

Publicly Available

Allocation Round 7 and 7a Common Application Errors

Guidance Document

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1. Purpose

The purpose of the guidance document is to outline some of the common errors that can be made by Applicants when completing the registration and application processes for Contracts for Difference (CfD) Allocation Round 7. The guidance document is intended to notify applicants of the common errors and to assist applicants in not making these common errors when completing one of the latter mentioned actions. For the avoidance of doubt, where Allocation Round 7 is mentioned throughout this document, this also includes 7a.

2. Considerations

This document is accurate at the time of publishing and is based on the information provided in the final Contract Allocation Framework. This document may be updated throughout the Application Submission Window as a result of Applicant queries or feedback.

This guidance document serves as a reference tool and is intended for information only.

This guidance document is intended to be used by organisations:

- a) considering whether to make an application to participate in a CfD Allocation Round.
- b) that have registered a company on the EMR Portal.

This document is to be used in conjunction with the CfD (Allocation) Regulations and Contract Allocation Framework relevant to Allocation Round 7. Applicants will still need to familiarise themselves with the Contract Allocation Framework and eligibility requirements of the scheme when applying for a CfD, as this serves as a supplementary document and is not an exhaustive list of the eligibility requirements.

Referring to Schedule 5 of the Contract Allocation Framework provides a transparent view of the checks that the Delivery Body will undertake at the Qualification Assessment stage.

3. Applicable CfD Regulations / Rules

3.1 Applicable Regulations

Regulation 14 of The Contracts for Difference (Allocation) Regulations 2014 (as amended).

Regulation 16 of The Contracts for Difference (Allocation) Regulations 2014 (as amended).

3.2 Applicable Rules

Rule 3. Determination of eligibility

Rule 4. Supplemental requirements

Rule 5. Excluded Applications

Schedule 5

4. The Registration Process

The registration window will be open from 09 July 2025 until midday on 27 August 2025 – the last day of the application window. It is advised to register as soon as possible before Allocation Round 7 opens for applications.

When you register on the [EMR Delivery Body Portal](#) you will be required to submit your Companies House registration number. The details which are held on the [Companies House Register](#) will be used to verify your company and the verified Company Director or Secretary. This will need to be kept up to date during the process of the round as we are only able to correspond with the Main Admins and Deputy Main Admins.

Please note: both the Registration and Application processes are accessed via the EMR Delivery Body Portal. The Portal should only be accessed via Microsoft Edge and Google Chrome. Other browsers are not supported and should not be used.

Guidance on how to register your company on the EMR Delivery Body Portal can be found [here](#).

5. The Application Process

Once a company has been registered on the EMR Delivery Body Portal, the company's Main Admin or Deputy Main Admin will be able to make an application to participate in the CfD Allocation Round. To ensure that the application meets the criteria and eligibility set out in the Contract Allocation Framework and Contracts for Difference Regulations, it is essential that the correct documentary evidence that is applicable to the technology type and individual project requirements are provided at the application stage.

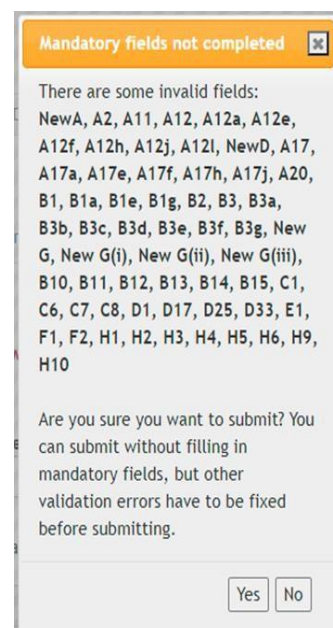
It is the responsibility of the applicant to check the completed application form before submission to ensure that:

- all the mandatory fields have been completed.
- all declarations are completed.
- all uploaded documents provided on the application form are signed and dated (where necessary).

