

**Electricity
Distribution**

Connections Reform Webinar

Thursday 10th July 2025

nationalgrid

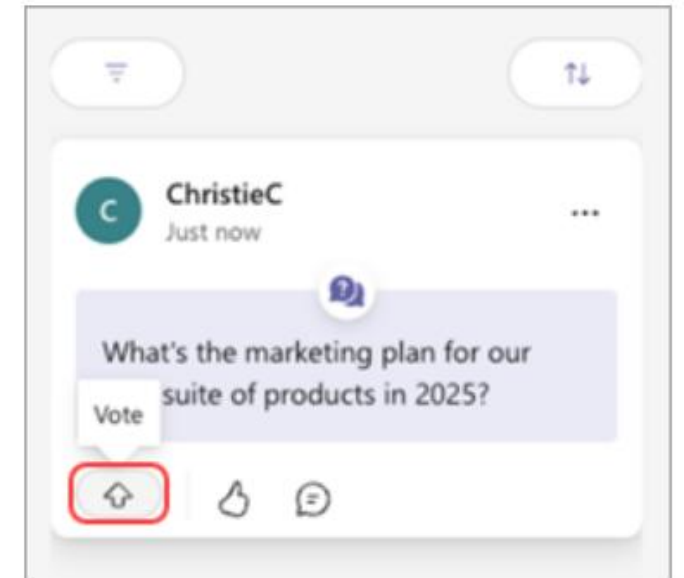


Agenda

1. Welcome and Key Updates
2. Gate 2 Evidence
3. DSO Update
4. Policy Update
5. 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, Policy and Reform

Welcome

Connections Reform | Key updates and Developments



Transmission Evidence Window

- **Opening Date:** 8th July – applicable to all **Transmission Connected Projects** and **Large Embedded Generation**.
- **Closing Date:** 29th July – applies to **all evidence submissions**, including those for **Distribution-connected projects**.



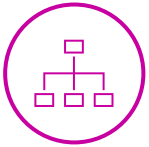
Distribution Evidence Submission

- **Slow Initial Uptake:** Only **30% of submissions** were received over the first **7 weeks**, leaving **70%** to be submitted in the final **2 weeks** of the window.
- **Low Opt-Out Rate:** Just **9%** of submissions to date have indicated an intention to **opt out of the Gate 2 process**.



Customer Engagement Strategy

- **Customer Engagement Strategy Review:** Evaluate and enhance how we communicate and engage with customers.
- **Customer Support Surgeries:** Introduce one-to-one sessions to assist customers with evidence submissions.
- **Connections Reform Webpage Update:** Improve navigation, clarity, and relevance of content to better serve customer needs.



Internal Connections Team Structure – Key Changes

- **New Team Introduction:** A **Connections Customer Contract Management Team** has been established, with an initial focus on supporting customers through the **Gate 2 to TEC Window Queue (G2TWQ)** process and embedding new enduring processes.
- **Collaborative Delivery:** This new team will work closely with: **Planning & Network Design**, **Transmission-Distribution Interface** and **Reform Implementation Teams**
- Together, they will ensure the successful delivery of contract changes resulting from the G2TWQ process
- A **new organisational structure and supporting processes** are currently under development. These will be **shared for socialisation and feedback in August**.

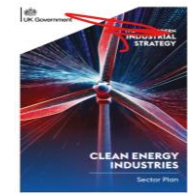
Recent Publications| Key updates for Distribution Customers



Three key announcements from Government in the last month regarding clean energy

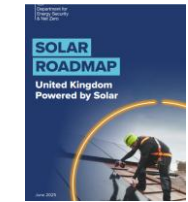
23 June – Industrial Strategy and Clean Energy Industries Sector Plan [here](#) to boost investment in clean energy

- A new **Connections Accelerator Service** will be developed to streamline grid access for major investment projects.
- Government will use new powers in Planning and Infrastructure Bill, to reserve grid capacity for strategic projects.



30 June – Solar Road Map [here](#)

- Government roadmap will drive the biggest expansion yet of solar energy to 45-47GW for UK to become a Clean Energy Super Power and a 'rooftop revolution' for homes, businesses, schools and hospitals.
- Prominent role of Connections Reform in achieving this ambition to treble capacity by 2030 on the networks.



4 July – Onshore Wind Strategy [here](#)

- Proposed doubling of onshore wind, to 29GW by 2030 to 27-29GW (35GW by 2035)
- Connections Reform, to ensure the grid can support low-carbon generation and network build is accelerated.
- Delivering the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan, to support a more actively planned approach to energy infrastructure
- Streamlining planning and consenting.



