

# Guidance

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## **(draft) Transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 Guidance and Submission Requirements Document**

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This document sets out the operational and funding arrangements for the transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 (tCSNP2) projects as referenced in Special Condition 3.44 Development Funding Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DFt); and Special Condition 3.45 Delivery Track Pre-Construction Funding, Re-opener, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DTPCFt) in the Transmission Owners' (TO) electricity transmission licences.

This document is aimed at TOs and other stakeholders with a general interest in the tCSNP2, also referred to as the National Energy System Operator's 'Beyond 2030' report. It provides information and guidance on the funding arrangements, outputs, information submission requirements and re-openers for tCSNP2 projects.

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## **1. Background**

### **Context and related publications**

- 1.1 Ofgem<sup>1</sup> is the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets which regulates the electricity and gas industries in Great Britain. Our principal duty is to protect the interests of existing and future gas and electricity consumers. Consumers' interests are taken as a whole, including their interests in the reduction of greenhouse gases and in the security of the supply, and in the fulfilment of relevant statutory objectives when we are carrying out our functions as the gas and electricity regulator of Great Britain.
- 1.2 We work in various ways to protect the interests of current and future consumers. One way we do this is by regulating the network companies through the RIIO price controls. We set price controls to specify the services and level of performance that the electricity transmission (ET) Transmission Owners (TOs) must provide for users and consumers and to restrict the amount of money that the network companies can recover through network charges over the length of a price control period.
- 1.3 In March 2024, the then "Electricity System Operator"<sup>2</sup> published the "Beyond 2030" network plan (also known as the transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 or tCSNP2) that recommended network reinforcements needed beyond 2030 to support the transition to Net Zero.
- 1.4 The tCSNP2 is the NESO<sup>3</sup>'s plan for a coordinated onshore and offshore network design that can facilitate the connection of up to 86GW of offshore wind generation in support of the government's Net Zero obligations under the sixth Carbon Budget<sup>4</sup>.
- 1.5 In December 2024 we published our decision<sup>5</sup> on the regulatory funding arrangements for tCSNP2 projects. The decision set out the framework for this funding and detailed a multi-track funding framework designed to be flexible in order to meet the needs of the electricity system and meet government net zero

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<sup>1</sup> The terms 'Ofgem', 'the Authority', 'we' and 'us' are used interchangeably in this document.

<sup>2</sup> From 1 October 2024, the ESO became the National Energy System Operator (NESO)

<sup>3</sup> Referred to in the electricity transmission licences as ISOP

<sup>4</sup> [Sixth Carbon Budget - Climate Change Committee](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

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targets, with development funding available for less developed projects, and pre-construction funding available for more developed projects.

1.6 This document is to be read in conjunction with the following associated documents:

- tCSNP2 Decision Paper: [tCSNP2 decision](#)
- tCSNP2 Consultation Paper: [tCSNP2 Consultation](#)
- Beyond 2030 report [Beyond 2030 | National Energy System Operator](#)

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## **2. Introduction**

### **Scope of tCSNP2 Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document**

- 2.1 This document provides additional detail regarding the function and operation of the tCSNP2 funding mechanism, including the TO submission requirements and the Ofgem assessment and decision process for the following licence conditions:
- Special Condition 3.44 Development Funding, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DfT)
  - Special Condition 3.45 Delivery Track Pre-Construction Funding, Re-opener, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DTPCFt)
- 2.2 The tCSNP2 licence conditions require that TOs adhere to the provisions and requirements set out in this document<sup>6</sup>.

### **Scope of the tCSNP2 framework**

- 2.3 Our tCSNP2 funding decision<sup>7</sup> sets out which onshore electricity transmission projects will be funded through either the Development Track or Delivery Track, Special Conditions 3.44 and 3.45 respectively (Appendix 2). The tCSNP2 funding decision also sets out the criteria for inclusion within the Development or Delivery Track.<sup>8</sup>
- 2.4 The framework is a transitional framework for funding tCSNP2 projects and provides for funding mechanisms to carry out early stage activities on tCSNP2 projects which are not provided for under existing RIIO-2 Re-opener mechanisms.
- 2.5 Commencing in Summer of 2025, and concluding by early 2026, the NESO's next iteration of the Network Options Assessment<sup>9</sup> (the tCNP2 Refresh) will reassess the tCSNP2 network plan against the latest generation and demand backgrounds, providing a more definitive picture of the network required beyond 2030.

