

Public

Ref: FOI/25/273

National Energy System Operator
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20 February 2026

Dear requester

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which was received by NESO on 2 February 2026. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) as the requested information falls within the definition of environmental information as set out in Regulation 2(1)(c) of the EIR.

Request

You asked us for the following information:

- All available information about the transmission reinforcement works included in the following schemes. The scheme reference numbers are as originally specified by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET).*
 - 217710
 - 21771-1
 - 21771-4
 - 21771T1-T4
 - 20488S
- All available information about the construction, commissioning, and use of the above-listed schemes.*

- All available information about the previous and current attribution of the works included in the above-listed schemes to the cancellation charge liabilities and cancellation charge secured amounts of users.*

Our response

The Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations provide a right to access recorded information held by a public authority. They do not require the creation of new information and do not require us to provide opinions on matters unless our opinion or position is already recorded.

NESO does not hold the information that you have requested, and on this basis under Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR we will not be providing the information requested. The EIR only apply to information held by the public authority at the time that the request for information is received (Regulation 3). Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR allows a public authority to refuse a request if it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

Information of the kind you have requested relating to transmission reinforcement works under TO schemes is owned and managed by the TOs, and NESO does not recognise the scheme code references in your request. We therefore suggest that you submit an enquiry to National Grid Electricity Transmission.

To provide further context and assistance regarding your request, we have provided some additional information below.

All EIR exceptions are subject to public interest test (PIT), however the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) recognises that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful PIT where information is not held.

Advice and assistance

At NESO, our role as the system operator for Great Britain is to keep the grid balanced to ensure that electricity supply always meets demand. We move high voltage electricity from where it is generated, such as a wind farm, through the system to where it is needed. Moving electricity around requires a complex network of partners working in tandem. We use infrastructure, including pylons, power lines, cables and sub-stations, owned by transmission network owner companies ("transmission owners" or "TOs") to pass high voltage electricity onto Distribution Network Operators (DNOs). The DNOs then use their own network of overhead lines and underground cables to take the electricity from the grid, and deliver it to homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses.

NESO manages the contracts for connections to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS), but is not responsible for maintaining or reinforcing the NETS infrastructure owned by the TOs.

Further information about NESO's role is available on our website: [What we do | National Energy System Operator](#); and [How does electricity move around? | National Energy System Operator](#).

The TOs would normally submit system access requests to NESO for transmission reinforcement work schemes, depending on the outages required to achieve their delivery plan. However, such requests would contain very limited information about how these outages relate to the TOs' specific schemes of work. Please note that outage information, including that related to cancellations, is usually considered sensitive data relating to assets owned by the TO, and so would not usually be shared. Again, in this case we do not recognise the scheme code references in your request and do not hold the information requested.

This concludes our response to your request.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with our handling of your FOI/EIR request, you can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter. You can find our procedure here: [Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations | National Energy System Operator](#). The ICO's website also provides guidance on the internal review process: [What to do if you are dissatisfied with the response | ICO](#).

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team, National Energy System Operator (NESO)