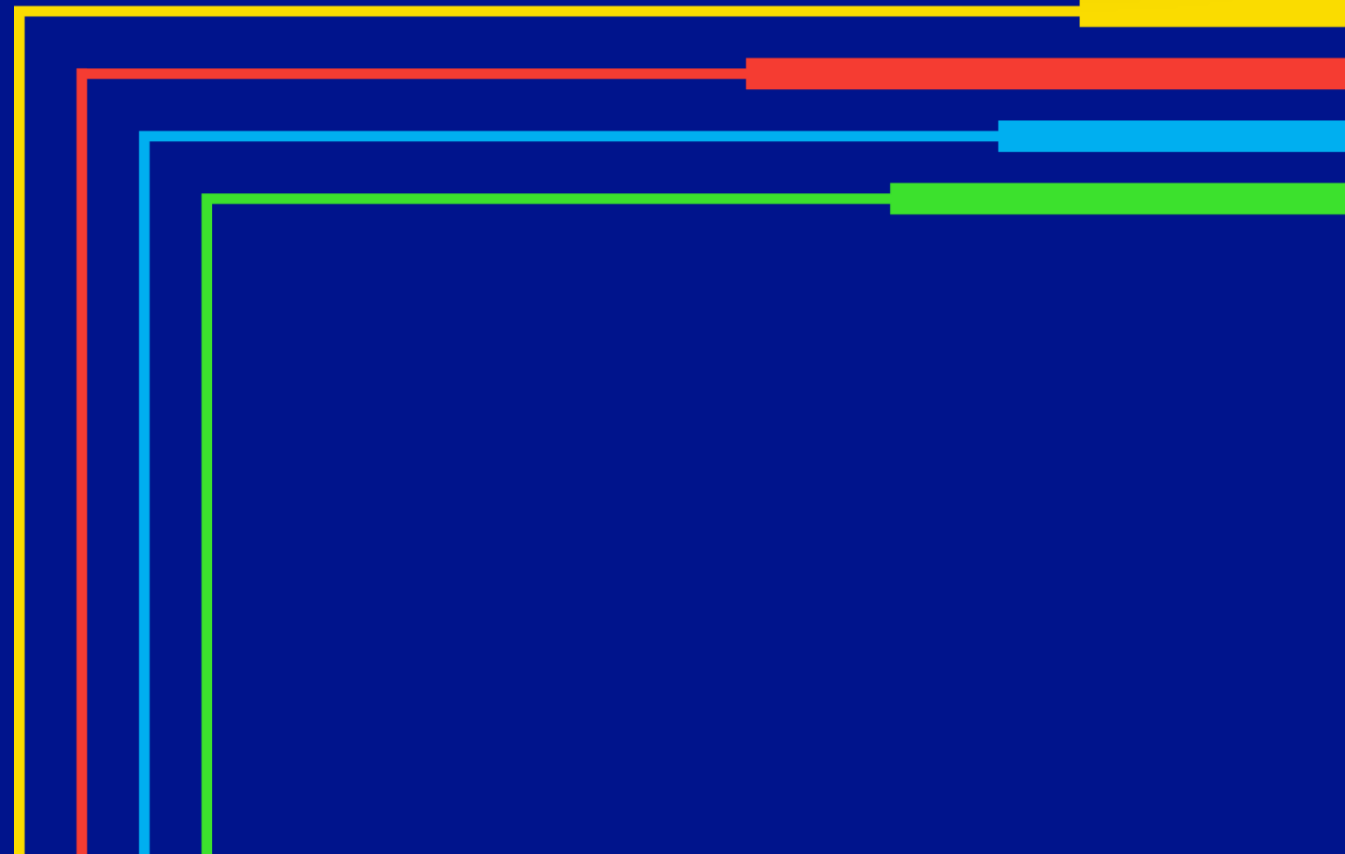
Ofgem is conducting an End-to-End review

- Ofgem is conducting an End-to-End review of the connections process and will consider changes to the regulatory framework to improve customer service and timely delivery.
- Due to report in the summer following closure of consultation in February.



Sarah Kenny-Levick
Senior Connections Strategy & Reform Manager

Programme Implementation & communications



Evidence Submission Summary for NGED as of 9/7/25

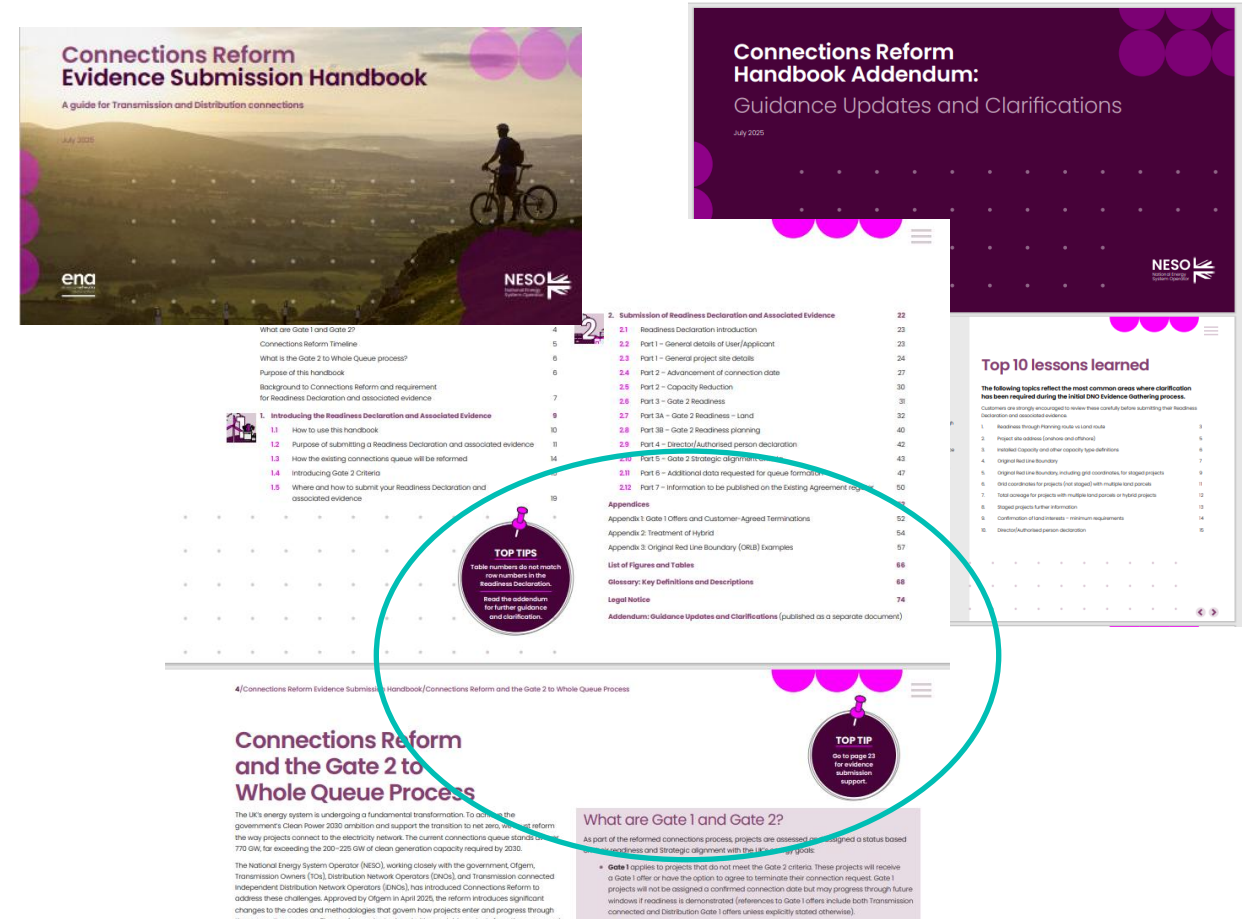


NESO has updated its handbook with top tips and created an addendum based on DNO & customer feedback

This addendum includes information on the below key points:

1. New flow chart highlighting the likely land readiness route over planning
2. Onshore/offshore substation address clarification
3. Definition of capacities needed for reform – incl' installed capacity
4. RLB examples including multi-parcels etc
5. Land interests – what to do when the land documents are not in the name of the applicant
6. Director declaration (network variants) – NOT the same as readiness declaration excel from NESO

The handbook has also been updated to include top tips in each relevant section, based on evidence submissions to date.

