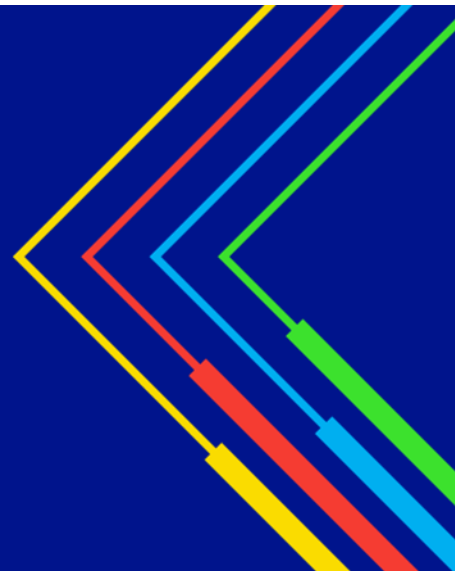


Frequently Asked Questions (8 December 2025)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Queue formation

How has NESO identified which projects have to leave the old connections queue?

- As set out by NESO in communications with developers and via numerous webinars, the [methodology for connections](#) reform (which has also been fully consulted on).
- The methodology for connections reform takes into consideration a combination of project 'readiness' and the strategic needs of the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan (specifically the Clean Power Capacity Ranges set out for each technology within this plan).

How will new projects get entry to the pipeline in future?

- Going forwards developers will only be able to apply for a connections agreement during one of two connection application windows throughout the year.
- New projects, and projects that have already sought a connections agreement and have been placed in the development pipeline (officially known as Gate 1) will have an opportunity to have their project assessed on whether it should move to the connection's portfolio (Gate 2) as part of these connection application windows.
- NESO will announce the date for the first connection applications window in the New Year.

Why can't projects which were not ready or needed get a firm connection offer?

- Projects that weren't ready did not get a firm connection offer because, like wanting to build a house without owning the land, securing planning permission, or hiring builders, they lacked the essential steps to deliver.
- The new process, agreed with Ofgem and mandated by government, now prioritises projects that are both genuinely ready and strategically needed under the Clean Power Action Plan.
- Projects can re-apply at least annually, so once they meet readiness criteria and are needed, they will have the opportunity to secure a connection date.

Gate 1 FAQs

Q. What is a Gate 1?

- The NESO Gate 1 notice relating to your project and issued to the DNO will contain ONLY an indicative connection date and indicative point of connection. The DNO will in turn issue you with a Notice of Gate 1 Variation, reflecting the NESO Gate 1 notice, and includes:
 - An indicative connection date
 - An indicative point of connection
 - Confirmation that all previously identified DNO works and costs are now indicative

Your project will then be removed from the connections queue.

The Notice of Gate 1 Variation remains in force until it is either cancelled by you, or you re-apply via one of the options below, following which a revised offer is issued.

Cancellation charges and capital contributions will be returned to you if you hold them and the Gate 1 will have no milestones associated with it.

Q. How do I get a Gate 1?

- As part of the Gate 2 to Whole Queue (G2tWQ) exercise under Connections Reform and as part of the enduring Gate 2 process, you may receive a Gate 1 notice for your project, this could be due to:
 - Not meeting the Gate 2 criteria,
 - Choosing not to submit evidence
 - Opting for a Gate 1.

In addition, as part of G2tWQ if a Gate 2 offer is received from NESO for your project but you choose not to accept it, then a Gate 1 notice will be issued and the DNO will issue a Notice of Gate 1 Variation.

Q. When will projects that have been pushed into Gate 1 be given connection dates before 2030?

- Going forwards developers will only be able to apply for a connections' agreement during one of two connection application windows throughout the year.
- New projects, or projects that have already sought a connections agreement and have been placed in the development pipeline (officially known as Gate 1) will have an opportunity to have their project assessed on whether it should move to the connections' portfolio (Gate 2) as part of these connection application windows.
- NESO will announce the date for the first connection applications window in the New Year.

Q. When will my securities and/or capital contributions be returned?

- If you are eligible for a full refund of your Cancellation Charge Securities paid and / or capital contributions, we anticipate this refund will be made approximately within 3 months of receiving your Gate 1 Variation. Please note any monies held by NGED will also accrue interest ("Refund").

Q. When will projects in Gate 1 be able to enter into the Gate 2 connections queue?

- Going forwards developers will only be able to apply for a connection's agreement during one of two connection application windows throughout the year.
- New projects, or projects that have already sought a connections agreement and have been placed in the development pipeline (officially known as Gate 1) will have an opportunity to have their project assessed on whether it should move to the connection's portfolio (Gate 2) as part of these connection application windows.

