Public

NESO Operational Transparency Forum

05 August 2026

Welcome to the Operational Transparency Forum!

You are in listen-only mode with your camera turned off.

Live Captioning Available. To enable live captions in Microsoft Teams:

- Click on the 3 dots icon / 'More'
- Click 'Turn on live captions'

Key Points

Slido code #OTF

- **Ask Questions and give feedback:** Use **Sli.do event code #OTF.**
- **Submit early:** Ask questions early to give our experts time to answer.
- **No Edits:** Don't edit questions after submission; submit a new question, if needed.
- **Identify Yourself:** Provide your name or organization. Anonymous questions won't be answered live**.** If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, please use the advance question or email options below.
- **Report Concerns:** Report concerns to the Market Monitoring team at marketreporting@neso.energy**.**
- **Question Order:** Questions are answered in upvoted order. Some may be taken away or answered later.
- **Sli.do Open:** Sli.do remains open **until 12:00** for maximum question opportunities. After that please use the advance questions or email options below.
- **Q&A:** All questions are recorded & published. Unanswered questions will be included in the next slide pack.
- **Ask questions anytime** whether for inclusion in the forum or individual response through our Advance Questions form or at: box.nc.customer@neso.energy.
- **Stay Updated:** Visit our webpage at: https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum for updates and previous OTF material.

Note: To access previous OTF webinars from Slido, click on the three lines to the left of forum title.

Focus Topics

Slido code #OTF

Today

- 5th August
  - Update: Balancing Mechanism Registration process

Future

- 12th August
  - No OTF (run fortnightly over summer break)
- 19th August
  - Balancing Costs: July costs

If you have questions/suggestions of areas to cover during above presentations or ideas for focus topics you would like us to consider, please send them to us at: box.nc.customer@neso.energy

NESO National Energy System Operator

Operational Review & Whistleblower investigation

External Whistleblowing investigation

- Following whistleblower allegations regarding operational decision-making and record-keeping within NESO, an independent external investigation has been launched led by Eversheds Sutherland International which will report to an independent panel
    - Full details of the terms of reference for this investigation are published on NESO's website which you can find here: https://www.neso.energy/news/terms-reference-now-published

Post-event regulatory review:

- Ofgem has used its regulatory powers to formally commission NESO to deliver a separate post-event review of the incidents of system stress during extreme heat across the week commencing 22 June.
    - The Terms of Reference for this review have been published on the Ofgem website: https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/transparency-document/regulatory-review-operation-and-management-electricity-system-during-june-heat-event
- The Focus Topic on margins during the week commencing 22 June will be delayed until this Ofgem commissioned review concludes

Restoration Services

Voluntary Request for Information (RFI)

On 17 June 2026, NESO launched a voluntary Request for Information (RFI) to gather market feedback on emerging commercial and procurement concepts for Restoration Services

The RFI is intended to help inform future market design and the subsequent consultation phase

Key Information

- Response deadline: **Friday 7 August 2026**
- Query deadline: Tuesday 28 July 2026
- Documents: Restoration Services Voluntary RFI Documents
- Queries and Feedback Proformas should be sent to Box.Restoration@neso.energy, with emails including “Restoration Services RFI 2026” in the subject line

Webinar: Dispatch Transparency

Please join us for an update on the Storage Behind Constraints review following our industry workshops held in March and April:

Thurs 6 Aug , 14.00 to 15.00

Storage Behind Constraints

Industry Update Webinar

Register here

Please register using the link above and a pre read will be circulated ahead of the webinar.

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Reserve Services – Settlements Update

Tender File Issue

Status: Resolved

Impact

- Slow Reserve data missing from the accepted tender files
- Affected period: 20 May to 28 June

Resolution

- Correction implemented: 1 July
- Provider adjustments issued: 24 July

IBOD Failures

Status: Fix Pending

Impact

- Bid-offer stacking reviewed in STAR, found that only 3 of 5 bid-offer pairs are being considered
- Resulted in incorrect failures and provider queries

Resolution

- Root cause identified
- System fix scheduled for next week

Next Steps

- Re-run April to June 2026 for all of Reserve
- Create adjustments for impacted providers

Minimal Payments (May)

Status: Under Investigation

Impact

No or minimal payments across:

- 15 May
- 26-30 May
- Impacts BR, QR and SR

Current Activity

- STAR investigation ongoing

Next Steps

- Implement fix
- Re-run May
- Issue provider adjustments where required

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Unlocking consumer-led flexibility for constraints

The Demand Flexibility team has launched a webinar outlining how learnings from the Local Constraints Market (LCM) are shaping the next stage of DFS for constraints.

The webinar explains the direction of travel for consumer-led flexibility, what this means for providers, and how NESO will support transition.

Watch the webinar recording

Download the webinar slides

Book in a call with the team to discuss your journey into DFS.

Contact the team: demandflexibility@neso.energy

Key messages shared in the webinar

LCM has demonstrated operational value
Flexibility can support constraints, but more available volume needs to be converted into operational value.

DFS capability is expanding
Supports bi-directional flexibility, zonal procurement, primacy arrangements and lower participation thresholds.

A clearer route to market
NESO intends to transition constraint actions into DFS to provide a single customer journey.

Provider support and engagement
Provider discussions are underway to support onboarding, identify practical barriers. And ensure a smooth transition

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Balancing Programme Engagement Events

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Technology Stakeholder Focus Group	Balancing Programme Webinar
16 September 2026 14:00 – 15:30	**22 September 2026 13:00 – 14:30**
Format: Online Microsoft Teams **What will it cover?** • EDL/EDT transition plans as we migrate from Balancing Mechanism systems to the Open Balancing Platform • Wider Access API replacement plans • EDL Network Transformation Plan • There will be opportunity for interactive Q&A.	**Format:** Online Microsoft Teams **What will it cover?** The latest progress updates on Balancing and Forecasting capabilities delivered into the Control Room along with further information on upcoming future capabilities planned for delivery. As always there will be updates from our subject matter experts and opportunities to ask questions.
If you haven't already, **sign-up here** to our Technology Stakeholder Focus Groups to receive invites to these sessions; you only need to sign up once. Content from our previous sessions is available **here.**	Secure your place **here.** You can access our capability journeys and materials from our previous sessions **here.**

Contact us at **box.balancingprogramme@neso.energy**

Future Event Summary

Slido code #OTF

Event	Date & Time	Link
Webinar: Dispatch Transparency	6 August (14:00-15:00)	Register Here
Restoration Services - Voluntary Request for Information (RFI)	7 August	Box.Restoration@neso.energy
Balancing Programme- Technology Stakeholder Focus Group	16 September (14:00 – 15:30)	Register here
Balancing Programme Webinar	22 September (13:00 – 14:30)	Register here

Check out the NESO Events Calendar for more...

Update: Balancing Mechanism Registration Process

Operational Transparency Forum 5 August 2026

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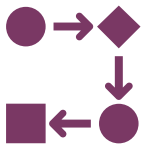
NESO Actions on Pinch Points

Customer feed back on their experience of the NESO Balancing Mechanism (BM) Registration process overwhelmingly identifies the strict schedule of SORT Uploads as the most significant pinch point. This year we have:

1. Engaged with market participants to explain the alignment between construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines



2. Developed an exception process which will mitigate some of the dependency on the TO timeline for BCA sites. This is designed to facilitate entry into the SORT for new BMU where a close misalignment of NESO and TO timelines (3-4 weeks) results in a unit waiting 2 months for the next SORT Upload. We will be working to identify sites at risk and happy to discuss options with developers. This process is dependent on the available of Operational Metering signals to the NESO systems.

3. Begun exploring options for increasing the frequency of the SORT Upload until OBP completes implementation.

4. Approached the TOs to discuss the interaction of construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines.

Further information on all items is contained in the appendix to this pack

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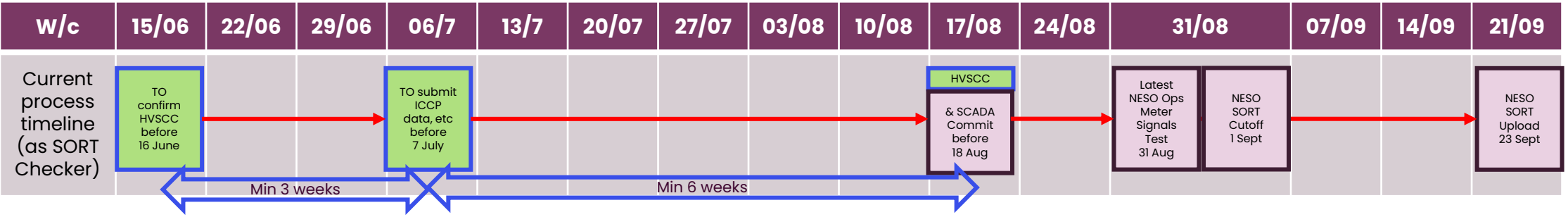
Pinch Points 2: Exception Process

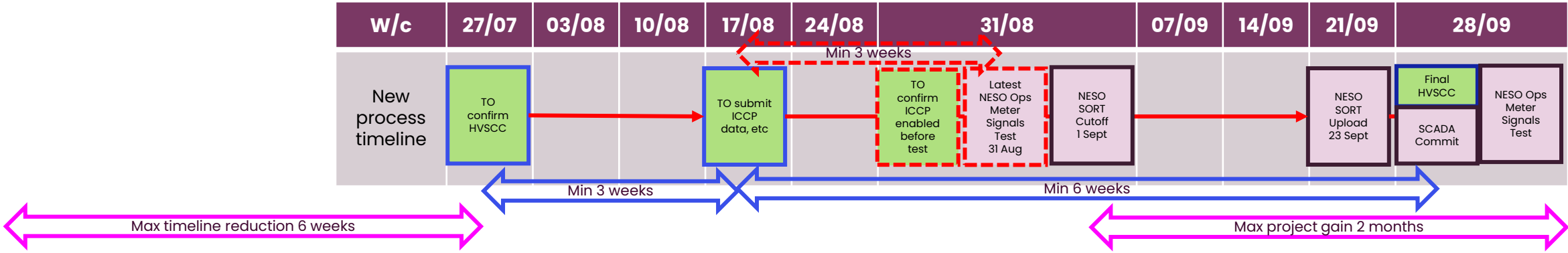
Exception process: Comparative timelines (baseline is BM SORT Date Checker Tool)

Slido code #OTF

Standard process



Exception process



Key

Notes:

1. Dates shown are latest possible providing:
   - ICCP data is provided on time, correct and complete
   - TO have enabled ICCP ready to carry signals
   - Signals can be tested successfully at the first attempt.
2. We continue to recommend customers allow minimum two weeks for Operational Metering Signals Tests to allow time resolve any issues identified during testing
3. Operational Metering Signals must be tested successfully before the Cutoff date

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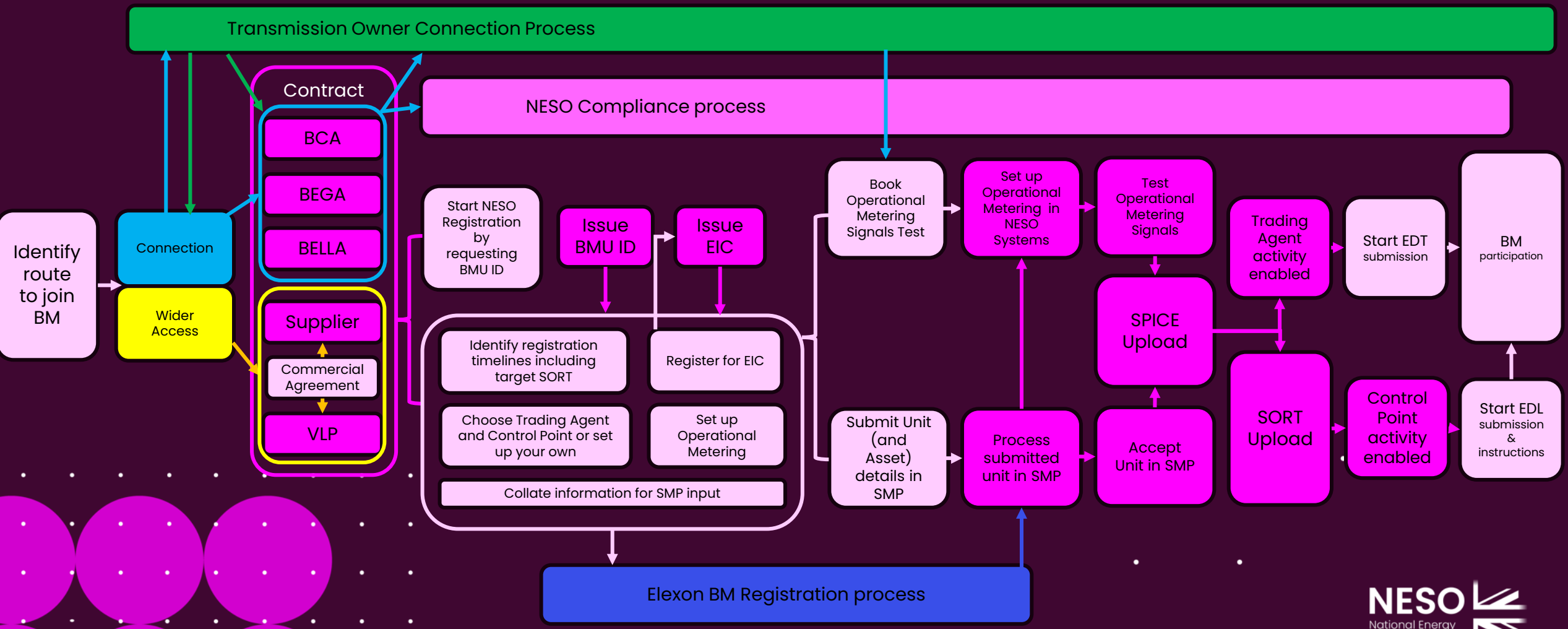
Overview: NESO BM Registration Process

NESO Guidance and support is available before, during and after the registration process. Please see "Useful Contacts"



Further information including the glossary is contained in the appendix to this pack

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Useful contacts:

Please get in touch with the teams below if you have questions about:

Presentation content:

- **Specific project timelines:**
  - NESO Compliance Manager for your project
  - box.ECC.Compliance@neso.energy
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy
- **Exception Process**
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy

- **BM Registration and BM Wider Access**
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy
  - Balancing Mechanism Wider Access | National Energy System Operator
- **SBMU Virtual Lead Party Registrations:**
  - commercial.operation@neso.energy
- **Operational Metering and Signals Testing**
  - OpsMetering@neso.energy
  - Guidance on Operational Metering Testing
- **Single Markets Platform**
  - box.digitalhelp@neso.energy
  - Single Markets Platform | National Energy System Operator