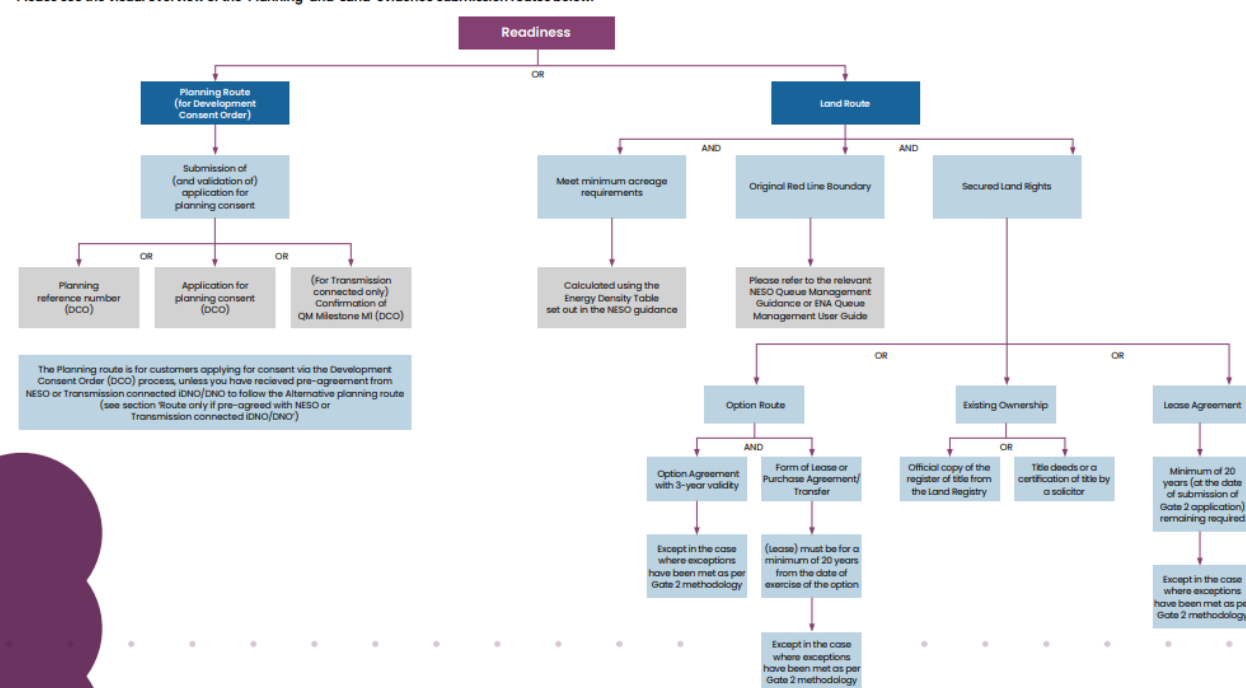


Key learning points| NGED submission learnings

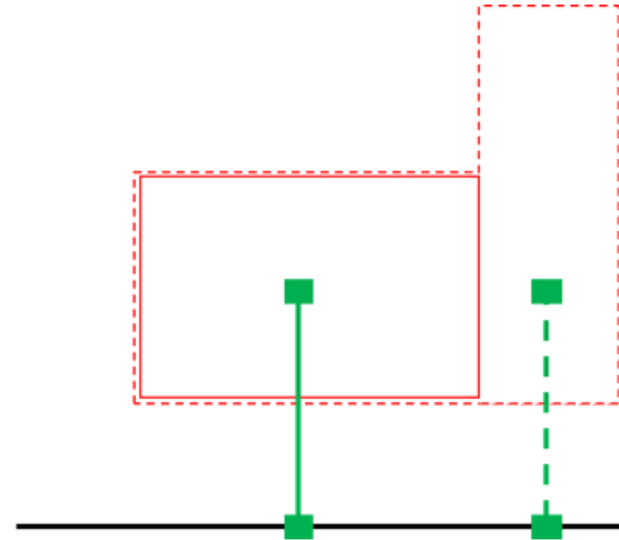
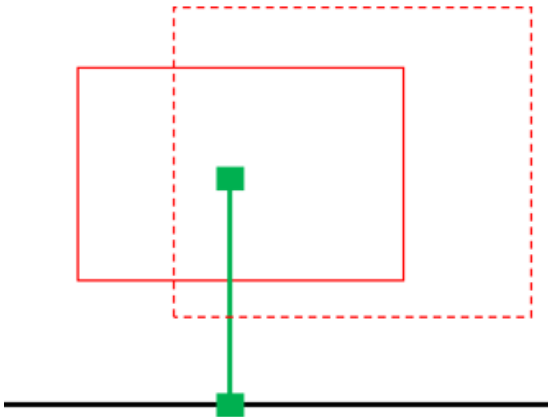
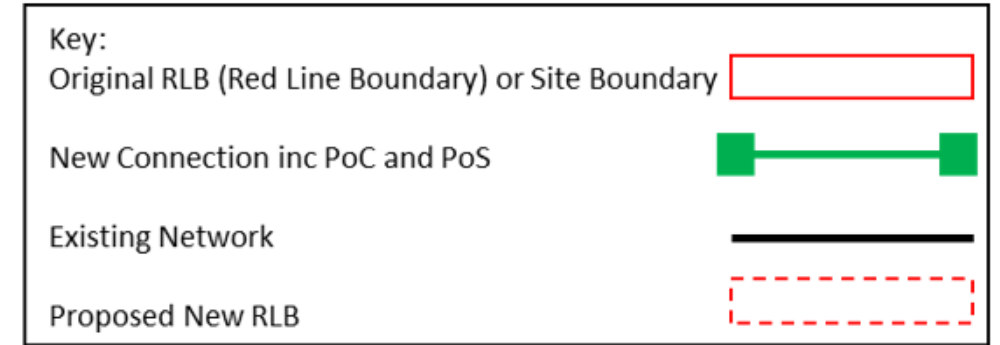
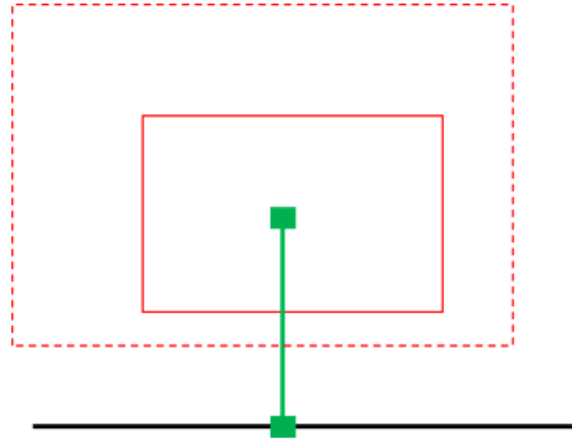
- **RLB changes** must comply with the allowable changes policy here – your RLB must have access to the area you have the right to use. You can change your RLB from the original submitted in line with this policy. <https://www.nationalgrid.co.uk/downloads/625496/allowable-changes.pdf>
- **Deadline** for submission: 23:59 on 29th July 2025
- **Signatures** and relevant document information MUST be visible (not redacted)
- **Contracted connection dates:** these must be the firm transmission connection date in your agreement. If you also have a non-firm date, then please state it in the comments (including protections). Clearview will show the contracted connection date position: [National Grid - Clearview Clean Power 2030](#)
- **No news is good news:** we will contact you if you have not passed the checks – please wait to hear.
- **File uploading:** has been increased to 15MB (from 10MB) and zip files can be used for multiple-files.
- **BEGA advancement:** no need to contact NGED before submitting to NESO.
- **Reducing under CMP446** – please complete our Gate 2 form + submit updated G99 application to planner