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<sup>6</sup> Special Condition 3.42 Part D

<sup>7</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#) Tables 3 and 4

<sup>9</sup> [Network Options Assessment \(NOA\) | National Energy System Operator](#)

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- 2.6 We intend to provide further funding to any tCSNP2 projects recommended in the tCSNP2 Refresh through use of the Re-openers covered in this guidance and RIIO-ET3 mechanisms.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Either the Load Related Re-opener, or CSNP-F Re-opener. See [RIIO-3 Sector Specific Methodology Decision – ET Annex](#)

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### 3. Development Track Funding

#### Purpose

- 3.1 Development Funding (DF) is for the purpose of developing the immature projects from the tCSNP2 (Development Track projects) to reach maturity by the time they are submitted to be reassessed in the tCSNP2 Refresh, expected to be published in early 2026. DF can continued to be spent on projects up to the point of the tCSNP2 Refresh publication if required. DF is for all Development Track projects specified with associated outputs in Appendix 2 of Special Condition 3.44 (Development Funding, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DFt)) in the TOs' electricity transmission licences.
- 3.2 Below are the allowed activities that can be undertaken for the delivery of the Development Track Price Control Deliverable, which is to develop projects to the end of ESO maturity level 2, or completion of the 'strategic optioneering' development stage.<sup>11</sup> The activities that the TOs are allowed to incur expenditure on for Development Funding include, but are not necessarily limited to:
- Pre-FEED (Front End Engineering & Design) work
  - Early desk-based research and design
  - Optioneering analysis
  - Risk assessments
  - Site visits
  - Non-statutory engagements
  - Environmental surveys
  - FEED works
- 3.3 Activities subject to other funding arrangements will not be eligible for DF.

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<sup>11</sup> The NESO define Level 2 Maturity (Strategic Optioneering) as "The needs case is firm; a number of design options being developed so that a preferred design solution can be identified." Page 17 of their [Beyond 2030 report](#).

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## **Development Funding**

- 3.4 The DF allowance for the projects included in our tCSNP2<sup>12</sup> decision is calculated at 0.5% of the forecast totex of each project in the Development Track, as set out in the tCSNP2 decision.
- 3.5 DF activity is funded via a PCD, with potential adjustments to allowances for under delivery in accordance with the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.<sup>13</sup>
- 3.6 Irrespective of whether the PCD has been fully or partially delivered, any unspent DF allowances will be returned to consumers via a Use-It-Or-Lose-It Adjustment (UIOLI Adjustment). Therefore, any underspend against DF allowances will not be subject to cost sharing under the Totex Incentive Mechanism (TIM). For the avoidance of doubt, any overspend against DF allowances will be subject to cost sharing under the TIM.

### *Reporting requirements*

- 3.7 Formal annual reporting requirements on DF expenditure and activity will be set out in the RIIO-ET3 Regulatory Instructions and Guidance (RIGs).<sup>14</sup>
- 3.8 TOs must submit all options for the NOA (meaning Development Track, Delivery Track and any new options) to the NESO as per the quality and timeliness requirements set out in the NESO's tCSNP2 Refresh Methodology and in line with any associated SO-TO code (STC) and SO-TO code procedure (STCP), to meet the system requirements set out by NESO. This includes, where appropriate, developing and submitting multiple feasible alternative options for projects in the Development Track and to meet any newly identified system requirements in the tCSNP2 Refresh.
- 3.9 TOs must submit options to the NESO, and also submit to Ofgem a Development Track Report<sup>15</sup> setting out how they have met these requirements by 15<sup>th</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

<sup>13</sup> [Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document | Ofgem](#)

<sup>14</sup> [Decision on Regulatory Instructions and Guidance \(RIGs\), Transmission Glossary and Regulatory Reporting Pack \(RRP\) to apply during RIIO-ET2 | Ofgem](#)

<sup>15</sup> See sub-chapter below (Development Track Report PCD requirement)

September 2025. TOs must provide an explanation to Ofgem if they fail to meet these requirements.