Demand | Eclipse

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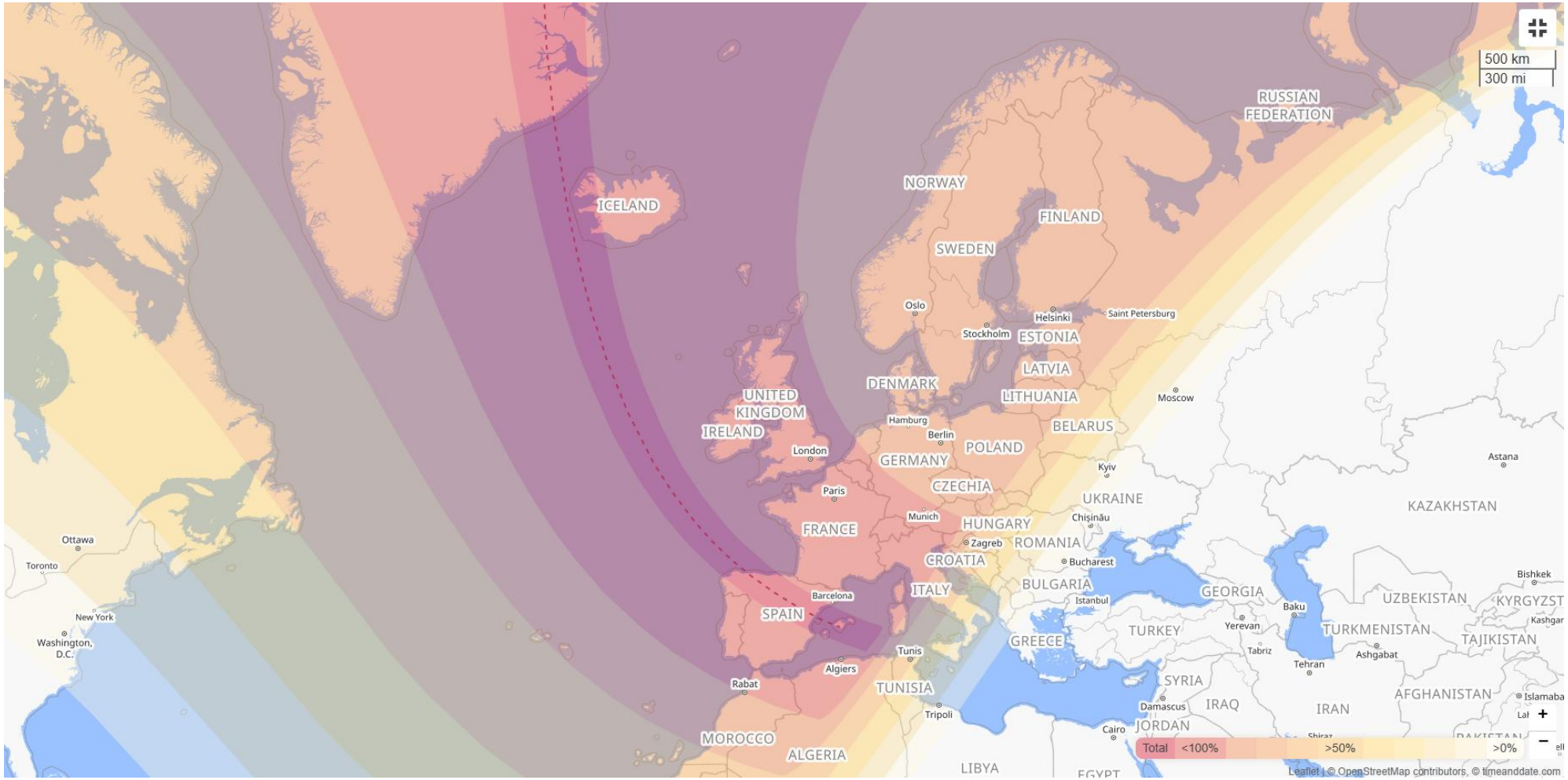
Date: 12 Aug 2026



https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2026-august-12

Demand | Eclipse

Slido code #OTF

Date: 12 Aug 2026

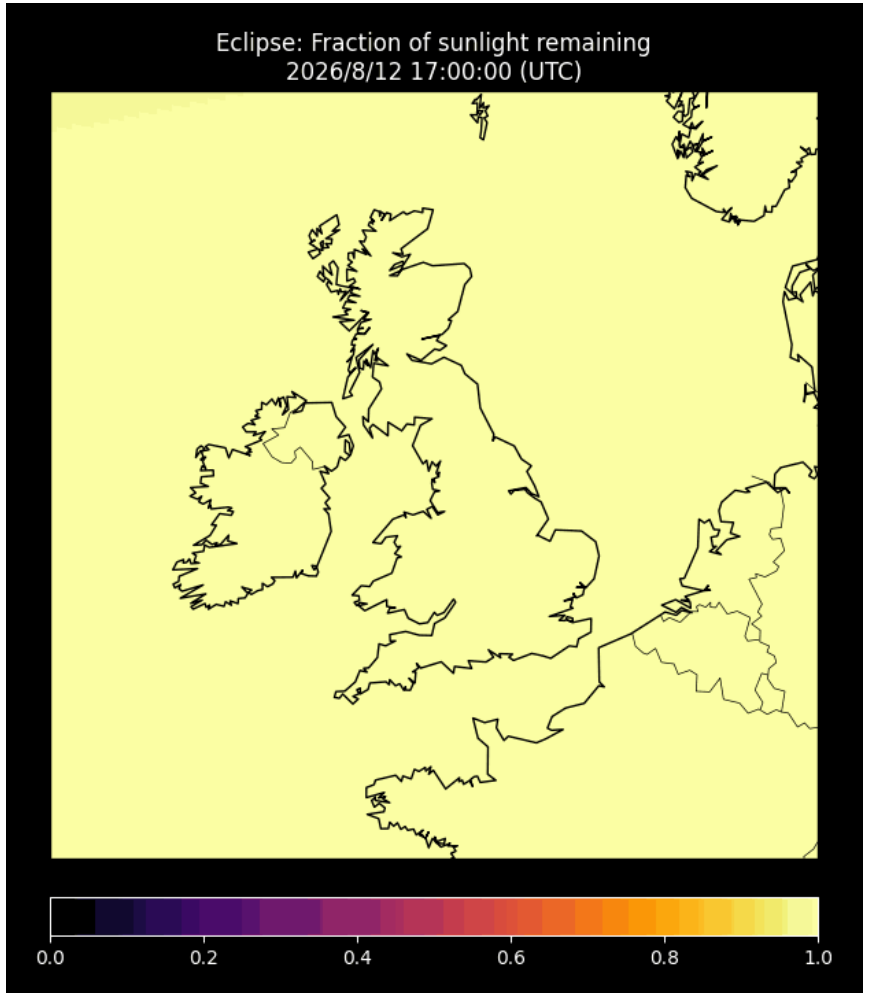
Time: 18:00 – 20:10 BST

Magnitude: ~95% peak obscuration

Additional details:

- Most complete eclipse until 2081
- Sun setting – low on the horizon
- Don't look directly at the sun!

https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/space-astronomy/how-see-12-august-2026-partial-solar-eclipse



Demand | Eclipse

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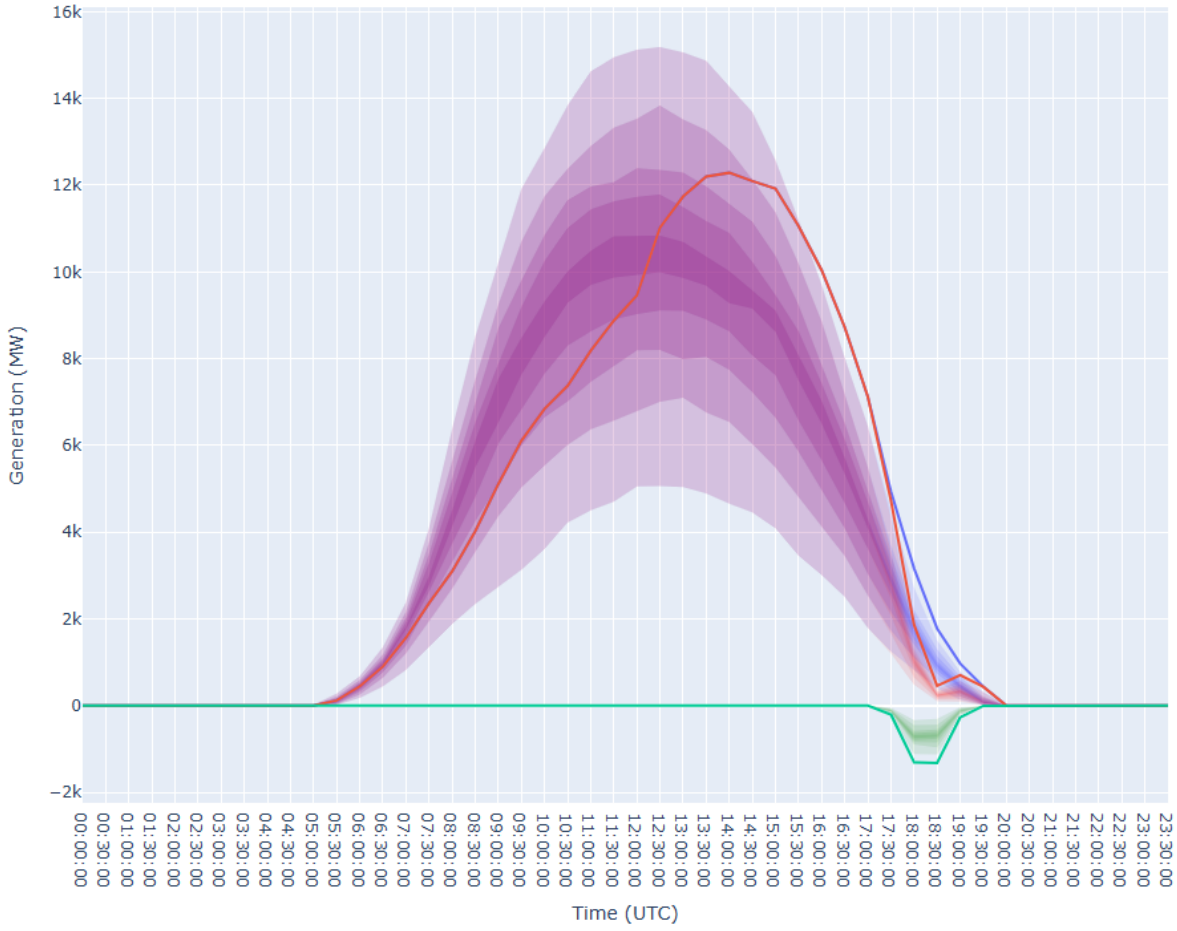
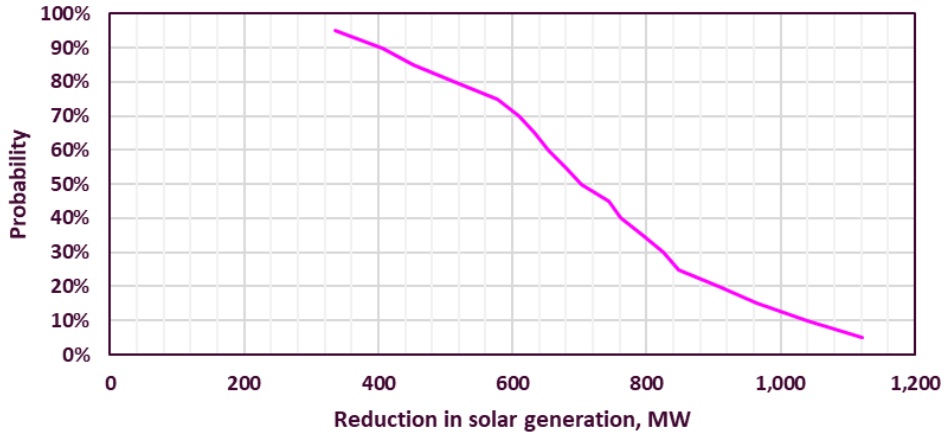
Historical analysis:

95% chance of the outturn reduction being below 1.12GW



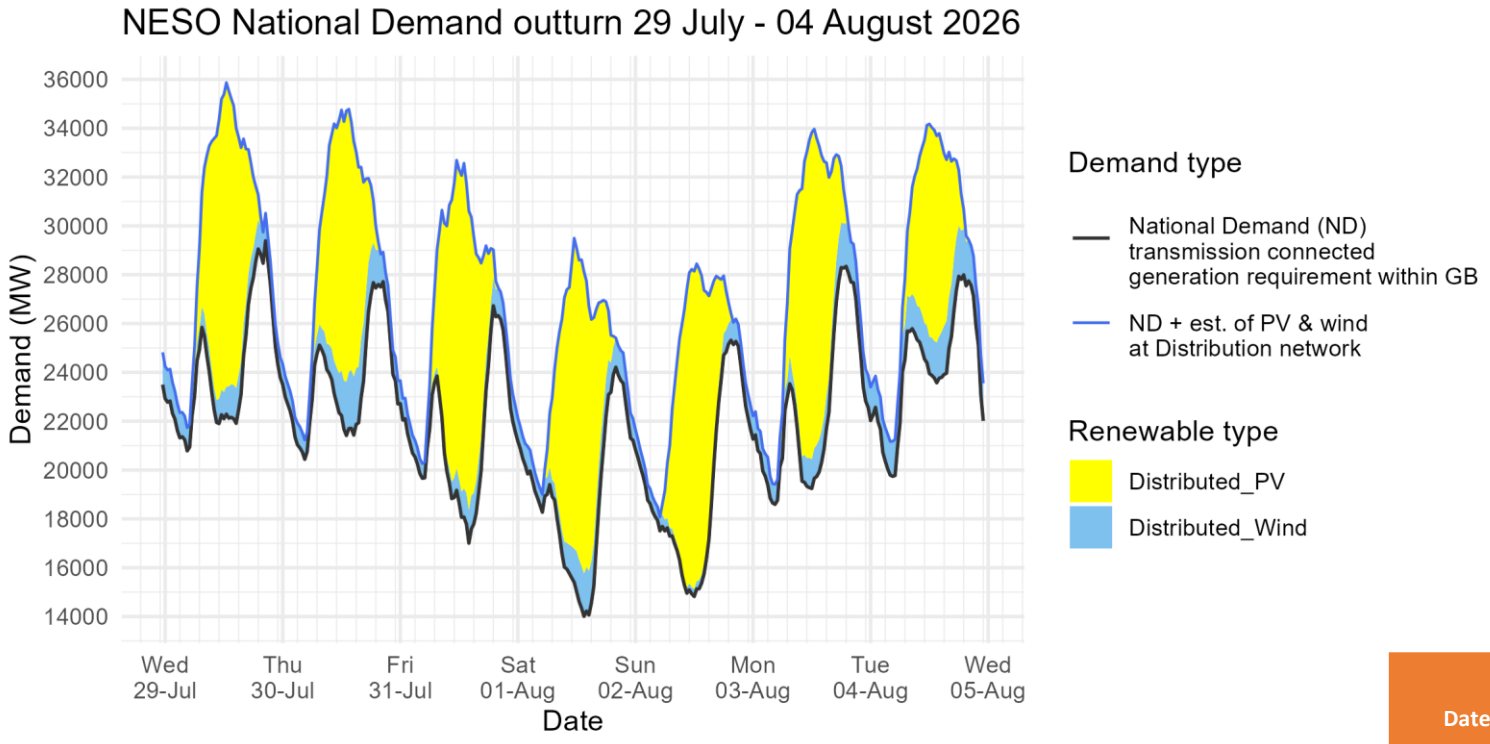


Left: PV Generation quantiles (purple shading), highest generation day during eclipse before (blue) and after (red) eclipse effect.