from July 15th we expect to switch to initial checks ONLY (until after 29th July), and therefore any feedback to customers will be based on INITIAL checks only






Please see the visual overview of the 'Planning' and 'Land' evidence submission routes below.



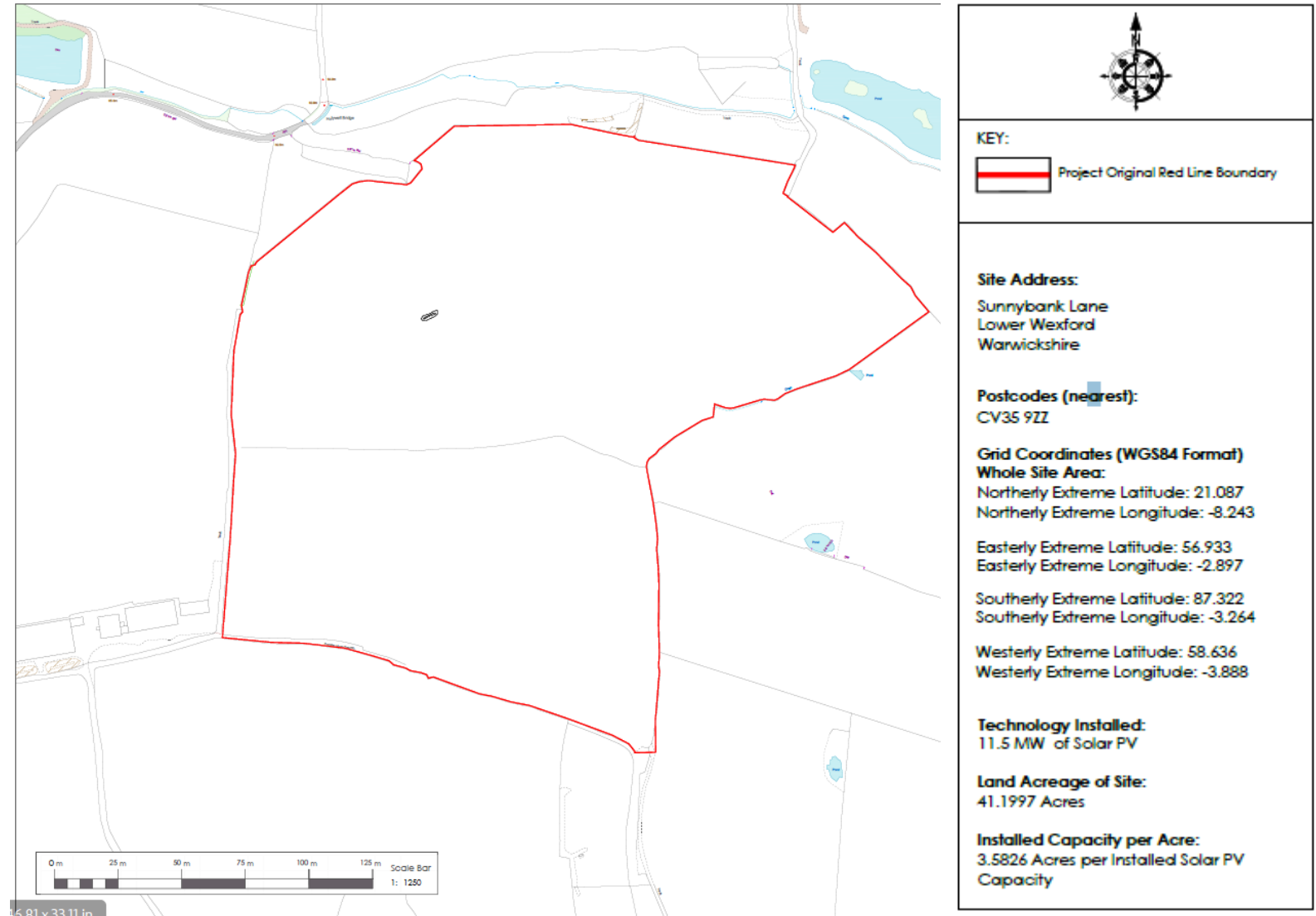
Allowable Change to RLB; up to 50% and no PoC/PoS change



Gate 2 Methodology| Red Line Boundary requirements are NEW for Gate 2 and your RLB will need updating from your application

