

Connections Reform Webinar

Tuesday 13th May 2025

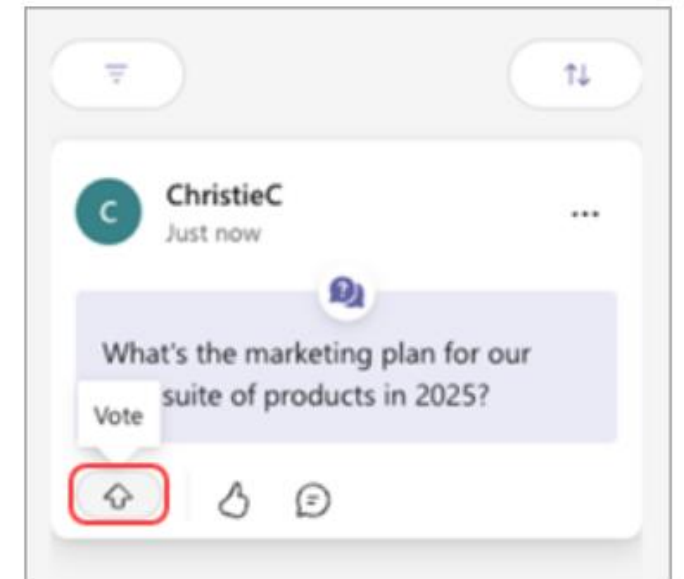


Agenda

1. Welcome and Key Updates
2. Gate 2 Evidence
3. Live Evidence Submission Form Demonstration
4. Q&A

To submit a question, please use the Q&A Function.

If you see a Question submitted by another attendee which you would like to hear answered, please use the **vote button** on the question