Impact on generation quantiles (green shading) and on highest generation day (green).

Demand | Last week demand out-turn

Slido code #OTF



Distributed generation

Peak values by day

Date	OUTTURN	
	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
29 Jul 2026	12.4	1.4
30 Jul 2026	11.1	2.4
31 Jul 2026	13.3	1.4
01 Aug 2026	12.7	1.8
02 Aug 2026	13.0	1.0
03 Aug 2026	13.4	1.8
04 Aug 2026	8.7	2.2

National Demand

Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 29 Jul)			OUTTURN		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
30 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	20.3	0.8	0.2	20.4	0.8	0.0
30 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	19.7	1.7	9.0	21.4	2.2	11.1
31 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.9	0.7	0.2	19.7	0.6	0.0
31 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	20.4	1.0	10.2	17.0	1.4	12.2
01 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	18.3	0.7	1.5	18.3	0.7	0.0
01 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	16.3	1.4	9.7	14.0	1.8	12.4
02 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	17.6	0.6	0.2	17.5	0.5	1.2
02 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	16.0	0.4	10.2	14.8	0.3	13.0
03 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	18.8	0.7	0.0	18.6	0.8	0.0
03 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	20.6	0.6	10.7	19.2	1.2	13.4
04 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	19.2	1.0	0.0	19.7	1.4	0.0
04 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	21.5	1.2	9.5	23.6	1.7	8.5

The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.
ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

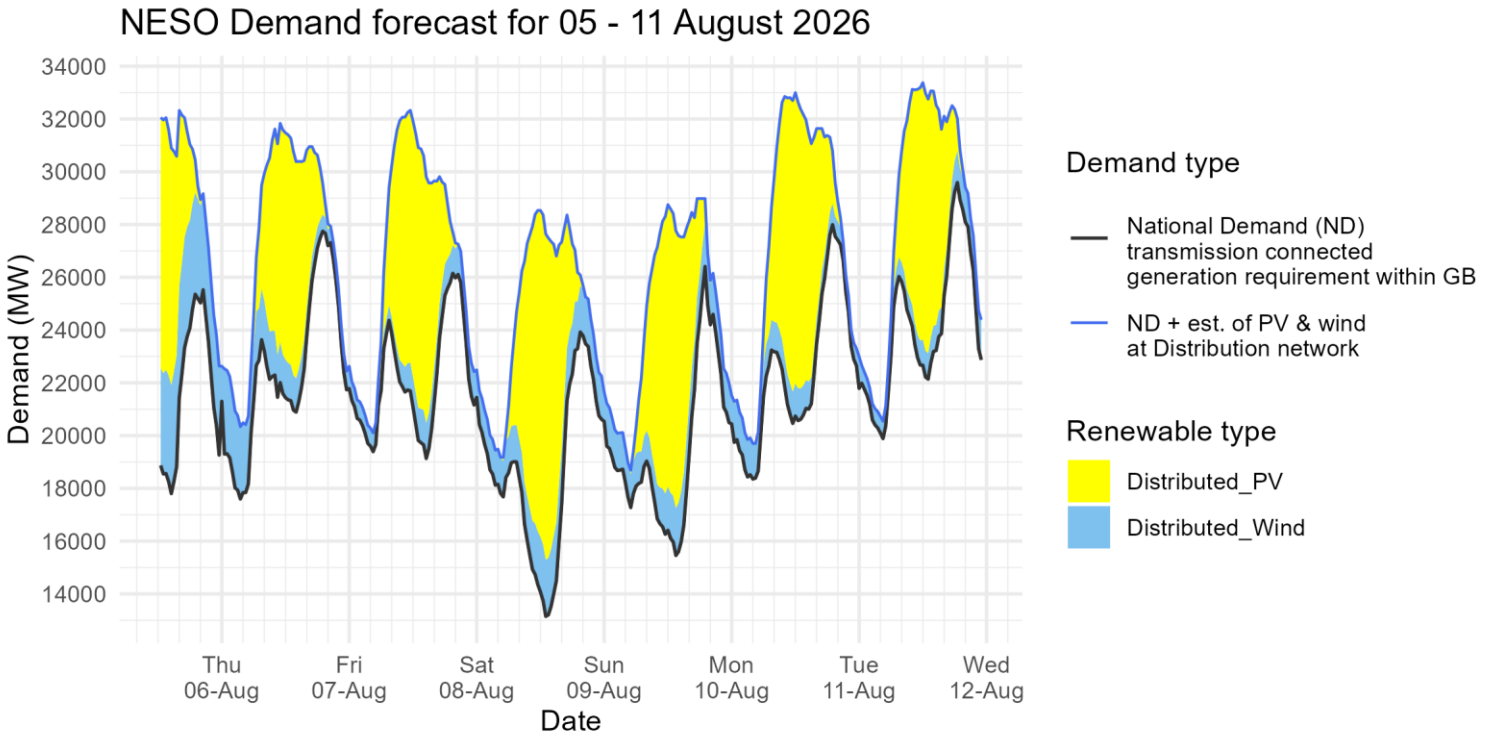
Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real time data.

Historic out-turn data can be found on the NESO Data Portal in the following data sets: Historic Demand Data & Demand Data Update

From March to October, the table will display overnight minimum (between 00:00 and 07:30) and daytime minimum (between 07:30 and 16:30) as well as an additional column: distributed PV.

Demand | Week Ahead

Slido code #OTF



	Datetime	Demand (GW)
Weekly Min	08 Aug 2026 14:00	13.1
Weekly Peak	11 Aug 2026 19:30	29.6

National Demand

Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 05 Aug)		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
05 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	17.8	4.1	9.0
06 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	17.6	2.7	0.0
06 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	20.9	1.3	8.2
07 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	19.4	0.7	0.0
07 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	19.1	1.3	9.3
08 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	17.7	1.4	0.1
08 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	13.1	2.1	12.3
09 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	17.3	1.3	0.2
09 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	15.5	1.8	10.5
10 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	18.4	1.3	0.0
10 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	20.5	1.2	11.0
11 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	19.9	0.6	0.0
11 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	22.1	1.0	9.6

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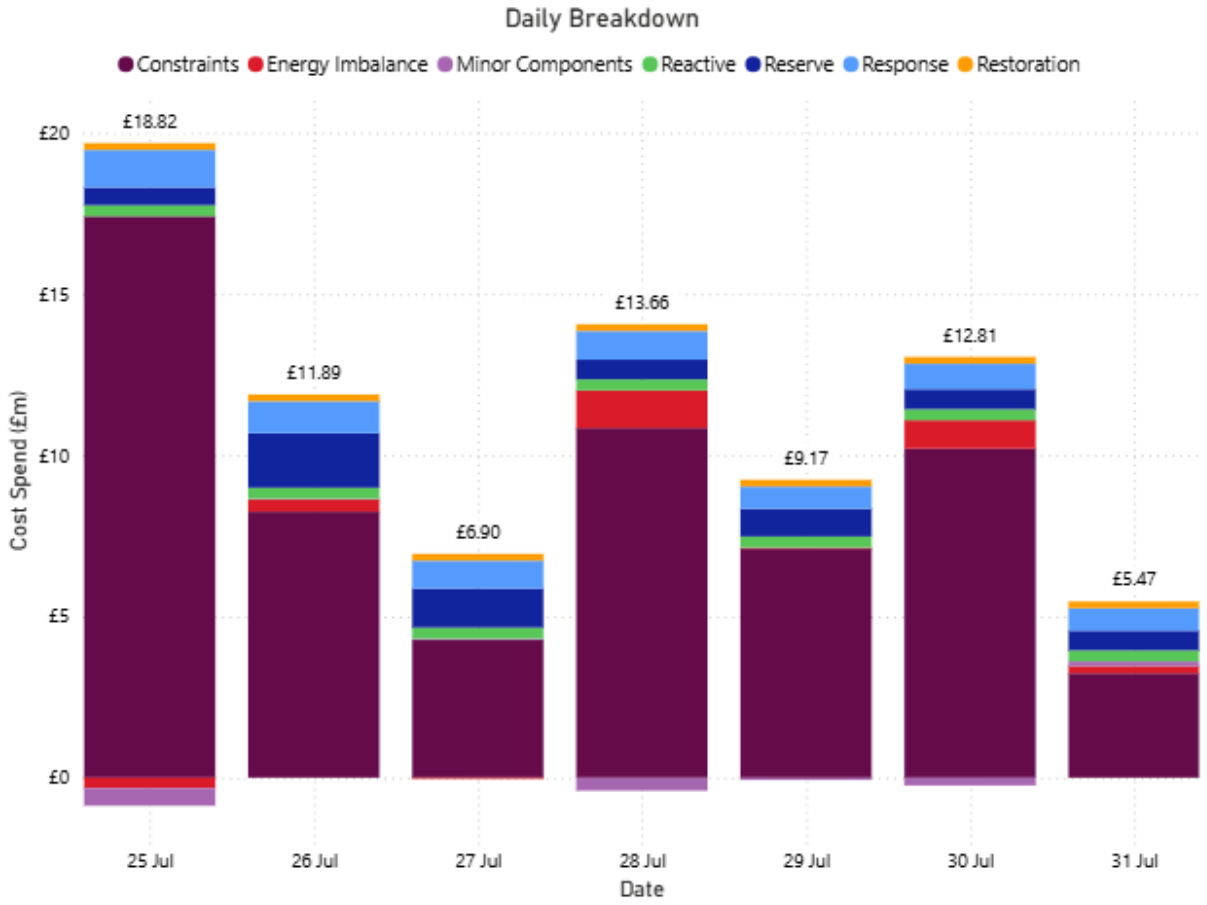
Public

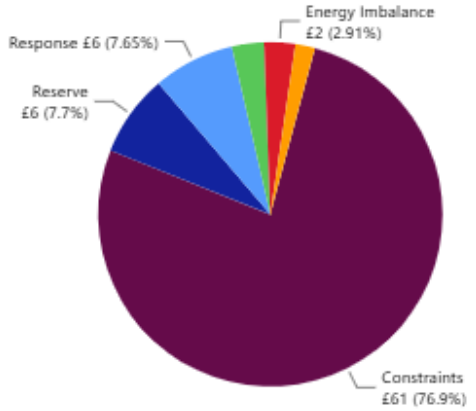
NESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown

Slido code #OTF



Current Week Total (£m)	Average Daily Cost (£m)
£78.72	£11.25
Previous Week Total (£m)	**Previous 30 Day Average (£m)**
£54.27	£10.20

Share of Cost Spend (£m)



For more info on constraint costs, and the steps NESO is taking with industry partners to address them, please see our Balancing Costs website.

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

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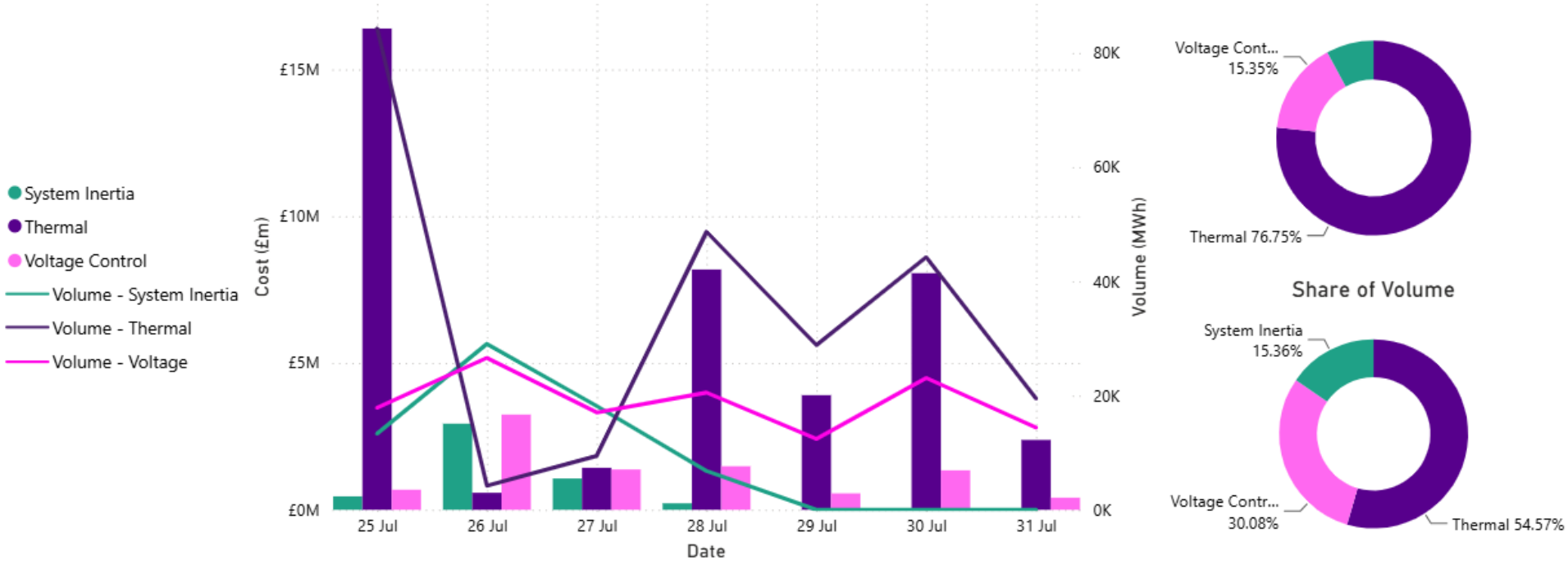
Public

NESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

Slido code #OTF

Thermal Constraints		Voltage Constraints		System Inertia	
Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)	Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)	Costs (£)	Volume (MWh)
£45.45M	239K	£9.09M	132K	£4.68M	67K



Note: Volume is reported as an absolute figure.