DNO Check ↓ Submit to NESO	 Provide installed capacity per technology plus acreage to minimum acreage reqts'
	 Red Line Boundary
	 Grid Coordinates (to 3dp)
	 Post Code
	 Orientation and Scale

National Grid



nationalgrid ► DSO

Supporting customers through Connections Reform with Data



Ryan Kavanagh
Head of T/D Interface,
DSO



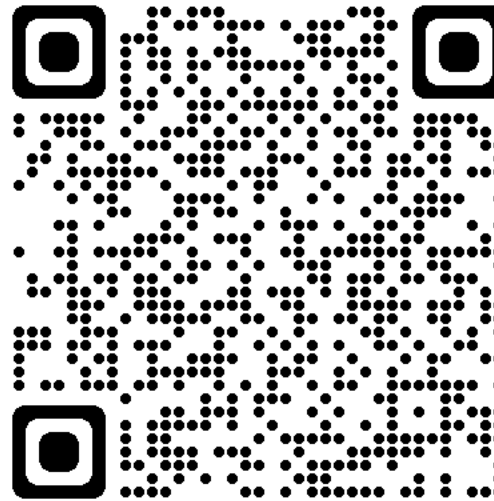
Changes to our Clearview Product Suite

We have consolidated our Clearview Product Suite which provides transparency of:

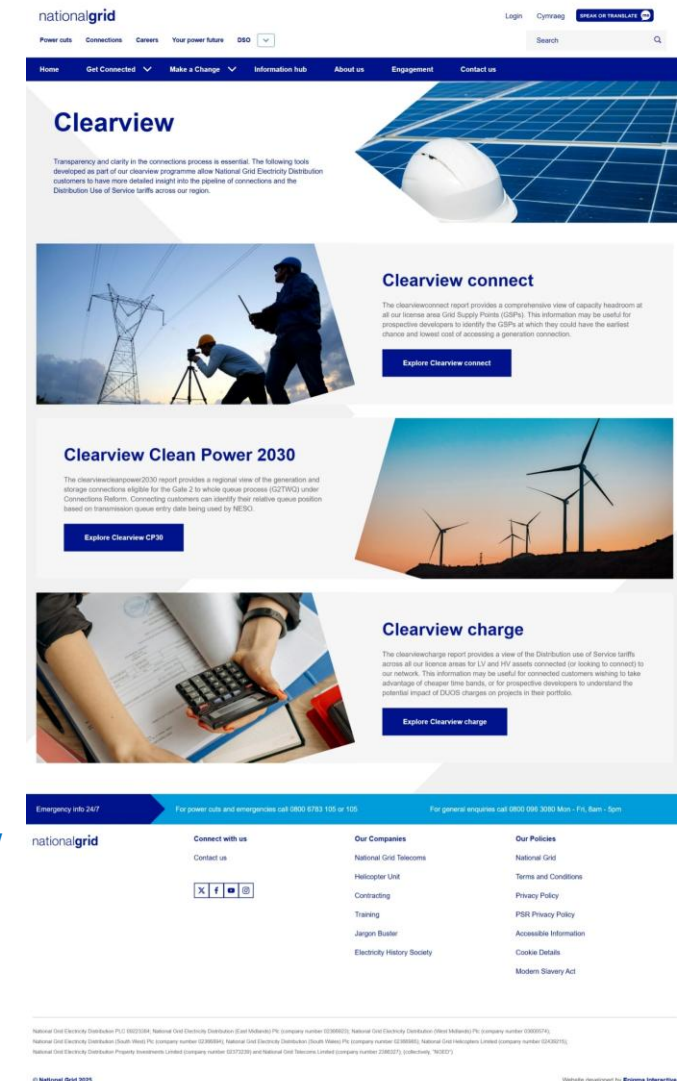
- Existing GSP generation and storage project pipeline details on a per GSP basis
- DUoS tariff forecast and estimation tools to understand potential use of system charges

We have also introduced:

- Clearview CP30, which provides a view of the regional technology pipeline order, based on the transmission countersignature date as per the CNDM



<https://connections.nationalgrid.co.uk/clear-view>



Clearview CP30 Improvements

Visibility of Transmission Queue Entry Date

- As per NESO's Connection Network Design Methodology (CNDM), the new connections reform pipeline will be initially ordered on transmission queue entry date
- This is agreed as the NESO's countersignature date to either Appendix Gs or other Transmission Impact Assessment outcome
- Good data here will ensure all our customers are treated fairly compared to other DNOs and directly connected transmission customers

Visibility of Contracted Energisation Date

- All projects will have a date when they are allowed to connect from a transmission perspective
- Some projects have been able to be accelerated and will have an earlier non-firm access date
- Where projects have been accelerated, both the firm and non-firm connection date is shared
- Good data here will ensure all our customers know their dates for the purposes of advancement or protections

Visibility of Capacity ahead in the regional technology pipeline


- NGED has a regional allocation for Solar, Wind and Storage for Phase 1 (2030) connections
- We also have a regional allocation for Storage in 2035
- Clearview CP30 now also indicates capacities ahead based on project readiness and protections obtained (from 14th July)
- Good data here gives customers visibility of how the connections pipeline is forming


Clearview CP30 allows users to see technology pipelines

[Home](#) / [Clearview](#) / [Clearview Clean Power 2030](#)

Clearview Clean Power 2030

The clearviewcleanpower2030 report provides a regional view of the generation and storage connections eligible for the Gate 2 to whole queue process (G2TWQ) under Connections Reform. Connecting customers can identify their relative queue position based on transmission queue entry date being used by NESO.






Solar

Across National Grid Electricity Distribution's region, we have been given a target of having 13.9GW of solar connected to our network by 2030. Follow the link to explore the current pipeline of projects in our area.


[Explore solar](#)



Wind

Across National Grid Electricity Distribution's region, we have been given a target of having 2.4GW of wind connected to our network by 2030. Follow the link to explore the current pipeline of projects in our area.

[Explore wind](#)



Storage

Across National Grid Electricity Distribution's region, we have been given a target of having 3.0GW of storage connected to our network by 2030, increasing to 3.6GW by 2035. Follow the link to explore the current pipeline of projects in our area.