Before you confirm submission of an application, a pop-up screen (as shown) will show all the fields that are not valid entries based on the application question criteria as well as mandatory fields which have been omitted. **Please note: All fields marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed.**

The application form can be saved before final submission to allow for additional checks to be performed by other users on the company account.

Once the application has been submitted and the application window has closed, applicants will not be able to make any changes to the application form. The application will be assessed based on the details provided.



Applicants may withdraw their application at any time before the application window closes. If they wish to resubmit a withdrawn application, they can do so by clicking the “Edit” button once the withdrawal is complete. After making the necessary edits and finalising the application, it can then be resubmitted.

6. Application Form Commons Errors and Key Points

6.1 Key Documents Required for the Application

Below are some of the key documents which applicants must provide in support of the application. Documents must be appropriately signed and dated. Some of the referenced documents may not be applicable to certain applications, based on technology type, location, or capacity.

Please note: we are unable to accept new documents after the closure of the application submission window, so please ensure that you have checked all required documents are uploaded before the deadline.

6.1.0 Exemption Certificate

If any part of the CfD Unit overlaps with an excluded site then an exemption certificate, given by the Secretary of State (SoS), must be provided by the applicant within the relevant application. Regulation 14A states that during the exclusion period, no application may be made in respect of a CfD unit where the site of the main structures of the eligible generating station under that application is the same as, or includes any part of, the excluded site (“a temporary site exclusion”), unless an exemption certificate, given by the Secretary of State, is held by the applicant.

An eligible generator may in an allocation round make an application to which a temporary site exclusion applies, if the eligible generator—

- a) holds an exemption certificate in respect of the application; and
- b) provides that certificate to the delivery body with the application.

6.1.1 Supply Chain Approval Statement

The Statement in relation to supply chains should be provided with the application where the threshold generating capacity of the CFD unit is to be 300 megawatts or more, excluding Fixed-Bottom and Floating Offshore Wind CFD Units

6.1.2 Clean Industry Bonus

A CIB (Clean Industry Bonus) statement is required for all Offshore Wind and Floating Offshore Wind CFD Units. As per Schedule 5 requirements:

- “Copy of statement issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to Regulation 28C(a) of the contracts for Difference (Allocation) Regulations 2014, as amended (a “CIB Statement”).

6.1.3 Certificate of Incorporation

The Certificate of Incorporation provided with the application form should be for the applicant company and not for the parent company. Schedule 5 of the Contract Allocation Framework states that where the Applicant has specified in the Application that the Applicant is a UK registered company:

- (a) a copy of the Applicant's Certificate of Incorporation is included with the Application; and (b) the company registration number specified in the Certificate of Incorporation is the same as the Applicant's company registration number specified in the Application.

6.1.4 VAT Certification or Tax Registration Certificate

The VAT Certificate of Registration provided with the application form should be for the applicant company and not for the parent company. If a group VAT Certificate of Registration is provided, then then applicant company must be referenced by name on this certificate.

Schedule 5 of the Contract Allocation Framework states that where the Applicant has specified in the Application that the Applicant is VAT registered: (a) a copy of the Applicant's VAT Certificate of Registration is included with the Application; and (b) the company specified in the VAT certificate is the same as the Applicant's company specified in the Application and (c) the company registration number specified in the VAT Certificate (if any) is the same as the Applicant's company registration number specified in the Application.

6.1.5 Map of CfD Unit

CfD Unit Map Definition

Contracts for Difference Allocation Round 7 and 7a: Contract Allocation Framework Schedule 1 – Definitions. Unless otherwise stated, terms defined in the Allocation Regulations and the Eligible Generator Regulations have the same meaning in these Rules.