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

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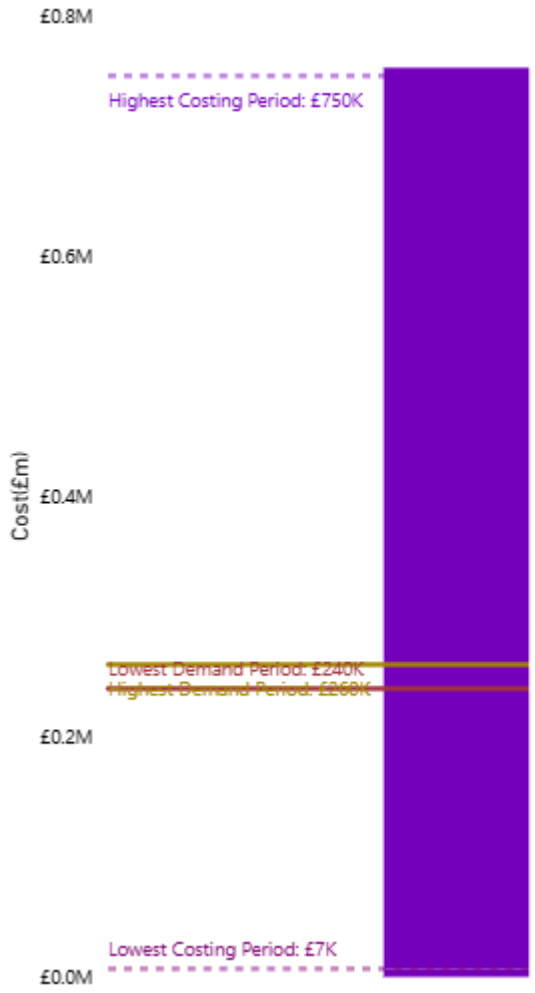
NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

Slido code #OTF



Highest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
25/07/2026	12	£750K

Minimum Demand Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Demand (MW)	Approximate Cost
26/07/2026	13	18K	£240K

Highest Demand Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Demand (MW)	Approximate Cost
29/07/2026	40	32.24K	£260K

Lowest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
31/07/2026	17	£7K

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

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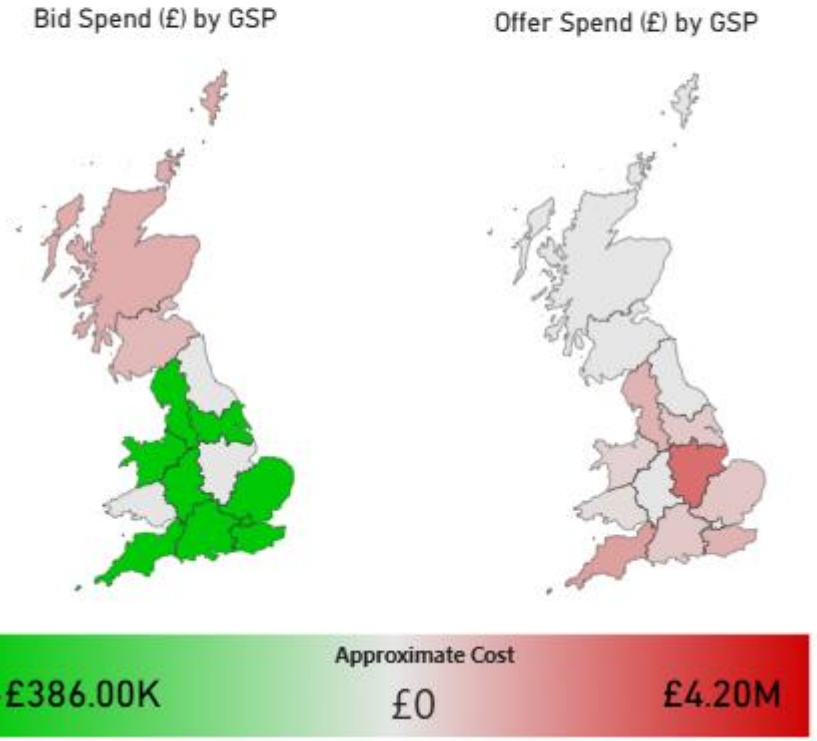
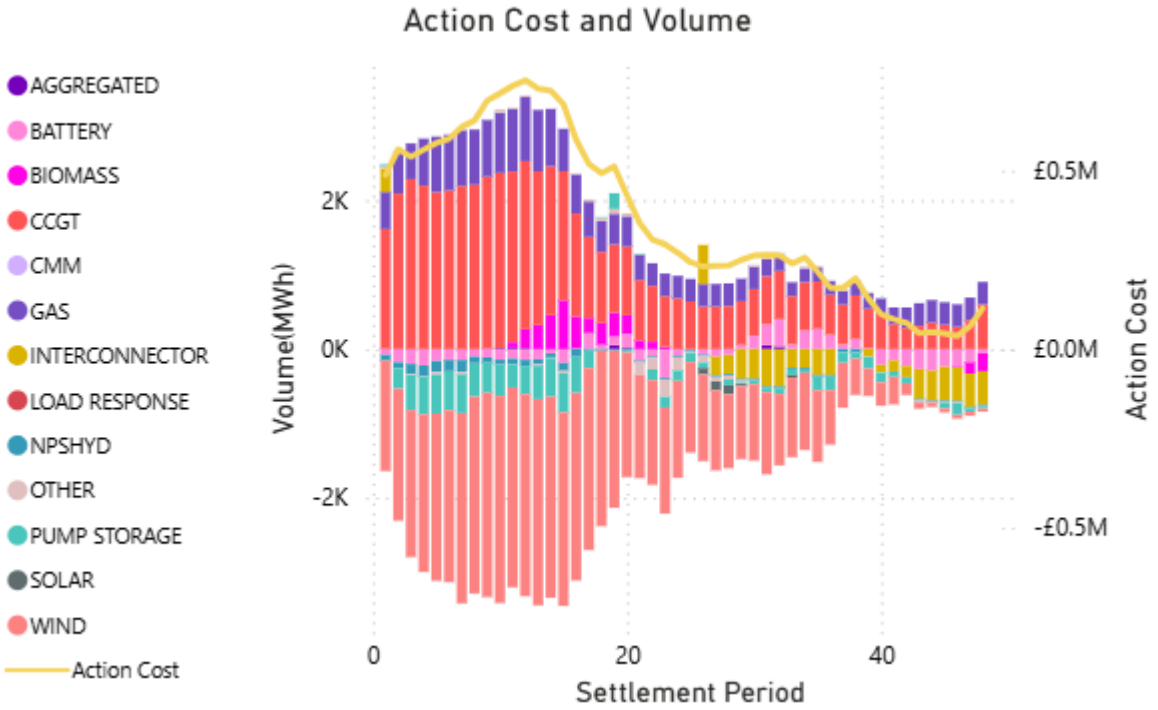
Slido code #OTF

NESO Actions | Highest Costing Day

Settlement Date	Cost (£m)
25 July 2026	£18.82

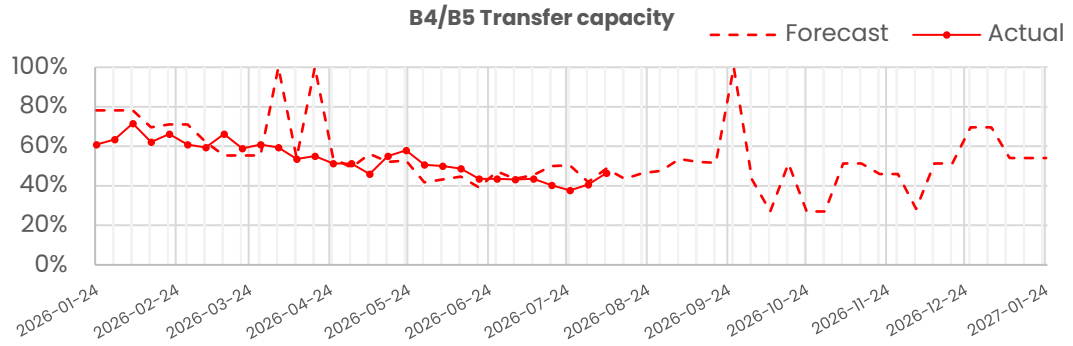


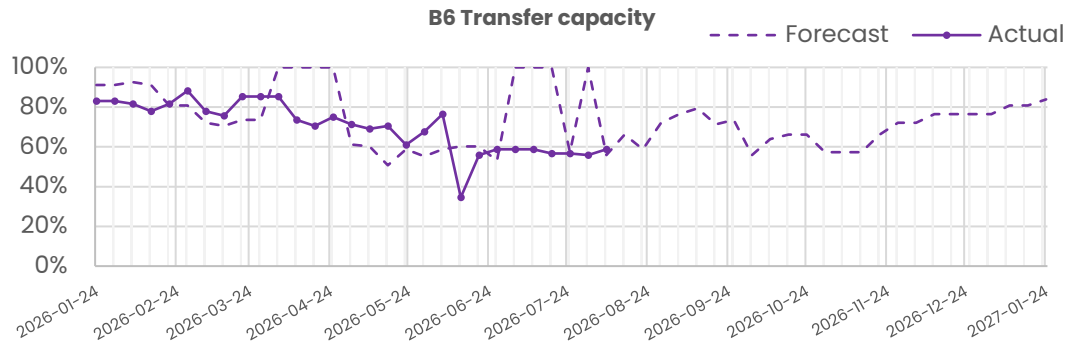


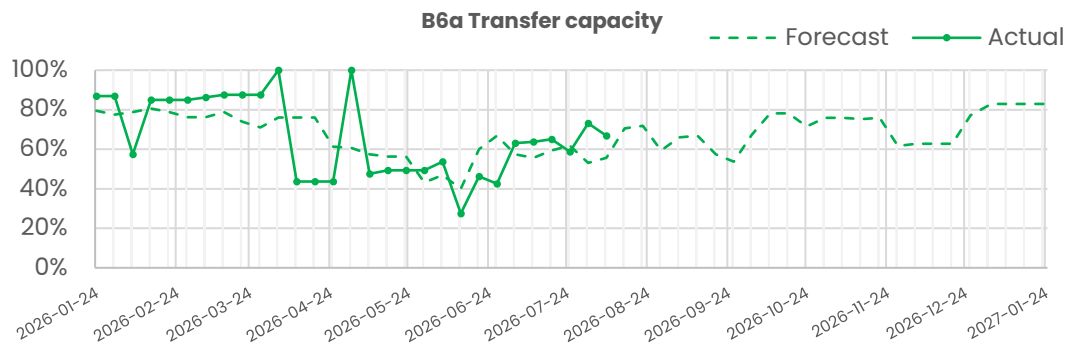
Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

Transparency | Network Congestion

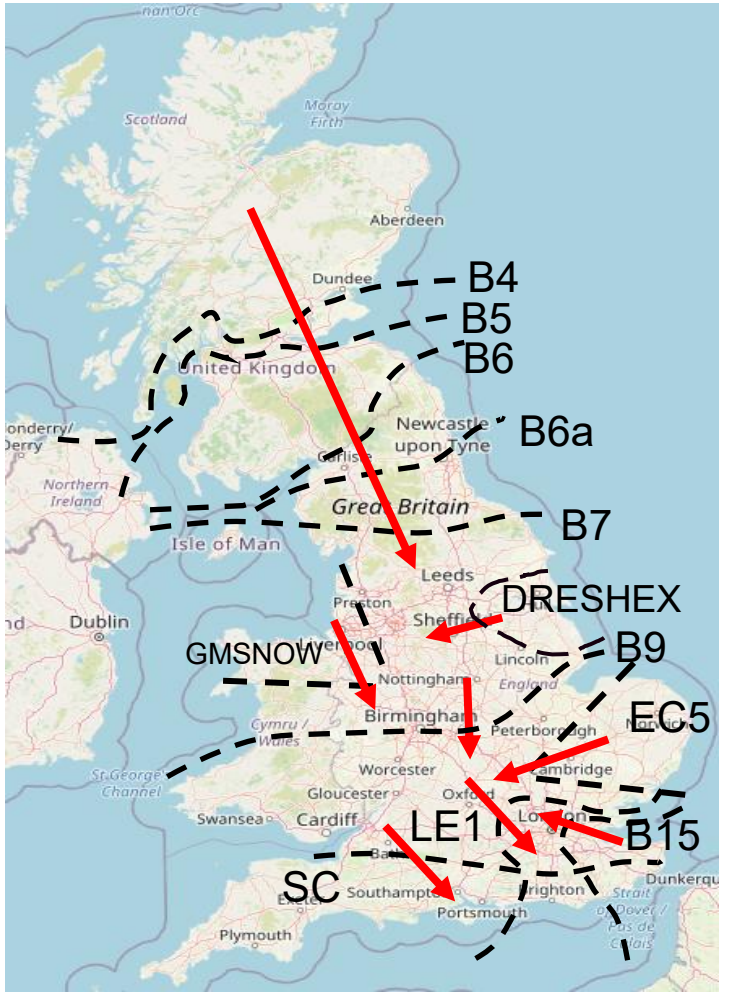
Slido code #OTF







Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	46
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	67
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	73
GMSNOW	5800	56
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	84
DRESHEX	9675	60
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	71
SC1	7300	60



The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

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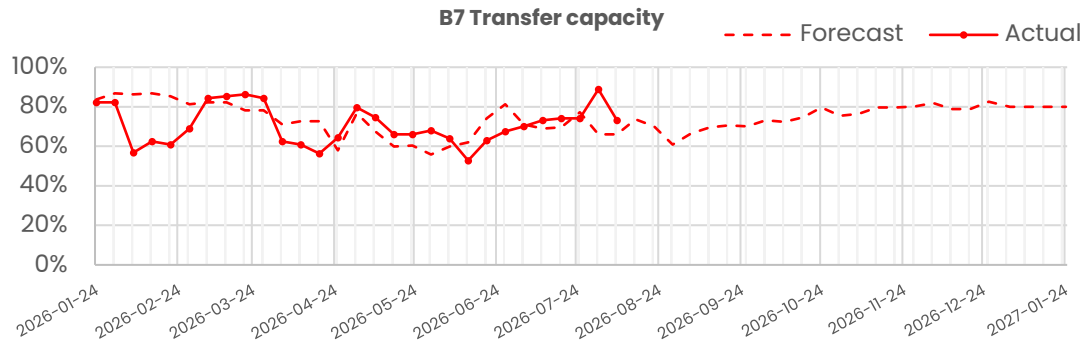
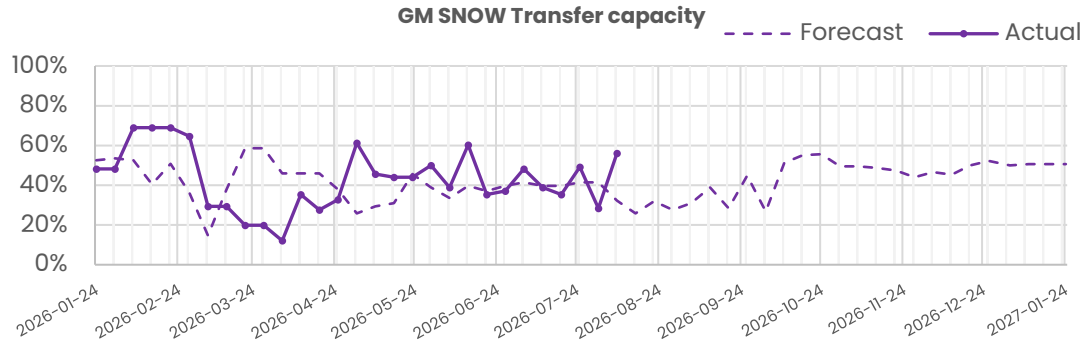
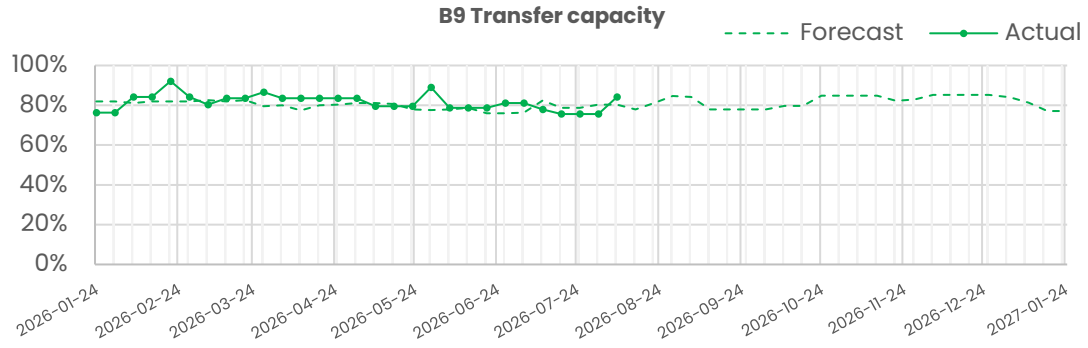
Transparency | Network Congestion