[Explore storage](#)

What's next?

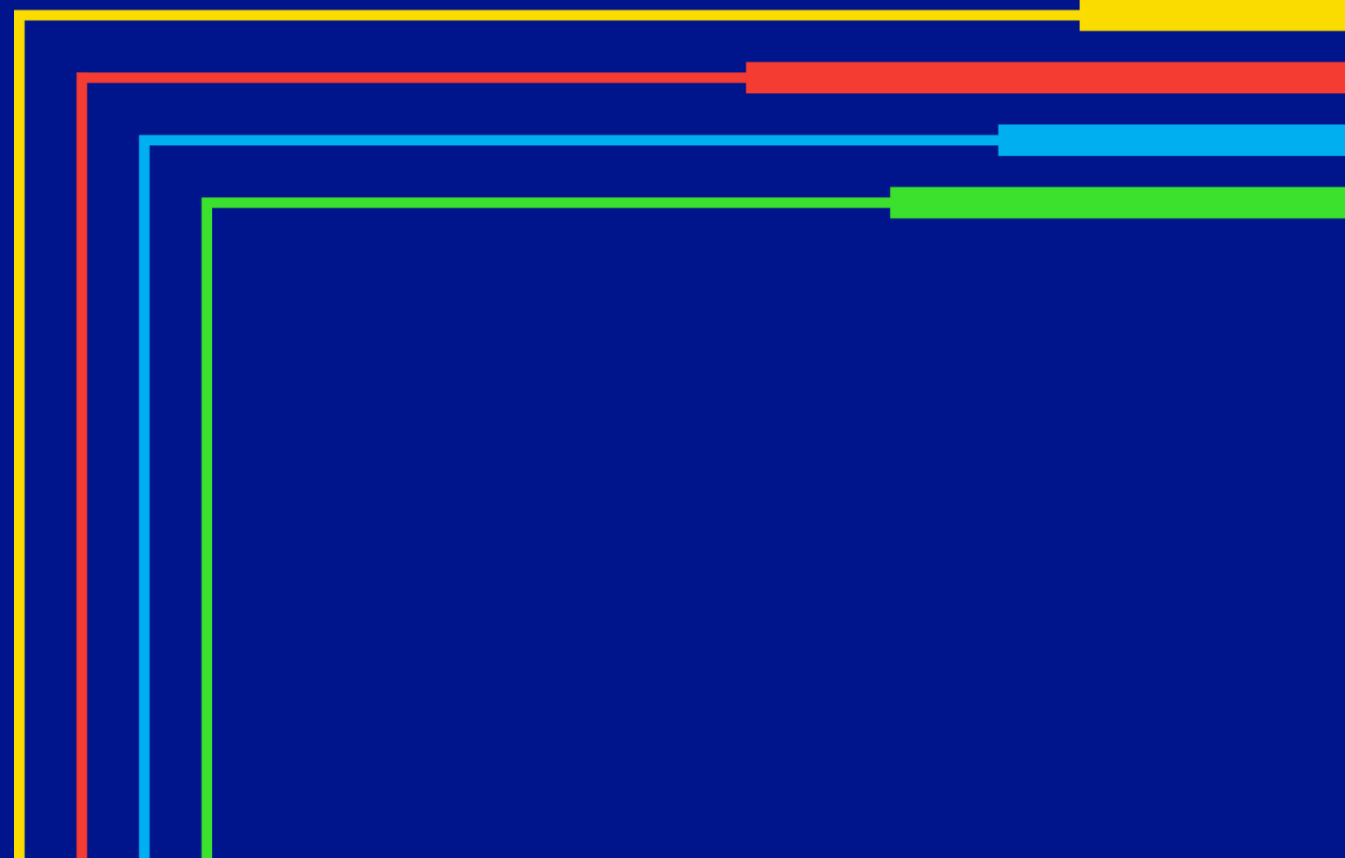
We want your feedback on further potential improvements:

- **Any data errors or omissions - box.ConnectionsReformNGED@nationalgrid.com**
- **Update frequency of CP30 pipelines – fortnightly/weekly/daily?**



Jack Purchase,
Policy Engineer

Policy Update



Reform Policy | A summary of policy updates across Connections Reform



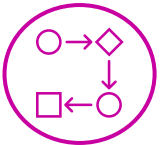
Milestone Guidance

The way the industry manages contractual milestones is going to be updated (milestone guidance). This is expected to go live from 1st September and will apply to Gate 2 Offers that are received as part of the CMP 435 process.



CMP446

CMP 446 was approved by Ofgem on the 12th May 2025. It had previously been communicated that the threshold for a Transmission Impact Assessment (TIA) is 4.95MW. NESO have now confirmed that the rounding principle applied in the CUSC does not apply to this Code Modification. It applies to connections that have an export capacity equal to or greater than 5MW. Projects with an export capacity of 4.99MW and below will not require a TIA.



Red Line Boundaries

We will be communicating with customers connecting Large Embedded Power Stations shortly to ask them to share their Red Line Boundaries that they are submitting to NESO with their DNO. This is to ensure that the Large Embedded Power Station has a valid DNO agreement. DNOs are undertaking the same process for Small and Medium Embedded Power Stations. Any changes to the red line boundary must be in line with the ENA Allowable Changes guidance otherwise the project will not receive a Gate 2 agreement.