Q. How do I go back through the Gate 2 process?

- Please refer to the ENA Guidance document (link below) which talks through the process of converting a Gate 1 into a Gate 2 Offer.

[ENA Gate 1 Guidance Document – Energy Networks Association \(ENA\)](#)

Gate 2 - Summarised FAQ Themes

Theme	Question	Answer
Notifications & Timeline	When will I get my Gate 1 or Gate 2 notification?	Gate 1 and Gate 2 notifications are sent via email on 8 th Dec. Gate 1 variations follow in the coming weeks subject to receipt of NESO AtVs; Gate 2 in 2026 – NESO timeline here Connections reform timeline National Energy System Operator
Application Windows	When is the next NESO application window?	NESO's website will announce the next window. No date has been set yet.
Accepting Offers	How long do I have to accept my Gate 2 offer?	You have 30 days to accept a Distribution Gate 2 offer
Securities & Payments	How soon must securities be posted after accepting a Gate 2 offer?	Securities must be in place soon after signing the variation; NGED cannot accept the NESO offer on a customer's behalf without them in place.
Queue Position	How will I know my queue position?	Project statuses are communicated individually by DNOs after NESO's allocation and queue positions at GSP will be listed on our Clearview tool in the coming days.
Capacity & Applications	What happens if capacity is full in my region?	The policy for full capacity applications is still being decided – with respect to new applications.
EA Register	What is the EA Register and where can I find it?	It's a NESO-published queue list for projects that consented to public info. It forms part of the queue.
Connection Dates	Will being in Phase 1 guarantee an earlier connection date than Phase 2?	Yes, Phase 1 projects get earlier dates at the same GSP, but dates depend on engineering and deliverability between GSPs.
Gate 2 Outcomes	What if my project didn't get a Gate 2 offer?	You'll receive a Gate 1 notification and a Gate 1 variation notice.
Milestones & Delays	How will milestones be set for delayed projects?	New milestones align with new connection dates and published policy.
Recordings & Sharing	Can I share the webinar recording with colleagues?	Yes, recordings are posted on the website within 24 hours.
Complaints & Enquiries	How do I raise a complaint or enquire about my queue position?	<p>Complaints to NGED We are committed to providing you with excellent customer service, first time, every time. Sometimes, however, things can go wrong. We want to know when this happens so that we can address any problems as quickly as possible. Please contact our team here</p> <p>Complaints to Ofgem Ofgem has issued guidance on which G2TWQ disputes it will agree to determine. Ofgem will determine only where there is evidence of error or failure by a DNO to follow the approved G2TWQ process. Ofgem will not accept determinations for DNO disputes that concern NESO decisions (Gate 1 / Gate 2 outcomes). Customers must complete the DNO /NESO formal</p>

	<p>complaints processes first before referring to Ofgem. Please refer to Ofgem guidance here.</p> <p>Complaints to NESO</p> <p>If you are a directly connected transmission customer or a distribution customer that has already followed the distribution process and you require further resolution regarding a NESO decision, please contact NESO directly through their bespoke complaints process here. For enquiries and complaints about queue formation or position, please use the form on the NESO portal. Important Note: Projects cannot re-enter the reformed queue under any circumstances, regardless of the outcome of any dispute or complaint. This policy is in place to maintain fairness and transparency in the queue formation process.</p>
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Questions from NGED Connections Reform Webinar - 8 December 2025