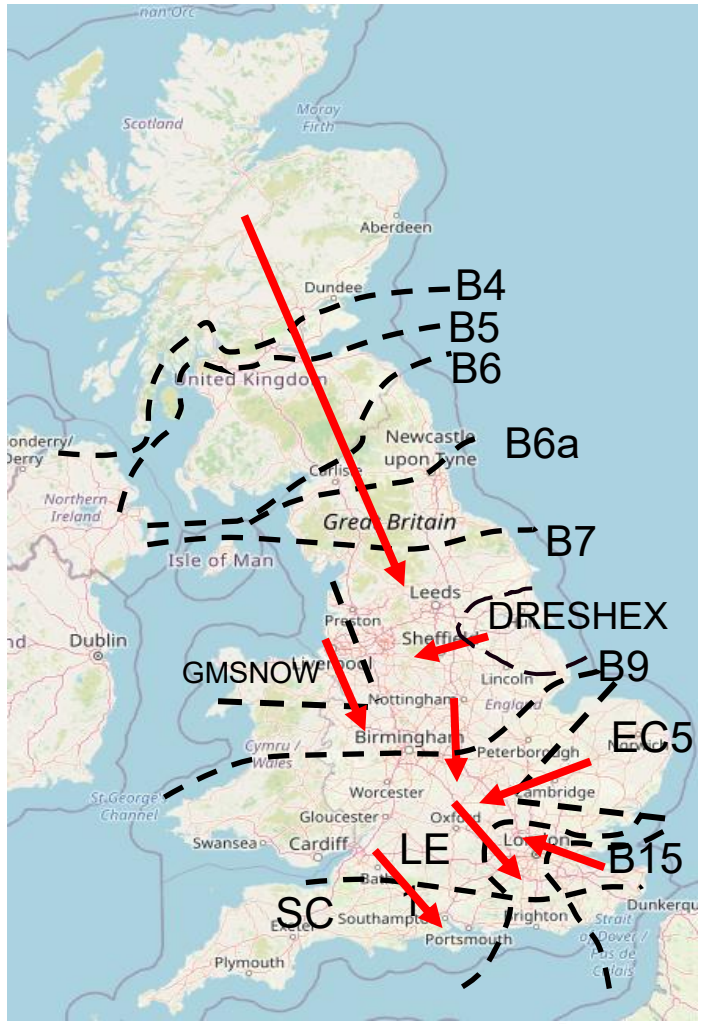
Slido code #OTF







Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	46
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	67
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	73
GMSNOW	5800	56
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	84
DRESHEX	9675	60
EC5	5000	100
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	71
SC1	7300	60

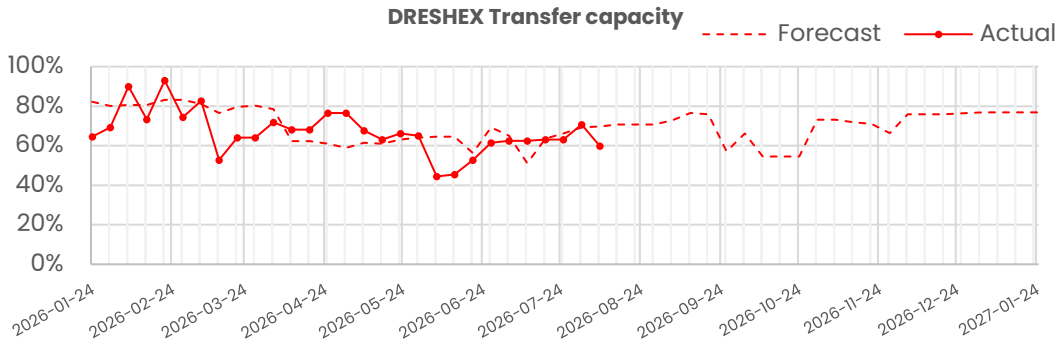


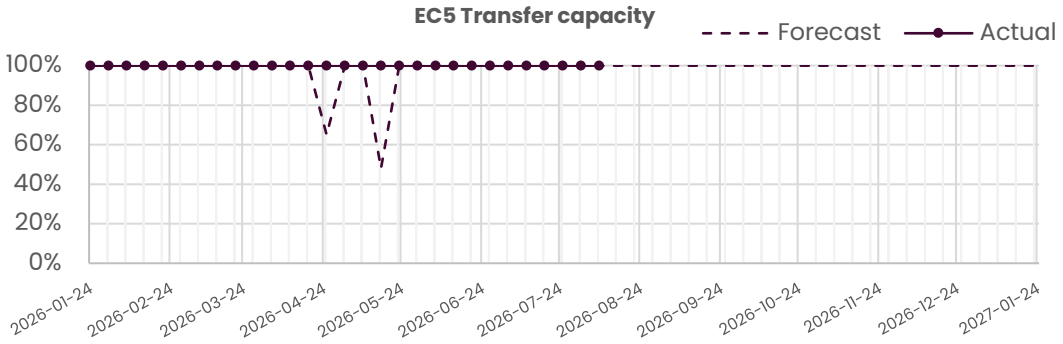
The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

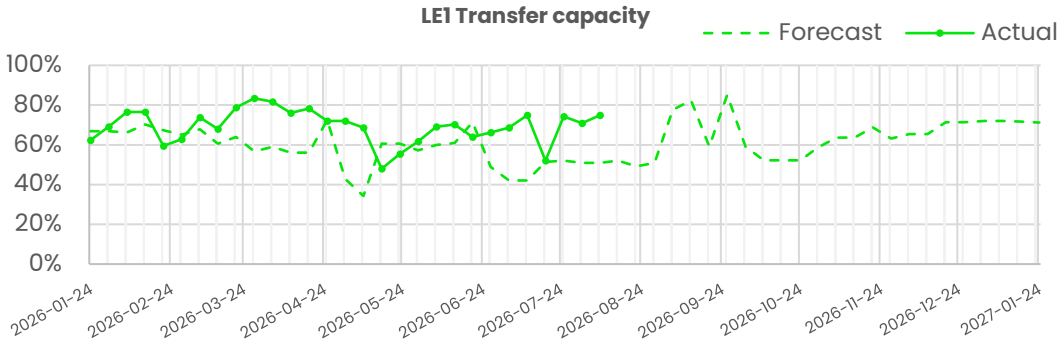
NESO National Energy System Operator

Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF







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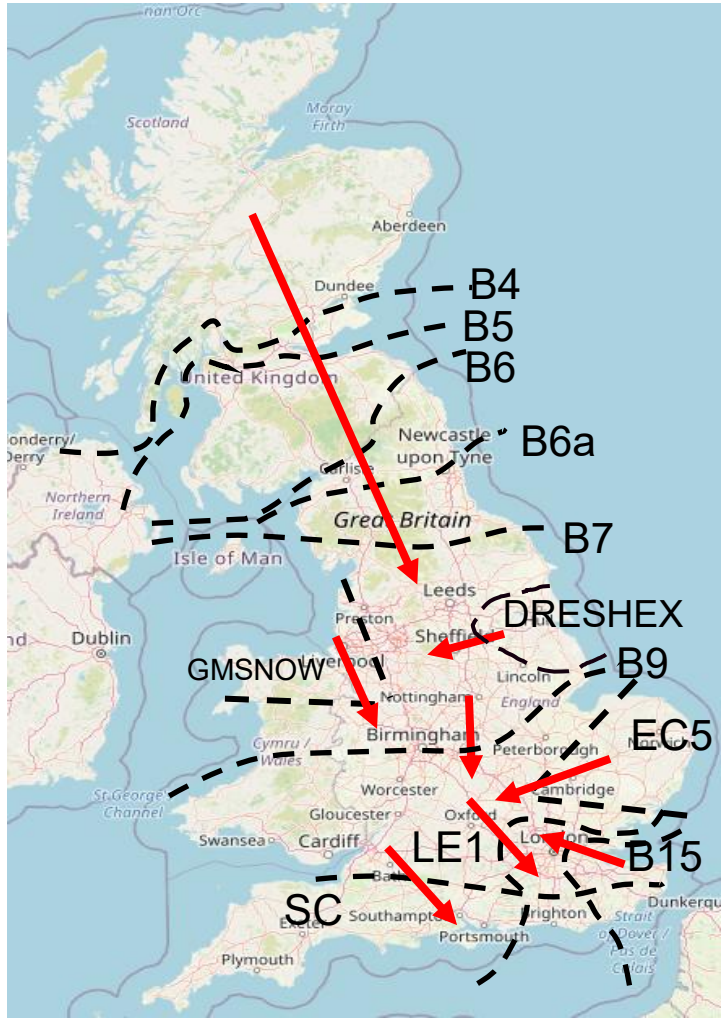

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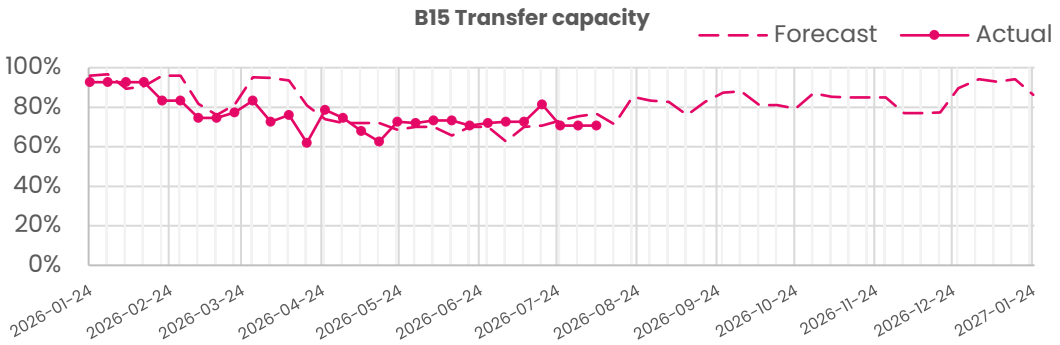
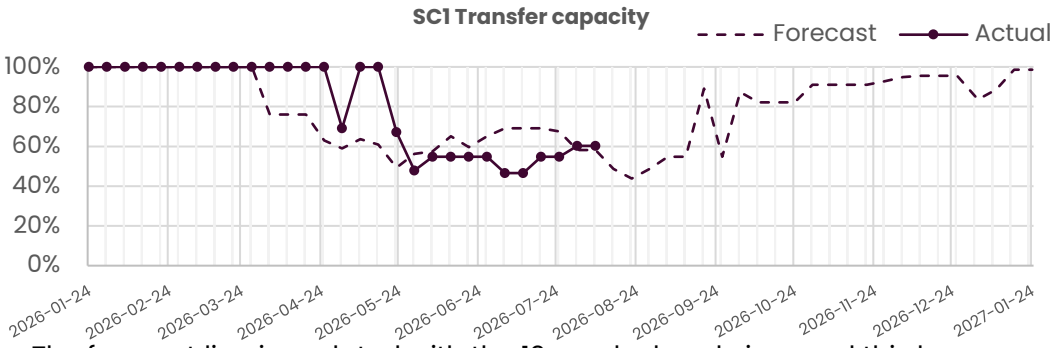
NESO National Energy System Operator

Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF





The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the NESO Data Portal: Constraints Management

The dataset presented in the Network congestion is published on the NESO data portal . Operational Transparency Forum - Network congestion data | National Energy System Operator

(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes.

Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	46
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	59
B6a	8000	67
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	73
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LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	75
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	71
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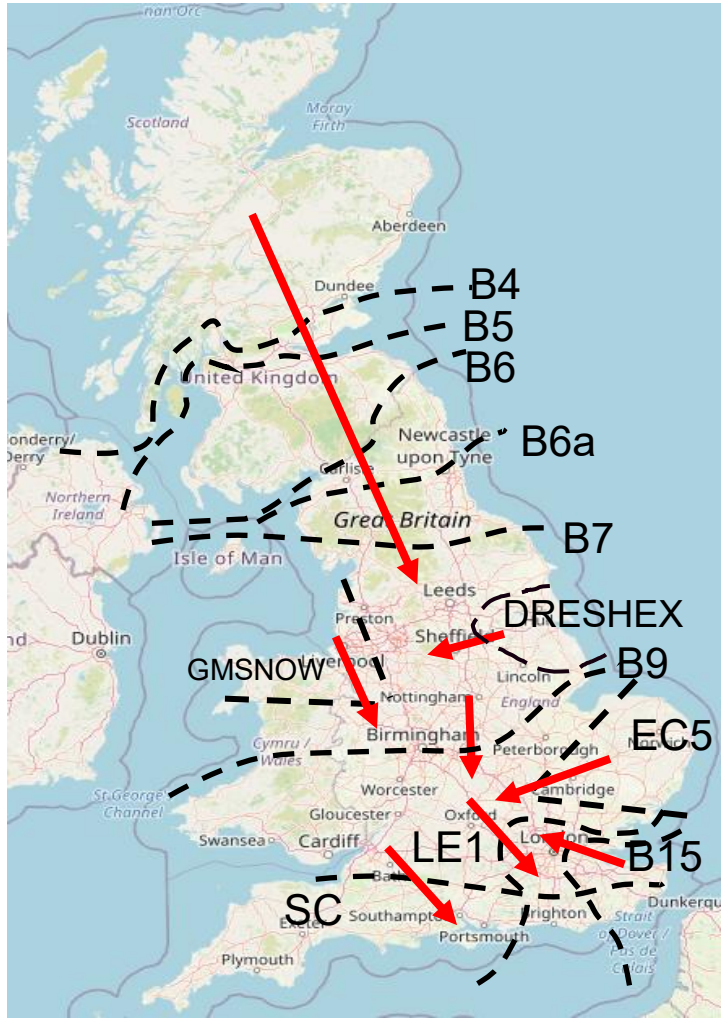


PSA Skip Rates – bids & offers combined

Slido code #OTF

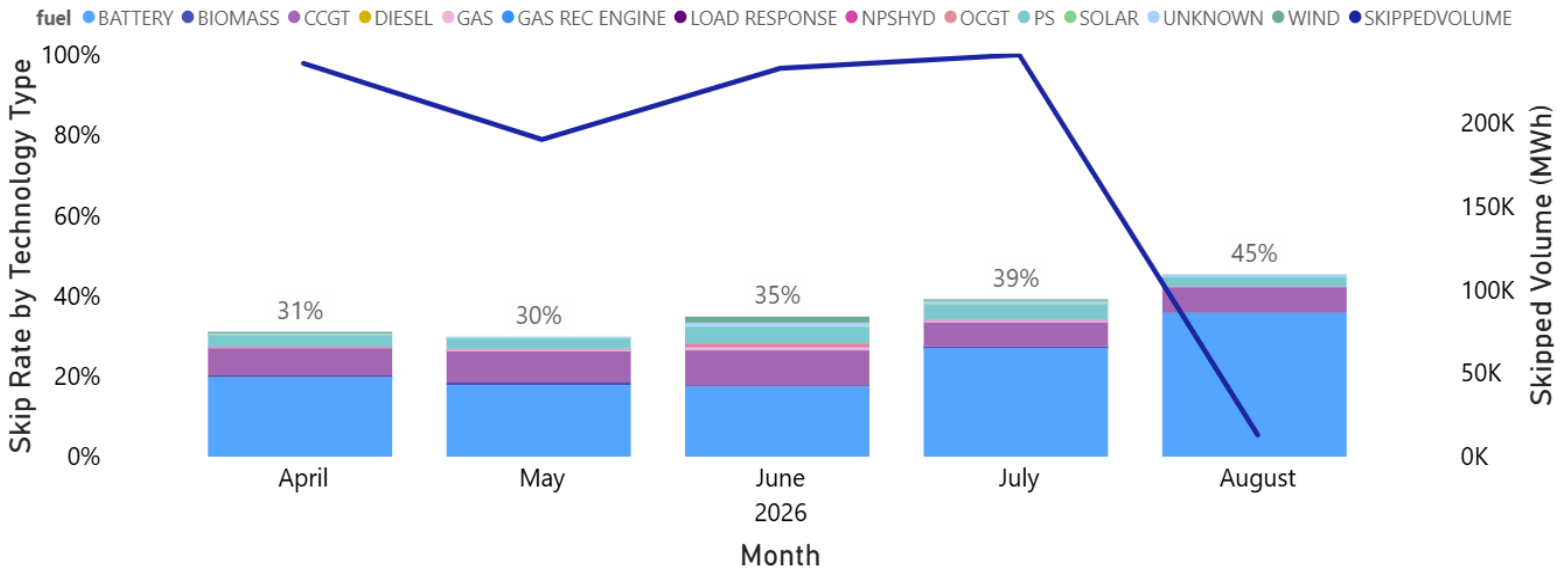
The current skip rate methodology only considers energy actions within the BM

We welcome your comments and feedback on these figures and how we present this data.