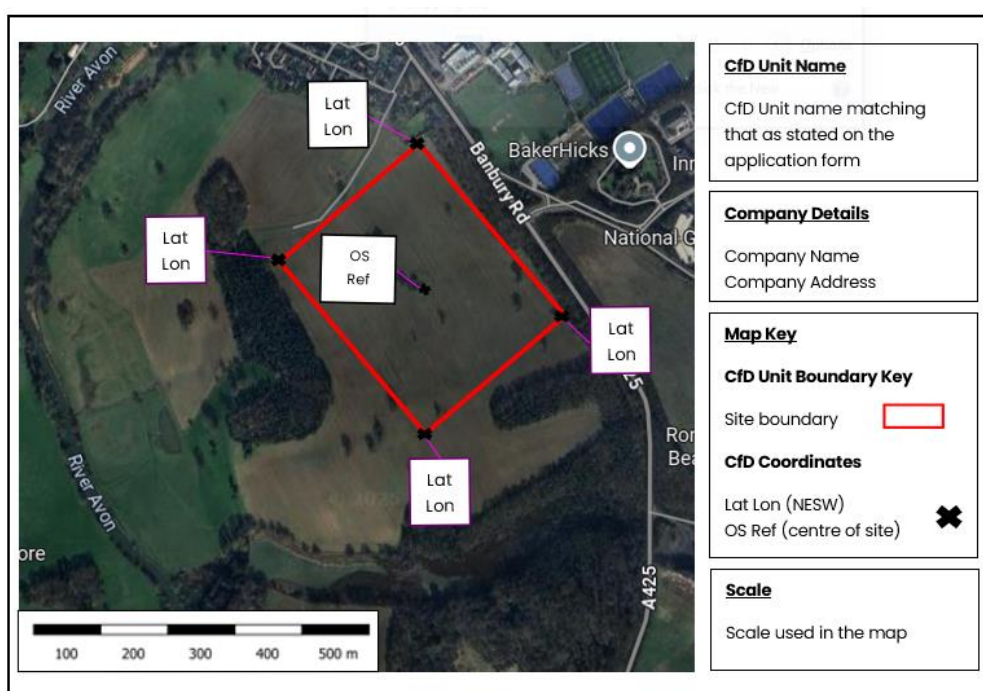
A map of the CfD Unit must be provided with the application and must be provided in the format as per the Contract Allocation Framework definition. In the Allocation Round 7 and 7a Contract Allocation Framework Rules—

"Map" means a map showing the scale, name, shape of the CFD Unit and the Longitude and Latitude (in WGS84 format to 3 decimal places) of the Northerly, Easterly, Southerly and Westerly extreme coordinates of the site where the CFD Unit is located. The Ordnance Survey Grid Reference(s) in question B2 of the Application should be for the centre of the site where the CFD Unit is located"

CfD Unit Map Items and Checks

The CfD Unit “**Map**” should show the following items:

- **Scale** (example could be 1:5000 / 1:500)
The Delivery Body will look for a scale reference to be indicated on the provided map.
- **Name** (matching the CfD Unit Name provided in the application form)
The Delivery Body will check for a site/project name to be included on the map. This must be an exact match to the name provided in **application question B1 (including B4 and/or B7 if phased)**.
- **Shape of the CFD Unit**
The Delivery Body will check that there is a boundary line around the entire site that connect the Northerly, Easterly, Southerly and Westerly coordinates.
- **Longitude and Latitude** (in WGS84 format to 3 decimal places) of the **Northerly, Easterly, Southerly** and **Westerly** extreme coordinates of the site where the CFD Unit is located.
The Delivery Body will check that the map coordinates are marked on the map, and match that provided in **B3, B3a, B3b, B3c, B3d, B3e, B3f, B3g (inclusive of B4a-g and B7a-g if phased)**. These data items could also be stated in the applicable key for the map.
- **The Ordnance Survey Grid Reference(s)** for the centre of the site.
The Delivery Body will check that the OS references for the centre of the site is marked on the map, and match that provided in **B2 (including B5 and/or B8 if phased)**.



CfD Unit Map – Best Practice Example

6.1.6 Planning Documentation

Each of the applicable planning consents referenced in Schedule 5 of the final Allocation Round 7 Contract Allocation Framework that apply to the CfD Unit should be provided. If a type of Applicable Planning Consent is not required or relevant to the CfD Unit, the reason for this must be sufficiently explained in the free text field. For AR7 the planning related eligibility requirements for Offshore Wind and Offshore Wind – Scotland have been relaxed. More information on this topic can be found in our [Application Guidance](#).

