NGED Connections Reform FAQs for launch Week Queries 20th May 2025

Q: Can we delay our connection date during the Gate 2 process?

A: No, customers cannot request a later connection date as part of the Gate 2 process, only an accelerated one. You can go through the Gate 2 process and after receiving a post Gate 2 offer, request for a variation to the connection date if you want to move the connection date back. These terms will need to be discussed and agreed with the NGED Connections team.

Q: Will there be confirmation of which projects are exempt from the process?

A: Yes, we will email projects not included in the G2WQ process.

Q: Should the easting and northing coordinates be given in decimal degrees for the site points?

A: Yes, coordinates should be in decimal degrees (not degrees/minutes/seconds) and to 3 decimal places. Further information will be provided in the NESO handbook when it is published.

Q: Do sites below 5MW still need to complete the Gate 2 evidence submission?

A: Only sites with fault level restrictions (at the GSP) will require 1-5MW projects to go through the Gate 2 process. These projects will receive links from us via email to submit their Gate 2 evidence.

Q: Can I reduce my capacity below 5MW and avoid the Gate 2 process?

A: Customers that wish to reduce their capacity to 4.95MW or below during the Gate 2 process can do so. However, they are still required to complete the Gate 2 evidence submission process and will also need to submit an updated G99 form based on the new capacity (this is to facilitate a technical review of the impact of the reduced capacity). Please email this to box.connectionsreformnged@nationalgrid.com

Q: Can we amend or add to our submissions on the Portal?

A: Yes, we will inform customers how they can re-submit evidence as and when necessary.

Q: When will the NESO handbook and NGED guidance document be published?

A: The NESO handbook and NGED evidence submission guidance document will be published on 20th May.

Q: Should we provide Gate 2 evidence for a zero-export connection that is already signed off?

A: No, we call this 'behind the meter' if a technology has zero export contracted at the site and will <u>not</u> need a Gate 2, but it will still need the usual assessments on the distribution network side.

Q: Will the slides from the National Grid Connections Reform Webinar be provided?

A: Yes, all the slides and the latest webinar recording are available on our webpage <u>National</u> <u>Grid - Connections Reform</u>

Q: Are confirmed land rights still eligible for Gate 2 if the case is under appeal?

A: Yes, confirmed land rights are still eligible for Gate 2 even if the case is under appeal.

Q: How will a single grid offer with multiple wind farms at different planning stages be handled?

A: The resulting offers could be split into different Gate 2 offers, where some may be protected and some may not.

Q: Is a project that was signed after 29th January 2025 eligible for the first Gate 2 evidence submission window?

A: This project would not be in scope due to the signing happening after the cut-off for the current evidence submission window. It can be submitted for the next transmission evidence submission window (CMP434) NESO will publish the date of the first 434 window in due course.

Q: I recently signed an offer with NGED, but how do I know if I am in scope of reform?

A: To be eligible for the upcoming Gate 2 submissions and assessments process later this year—referred to as Gate 2 to Whole Queue (G2TWQ)—all relevant project contracts must be signed with NESO and/or the appropriate DNO. This requires that your TIA project had commenced prior to the NESO Pause, which began on 29 January 2025. To meet this 29 January cut-off, NGED customers were required to have signed their DNO contracts by the specific deadlines listed for each GSP on this page.

Q: Will all in-scope projects receive a link to submit Gate 2 evidence?

A: Yes, all in-scope projects will receive a link. Those enquiry numbers needing investigation or who had not verified contact details before 16th May may receive a link in a subsequent round of submission request emails.

Q: What should we do if we haven't been contacted about our projects?

A: Please verify the contacts for your projects either through the form link you were sent (email sent April 22-25)or by emailing our box.connectionsreformnged@nationalgrid.com

Q: Why don't I have a link for my 100MW+ NGED project?

A: A 100MW generator connecting at distribution is classed as large embedded. Large, embedded projects should be submitted to NESO instead of NGED. The date for submission will be announced and is expected to be in July.

Q: Does an accepted offer for adding BESS behind the meter need a transmission impact assessment (TIA)?

A: If the new BESS is below the 5MW threshold for transmission impact assessment, it does not need a TIA. Otherwise, if it is above the threshold, it should be submitted in the next Gate 2 window.

Q: Are schemes submitted for planning after 20th December protected under clause 3?

A: Please see full details of protections clause 3 in the Gate 2 methodology on page 41. It may be possible if planning is achieved before the next CMP434 window, that clause 3 protections are applicable. https://www.neso.energy/document/359776/download

Q: Will the new Gate 2 evidence Portal be used by other DNOs?

A: Each DNO will have their own submission method but will all follow the same process and guidelines set out by NESO. We will send a unique link via email to the evidence submission form.

Q: What boundary should we use for our grid application?

A: Use the option area confirmed through an option agreement, and it must be within the same red line boundary as per your original application.

Q: What coordinate system should we use for the site?

A: Use WGS84 Decimal Degrees.

Q: If the project site is not contiguous (separated by a road or other), how should it be identified?

A: The NESO handbook will outline the information about evidence requirements

Q: When will the NGED CP2030 Evidence Submission Window open and close?

A: The NGED evidence submissions will start on 20th May and close in July or August. The date is TBD by NESO as it will close on the same day the Transmission evidence window.

Q: Can you confirm the contracted connection date stated in Appendix G?

A: You should be able to see your latest contracted connection date in your NGED connection offer or variation.

Q: How can advancement be requested?

A: This is to be done through the evidence submission form. Please choose only a date that your project could meet.

Q: Are there costs associated with submitting a Request for Advancement?

A: Yes, there will be a cost of £11,250.00 (plus VAT) per GSP divided by the number of projects seeking advancement at that GSP, that meet readiness and strategic alignment

Q: Are the costs refundable if the advancement is not granted?

A: The fee will be charged if the project requests advancement and passes strategic alignment, even in the case where advancement cannot be given.

Q: If advancement is not granted, can we retain the original contracted connection date?

A: If advancement cannot be offered, the offer will revert to the best date that can be given. However you will still be charged for the advancement if you pass strategic alignment.

Q: What is the earliest advancement date I can request?

A: 2027 is the earliest year that can be requested under advancement during the Gate 2 submission process. Advancement may not be possible and will be assessed at the point the offer is re-studied by our network design team.