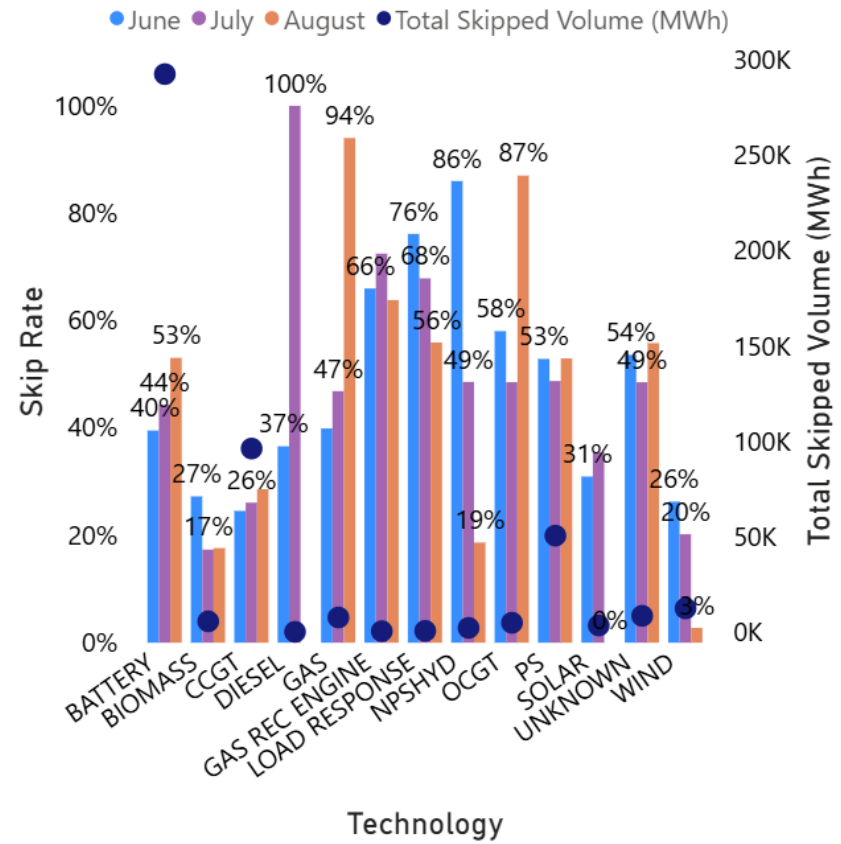
These graphs are based on stage 5 of the Post System Action definition.

Weekly Average w/e	PSA Skip Rate (%)
12/07	38%
19/07	39%
26/07	41%
02/08	39%

Relative Technology Skip Rate



Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months



Gas: Gas reciprocating units
NPSHYD: Non-Pumped Storage Hydro
PS: Pumped Storage

Contact us on box.SkipRates@neso.energy

Skip rate data and more info on skip rates including methodology can be found on our website.

Rerecorded deep dive can be found on our webpage: here

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Previously Asked Questions

Q (15.07.26) Hamidreza Jahangir: Recently, we've been seeing more high-priced, low-volume BSAD actions. For example, on 9 July, NESO accepted a 1 MW BSAD offer priced at over £500 from SP35 (17:00) through SP46 (22:30). More generally, what is driving the apparent increase in these types of BSADs?

A: The role of NESO is to balance the market position using the most economic options made available by the market. Your observation around high priced low volume actions will be a function of what is being made available in the balancing mechanism at the time and not necessarily a wider trend.

Advance Q (15.07.26) : Thanks for the presentation today on constraints. Forecast constraints for the next 12 months is just over £3bn of which outages are expected to contribute 25%. What was the % outturn contribution of outages to constraint costs in the previous 12 months, and across previous years, if possible? Does NESO normally measure the outturn accuracy of its constraint forecast?

A: For the purposes of the OTF presentation we ran projected constraint costs against an intact network to isolate the impact of outages. For our BAU forecast, given constraints are driven by a number of factors, this approach would be impractical; however, NESO measures the quality of our constraint cost forecast against outturn as part of our continuous improvement for the forecasting process and model.

Previously Asked Questions

22.07.26 Martin Laing: You gave guidance on max 300MW BSAD trades per I/C and proceeded to breach those limits on a regular basis. Have now mentioned NTC's, which sounds like will not make any difference to max 300MW BSAD trades within day. What's the point of giving guidance that implies limits that you don't adhere to?

A: As a reminder the trading limits are dependent on the day-ahead flow so it is possible to trade above 300MW without meeting any restriction – this was covered in detail in previous OTF sessions. The use of Net Transfer Capacities (NTCs) is completely separate to trading limits. If the total redispatch volume available to NESO is insufficient to ensure system security, a Day Ahead NTC is required on the interconnectors capable of providing that assurance.

The recent sessions we did can be accessed here: https://youtu.be/HItluU-D7gs and https://youtu.be/ZqTQvXWSOBE.

Q (22.07.26) Ryan Goddard: Have the emergency interconnector actions and prices for 23/06/2026 been published? If so, could you please confirm where to find them? If not, could you provide your best view for when the data will be published.

A: Any emergency actions taken on interconnectors are published in real-time on the Elexon Insights' "Events" webpage (https://bmrs.elexon.co.uk/events).
The prices for any such actions are published in the DISBSAD data via the Elexon Insights platform as soon as they are available. If the firm prices are not yet available, an indicative price will be published instead if agreed with the connecting system operator at the time of activation.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q (15.07.26) Lisa Waters: When NESO asked gencos for additional plant status information under the recent extreme heat which part of the Grid Code (or other rules) was it using to request this information?

A: OC2.4.1.2.1 "The Company may, as appropriate, contact each Generator and each Interconnector Owner and each Restoration Contractor referred to in OC2.3.1(f) who has supplied information to seek clarification on their Output Usable submissions."

Q (22.07.26) Ben Green: Restoration costs appear to have significantly increased in June compared with previous months based on the monthly cost summary slide. What is the reason for this?

A: Restoration costs in June 2026 were £7.9m, up £3.3m on May 2026 and £4.2m on June 2025. This has changed from what was published at the OTF two weeks ago due to re-allocation of costs following a review of the data. This increase is down to the submission of invoice(s) that relate to the payment of pre-agreed monies as determined by the relevant restoration tender being invoiced during the month.

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Previously Asked Questions

Advance Q (15.07.26): Thank you for the answer to my question about the criteria for flagging actions as "SO". Is there data which indicates the proportion of actions taken which are to primarily to provide fault level rather than to resolve transmission constraints?

A: To request data that is not currently shared via the Open Data Portal or our public website, please submit a request through the Data Request Form. For more information go to:

Data Sharing Approach |National Energy System Operator

Advance Q (30.07.26) : Regarding the use of DA NTC restrictions on interconnectors, it is stated that “should conditions change as timescales develop, any newly available capacity will be released in intraday timescales”. What data will this process be based off? Is this assessment made in a continual manner or at specific times of the day? As of the first few days since the use of DA NTC restrictions, no capacity was released intraday that was restricted at the DA stage. Does this mean that NESO have considered the system security to have been at risk on these days, all the way through the intraday period?

A: The use of DA NTCs is based on all available forecast data used to analyse the system conditions for that day. These conditions are repeatedly reassessed as real-time approaches. Changes to the NTC submitted at day-ahead can be made should the conditions change based on the most recent forecast at the time of analysis. If an NTC remains in place, this is to maintain system security.

Previously Asked Questions

Advance Q (30.07.26) : Can clarification be provided on when DA NTC restrictions on interconnectors will be used? How exactly is this decision calculated? Last week's OTF stated these will be "to guarantee the security of the GB system" – what is the threshold for this to be triggered?

A: This information is contained in the GB NTC Calculation Policy – https://www.neso.energy/document/315901/download

Advance Q (30.07.26) : The communication states DA NTC restrictions may be required to guarantee the security of the GB system, should available intraday options not provide this certainty. What are these "available intraday options" and how exactly are they quantified in terms of providing system security? Can examples be provided of when available intraday options have not provided a guarantee of system security?

A: The Intraday options are any mechanisms available to NESO for redispatch in order to secure the GB system. Should the total volume available for redispatch through any of the options available to NESO be insufficient to guarantee system security, a DA NTC is required on those interconnectors which can provide that guarantee.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (30.07.26) : The webpage that contains the reports that are published by NESO each day relating to the status of the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) and factors affecting the NETS has a number of missing days - can you upload the missing data as well as explain why the data is missing please.
The most recent missing data includes: 13-17 Jul, 27 Jun, 20-21 Jun, 17 Jun, 12-13 Jun, 10 Jun, 6 Jun, 2-3 Jun as well as other dates in the preceding months.
Link: https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/industry-data-and-reports/gb-electricity-system-operator-daily-reports

A: The GBESO Daily Reports are currently unavailable on the NESO website due to an ongoing transition in the publication process. We are working to restore publication as soon as possible and will make the reports available once the necessary arrangements are in place. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

As an alternative, the GBESO Daily report is publicly available from the Elexon Insights pages: https://www.elexon.co.uk/data/kinnect-insights-solution/. Historic data is also available via this link.

NESO National Energy System Operator

Outstanding Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (15.07.26): Please could you confirm the rules around interconnector trades? There have been several days since the new 300/1500MW limits came into place on 20 May where it appears that trades > 300MW have been made in the opposite direction of the corresponding DA nomination. I understand that these limits may be exceeded in extreme circumstances with permission from the opposite SO, but is this exception documented.

Q (22.07.26) Callum MacIver: If 2900MW is the best number for long term planning over B4/B5, is it also used in all other relevant NESO work? Is it published anywhere? If not, can it and other more realistic boundary capabilities be made public - alongside e.g. more optimistic max numbers in ETYS and OTF?

Advance Q (04.08.26): At OTF please can you explain what the margin issue is that is leading to significant and sustained interconnector restrictions. I keep getting asked "what are we missing that NESO can see"? Is it just the amount of constrained off plant – as the market cannot see the constraints?

Advance Q (04.08.26): Ofgem's open letter interconnector capacity hoarding warns parties against using interconnector capacity to manipulate markets. Is NESO not now hoarding capacity and impacting prices for GB gencos by not allowing exports?

NESO is restricting capacity for "margin" purposes and then has senior staff in the press saying it is all fine – which is it? If NESO is taking significant interventionist measures in the market, should we not be being honest that the margin is not fine and explain why?

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Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (01.07.26) Chris Bocock: Please could you give us an idea of the capacity numbers involved in the response to the EMN? If possible, I'd like to know the absolute and relative contribution of the demand side response he mentioned. Thank you

Q (01.07.2026) Advance: The extreme weather across Europe in the week beginning 22 June was well forecast. From that the challenges of reduced wind, gas, and nuclear power output should have been forecast. So I'm very surprised that "[when] we approached real time, models moved from using forecasts for interconnector flow to using nominated flows from day ahead auctions" and that led to amber then red margin status, a frequency deviation, and an interconnector emergency instruction. What work is NESO going to undertake to ensure your margin forecast model does not fail to predict reduced margin in these conditions, well ahead of real time, when they next occur?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: On 26/06 NESO issued an EMN until 21:00 despite soft margins and spare CCGT in the stack. It had already procured 1,500MW on ICs, then cut EMN shortfall to 100MW while requesting another 100MW IC. Was the EMN ready to enable more IC MW procurement cheaper than GB, not because NESO lacked margin?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: Would providing a DRM with the inclusion of constraints provide a better reflection of how tight the system is from a control room perspective. The questions today suggest that the last 3 EMNs have not made any sense to the market given a near 10GW DRM on each EMN.

Q (15.07.26) Lisa Waters: Under the recent EMNs NESO was taking over 500MW out of the margin as it was constrained off. 500MW is the fixed CMN margin trigger. Does NESO think we need to review the CMN trigger to account for constrained off margin?

NESO National Energy System Operator

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (15.07.26) Alistair Abbott: Are you able to share the causes behind the latest EMNs? The LoLP on Elexon shows that for EMN notice period last Thursday (09/07), the lowest margin forecast was 5.9GW, slightly greater than the margin forecast on Wednesday (08/07), yet this period had no EMN. Thank you.

NESO OTF Q&A Guidelines

Slido code #OTF

- **Anonymous Questions:** We won't answer questions from unidentified parties live. If you need to stay anonymous, use the advance question or email options.
- **Challenge Concerns:** The OTF isn't the place to challenge actions of individual parties (except NESO). Report such concerns to the Market Monitoring team at: mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy.
- **Question Order:** We'll answer questions in the order they are upvoted. If we can't answer a question right away, we'll take it away or address it later.
- **Slido Availability:** Slido will stay open until 12:00, even if the call ends earlier, to give you more time to ask questions.
- **Q&A:** All questions asked through Slido will be recorded and published with answers in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on our webpage: https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum
- **Takeaway Questions:** These will be included in the next OTF pack. We might ask you to email us to clarify details
- **Out of Scope Questions:** These will be forwarded to the right NESO expert or team for a direct response. We might ask you to email us to ensure we have the correct contact details. For more information about the OTF's purpose and scope, check the appendix of this slide pack.

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slido

Slido code #OTF

Audience Q&As

ⓘ Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

Send us your feedback..

Slido code #OTF

Using the poll in Sli.do after the event.

If you have any questions after the event, please contact the following email address: **box.nc.customer@neso.energy.**

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Appendix

Purpose and scope of the NESO Operational Transparency Forum

Slido code #OTF

Purpose: The Operational Transparency Forum runs once a week to provide updated information on and insight into the operational challenges faced by the control room in the recent past (1-2 weeks) and short-term future (1-2 weeks). The OTF will also signpost other NESO events, provide deep dives into focus topics, and allow industry to ask questions.