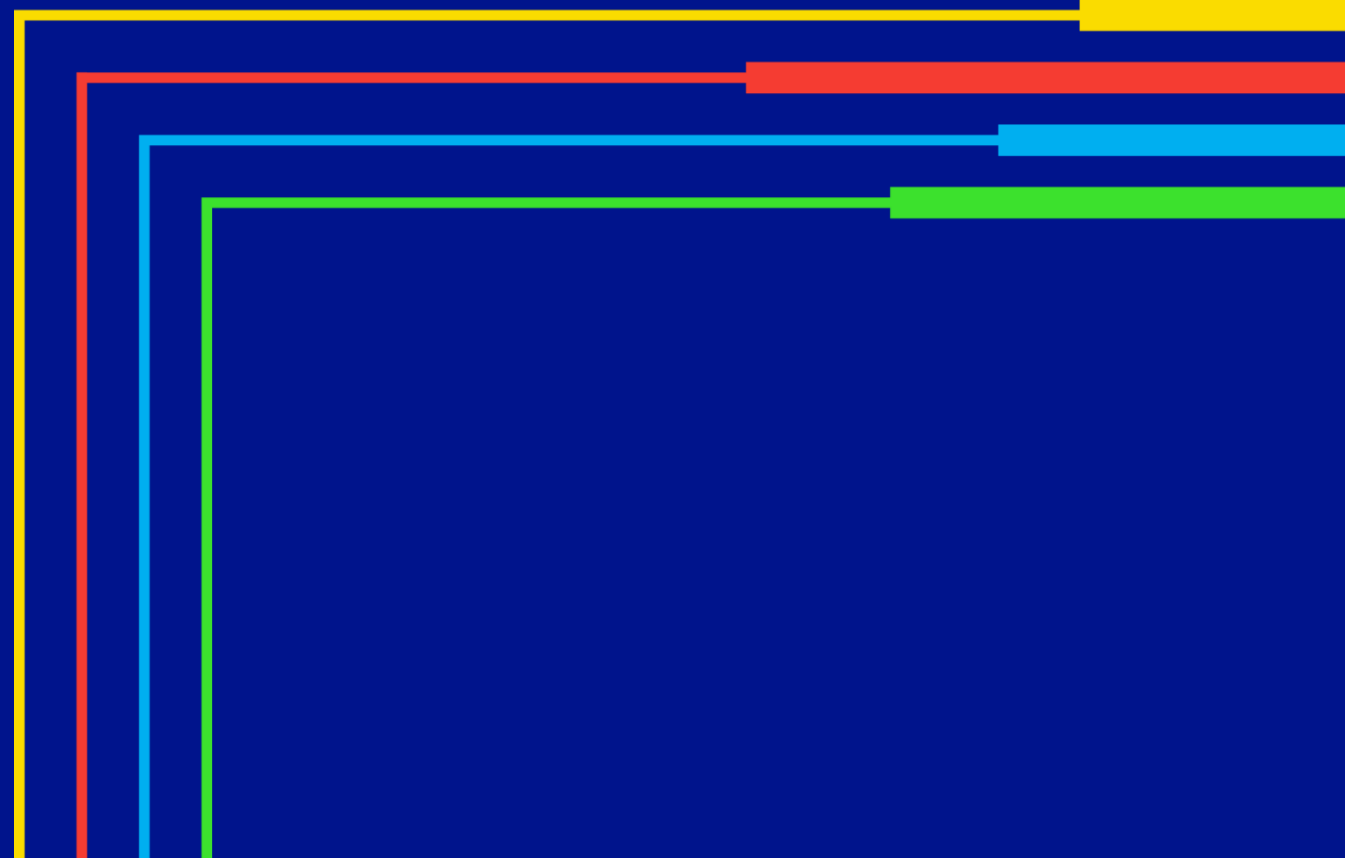




Susana Neves e Brooks
Head of Connections Strategy and Reform

Welcome

national**grid**



Recent Publications| Key updates for Distribution Customers



Reform Go live

Is due to be around **19th May for DNOs and** from this point the DNOs will all be accepting evidence to be submitted via their own submission conduits. The DNO submissions will close at the same time as the transmission window.



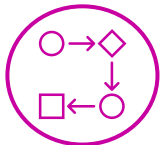
Contact Verification Request & Chaser

This has been sent to all small and medium embedded customers. Please help us prepare for reform by **completing the form as soon as you can** or email box.connectionsreformnged@nationalgrid.com if you have not received an email. This is NOT the evidence submission.



Outstanding NESO Contracts

We've worked out how to handle any questions about outstanding NESO offers and have started receiving them. We'll contact customers to update contracts in time for Gate 2 access. Our focus has been to ensure customers interests are upheld both on the variation prior to Gate 2 and ensuring access to Gate 2.



Connections Reform methodologies

All the methodologies were recently updated (**April 2025**) to reflect the changes in the Ofgem final decision. You can view the updated documents here [Connections Reform | National Energy System Operator](https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform).
<https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform>



Readiness Declaration Updated & Published

The form template that will be used by NESO to gather readiness evidence has been updated since Ofgem's decision. The DNO equivalent will mirror the fields in this document.

[Readiness declaration template | National Energy System Operator](#)



Laura Henry

Senior Connections Strategy & Reform Manager

Policy Updates and Gate 2 Evidence

CMP 446 | Increasing the lower threshold in England and Wales for Evaluation of Transmission impact Assessment from 1MW to 5MW.

The Decision

1

The Proposal

The original proposal from NGET (via NESO) was to raise the threshold for a Transmission Impact Assessment (TIA) from 1MW to 5MW based upon Registered Capacity.

Ofgem's decision

Ofgem has decided to approve the modification with WACM1. Consequently the threshold will be based upon export capacity not registered capacity.

Projects in scope

All generation projects with an export capacity under 5MW will be in scope (where there are no fault level constraints). This will also apply to projects in the current connections queue and new applications following implementation.

NGED Position

2

NGED is currently assessing the outcome from Ofgem and will be reaching out to customers on a case by case basis to discuss individual projects with customers.

If a project was subject to distribution reinforcement or fault level constraints, then these will remain. If a project was only subject to transmission constraints, then it may be possible to progress.