Some common errors;

- Where the planning consents set out the capacity, that capacity should be equal to or more than the Initial Installed Capacity Estimate of the CfD Unit and the date of the Application must be before the date on which applicable planning consent(s) expire.
- If the applicable planning consent(s) have expired, then evidence of the issuing body having granted an extension or evidence that construction has commenced must be provided with the application which can be in the form of, but not limited to, a signed letter from the issuing authority.
- Where location and/or technology is mentioned, this must corroborate with the application form under CfD unit details as well as the CfD map.

The applicable planning consents are:

- Development Order under section 114 of Planning Act 2008
- Transport and Works Act Order under section 3 of the Transport and Works Act 1992
- Planning Permission under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (England and Wales) or Act 1997 (Scotland).
- Section 36 consent
- Marine licence under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (England and Wales) or if in Scottish marine area, Part 4 of the Marine Act 2010 (Scotland)

6.1.7 Connection Agreement Documentation

Regulation 25 (6) defines the connection agreement as “an agreement (including a countersigned offer) to connect to (a) the national transmission system for Great Britain; or (b) the distribution system, entered into by the operator of the relevant system.” The connection agreement provided with the application must satisfy the checks stated in Schedule 5 of the Contract Allocation Framework, including the MW and the dates criteria.

- For a CfD unit that will be connected to the national transmission system of Great Britain, evidence of the signed connection agreement between the owner of the CfD Unit and the owner of the transmission system should be provided. Documentary evidence should include all appendices, as well as evidence of any variations or novations.

- For a CfD unit connected to the distribution system, then evidence of the signed connection agreement between the owner of the CfD Unit and the owner of the distribution system should be provided. This can include a countersigned offer between the applicant and the operator of the relevant distribution system.
- Where a Private Network connection applies or is to apply, unless the owner of the CfD Unit is also the owner of the Private Network, a copy of the Private Network Use Agreement applicable to the CfD Unit which allows the CfD Unit to connect to the Private Network, must be provided.

Common errors include:

- The connection date listed within the Connection Agreement is not on or before the Target Commissioning Date stated within the Application.
- The capacity stated within the Connection Agreement is under 75% of the Initial Installed Capacity Estimate of the CfD Unit
- Connection Agreements are unsigned or are missing key appendices or material.
- Technology inconsistencies between Connection Agreement / application (where listed)
- Locational inconsistencies between Connection Agreement / application (where listed)
- No connection date

6.2 CfD Contract Details

Applicants must ensure the data provided in the Incorporation section regarding the contract is accurate and filled in correctly. These details are used to determine who the contract is addressed to and who will receive the contract. The sections in the application form are found on the Incorporation Tab; Applicant details section(s) [A6-A7] and Phases Details section(s) [A11-New F].

If successful in the Contract Allocation Process, the Low Carbons Contract Company will issue the contract notices to the details stated on the application form. It will not necessarily be the Main Admin on the account at the time and therefore it is important to check the details on the application from throughout the Contract Allocation Process.

Please refer to the [Delivery Body's Registration and User Guidance](#) to review the process for updating these details.

6.3 CfD Unit Coordinates

Applicants must provide the latitude and longitude for the northerly, easterly, southerly, and westerly extreme coordinates of the CfD unit with the application. **The grid coordinates must be provided in WGS84 format to 3 decimal places.** Please note, coordinates should **not** be submitted in degree, minutes, and seconds (DMS), or in degrees and decimal minutes (DMM).

Applicants should carefully review this information prior to submission to ensure its accuracy. The CfD unit details provided will be checked against the applicant provided map, as well as other documentation provided with the application such as the applicable planning consents and connection agreement. Discrepancies with this data could lead to a non-qualification outcome due to the Delivery Body not being able to satisfy the checks as stated in Schedule 5 of the relevant Contract Allocation Framework.

