Outcome

LDES Eligibility Assessment Outcome

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The document is written for projects that applied for Window 1 of the LDES Cap & Floor regime and other interested market participants. This document sets out the eligibility assessment outcome for 171 projects submitted under Window 1 of the Long Duration Electricity Storage (LDES) cap and floor scheme. The projects were assessed using the seven eligibility criteria as outlined in the Eligibility Criteria Assessment Framework (ECAF)

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Executive summary

On 8 April 2025, Ofgem published the Eligibility Criteria Assessment Framework (ECAF) and officially opened the application window for the first Window of the Long Duration Electricity Storage (LDES) Cap and Floor scheme. By the submission deadline of 9 June 2025, Ofgem received a total of 171 applications. Each application was assessed in accordance with the ECAF, using the seven eligibility criteria outlined in the framework. Ofgem has now completed the eligibility assessment for all submitted applications.

Following the eligibility assessment, Ofgem has determined that 77 projects met the criteria set out in the ECAF and are therefore selected to progress to the Project Assessment Stage of the LDES Cap and Floor scheme. The remaining 94 projects did not meet one or more of the eligibility criteria outlined in the ECAF and, as a result, will not proceed to the next stage.

Decision Making Timelines

08 April 2025: LDES Window 1 application window opened.

09 June 2025: LDES Window 1 application window closed.

05 Aug 2025: Minded to Decision Letters shared with Projects minded to being rejected. Window for Minded to reject Projects to respond begins.

14 Aug 2025: Response window ends for Minded to reject Projects. Ofgem begins evaluating responses.

23 September 2025: Final Decision published.

1. Introduction

1.1 In October 2024, the Government decided to use a Cap and Floor (C&F) scheme to encourage investment in LDES. It asked Ofgem to determine which Projects should be offered a C&F regime and this was included in our Forward Work Programme 2024/25 (Objective 8.4).

1.2 This scheme provides a minimum revenue for LDES projects, helping developers manage high capital costs and long build times. The cap on revenue helps lower costs for consumers in return for their support in providing a minimum revenue. In its Clean Power 2030 Action Plan, the Government sees a big role for LDES technologies by 2030 and aims for net zero by 2050.

1.3 Ofgem was appointed as the regulator for this scheme based on our experience with the interconnector cap and floor regime. We are now designing the cap and floor regime for LDES window 1 and expecting to approve the first projects by Q2 2026.

1.4 The joint Technical Decision Document (TDD), published with DESNZ sets out a three-stage process that includes an eligibility assessment, followed by a project assessment stage and a Post Construction Review by when projects start commercial operation.

1.5 In April 2025, Ofgem published the Eligibility Criteria Assessment Framework (ECAF) for projects applying to window one of the LDES C&F regime. The ECAF set out the eligibility assessment framework and included seven criteria that the applicants were expected to meet in their applications.

1.6 Projects have been evaluated against the seven criteria outlined in ECAF. Those meeting all seven criteria have been determined eligible projects and will proceed to the project assessment stage. Projects that did not meet one or more of the eligibility criteria have not passed the eligibility assessment and will not advance to the next stage.

2. Assessment process

2.1 Ofgem opened the first window for Projects to prepare and submit their applications on 08 April 2025. The deadline for submitting applications was 9 June 2025.

2.2 Applicants were advised to fully complete and submit the Application Form to apply. Applicants needed to provide documents and evidence alongside their

completed Application Forms showing that their projects meet the eligibility criteria, as outlined in the Eligibility Criteria Assessment Framework.

2.3 Based on the information, documentation and reasoning provided in the submissions, applicants' projects were evaluated against the criteria set out in section 3 of the Eligibility Criteria Assessment Framework. Ofgem's evaluation was based on the quality and coherence of the information and reasoning submitted by developers in the Application Form, and any relevant materials and documentation submitted together with the Application Form as part of their applications.