For any queries please contact:
nged.connpolicysupport@nationalgrid.co.uk

ENA Queue Management Milestones | A need to review the current guidance to ensure it is still fit for purpose- Consultation open until the 23rd May

Potential change		Reason for change
Update milestone information	➔	Review of the information provided on each milestone and the evidence required to add further clarity of the process
Update M4 to reflect connections reform	➔	Revise M4 to reflect the connections reform process
Change tolerance period to remedy notice	➔	Remove the tolerance period and instead have a remedy notice period to make it clearer when a project is close to termination

Gate 2 Methodology | DNO Process

**Small &
Medium
Embedded
Projects**



**Submit
Evidence
to DNO**

Gate 2 Evidence	Checks by DNO	Sent to NESO
Verification of Director(s) that signed the Readiness Declaration Letter	✓	✓
Secured land rights or DCO	✓	✗
Red line boundary	✓	✓
Secured Land Rights meet minimum parameters	✓	✗
Alignment with 2030 pathway	✓	✓
Designated project status	✗	✗

Embedded demand is out of scope of TMO4+

Gate 2 Methodology| Directors Declaration

**DNO
Check**



**Submit to
NESO**

Company Registration Number

Use Companies House to verify Director(s) of :

- Limited Companies
- Public Liability Company (PLC)
- Limited Liability Partnerships (LLP)

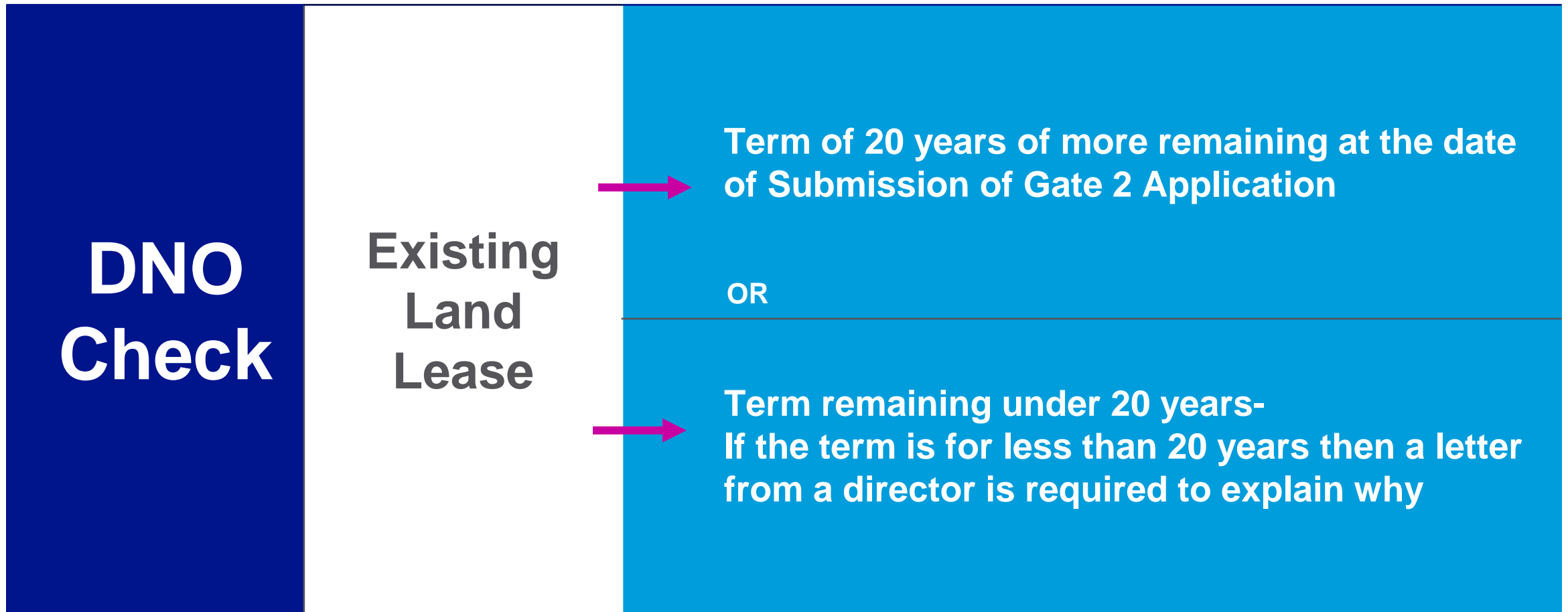
Covering Letter

If an organisation is not listed on Companies House, a cover letter signed by the director is required to confirm the reasoning behind this.