Question	Answer
Are you on track to pass on Customer Notifications before 15th December (1 week from when NESO give them to you)?	Gate 1 and Gate 2 customer notifications will be sent via email by COB today. Gate 1 variations will be sent after Christmas (as updated by NESO to DNOs on Friday 5 th Dec) with Gate 2 following in 2026.
Do you know when next NESO Application Window will open?	Please see NESO's website for any updated timelines and guidance on when the next Application Window will open. This has not yet been announced.
If we need to provide Securities or make other payments on acceptance of our G2 Offer how long will we get to do that?	Securities must be put in place soon after the variation is signed as we cannot accept the NESO variation on a customer's behalf without this being placed first.
What do you think the EA Register is and where can I find it?	The EA Register is a NESO published version of the full queue populated with projects that consented to their information being public. It will form part of the queue for that reason.
How we all manage bilateral grid connection delays and how we can get confident in delivery of enabling works eg Melksham Bramley for 2028 - little evidence on line and no responses to requests	We are requesting updates from transmission on the works schedules, but ultimately, we do not have control over the outcomes.
What do you think the EA Register is and where can I find it?	The EA Register is a NESO published version of the full queue populated with projects that consented to their information being public. It will form part of the queue for that reason.
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Question	Answer
How we all manage bilateral grid connection delays and how we can get confident in delivery of enabling works eg Melksham Bramley for 2028 - little evidence on line and no responses to requests	We are requesting updates from transmission on the works schedules, but ultimately, we do not have control over the outcomes.
If the estimated capacity allocation (“bucket”) for a particular region and technology becomes fully subscribed, will any subsequent G99 applications be refused, or will they still be accepted and queued for future capacity availability?	The policy on applications where capacity is full – has not yet been decided.
How long do developers have to accept their Gate 2 offers	30 days
Can we be guided to, post Gate 1 offers Dec 1st, what capacity remains for solar/wind (assuming all offers anticipated for gate 2 are signed, and assuming all gate 1 clause 3a protected projects are successful in planning consent).	NESO have produced some information about remaining capacity – please see website here: https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform/connections-reform-results
What information around the point of connection details will be provided to developers in between receipt of their Gate 2 notification and their full Gate 2 offer?	The POC will not be known until the Gate 2 offer has been received. For 26/27 protected projects – we do not expect this to change.
Not a Q but please can you focus the Gate 2 Notifications which (hopefully) will have been received earlier that week from NESO.	Gate 1 and Gate 2 customer notifications will be sent via email by COB today. Gate 1 variations will be sent in the coming weeks with Gate 2 following in 2026.
When will the gate 2 offers for projects connecting in 2027 be delivered?	No later than end of March 2026 – subject to NGED being provided all the necessary information needed in a timely manner and as per the current published timeline.
What if we did not get a Gate 2?	The project will receive a Gate 1 notification and subsequent Gate 1 variation notice.
Can you confirm the process / timeline for behind the meter generators with an export <1MW in GSP groups where transmission fault level constraints have been identified?	If constraints are just transmission related, then projects can be waved through if BTM. If the constraint is both T & D – then the threshold will need to be dropped to 95kW and anything above this will need to wait for reinforcement.
I want to know the most up to date timetable	Please see NESO’s website for any updated timelines.
Are NESO holding their new timeline or should we brace for further delays?	Please see NESO’s website for any updated timelines - we will update you as soon as we know of changes.

Question	Answer
By when we can expect the GATE-2 offer and do we have an option to submit the Gate-2 evidence in next round in case there is addition of land parcel to meet up the project capacity.	All Gate 2 offers will be issued in 2026, ordered by connection date – please keep up to date with any changes to the NESO timeline. https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform/connections-reform-timeline
How are NGED planning to deal with the queue attrition that occurs following gate 2 offers being issued - i.e., projects that decide not to accept their phase 1 gate 2 offers- will they be replaced by the next project in the queue? like for like projects?	Projects will need to make a new Gate 2 submission to use any spare capacity in the future.
It has been indicated that we will have only 30 days to accept the Gate 2 offer. Could you confirm whether NGED will require securities to be posted at the time of signing the Gate 2 offer, or will there be an allowance for customers to arrange the necessary funds for securities after acceptance, for example 30 days following acceptance?	Securities must be in place to allow NGED to sign the offer with NESO – therefore it will be due soon after the NGED variation is signed.
When will NGED be providing their notifications to the DNO customers?	Gate 1 and Gate 2 customer notifications will be sent via email by COB today (8 December).
Where will the list of sites that will drop off the grid be kept? By each DNO or centrally	by DNO – we will be using Clearview to provide granular GSP data within the coming days.
Connections Reform has stopped investment in many viable projects due to the uncertainty created. How does NESO intend to implement connection date milestones for projects which have been delayed due to uncertainty created by connections reform?	New milestones will be aligned to the new connection dates given and applied as per the published policy.
For projects that have been prequalified for the CM auction and have already posted credit cover but have not yet secured a grid connection under the new grid-reform requirements, will this give them any advantage in being moved forward in the queue and obtaining an earlier grid-connection date, in a way that does not create additional risk or penalties in relation to a potential CM agreement?	Holding a CM contract provided protection under clause 2a as per the Gate 2 methodology, which did offer some prioritisation in the queue reordering process. Please see the Methodologies here .
With any new Gate 2 Connection Offer where Transmission securities are required, will we have the choice to elect for either fixed or variable securities even if we had under the current contract elected for fixed securities?	In CMP192 once a project elects to fix its securities, it will remain fixed until the project connects or terminates. Gate 2 is a variation on existing contracts and not a new contract.