2.4 All components were evaluated using binary pass / fail criteria based on the information, documentary evidence and reasoning provided. An applicant project that failed in any single area of the evaluation under the Deliverability criterion or the other six criteria was considered ineligible to proceed to the next stage. Only applicant projects that passed all eligibility criteria were considered eligible to proceed to the project assessment stage.

2.5 The eligibility assessment has now concluded, and we are preparing to begin the project assessment stage in Q4 2025.

3. Assessment outcome

3.1 The first window of the LDES cap and floor scheme received strong interest, with 171 project applications across a wide range of technologies.

3.2 The total discharge capacity across all project applications is 52.6 GW. Track 1 included 136 projects (80% of the total), delivering 40.3 GW of capacity. Track 2 had 35 projects, contributing 12.2 GW.

The applicant pool included a broad mix of LDES technologies including (but not limited to) Li-ion BESS, Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH), Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES), Vanadium Flow BESS, Liquid Air Energy Storage (LAES) & BESS hybrid. Table 1 below summarises the number of applications and total discharge capacity by technology type, along with their distribution across Track 1 and Track 2.

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Table 1: Summary of all project applications submitted to Window 1 of the LDES C&F scheme.

Technology type of asset	No of Projects	Sum of Discharge capacity (GW)	No of Track 1 projects	No of Track 2 projects
Li-ion BESS	112	38.6	93	19
Pumped Storage Hydro	8	7.4	5	3
Vanadium Flow Battery/Zinc Battery	16	2.6	15	1
Vanadium Flow Battery	20	1.8	10	10
LAES & BESS Hybrid	4	0.8	4	
Compressed Air Energy Storage	3	0.5	2	1
Iron-Air Battery Storage	5	0.4	5	-
Sodium sulphur battery storage	2	0.3	1	1
Hydrogen Battery	1	0.1	1	-
Grand Total	**171**	**52.6**	**136**	**35**

3.3 Out of the 171 Projects that applied, 77 met the eligibility criteria and were determined as eligible for the Project Assessment stage. The eligible projects represent a combined discharge capacity of 28.7 GW.

Track 1: 71 projects account for 24.5 GW, deliverable by 2030.
Track 2: 6 projects account for 4.2 GW, deliverable by 2033.

3.4 We assessed project using a technology-neutral approach, based solely on their ability to meet the seven eligibility criteria. The 77 eligible projects reflect a natural diversity of technologies, emerging through the evidence-based assessment process. The table below lists all 77 eligible projects that have progressed to the Project Assessment stage.

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Table 2: All eligible projects passed to the Project Assessment Stage of Window 1 of LDES C&F regime.

Project Name	Technology type of asset	Discharge Capacity (MW)	Track
Aberthaw Energy Ltd	Li-ion BESS	249	Track 1
Al Boum Photo LDES Battery Energy Storage System	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 2
Bellmoor Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Branxton BESS	Li-ion BESS	230	Track 1
Caithness BESS	Li-ion BESS	456	Track 1
Canner's Lane Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Chessington BESS	Li-ion BESS	160	Track 1
Chickerell Storage	Li-ion BESS	400	Track 1
Cockenzie BESS	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Coire Glas Hydro Pumped Storage Scheme	Pumped Storage Hydro	1450	Track 2
Connahs Energy Storage	Li-ion BESS	500	Track 1
Dalby Energy Storage	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Deeside Power Energy Hub (Li-Ion/ VFB)	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Didcot Parkway LDES Facility	Li-ion BESS	135	Track 1
Drakelow (Innova)	Li-ion BESS	507	Track 1
Earba PSH	Pumped Storage Hydro	1800	Track 2
East Claydon Storage	Li-ion BESS	500	Track 1
Elland Long Duration Energy Storage Project	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Enderby (Innova)	Li-ion BESS	367	Track 1
Exeter Storage	Li-ion BESS	250	Track 1
Field Fyrish Ltd.	Li-ion BESS	200	Track 1
Field Long Stratton Ltd.	Li-ion BESS	400	Track 2
Field Netherton Ltd.	Li-ion BESS	400	Track 1