Scope

The OTF covers:

- Regular updates, deep dives, and focus topics
- NESO's operational strategies and challenges
- Data published by NESO
- Data and processes from other parties (e.g., BMRS by Elexon, consultations by Elexon, Ofgem, DESNZ)
- Industry questions (answers live or taken away for answering later)

Out of Scope

The OTF does not cover:

- Data owned by other parties
- Specific actions and decisions of the NESO Control Room
- Activities and operations of individual market participants
- NESO's policy and strategic decisions
- Formal consultations (e.g., Code Changes, Business Planning, Market Development)

NESO National Energy System Operator

Skip Rates – 'In Merit' datasets

We recognise that these datasets aren't as intuitive as they could be – specifically the column headings. Please be reassured that we are looking at ways to improve this - we will update the documentation to include this information and will also discuss the datasets in more detail at the webinar on 27th February.

We will use 'accepted' and 'instructed' differently in this context, even though they are normally the same.

These datasets show the units that should have been instructed if decisions were solely based on price, rather than all units that were instructed. Therefore this dataset does not match the total accepted volume datasets in Elexon.

In Merit Volume = Accepted Volume + Skipped Volume

In Merit Volume
- This is the recreated in merit stack showing the lowest cost units that were available to meet the requirement, where the requirement is based on the volume of units that were actually instructed
- Therefore this is the volume that should have been accepted if decisions were solely based on price
- The sum of this column is the total instructed volume in the 5 minute period (subject to the relevant exclusions)

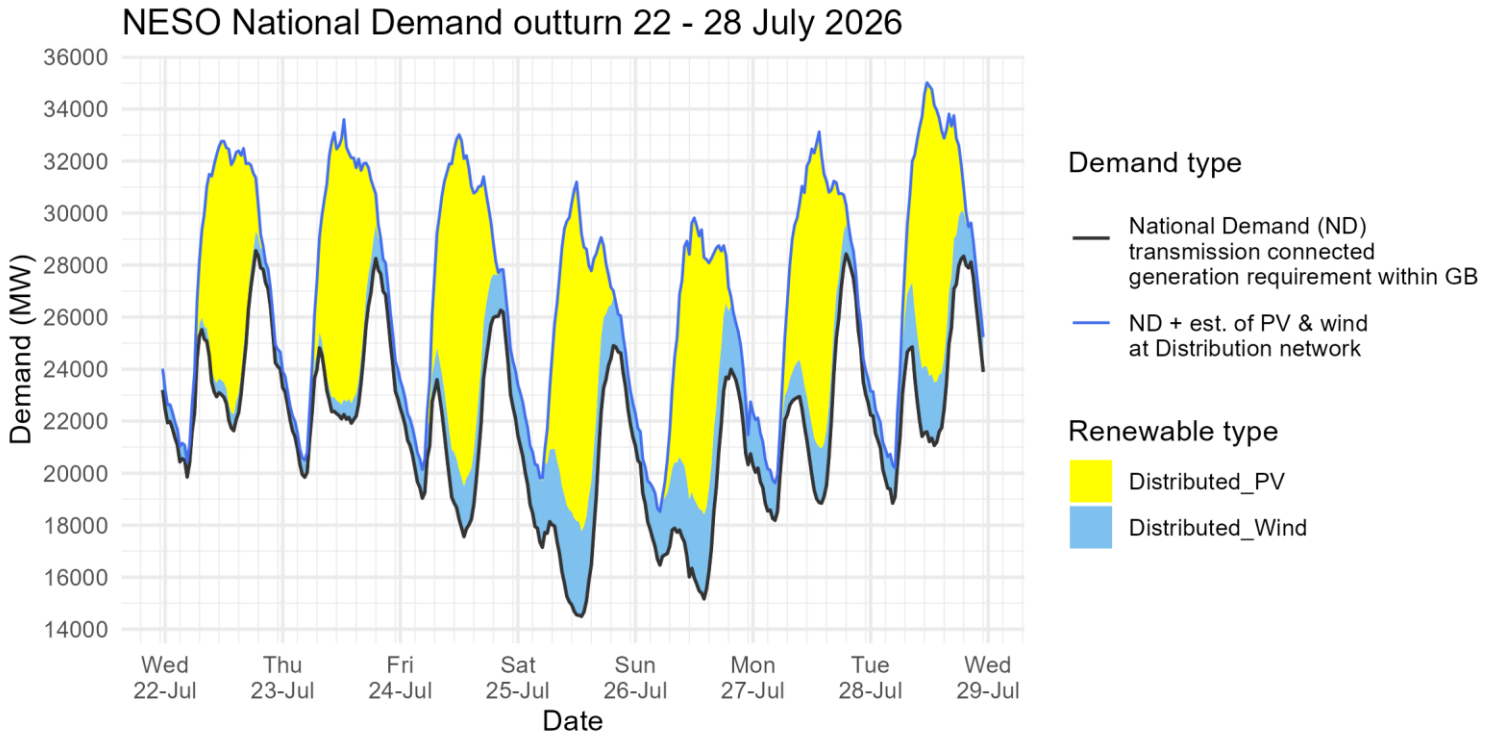
Accepted Volume
- This is the volume that was accepted in merit, as a subset of the 'In Merit Volume' column – i.e. how much volume was accepted in merit
- The sum of this column will be less than the sum of the 'In Merit Volume' column, unless there is no skipped volume
- Note: this column does not list all instructed units

Skipped Volume
- This is the volume that was skipped, as a subset of the 'In Merit Volume' column – i.e. of the volume that we should have instructed, how much was skipped

It's possible that the list of units increases, decreases, or stays the same between stages, but the total 'In Merit Volume' will always remain the same (or no volume is excluded) or decrease (due to exclusions).

Demand | Demand out-turn

Slido code #OTF



The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.
ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real time data.

Historic out-turn data can be found on the NESO Data Portal in the following data sets: Historic Demand Data & Demand Data Update

From March to October, the table will display overnight minimum (between 00:00 and 07:30) and daytime minimum (between 07:30 and 16:30) as well as an additional column: distributed PV.

Distributed generation

Peak values by day

	OUTTURN	
Date	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
22 Jul 2026	9.8	0.8
23 Jul 2026	10.7	1.3
24 Jul 2026	13.0	2.2
25 Jul 2026	13.0	3.6
26 Jul 2026	10.8	3.2
27 Jul 2026	12.1	2.1
28 Jul 2026	11.2	2.6

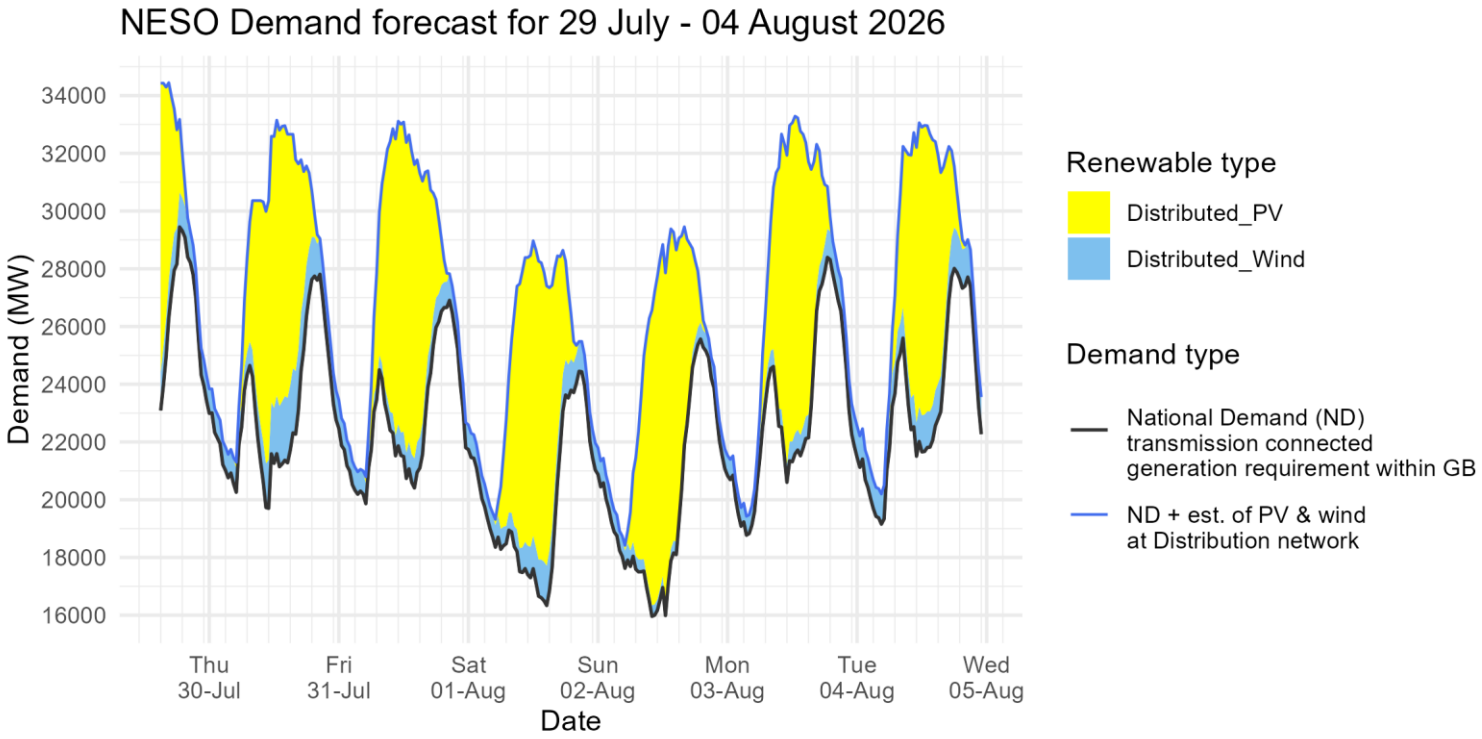
National Demand

Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 22 Jul)			OUTTURN		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
22 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	19.6	0.6	10.5	21.6	0.6	9.8
23 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.6	0.5	0.0	19.8	0.7	0.0
23 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	21.7	0.7	8.8	21.9	0.8	9.4
24 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.1	0.9	0.0	19.0	1.1	0.0
24 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	17.8	1.7	10.9	17.6	1.9	12.6
25 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	17.2	1.5	0.3	17.1	2.5	0.1
25 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	14.7	2.3	10.9	14.5	3.3	11.4
26 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	16.3	1.5	1.1	16.5	2.0	0.0
26 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	16.0	2.3	8.8	15.2	3.2	9.9
27 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	17.4	1.8	0.0	18.2	1.4	0.0
27 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	19.2	1.9	9.8	18.8	2.1	11.2
28 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	18.4	1.6	0.0	18.8	1.5	0.0
28 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	20.1	2.4	10.2	21.1	2.4	10.7

Demand | Week Ahead

Slido code #OTF



	Datetime	Demand (GW)
Weekly Min	02 Aug 2026 11:00	16.0
Weekly Peak	29 Jul 2026 19:30	29.4

National Demand

Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 29 Jul)		
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
30 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	20.3	0.8	0.2
30 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	19.7	1.7	9.0
31 Jul 2026	Overnight Min	19.9	0.7	0.2
31 Jul 2026	Daytime Min	20.4	1.0	10.2
01 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	18.3	0.7	1.5
01 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	16.3	1.4	9.7
02 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	17.6	0.6	0.2
02 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	16.0	0.4	10.2
03 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	18.8	0.7	0.0
03 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	20.6	0.6	10.7
04 Aug 2026	Overnight Min	19.2	1.0	0.0
04 Aug 2026	Daytime Min	21.5	1.2	9.5

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ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

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Public

Update: Balancing Mechanism Registration Process

Operational Transparency Forum 5 August 2026

NESO
National Energy System Operator

Update: BM Registration Process

1. Overview of process
2. Pinch Points
3. NESO Actions
4. Useful contacts

Further information on all items is contained in the appendix to this pack

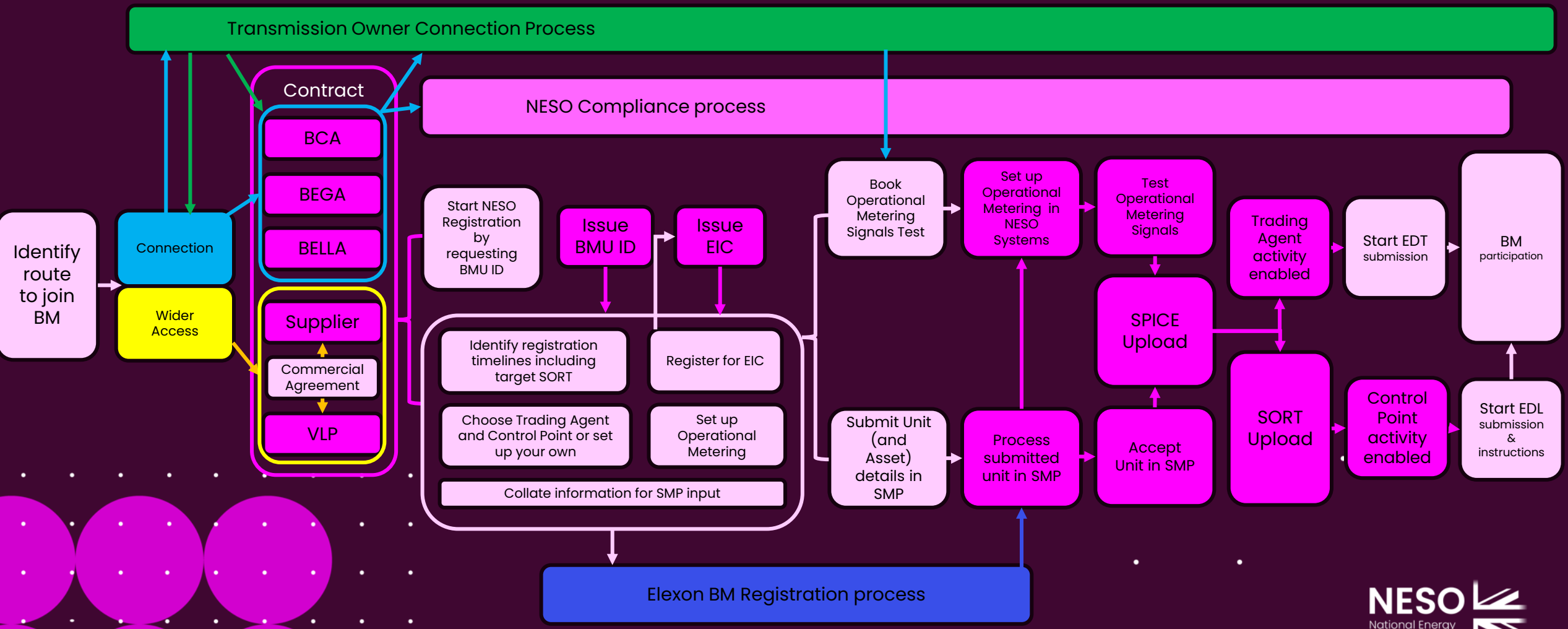
BM: Balancing Mechanism

What do I need to register a Balancing Mechanism Unit (BMU)?