Question	Answer
Which of the Gate 2 Protection Clauses guarantee that the customer will not be faced with higher reinforcements costs in their Gate 2 to whole queue formal offer compared to their existing offer, if any? I.e. do any customers get genuine comfort from having their Protection Clause confirmed in December, such that they can continue to invest in confidence, or are all customers at risk of higher reinforcement costs at the conclusion of the Gate 2 to whole queue process?	Reinforcement costs may change in Gate 2 outcomes due to the different queue mix, ordering and therefore different assets potentially being required for different projects.
If our project gets into Phase 1 is it guaranteed an earlier connection date than Phase 2 projects, even if the Completion Date slips beyond 2030?	Yes – it will get an earlier date than the projects at the same GSP – due to the queue order. It may be possible however that some late phase 1 projects at one GSP may get later dates than early Phase 2 projects at another GSP. Dates are provided based on engineering and deliverability of both transmission and distribution assets.
When will the window for submitting application for change of connection type (e.g. SoW PP to BEGA vice versa) be publish?	Same as previous – as per CMP434 timeline.
How will the reform give weightings to support more renewable energy being able to connect?	The CP30 Action plan and connections reform framework sets this out through the plan and methodologies.
After Gate 2 acceptance - can we request full works quote from DNO?	The normal process for converting to full works needs to be followed – please let us know as soon as possible if this has changed from originally contracted.
For Technical Limits 2027 NGED projects, can any assurance be given regarding Gate 2 offer date? Is there a way these could be provided in March even if their firm dates would result in Q2 or Q3 Gate 2 offers. These projects will not be able to connect in 2027 without swift assurance of an early Gate 2 offer date.	Unfortunately, NESO have confirmed TL projects will receive their offers in line with their form connection date – this is likely to be towards the back end of 2026. We have pushed for a different outcome here – and it has not been possible.
For Distribution connections with BEGA, what is the timeline for receiving Gate 2 offers from NGED?	Gate 2 offers will be set by NESO along the same timeline as the transmission projects.
Will the initial grid reform notifications include which phase our Gate 2 offers will be in? (i.e. 2025-2030 or 2031-2035)	Yes. Please be aware however though that being allocated to a phase does not guarantee a connection date within that time period.
Will DNOs provide further, detailed information on queue formation after NESO issues the first results of G2TWQ?	Yes. We will update customers, share aggregated data and detailed GSP data on Clearview.

Question	Answer
NESO's recent webinar said that Tech Limits (TL) projects will get Gate 2 offers in the batch of their firm offer date. E.g., project with a Q1 2027 contracted TLS connection date, and firm date of 2034 would get its Gate 2 offer on 30/09/26. Given Gate 2 offers could materially change connection cost and project viability, what protection can be given to these projects which are now ordering long-lead equipment and finalising main contracts to meet their contracted TLS date?	As above – unfortunately, this outcome is not what we hoped.
Please can we hear more about how/when the Embedded Capacity Register will be updated following completion of Gate 2 assessment, e.g. will we see if projects are Gate1/2 and will energisation dates be updated etc?	These updated are in progress through industry forums and will take a while as code changes are required.
Will I still need to pay advancement fee if no-one in NGED has been advanced?	The advancement policy is being reviewed, and we await further updates from NESO.
Is there any capacity left for the next window?	For storage, over 60GW needs to fall out of the queue for any new capacity to be freed up before 2035.
I have questions about my project, please can I have a connection surgery?	Yes, we can arrange a meeting. Please email our. Box with the questions and your availability and we can arrange for the appropriate people to meet with you. Note: we cannot discuss the contract and agreement at this stage.
Third Party works (TPW): PND has asked customers to contact them following NESO outcomes to update on the third party works changes	Please direct all to the relevant TPW PND .box for this. SWales = nged.pndswales@nationalgrid.co.uk SWest = nged.pndswest@nationalgrid.co.uk E.Mids = nged.pndeastmidlands@nationalgrid.co.uk WMids = nged.pndwmids@nationalgrid.co.uk
Q. I have a hybrid project which has Gate 2 for part of my project but my Battery Storage has not been successful, could i change my requirements to "Export only" and as such my Battery Storage would not need to meet the CP30 allocation and be able to pass through?	Answer: We are unable to submit any change for a project, as such, any change to a project would need to be made to NESO within a new application window.
How many NGED projects were advanced in the reform process?	No NGED projects were able to be advanced due to the capacity limitations at transmission.
How many projects were advanced in the UK overall?	Please speak to NESO to understand the UK level numbers.