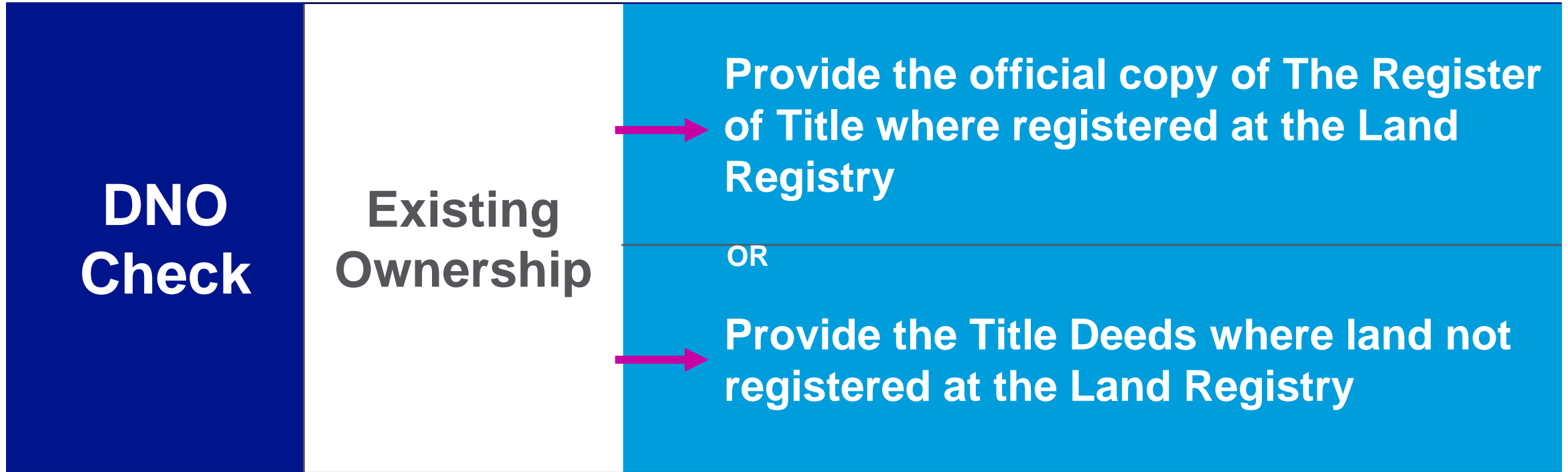
Gate 2 Methodology| Land Rights

DNO Check	Option Agreement and/or Exceptions and	Minimum 3-year period from the date the Option is signed (not the date when Gate 2 application is submitted), unless meets one of the Exceptions
	<u>either</u> Land or Purchase Agreement for Lease	Must have minimum 20-year period from the date of exercise of the option unless acceptable evidence is provided by the User If the term is for less than 20 years then a letter from a director is required to explain why

Gate 2 Methodology| Land Rights



Gate 2 Methodology| Land Rights

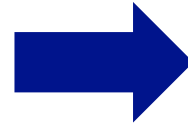


Gate 2 Methodology| Land Rights Exceptions

Land right Exception

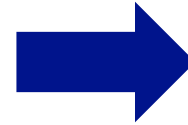
Information required

Option Agreement less than 3 years i.e test site/ will enter into lease in 3 years



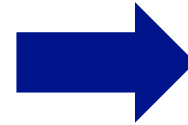
Project Development and Construction Plan required