6.4 Solar PV Initial Installed Capacity Estimate

The Provisional Capacity Estimate for Solar PV CfD Units should be provided in MW of AC power (MWAC). This is from advice provided by the Low Carbons Contract Company and can be found in the [Final Installed Capacity Guidance for Solar PV - Low Carbon Contracts](#).

6.5 Additional Requirements with the Application for Technology Specific CfD Units

6.5.0 Offshore Generating Stations

- Where the Application is for an Offshore Generating Station, the Applicant must demonstrate that a lease or an agreement for lease has been granted by the Crown Estate in respect of the location of the relevant CfD Unit.
- Where the applicant is an Offshore Generating Station, the applicant must confirm that it is aware that an exclusivity agreement granted by Crown Estate Scotland through the Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas leasing round does not satisfy Regulation 27(2) of the Contracts for Difference Allocation Regulations 2014. This requirement is also stated in Rule 4.1(g) of the Allocation Round 7 Contract Allocation Framework.

6.5.1 Remote Island Wind (RIW)

The Applicant must provide a schematic diagram demonstrating the CfD Unit meets the RIW Conditions:

- Where the relevant CfD unit is connected to the national Transmission System, a schematic diagram demonstrating that the Generation Circuit between the CfD Unit and the Main Interconnected Transmission System is expected consists of not less than 50 km of Cabling, not less than 20 km of which is subsea Cabling.

- Where the relevant CfD Unit is connected to the Distribution System, a schematic diagram showing the electrical connection between the relevant Grid Supply Point and the Main Interconnected Transmission System, confirming that between the two points is expected to be not less than 50 km of cabling, which of not less than 20 km of which is Subsea Cabling.

6.5.2 Offshore Wind (Fixed Bottom Offshore Wind)

Applicants for an offshore wind CfD unit should note that the additional requirements of the application include:

- The Target Commissioning Date of the final phase, of multi phased units, is no later than 2 years after the Target Commissioning Date of the first phase.
- Provision of a lease document or an agreement for lease granted by the Crown Estate in respect of the location of the relevant CfD Unit.
- The technology type selected for a Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind Unit must reflect the TNUoS Generation Charging Zone, or DNO license area, to which it connects. As per schedule 5 requirements:
 - “Where the Technology Type is Offshore Wind, the Applicant must demonstrate that, at the time of Application, the proposed CFD unit is expected to connect to the Transmission System in Generation Use of System Tariff Zones 13–27 or a Distribution System in Distribution Network Operator Licence Areas 10–16 or 19–23.”
 - “Where the Technology Type is Offshore Wind Scotland, the Applicant must demonstrate that, at the time of Application, the proposed CFD unit is expected to connect to the Transmission System in Generation Use of System Tariff zones 1–12 or a Distribution System in Distribution Network Operator Licence areas 17–18.”
 - If you have any questions about which technology to select, or if your unit is located in Scotland (or vice versa) and connected outside of the Tariff zones listed above, please contact us via our dotbox at box.emr.cfd@neso.energy.

6.5.3 Floating Offshore Wind

Applicants for a Floating offshore wind CfD unit should note that the additional requirements of the application include:

- A diagram to show that all turbines forming part of the relevant CfD unit are situated in offshore waters of at least 45 metres depth (measured from the seabed to chart datum)
- A Directors signed declaration stating that the relevant CfD Unit will meet the Floating Offshore Wind conditions.
- Provision of a lease document or an agreement for lease granted by the Crown Estate in respect of the location of the relevant CfD Unit.

7. Guidance Documents for AR7

For further support with your application please refer to the Allocation Round guidance documents and videos on the Contracts for Difference Website: [Contracts for Difference \(CfD\) | Guidance](#).

8. Legal Disclaimer and Copyright

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If you have any questions on the information provided in this document, or feedback on its content, please contact us at box.emr.cfd@neso.energy or Call: 01926 655300 – Option 3

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EMR Delivery Body.