Before you start	
Choose your route	Directly connected assets and larger embedded assets must follow the connections route. Other embedded assets will usually have a choice between the connections route or using Wider Access.
Ready to start	
Asset	One or more assets which will make up the BM Unit. These can be your own assets, or assets where you are representing the owner.
Lead Party	This is the organisation which has signed up with Elexon and fulfilled all the requirements of the Balancing and Settlements Code to be recognised as a Lead Party. Lead Party - Elexon BSC
Connection Agreement	Every BMU is registered under the terms of a Connections Agreement with NESO. This may be site-specific (BCA, BELLA or BEGA), or organisation specific (Supplier or VLP)
BMU ID	Lead Party needs to email bmu.registration@neso.energy to request the NESO BMU ID
SMP Account	You will need to submit the details of the Unit and Assets to the NESO Single Markets Platform (SMP) to complete the registration.Single Markets Platform | National Energy System Operator
Along the way	
Elexon BMU Registration	This is a parallel process which ensures the BMU has the necessary Settlement Metering to support participation in the BM BM Units – Registration of Balancing Mechanism (BM) Units - Elexon Digital BSC. Elexon will issue their own BMU ID (also known as the Settlement ID)
Control Point	Has real time communication with the NESO Systems close to real time including receiving and acting on Control Room instructions using EDL (Electronic Data Logging)
Trading Agent	Makes the required regular data submissions to the NESO systems on behalf of the unit e.g. Bid Offer Data, Physical & Dynamic parameters using EDT (Electronic Data Transmission)
Operational Metering	Provides real time unit performance data to the NESO systems. Testing is carried out ahead of the SORT Cutoff to ensure accurate and complete data can be received by the NESO systems
EIC Registration	Energy Identification Codes: LIO for EIC codes | National Energy System Operator
Location details	Exact geographic and network location enables NESO systems to understand the asset impact on the network and manage locational conditions e.g. voltage & thermal constraints
Technical details	For example: asset fuel and technology type, capacity, connection voltage, generation and demand capacity, enables NESO systems to understand unit performance

Overview: NESO BM Registration Process

NESO Guidance and support is available before, during and after the registration process. Please see "Useful Contacts"



Further information including the glossary is contained in the appendix to this pack

NESO National Energy System Operator

Glossary: NESO BM Registration Process

BM/Balancing Mechanism	What is the Balancing Mechanism? | National Energy System Operator The Electricity Trading Arrangements A Beginner's Guide - Elexon Digital BSC Registration guide Balancing Mechanism Units (BMUs)
Route to BM Registration	**Connection Route:** for units with site-specific BCA, BELLA or BEGA agreements with NESO. The unit developer must demonstrate the units meets the compliance requirements included in the agreement in addition to the BM Registration requirements. **Wider access route:** organisations with Supplier or VLP agreements must satisfy the BM Registration requirements for each unit. Compliance requirements managed by the DNO.
Wider Access	Wider Access - Virtual Lead Party (VLP) and Supplier Onboarding and Registration Guidance
BCA	**Bilateral Connection Agreement:** single site agreement required for direct connection to the GB Transmission Network
BELLA	**Bilateral Embedded Licence exemptable Large power station Agreement:** single site agreement required for connection of assets classed as Large Power Stations to a Scottish distribution network where the unit is exempt from full participation in the Balancing Mechanism. The units do need to register with NESO to provide data submissions and operational metering
BEGA	**Bilateral Embedded Generator Agreement:** single site agreement required for connection of Large Power Stations to a distribution network if they do not qualify for BELLA. Other Power Stations may choose to enter in a BEGA as a route to participation in the Balancing Mechanism
Supplier Connection Agreement	Organisation specific agreement for Elexon registered suppliers holding a Supplier Licence. This agreement allows registration of BMU containing a single or multiple embedded assets. For multiple assets to be registered as a single aggregated BMU they must all be connected within the same DNO Region (also know as a GSP Group) GSP = Grid Supply Point
VLP Connection Agreement	Organisation specific agreement for Elexon registered Virtual Lead Parties. This agreement allows registration of BMU containing a single or multiple embedded assets. For multiple assets to be registered as a single aggregated BMU they must all be connected within the same DNO Region (also know as a GSP Group)
Power Station sizes as defined by the Grid Code	

Transmission Owner (TO) Region	Small	Medium	Large
National Grid Electricity Transmission	<50MW	50<100MW	100MW
Scottish Power Energy Networks	<30MW	n/a	30MW
Scottish & Southern Electricity and Offshore TOs (OFTO)	<10MW	n/a	10 MW

SMP Unit status	Completed unit and asset data is "Submitted" to SMP, once NESO have verified the data is complete, correct and meets the registration requirements the record are moved to "Accepted" status
SPICE Upload	Upload to SPICE (the NESO Scheduling Process in a Controlled Environment) is the process step which identifies the Unit's Trading Agent in NESO Control Room systems ensuring EDT data submissions can be processed.
SORT Upload	Upload to SORT (the NESO System Operation in Real Time) is the completion of the BMU Registration., and takes place once every two months. Identifying the Target SORT Upload
EDT/EDL	Electronic Data Transmission/Electronic Date Logging: resilient and secure communications links used by Trading Agents/Control Points
WA API	Wider Access API (application programming interface) provided by NESO as an alternative communication option Control Points and Trading Agents representing small BMUs Overview of the Wider Access API 9 Nov 2020

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Overview: NESO BM Registration Process

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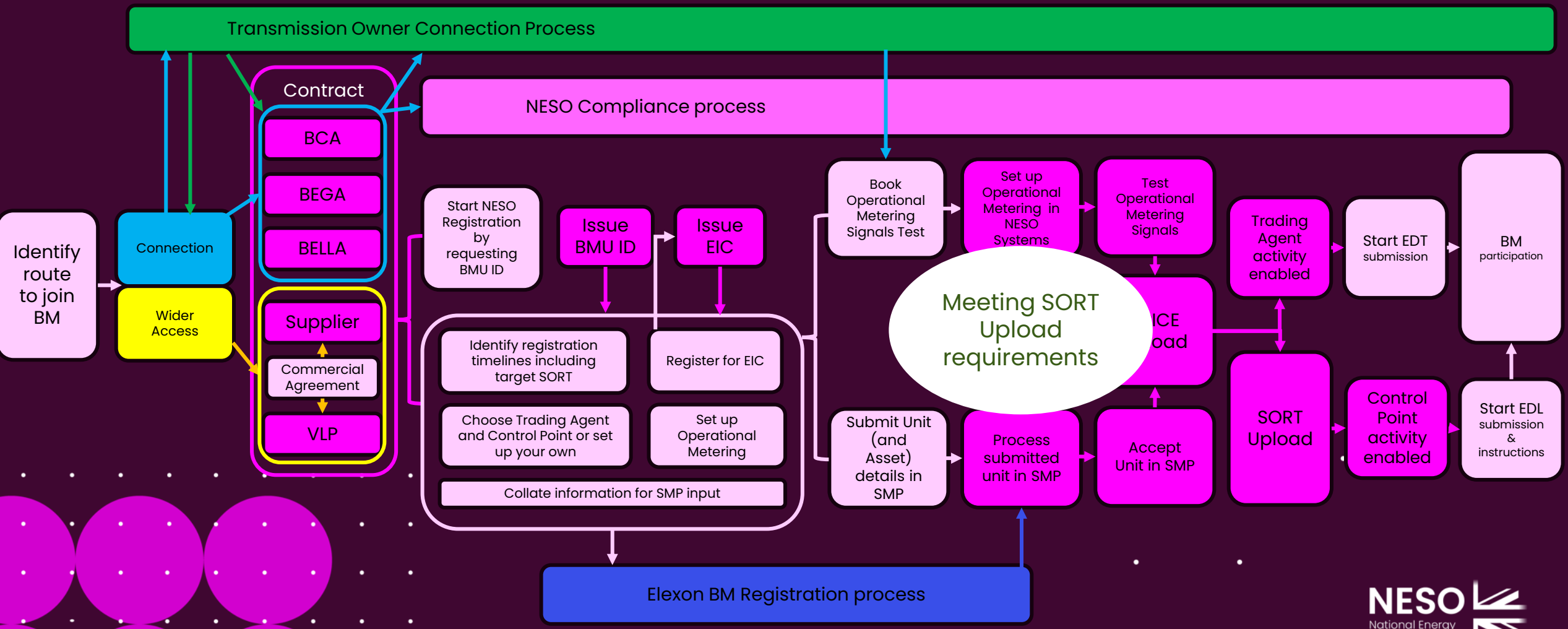


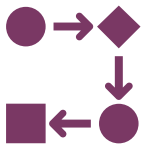
Further information including the glossary is contained in the appendix to this pack

NESO National Energy System Operator

NESO Actions on Pinch Points

Customer feed back on their experience of the NESO BM Registration process overwhelmingly identifies the strict schedule of SORT Uploads as the most significant pinch point. This year we have:

1. Engaged with market participants to explain the alignment between construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines



2. Developed an exception process which will mitigate some of the dependency on the TO timeline for BCA sites. This is designed to facilitate entry into the SORT for new BMU where a close misalignment of NESO and TO timelines (3-4 weeks) results in a unit waiting 2 months for the next SORT Upload. We will be working to identify sites at risk and happy to discuss options with developers. This process is dependent on the available of Operational Metering signals to the NESO systems.

3. Begun exploring options for increasing the frequency of the SORT Upload until OBP completes implementation.

4. Approached the TOs to discuss the interaction of construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines.

Further information about the actions above is contained in the appendix to this pack

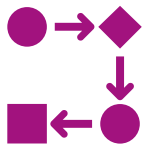
NESO National Energy System Operator

Pinch Points 1: Engagement

1. **We have engaged with market participants to explain the alignment between construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines by:**

- Responding to market participant requests made through NESO Compliance to explain the alignment between construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines

- Working with the NESO Compliance teams to offer early consultation on the alignment between construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines in support of project planning



- Presenting at NESO Customer Compliance Seminar and Operational Transparency Forum, sharing and receiving feedback on draft version of SORT Date Checker Tool.

- Publishing the Balancing Mechanism SORT Date Checker Tool to support project planning for site developers. This tool provides a visual representation of the necessary alignment between NESO, TO and Developer timelines to allow users to test potential target dates and understand the critical path. A non-BCA tab added to the SORT Date Checker Tool before publication.

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Pinch Points 2: Exception Process

2. We are developing an exceptions process which will mitigate some of the dependency on the Transmission Owner timeline for BCA sites.

- This process is designed to facilitate entry into the SORT for new BMUs where a close misalignment of NESO and TO timelines (3-4 weeks) results in a unit waiting a further 2 months for the next SORT Upload

- We will be working to identify sites at risk and are happy to discuss options with developers
- This process is dependent on the TO ability to make BMU Operational Metering signals available to the NESO systems

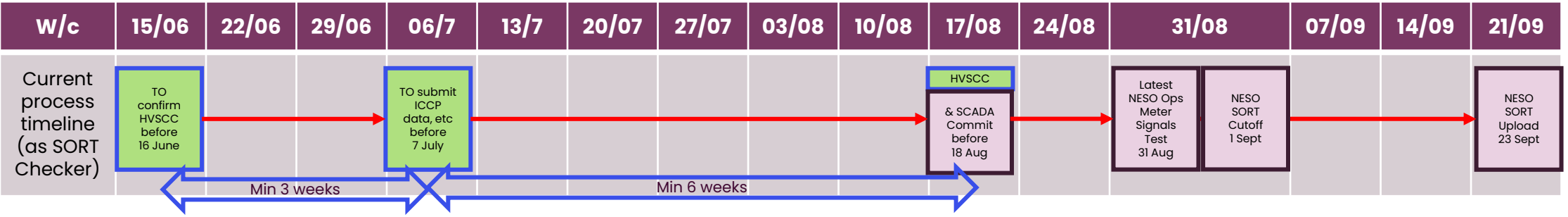
- We are making this process available for qualifying BMU targeting the September 2026 SORT Upload
- We will continue to refine this process

- Where possible any applicable improvements will be implemented into the standard process

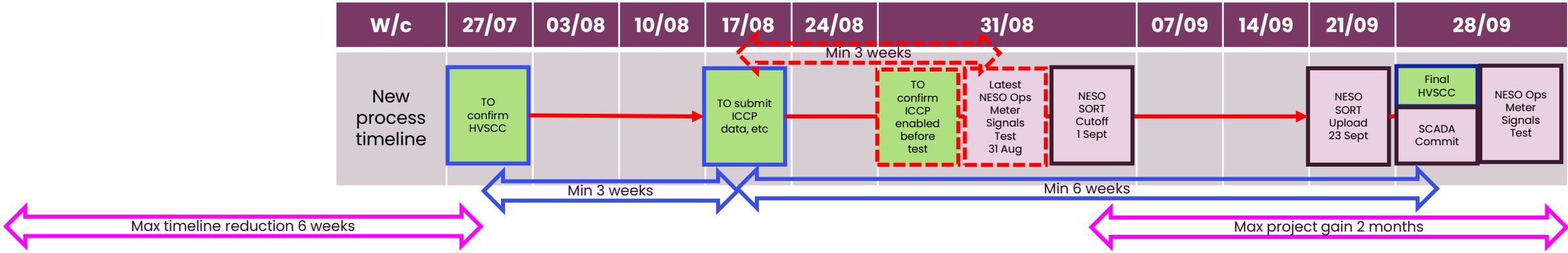
Pinch Points 2: Exception Process

Exception process: Comparative timelines (baseline is BM SORT Date Checker Tool)

Standard process



Exception process



Key

Notes:

1. Dates shown are latest possible providing:
   - ICCP data is provided on time, correct and complete
   - TO have enabled ICCP ready to carry signals
   - Signals can be tested successfully at the first attempt.
2. We continue to recommend customers allow minimum two weeks for Operational Metering Signals Tests to allow time resolve any issues identified during testing
3. Operational Metering Signals must be tested successfully before the Cutoff date

Pinch Points 3: SORT Frequency

3. **Begun exploring options for increasing the frequency of the SORT Upload until OBP completes implementation.**

- The SORT Upload (Implementation) is currently scheduled to take place once every two months

- We have been reviewing the options for increasing the frequency, identifying the activities and resources required to deliver them and assessing any additional risks.

Pinch Points 4: Timeline interactions

4. **Approached the TOs to discuss the interaction of construction, Transmission Owner, NESO Compliance and BM Registration timelines.**

- Conversations are ongoing

NESO National Energy System Operator

Useful contacts:

Please get in touch with the teams below if you have questions about:

Presentation content:

- **Specific project timelines:**
  - NESO Compliance Manager for your project
  - box.ECC.Compliance@neso.energy
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy
- **Exception Process**
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy

- **BM Registration and BM Wider Access**
  - bmu.registration@neso.energy
  - Balancing Mechanism Wider Access | National Energy System Operator
- **SBMU Virtual Lead Party Registrations:**
  - commercial.operation@neso.energy
- **Operational Metering and Signals Testing**
  - OpsMetering@neso.energy
  - Guidance on Operational Metering Testing
- **Single Markets Platform**
  - box.digitalhelp@neso.energy
  - Single Markets Platform | National Energy System Operator