### **Substitutability of allowances**

3.10 DF is set as a pot of funding that can be used across qualifying projects. The aggregated total allowance is built up to apply across the individual Development Track projects and is reflected in the DFA<sub>t</sub> term included in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.44. As explained in our tCSNP2 Decision,<sup>16</sup> the TOs can substitute DF allowances between projects and therefore the total allowance in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.44 can be spent on approved activities on Development Track projects at the TOs' discretion in delivering all the outputs in Appendix 2 of that condition.

### **Development Funding Price Control Deliverables (PCDs)**

3.11 DF PCDs are designed to:

- ensure that all Development Track projects are submitted at the required level of maturity and by the necessary date; and
- provide consumer protection by allowing Ofgem to return allowances to consumers where the PCD is not Fully Delivered.

3.12 The PCD delivery dates are set at the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2025, as this is the latest date available that projects can be submitted to NESO without causing delay to the tCSNP2 Refresh. Ofgem has taken this approach in agreement with the NESO who are conducting the tCSNP2 Refresh, and TOs who will rely on Ofgem's consideration of the Refresh in order to unlock further funding for any recommended projects.

3.13 If a TO considers that a project is significantly impacted by the connections reform process, Ofgem and NESO will still expect a submission meeting the minimum requirements by 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025, but will accept updated amendments to any effected projects (in the form of addendum reports) up until 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

3.14 The output for each PCD is listed in Appendix 2 of Special Condition 3.44. Outputs are to be set as a requirement to develop options to reach the end of level 2

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<sup>16</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

NESO maturity rating (strategic optioneering) i.e. a preferred option has been identified.

*Development Track Report PCD requirement*

- 3.15 The DF PCD requires TOs to develop projects to meet the Minimum Maturity Requirement as defined in SpC 1.1.
- 3.16 Each Development Track PCD also includes a requirement for TOs to submit a Development Track Report to Ofgem and report projects via the system requirements form (SRF) to NESO by the date set out in the licence. This report must include any expected impacts on projects following the implementation of the proposed new connections criteria in NESO's wider connections reform process.<sup>17</sup>
- 3.17 TOs must submit Development Track projects that have reached the Minimum Maturity Requirement, and any additional new projects to the NESO for reassessment in the tCSNP2 Refresh. They must submit options as per the NESO's SRF, and also submit a Development Track Report to Ofgem outlining how projects in the Development Track have met the below criteria in order to satisfy the PCD requirements:
- i. Identification of electrical solution(s) e.g. extend or upgrade substation A and B and install new circuit or reconductor existing circuit from A – B.
  - ii. Development of an indicative high-level substation layout drawing resulting from the assessment of site characteristics, including by checking existing layout drawings and Geographic Information Software (GIS), considering connectivity to existing assets, and identifying space to install new assets including by extending substations. Also consider asset health drivers and the need to combine these with tCSNP projects where appropriate.
  - iii. Assessment of spatial characteristics including environmental limitations (for example river crossings, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and potential community impacts, largely by using GIS software and other specialised desktop-based routing tools, resulting in the identification of an indicative initial route corridor and site location for the purpose of costing and scoping.
  - iv. Development of a single line electrical schematic showing the proposed solution.

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<sup>17</sup> [Connections Reform | National Energy System Operator](#)

- v. High-level specification of the required asset ratings and electrical parameters to meet network needs.
- vi. Development of a high-level construction programme with demonstrably expedited delivery dates. This should include a description of the measures adopted by the TO to expedite delivery relative to historical timelines along with estimates of the impact of those measures on delivery timelines.
- vii. Updated estimations of project costs.

#### *PCD assessment*

- 3.18 The assessment of DF PCDs will be made in accordance with Special Condition 9.3 (Price Control Deliverable Reporting assessment principles and reporting requirements) and the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.<sup>18</sup> Any allowance adjustments made following our assessment will be made by direction following the process set out in Part C of Special Condition 3.44.
- 3.19 Although DF allowances are substitutable, in accordance with Special Condition 3.44 project-specific allowances will be allocated against each output. This is so that when assessing delivery of PCDs, Ofgem will have a reference value to base the assessment on. For example, if project A has an allowance of £1m and project B has an allowance of £2m, the maximum allowance adjustment following a PCD assessment for these projects (in the case of non-delivery) would be £1m and £2m respectively.
- 3.20 DF allowance for each project is set as 0.5% of the forecast project value<sup>19</sup> and this would be the initial reference value for Ofgem to base a PCD assessment on. This does not mean that TOs may only spend up to this associated amount on each project, rather it is a means of ensuring that all allowances are allocated to outputs for the purposes of the PCD assessment. For example, if project A which had an allowance of £1m allocated to it, this would be the reference value for its PCD assessment. Full details of the PCD assessment are found in the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.