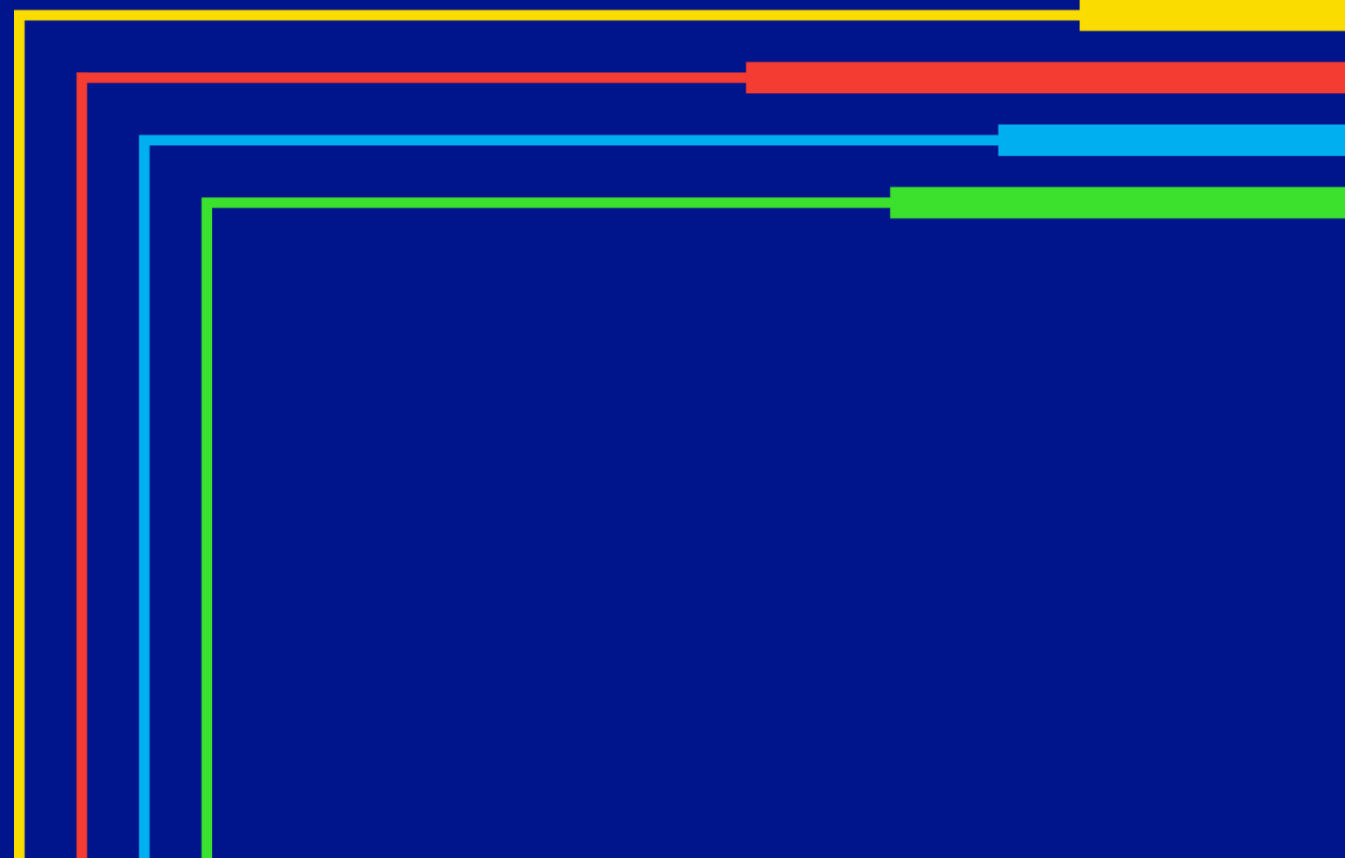
CMP 448 (Progression Commitment Fee)

CMP 448 is now with Ofgem for a final decision. NGED provided a response to the Code Admin Consultation, not supporting this Code Modification



Rachel Roffe
Communications Specialist

Communications & Engagement



Connections Reform | Communications and Engagement



Customer Engagement Strategy Review

- Evaluate and enhance how we communicate and engage with customers.
- Customer and stakeholder research and benchmarking
- Implementing communications best practice



Customer Support Surgeries:

- Introducing one-to-one sessions to assist customers with evidence submissions.

On-line drop-in sessions

We are hosting online 15-minute drop-in sessions on Teams between 9-10AM on the following dates:

- Tuesday to Thursday 8 - 10 July
- Monday to Friday 14-18 July.

To request a 15-minute slot, please email our Communications team on the following address: roffe@nationalgrid.co.uk, specifying the day requested. Please send your pre-submitted question(s) 24hrs ahead - to ensure the correct expertise is available. An invitation will then be sent to your email address. We will update our FAQs with any relevant findings from these sessions.



Connections Reform Webpage Update

- Improve navigation, clarity, and relevance of content to better serve customer needs.
- Addition of new and refreshed content as we move through the programme



Q&A



Q&A

For further information and useful materials please visit our reform website:
<https://connections.nationalgrid.co.uk/connections-reform/>



Susana Neves e Brooks
Head of Connections
Strategy, Policy and
Reform



Jack Purchase
Policy Engineer



Sarah Kenny-Levick
Senior Reform
Implementation
Manager



Ryan Kavanagh,
Head of T/D
interface, DSO



We'll be answering pre-submitted Questions then moving onto live questions.

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

NESO will now handle customer queries through a new [Connections Portal | National Energy System Operator](#) or the dedicated mailbox box.connectionsreform@neso.energy

If you cannot find what you need, please email:
box.connectionsreformnged@nationalgrid.com

Pre-submitted Questions

1	If a project submit Gate 2 application early and is deemed competent during initial assessment and it receives planning consent before the Gate 2 close date, can the consent evidence be submitted for protection?
2	Is it possible to upload additional evidence after NGED declares the Gate 2 application as competent, but Gate 2 window close?
3	Would a site that has a suitable land agreement signed, and planning permission obtained, but that did not submit the planning application prior to 20th December 2024, be protected by any clause except 3b?
4	Is NGED expecting the NESO Readiness Declaration Excel spreadsheet to be uploaded to the portal?
5	Any chance you can run a demo of how to use the portal for submitting the G2TWQ application for a generic generation scheme?
6	Best way to supply/submit updated information post initial submission?
7	Do zero export G99 projects offered to connect by 2026 need to make any G2 evidence submission?
8	Following monitoring the gated process - is it likely NESO will extend the closure window beyond 29 July
9	How does a developer navigate the Gate 2 process if it wishes to use an IDNO to facilitate a change in the redline boundary and or POS?

