid coords?
4. Minimum Acreage: From the LoA Guidance, the MW figure assessed against appears to be the TEC capacity rather than 'installed capacity'. Please confirm.
5. 50% of MWs rule on ORLB makes absolutely no sense for a non-modular technology - pump storage hydro, single unit CCGT CCS, electrolysis. How will it work?

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Your Questions

Paul Mullen, Izzie Sunnucks (NESO) & Kyle Smith (ENA)

Q&A

Readiness Criteria

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Your questions: Readiness Criteria

1. Are data centres automatically Strategically Aligned? Do we need to apply via Gate 2 for a connection date and if so can we do it before July 8th 2025.
2. OA in Readiness Criteria: If we are to upload a redacted option agreement, what are the key elements required to demonstrate evidence of secured land rights?
3. Under Confirmation of Land Interests, does the "number of land parcels" refer to the number of separate OA or land holdings(i.e. not the total number of fields)
4. How should we handle changes in SPVs and contact names on connection offers, which now differ from the original user or are addressed to ex-grid team members?

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Your questions: Readiness Criteria

1. Is there a specific template to explain that land rights are not in the name of the User?
2. when demonstrating land security, are we expected to provide a document signed by both parties or will a completed document signed by the Landowner suffice?
3. How should a conditional purchase agreement be submitted if it is not linked to an option. The guidance is not clear
4. Does a project meet the exceptions criteria (1a/1B) if an option agreement to purchase is subject to an extension payment?

Q&A

Duplication checks

Your questions: Duplication checks (of ORLB)

1. Row 50: Does this include large transmission projects where the user is required to secure an LV supply for the transmission substation on the user site?
2. Will DNO schemes not put forward for Gate 2 acceptance be land checked for duplicate connections?
3. Can an Original Red Line Boundary overlap with an existing operational asset, when they are on the same site, and share infrastructure?

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Q&A

Protections

Your questions: Protections

1. Will we need to demonstrate that a planning consent has been implemented where the planning decision notice is >3 years old and would have otherwise expired?

Q&A

General

Your questions: Distribution customer focus

1. Advancement/Cap reduction: Is there a min threshold for capacity reductions? Is a Mod App always needed or is a G99 form enough for minor changes or advancement?
2. Can we participate for GATE-2 evidence if it's a DNO contracted BEGA connection, but we haven't yet submitted or received the BEGA connection offer?
3. A BEGA is forced to accept a project progression offer from NESO at a new PoC 30 miles away (unviable) - how to revert back and be assessed in queue at OG PoC?

Your questions: General

1. Can a Mod App be submitted after Gate 2 closes? What are the MW thresholds for project size? Does planning approval give priority?
2. For an offshore wind project how we determine what is the nearest onshore substation? And then how do we find out its postcode to put in the form?

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Your questions: General

1. Can a Mod App for date advancement be submitted by a project with a transitional offer/agreement (i.e. not a fully populated set of agreements)?
2. "Please confirm: Window Open/Close Will there be i) a an SLA for NESO's response to evidence subsmission? ii) a grace period to resolve outstanding queries?"
3. Will it be possible to undertake a novation of the connection agreement while in the CMP435 process?
4. Advancement e.g. 2037 to 2028. If offer is a 'restricted' 2028 offer but we'd prefer a 2030 firm offer. If we reject 'restricted' offer, do we revert to gate 1?

Your questions: General

1. Can we change DRC schedules as part of our submission (or advancement request)? E.g. the inverter type and short circuit contribution to better reflect design?
2. M2. Permitted development rights is Statutory Consent. Can't say "doesn't require planning consent" or "no statutory consent required". What to put in letter?
3. When does NESO expect the problem with submitting ModApps in the Portal will be resolved - will it be before the Gate 2 evidence submission window opens?
4. In section 2.2 Contact details, does "deal with" mean "sign on behalf of the User" or "submit the evidence (etc) and interact with NESO for any clarifications"?
5. What does this mean (p.26) "If the Readiness Declaration is not systemised… "? Are some projects not going to use the portal mentioned?

Your questions: General

1. Please expand on the ModApp process and timing outlined in the sentence in Table 22 starting "On the NESO portal, this modification application ..."
2. will evidence be checked as it is submitted or only once window closes? Will we be given a chance to rectify any errors in our submissions, and if so when?
3. Row 33: the excel refers to "connection point", whereas the handbook asks about "Point of Connection". Please confirm that the handbook wording is an error.

Poll

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Thank you

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