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<sup>18</sup> [Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document | Ofgem](#) (appendix 7)

<sup>19</sup> Based on data from the NOA7 Refresh

*Use It Or Lose It Adjustment*

- 3.21 Part of the DF PCD mechanism is the inclusion of a UIOLI Adjustment. Any unspent allowances will be recovered by Ofgem when making an assessment to determine the term  $DFRA_t$ . The UIOLI Adjustment will be made after completion of the PCD assessment on a portfolio level.

*Provisional Pre-Construction Funding*

- 3.22 Our tCSNP2 Funding decision set out the concept of "Provisional PCF". This means that on qualifying projects, TOs will be remunerated for efficiently incurred expenditure of up to 2.5% of estimated project cost on Pre-Construction Works in the period between the publication of the tCSNP2 Refresh and Ofgem's official response to the plan.
- 3.23 Qualifying projects are those listed in the Development Track that have met the Project Maturity Minimum Requirement by the time they are submitted to the NESO for assessment in the tCSNP2 Refresh (in practice this means any projects rated as level 3 Maturity or greater by the NESO in the tCSNP2 Refresh), and that have also received a "Proceed Maintain" or "Proceed Critical" signal in the tCSNP2 Refresh.
- 3.24 Provisional PCF will be recovered through the Delivery Track PCF pot (Special Condition 3.45).
- 3.25 The 2.5% allowance is based upon the estimated project costs provided to Ofgem ahead of the TCSNP2 funding decision.
- 3.26 Ofgem will make its assessment of the tCSNP2 Refresh shortly after it is published. At this point Ofgem will signal to TOs to either stop incurring any additional expenditure on projects, or will signal to continue work and will formalise PCF allowances in the TOs' licences.

## **4. Delivery Track Pre-Construction Funding**

- 4.1 Delivery Track Pre-Construction Funding (DT PCF) is for the purpose of undertaking Pre-Construction Works in relation to all Delivery Track projects with associated outputs in Appendix 2 of Special Condition 3.45 (Delivery Track Pre-Construction Funding, Re-opener, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment (DfT))
- 4.2 Pre-Construction Works are the activities undertaken for the purposes of narrowing down design options in order to develop a Delivery Track project to the point of submission of all material planning applications. The activities that constitute Pre-Construction Works that the TOs are allowed to incur expenditure on are:
- surveys, assessments and studies;
  - project design;
  - engineering development;
  - stakeholder engagement and consultation;
  - tasks associated with wayleaves;
  - planning applications; and
  - tender activities.
  - Other activities as may be approved by the Authority.<sup>20</sup>

### **DT PCF**

- 4.3 The starting DT PCF allowance for the projects included in our tCSNP2<sup>21</sup> decision is calculated at 2.5% of the forecast totex of each TO's initial Delivery Track projects, as set out in the tCSNP2 decision.
- 4.4 DT PCF activity is funded via a PCD, with potential adjustments to allowances for under delivery in accordance with the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> TOs are to inform Ofgem of their intention to incur pre-construction costs for activities not included in paragraph 3.2 and Ofgem where Ofgem agrees this expenditure is appropriate will provide approval in writing.

<sup>21</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

<sup>22</sup> [Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document | Ofgem](#)

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- 4.5 Irrespective of whether the PCD has been fully or partially delivered, any unspent DF allowances will be returned to consumers via a Use-It-Or-Lose-It Adjustment (UIOLI Adjustment). Therefore, any underspend against DT PCF allowances would not be subject to cost sharing under the Totex Incentive Mechanism (TIM). For the avoidance of doubt, any overspend against DT PCF allowances below the TOs' Materiality Threshold will be subject to cost sharing under the TIM.

#### *Reporting requirements*

- 4.6 Annual reporting requirements on DT PCF expenditure and activity will be set out in the RIIO-ET3 Regulatory Instructions and Guidance (RIGs).