Pre-submitted Questions

10	How to submit larger files (>15MB) to the NGED portal?
11	If we do not receive a Gate 2 offer, but we applied for Gate 2, will we be told why? Eg. the capacity pots were filled before our queue position, we did not comply with an element of the criteria, our application had an error etc? Related - is there an appeals process?
12	We have a distribution connection offer with a firm date of late 2026 that has the necessary attributes to achieve protection clause 1 status. As per most developments, it's likely that the actual connection date will not happen until Spring 2027 due to DNO outage windows and general programme challenges. Should we go through connection reform on the basis of our 2026 'contracted connection date' or should we use an expected connection date in 2027 when applying? If the latter, would the project qualify for the enhanced protection clause 2a status (i.e. a protected 2027 date and POC)? Also, if the latter, would a ModApp be required?
13	We have got a technical limits connection date for Q2-2027 and the firm connection date for 2033. Should we apply for advancement for the 2033 date? Does it affect our position in the LIFO stack if we don't?
14	When referring to "installed capacity" within the ORLB, what specifically does this mean? installed capacity of what? It is typical for a solar scheme to overplant by 40%-60% above the TEC on a DC basis so the cumulative installed capacity of panels and inverters across multiple parcels is likely to be significantly higher than the contracted capacity. This would then be clipped by the transformer capacity which would align with the connection capacity but this will be in one location and not split across individual parcels.

Pre-submitted Questions

15	We learnt that NGED is going to charge a fee for "advancement" of £13 600+VAT split between the number of connections apply for advancement on that GSP. As any project with a TIA date later than 2035 has no option but to request advancement to be considered in Gate 2 this is unrealistic and inequitable. Meanwhile, UKPN is NOT charging a fee for advancement
16	What is the exact requirement around submitting evidence and energisation of site. We have a site energisation of 11th July (tomorrow), what documentation do I need to guarantee that my connection is fine and I do not need to submit any evidence? Do I need ION, signed BCA, completion of HOT commissioning. What is the point at which i am guaranteed my connection and ok not to submit evidence.
17	What is the process for challenging a dropping down the queue and not progressing to Gate 2 and how long does this appeal process have.
18	Instead of just responding to a blind email box, can you speak to an engineer to discuss the matter in detail for better understanding?
19	What year is it likely that the infrastructure and network upgrade will be completed for Indian Queens?
20	When referring to "installed capacity" within the ORLB, what specifically does this mean? installed capacity of what? It is typical for a solar scheme to overplant by 40%-60% above the TEC on a DC basis so the cumulative installed capacity of panels and inverters across multiple parcels is likely to be significantly higher than the contracted capacity. This would then be clipped by the transformer capacity which would align with the connection capacity but this will be in one location and not split across individual parcels.
21	Will evidence submitted be treated confidentially, e.g.Option Agreement?

Privacy Policy Statement

Our privacy policy with regard to Connections Reform is set out here [National Grid - Privacy policy](#) (and below), part of our Connections Reform website. It includes a section for landowners on what data we collect and the grounds for which we may use it. If you have a connection offer or with us, our terms and conditions also include confidentiality obligations, as does our Distribution Licence.

SLC 10A of the Distribution Licence restricts the use of customer information obtained in the course of carrying out distribution activities, ensuring it is not used for any purpose other than those permitted by the licence or required by law. It also places requirements on the licensee to maintain the confidentiality of such information and to implement appropriate measures to prevent unauthorised disclosure.

We do not need to pass your sensitive or commercial information to NESO or another party as part of the Gated process evidence assessment; however, it is always good business practice to mark any document that you disclosing as “Confidential / Commercially Sensitive” if you wish to draw this to the attention of the recipient.

NGED Privacy Policy: <https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nationalgrid.co.uk%2Fprivacy-policy&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Kenny-Levick%40nationalgrid.com%7C2c15c86ccf204d329d7208ddad1ace63%7Cf98a6a5325f34212901cc7787fcd3495%7C0%7C0%7C638857052836309959%7CUknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoitWFBpbCIsIlIdUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=I%2FfRsm4f0sglcbNz1t5NGL2MBz5L%2FwrBx15f4p0xZ2c%3D&reserved=0>

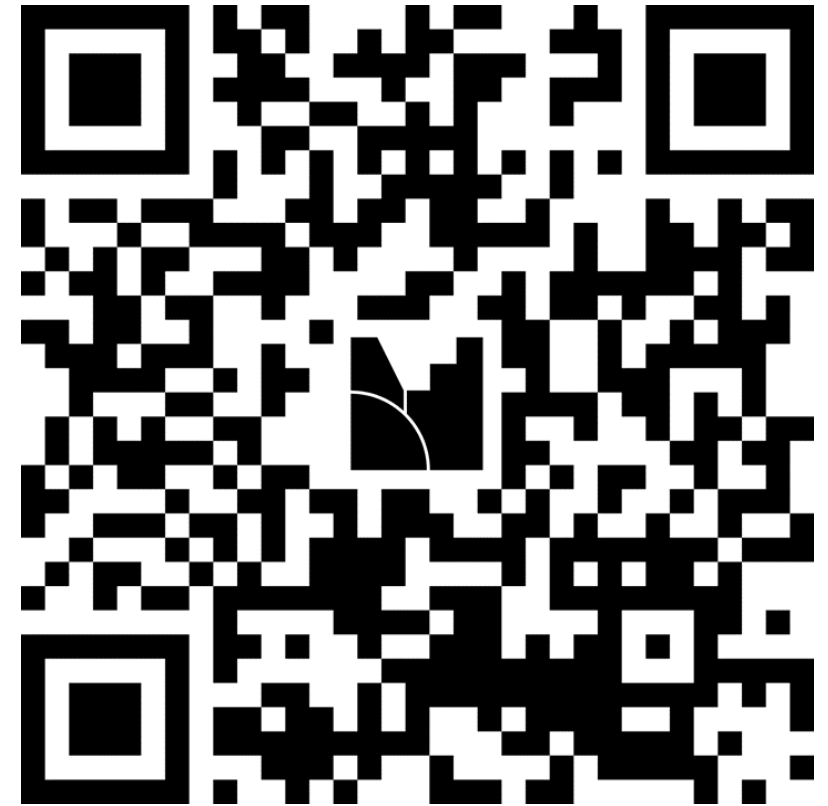
We invite you to share your feedback with us

**Let us know your thoughts and help us
shape future events.**

**Scan the QR code or visit [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and
enter code
2250 8800**

**For customers who have not submitted their evidence we
will be offering 15 minutes bookable sessions in July –
details are available on our Connections Reform website
<https://connections.nationalgrid.co.uk/connections-reform/>**

**Our next Connections Reform webinar
is on 12 August**



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