

Neal McLaughlin
Head of Policy Implementation –
Electricity Connections Team
Ofgem
3rd Floor, Cornerstone
107 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 2B

National Energy System Operator

Faraday House
Gallows Hill
Warwick
CV34 6DA

www.neso.energy

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ESO Licence Condition E12.9

Dear Neal,

As you are aware, the window for Gate 2 applications under the Gate 2 to Whole Queue Process was initially opened for a period from 8th July to 29th July. NESO is delivering a transformational change to the way that the grid connections process operates to send the right signals to investors and developers. Our objective is to ensure the connections queue is reordered fairly and efficiently.

We know that the Connections Reform Evidence Submission Window process and portal has not operated as it should have and that this has tested patience, stretched resources and caused frustration for our customers. We have listened carefully to the feedback and worked hard to respond to provide clearer guidance, better functionality in the portal and stronger support to customers to resolve the issues and concerns.

Given the feedback and issues encountered it was clear that, as we acknowledged (see links below¹), the closure date would need to be extended. Our latest communication on the closure

¹ <https://www.neso.energy/document/364936/download>

date was a commitment to giving a ten working days' notice of the window closing with such notice to be given no earlier than the 4 August.

As notice has not been given until today, the 11 August 2025, the window will be open for more than six weeks. Under ESO Licence Condition E12.9 the window should not be for more than six weeks unless agreed otherwise with the Authority.

It is essential that projects can submit their application before the evidence submission window closes. In terms of the extension to the closure date we have carefully considered what this should be to best enable parties to submit their applications with confidence in the portal and the application process. The new closure date will be Tuesday 26 August 2025 and will be confirmed to industry, with the ten working days' notice. This new deadline will ensure that the window will not close until every customer has had an opportunity to submit their application, with adequate time.

For the reasons given above we are therefore requesting agreement from the Authority to the window being more than six weeks.

I look forward to your response and if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Vickers

Director of Connections Programme

<https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform/connections-reform-portal-updates>