#### **Substitutability of allowances**

- 4.7 DT PCF is set as a pot of funding that can be used across qualifying projects. This aggregated total allowance is built up to apply across the individual Delivery Track projects and is reflected in the DTA<sub>t</sub> term included in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.45. As explained in our tCSNP2 Decision,<sup>23</sup> the TOs can substitute DT PCF allowances between projects and therefore the total allowance in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.45 can be spent on approved activities on Delivery Track projects at the TOs' discretion in delivering all the outputs in Appendix 2 of that condition.

#### **DT PCF Price Control Deliverables (PCDs)**

- 4.8 DT PCF PCDs are designed to:
- ensure that all Development Track projects are submitted at the required level of maturity and by the necessary date; and
  - provide consumer protection by allowing Ofgem to return allowances to consumers where the PCD is not Fully Delivered.
- 4.9 The PCD delivery dates are set during the licence implementation phase and are aligned with TO delivery plan assumptions of when planning consent applications will be submitted by. This varies per project and is set out in appendix 2 of the condition.

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<sup>23</sup> [Funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects: decision | Ofgem](#)

- 4.10 If a TO does not consider it possible to deliver a PCD output by its delivery date, Ofgem will consider extending the delivery dates where TOs can provide evidence to support this.
- 4.11 The output for each PCD is listed in Appendix 2 of Special Condition 3.45. Outputs are set as submission of all material planning consents for the relevant project.

*PCD assessment*

- 4.12 The assessment of DT PCF PCDs will be made in accordance with Special Condition 9.3 (Price Control Deliverable Reporting assessment principles and reporting requirements) and the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.<sup>24</sup> Any allowance adjustments made following our assessment will be made by direction following the process set out in Part D of Special Condition 3.45.
- 4.13 Although DT PCF allowances are substitutable, in accordance with Special Condition 3.45 project-specific allowances will be allocated against each output. This is so that when assessing delivery of PCDs, Ofgem will have a reference value to base the assessment on. For example, if project A has an allowance of £1m and project B has an allowance of £2m, the maximum allowance adjustment following a PCD assessment for these projects (in the case of non-delivery) would be £1m and £2m respectively. This assessment would take account of any substituted allowances, where these have been incurred efficiently on other projects within the Delivery Track.
- 4.14 DT PCF allowance for each project is set as 2.5% of the forecast project value<sup>25</sup> and this would be the initial reference value for Ofgem to base a PCD assessment on. This does not mean that TOs may only spend up to this associated amount on each project, rather it is a means of ensuring that all allowances are allocated to outputs for the purposes of the PCD assessment. For example, if project A which had an allowance of £1m allocated to it, this would be the reference value for its PCD assessment. Full details of the PCD assessment are found in Appendix 7 of the Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document.

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<sup>24</sup> [Price Control Deliverable Reporting Requirements and Methodology Document | Ofgem](#) (appendix 7)

<sup>25</sup> Based on data from the [NOA7 Refresh](#)

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*Use It Or Lose It Adjustment*

- 4.15 Part of the DT PCF PCD mechanism is the inclusion of a UIOLI Adjustment. Any unspent allowances will be recovered by Ofgem when making an assessment to determine the term  $DTRA_t$ . The UIOLI Adjustment will be made after completion of the PCD assessment on a portfolio level.

*Cancelled projects*

- 4.16 It is possible that a project might be cancelled after the TOs have received DT PCF, but before the PCD output has been delivered. This could be the result of a change of scope, or the network need for the project falling away.
- 4.17 If a project is cancelled, TOs should demobilise the project workforce as soon as possible in order to limit consumer exposure to costs on projects that will not be delivered. TOs are required to inform Ofgem of the project cancellation and submit details of any incurred expenditure through the Regulatory Reporting Pack (RRP). Unless agreed by Ofgem, costs incurred on activities that are not listed under paragraph 3.2 above will not be funded, however reasonable cancellation costs of these activities will be considered.