CPO/Probate



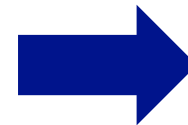
Evidence of this exception is provided

Option agreement less than three years



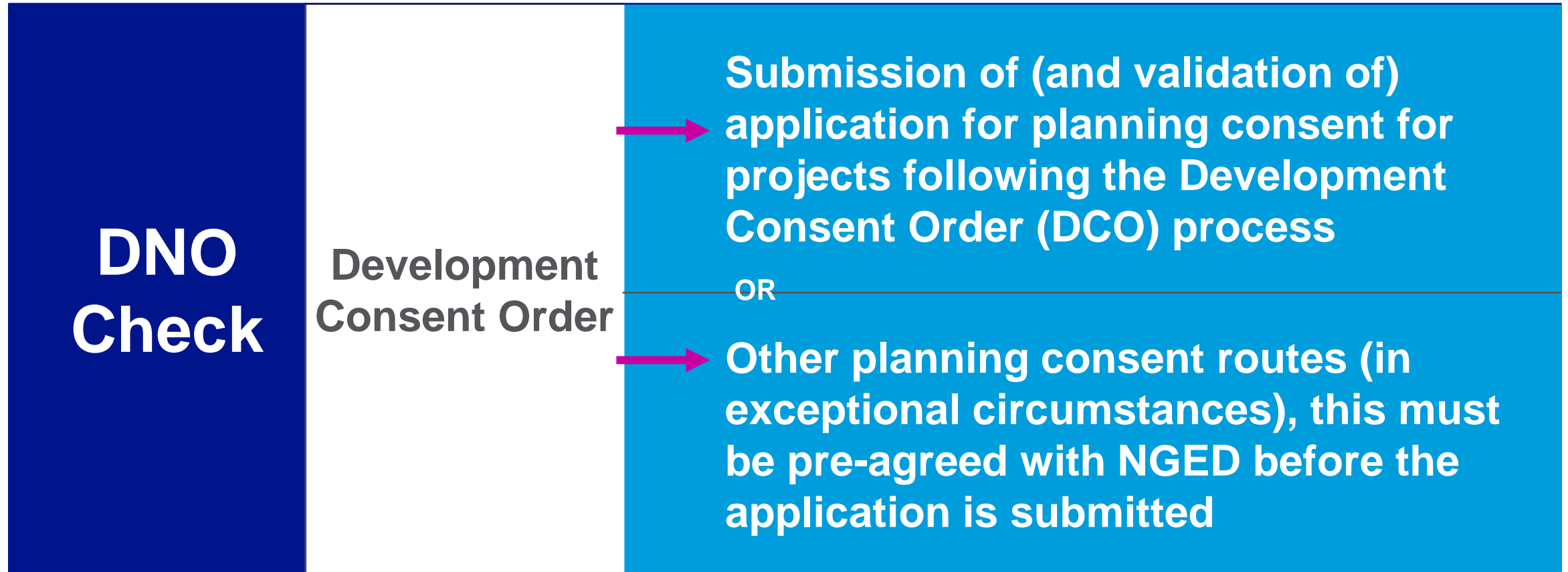
Option agreement was entered into before the Ofgem decision date (15th April 2025)

Project has already met M1



Evidence of meeting M1

Gate 2 Methodology| Planning (DCO)



Gate 2 Methodology| Red Line Boundary

DNO
Check



Submit to
NESO



Provide installed capacity per technology =
Minimum Acreage



Red Line Boundary



Grid Coordinates




Post Code



Orientation and Scale

J. Smith Generation Project Limited



Site Address:
Land South of Murton Substation, Pit Road, Murton, Seaham SR7 9JP

Red Line Boundary Coordinates (WGS84 format):
Northerly - 37°46'29.645"
Easterly - 57°46'29.648"
Southerly - 103°46'29.641"
Westerly - 122°25'9.843"

Technology Installed:
10MW of Battery Energy Storage System (Energy Arbitrage)

Land Acreage of site:
0.5 Acres

Gate 2 Methodology| Strategic Alignment Criteria`

Strategic Alignment Criteria	Protections	Significantly Progressed
A Eligible for protections	1 Projects contracted to connect by end 2026 that have met M2 and M7 (CMP435);	Planning obtained (M2) (and submitted, M1, by 20th Dec 24)
B Aligned to CP30 Action Plan	2a Projects which are significantly progressed (CMP435);	Contracts for Difference (CfD)
C Designated Project	2b Projects which are significantly progressed (those who reapply in CMP434 only); and	Capacity Market
D Not in scope of CP30 Action Plan	3 Projects which obtain planning consent after closure of the CMP435 Gated Application Window (those who reapply in CMP434 only).	Ofgem 'live' Cap and Floor
		Ofgem 'live' Merchant Interconnector
		Projects that meet protection 2A and have a 2027 connection date will have their queue position and date maintained

Gate 2 Methodology| Additional Letters

Additional letters from the director signing the declaration are required in some circumstances-

- Director/company is not on Companies House
- If there is less than 20 years left on the lease
- If there is a change of ownership whilst in Gate 2
- Planning consent not required consent, (Where a User/Applicant does not require planning a letter from a director stating that no statutory consent is required - this means the project will be deemed to have met Queue Management Milestone M2)
- Letter from landowner confirming applicant has the right to use the land

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