## Appendix 1 – tCSNP2 project list

### Development track projects and PCDs

Code	Description	TO	PCD	PCD Delivery date
THRE	Reconductor of Hinkley Point Taunton 1 & 2 and Hinkley Point - Taunton - Exeter	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
TMCF	Thorpe Marsh reconfiguration	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
LTRE	Reconductoring of Lackenby – Thornton 400kV double circuit (A33A and A33B)	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
LCU2	Establish a 400kV single circuit corridor south from Kincardine North, on existing OHL routes, towards the Strathaven - Smeaton (XH/XJ route) corridor west of Edinburgh and Currie/Smeaton substation	SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
EDN3	Reconductoring Brinsworth to Thorpe Marsh, Brinsworth to Chester Field and Chesterfield to Ratcliff	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
E4L6	Three ended HVDC link between Lincolnshire, Walpole and either the north end of TGDC or north end of E4L5 (Third Leg only – TGDC/E4L5 for description of other ends)	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
HGNC	Establish new 400kV double circuit from Harburn to Gala North	SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
TWNC	Waltham Cross- Wymondley new double circuit	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025

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MRU2	Mersey Ring Upgrade - Stage 2	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
MRU1	Mersey Ring Upgrade - Stage 1	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
CMN3	Establish a new 400kV double circuit OHL from Gala North to Carlisle	NGET, SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
CLN2	New double circuit between North West England and Carlisle	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
FSU1	Upgrade Fourstone 275kV network to 400kV and reconductor lines between Harker – Fourstones – Stella West (B37F, B37C and B37E)	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
WCN2	Establish a new 400kV double circuit from Kilmarnock South to Glenmuckloch and Carlisle	NGET, SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
RANC	New 400kV double circuit and Infrastructure within the Kent area	NGET	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
WCD4	Proposed amendment to HND1 Western Multi Terminal HVDC to provide 4GW North to South Capacity (North Wales)	NGET, SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025
NHNC	New Deer 2 (SSEN) - Tealing (SSEN) - Harburn (SPT) 400kV New Double Circuit	SHET, SPT	See Ch. 3	15 September 2025

Delivery track projects and PCDs

Code	Description	TO	PCD	PCD Delivery date
FMR2	Feckenham to Minety 400kV A589 Circuit Reconductoring	NGET	Submission of all material planning consents	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026

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PCR1	Reconductoring of Carrington - Penwortham & Padiham - Penwortham 400kV circuits	NGET	Submission of all material planning consents	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
VERE	Reconductor the ZV route between Strathaven and Elvanfoot with HTLS conductor	SPT	Completion of all necessary Pre-Construction Works	31 December 2026
EHRE	Reconductor the ZV route between Elvanfoot and Harker with HTLS conductor	SPT	Completion of all necessary Pre-Construction Works	31 December 2026
ESCF	Reconfigure Stalybridge - Thorpe Marsh 400kV circuit	NGET	Submission of all material planning consents	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
NOR6	Reconductor double circuits Norton Osbaldwick (A347 & A355)	NGET	Submission of all material planning consents	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
DSUP	Replace the existing 275kV double circuit OHL from Dounreay - Thurso - Spittal with a new 400kV double circuit OHL. Install new 400kV substations at Dounreay and Thurso with 2x400/275kV SGTs at each site to connect to the existing 275kV substations.	SHET	Submission of all material planning consents	31st December 2028
BKUP	Blackhillock - Cairnford - Kintore 400kV Upgrade	SHET	Submission of all material planning consents	31st December 2028
PKUP	Peterhead - Persley - Kintore 400kV Upgrade	SHET	Submission of all material planning consents	31st December 2028

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Shetland to Coachford	HNDFUE AC project: Shetland to Blackhillock	SHET	Submission of all material planning consents	31st December 2028
LPUP (formerly PPUP)	Peterhead - Persley – Kintore - Kincardine 400kV Upgrade	SHET	See Ch. 3	31st December 2028

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Small or medium sized projects (funded through alternative Re-openers / baseline allowances)

Code	Description	TO	EISD
DCR4	Upgrading of Carrington – Daines 400kV circuit (A252)	NGET	2027
JTHW	Hotwire Thurcroft to West Melton 275kV circuit (B380)	NGET	2027
OTHW	Hotwire Osbaldwick – Thornton 400kV 400kV circuits (A34D and A348)	NGET	2027
ECSC	Installation of Series Compensation East Anglia Coastal Node-Tilbury 400kV Circuit	NGET	2027
ETRE	Reconductoring of Eggborough Thorpe Marsh 400kV single circuit (A358) 2x700 Conductor	NGET	2029
SNRE	Reconductor Spennymoor Norton double circuit	NGET	2029
CVUP	Establish a 400kV single circuit corridor south from Clydes Mill to Strathaven on existing OHL routes, with associated substation development at Clydes Mill, Strathaven and near East Kilbride	SPT	2031
BTR2	Reconductoring of Brinsworth - Thorpe Marsh 1 400kV circuit (A342) 3x700 Conductor	NGET	2027
TMC2	Thorpe Marsh reconfiguration and Keadby circuit open stand by	NGET	2032
SGRE	Reconductor Grendon to Sundon 400kV double circuit (A486 & A487)	NGET	2029
TMPC	Thorpe Marsh - West Melton 1 275kV circuit.	NGET	2030
HNRE	Reconductoring of Hawthorn Pit – Norton 400kV double circuit (A322 and A306)	NGET	2029
TDP4	Additional power control technology along the Drax – Thornton 1 (A34C) 400kV circuit and install devices along the Drax – Thornton 2 (A332) 400kV circuit	NGET	2030
SPRE	Reconductor Spennymoor Stella West 400kV double circuit(A321&A314)	NGET	2029

tCSNP2 recommended projects delivered alongside existing projects

<b>Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>Linked project</b>
NNNC	Third cable circuit between New Deer – Greens (New Deer 2) 400kV	SHET	BPNC (ASTI)
KKRE	Reconductor the 30% of the Kintore – Fetteresso – Alyth – Kincardine 400kV double circuit OHL that is due to be strung with twin Totara as part of RIIO-T2 project ECUP with triple Upas	SHET	ECUP (RIIO-T2 Baseline)
PTC2	Replace the conductors on the existing circuit between Pentir and Trawsfynydd with a higher capacity than was previously recommended	NGET	PTC1 (ASTI)
PTN2	New circuit in North Wales with a higher capacity than was previously recommended	NGET	PTNO (ASTI)

Asset Classification projects from tCSNP2 / HNDFUE

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>TO responsible</b>	<b>Track</b>
Peterhead to E2b	Onshore	SSE	Funding to be confirmed once Offshore IA is concluded
E2b to E2a	Onshore	SSE	Funding to be confirmed once Offshore IA is concluded
E2a to Richborough	Onshore	NGET + SSE Joint Venture	Funding to be confirmed once Offshore IA is concluded
Shetland to Coachford	Onshore	SSE	Delivery Track

## **Appendix 2 – General requirements on TOs**

TOs must include up-to-date information at the time of each submission. This includes information available to the TO from third parties, such as the ESO, other TOs, contractors or stakeholders.

It is ultimately the responsibility of the TOs to decide what information is necessary to make a robust case for a proposed project and to provide us with all relevant information to inform our assessment. As each project is unique, the information required will vary between projects.

Prior to each submission the TO may engage with us to help it to consider what information is necessary to make a robust case.

In instances where a TO considers it is unable provide information set out in this document, for example because of the nature of a project, it must explain to us why.

TOs are expected to:

- keep us updated about its expected submission schedule and advise us of any changes to the timetable that the TO has previously indicated;
- engage early with the ESO, in parallel with discussions with us, where the ESO's analysis is required;
- identify whether there will be any joint working with other TOs, Distribution Network Owners (DNOs) or other relevant parties in the delivery of the proposed project and identify how work and responsibility on the project is to be shared across such parties;
- provide complete and navigable submissions that do not rely on the cross-referencing of information provided previously to Ofgem (for example for some other purpose or given in a previous submission that was subsequently withdrawn);
- maintain an assurance system for the quality and completeness of information submitted to us (including, for example, senior management sign off on all submissions);
- clearly identify and justify the validity of assumptions used in supporting analysis;
- inform us as and when changes are made to key assumptions and provide a log of the impacts of such changes on the supporting analysis and results;



- respond in a timely manner to requests for further information, ensuring that the information provided is complete, accurate and addresses the issue or question being raised; and
- proactively engage with stakeholders including other TOs, seeking their views and providing them with timely updates on changes to its plans in relation to the proposed ASTI project.

### **The role of Ofgem, TOs and the ESO**

Ofgem does not design projects or plan how projects should be built or what routes they should take. This is the responsibility of the TOs, in accordance with the obligations placed on them by planning regulations and the relevant planning authorities and in accordance with their wider duties in the legislative framework.

As economic regulator, we consider the investment case for transmission projects presented to us and the efficient costs that can be recovered from consumers for delivering these projects. We will take into account the outcome of the planning process in assessing the costs that network companies are allowed to recover from consumers for projects.

The TOs are responsible for developing network investment plans and for obtaining the relevant consents from the planning authorities.