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Field New Deer Ltd.	Li-ion BESS	400	Track 1
Field Rigifa Ltd.	Li-ion BESS	200	Track 1
Frontier Astwood	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Ayr	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Botley	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Bramford 1	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Bramford 2	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Busby	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	150	Track 1
Frontier Grange Lane	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	99	Track 1
Frontier Hockcliffe	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Legacy	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	65	Track 1
Frontier Market Harborough	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Navenby	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Norwich	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	85	Track 2
Frontier Pelham	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Frontier Weaver	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	120	Track 1
Frontier Willington	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	90	Track 1
Frontier Wymondley	Vanadium Flow Battery/ Zinc Battery	200	Track 1
Glenmuckloch Pumped Storage Hydro	Pumped Storage Hydro	210	Track 1
Gretna Long Duration Energy Storage Project	Li-ion BESS	200	Track 1

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Hagshaw LDES	Vanadium Flow Battery	500	Track 1
Hawthorn Pit Energy Storage	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Hunterston Long Duration Energy Storage Project	LAES & BESS Hybrid	200	Track 1
Killingholme 1 Long Duration Energy Storage Project	LAES & BESS Hybrid	200	Track 1
Kincardine Long Duration Energy Storage Project	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Lapwing	Li-ion BESS	250	Track 1
LDES Barry	Vanadium Flow Battery	50	Track 1
LDES Roosecote	Vanadium Flow Battery	50	Track 1
Loch Kemp Storage	Pumped Storage Hydro	660	Track 1
Loch na Cathrach	Pumped Storage Hydro	500	Track 1
Melksham BESS	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Middleton BESS	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Mossmorran Long Duration Energy Storage Project	Li-ion BESS	200	Track 1
Mowbray Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Navenby Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Neilston BESS 2	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Neilston BESS 3	Li-ion BESS	250	Track 1
Nexus 1	Li-ion BESS	1800	Track 1
Ocker Hill BESS	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Old Rides Energy Storage	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Plumpton Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
Rayleigh BESS	Li-ion BESS	150	Track 1
Solomons Farm BESS	Li-ion BESS	160	Track 1
Spirebush LDES (part of HEC-WE project)	Vanadium Flow Battery	200	Track 1
Springwell	Li-ion BESS	206	Track 1
Sturts Farm BESS	Vanadium Flow Battery	50	Track 1
Sundon Storage	Li-ion BESS	500	Track 1

Swinford Energy Park	Li-ion BESS	1000	Track 1
TeesCAES	Compressed Air Energy Storage	50	Track 1
Thornton BESS 2	Li-ion BESS	100	Track 1
Thorpe Marsh (Fidra)	Li-ion BESS	280	Track 1
Thorpe Marsh 1 (Innova)	Li-ion BESS	354	Track 1
Thorpe Marsh 2 (Innova)	Li-ion BESS	354	Track 2
Westport Energy Storage Limited	Li-ion BESS	150	Track 1

Note on Deeside Power Energy Hub:
The project submitted applications for Li-ion BESS and Vanadium Flow Battery technologies at the same site. Both have been individually determined as eligible. Whilst only one technology will proceed to the next stage, we consider it is in consumers' interest to allow the project to retain flexibility in selecting the final technology at this point. Final technology selection will be confirmed before the Project assessment stage begins. For the purpose of completing Table 2 and Table 3, Li-ion Battery (100MW) configuration has been used.

Table 3: Summary of all eligible projects passed to the Project Assessment Stage of Window 1 of LDES C&F regime.

Technology type of asset	**Count of Projects**	**Sum of Discharge capacity (GW)**	**No of Track 1 projects**	**No of Track 2 projects**
Li-ion BESS	48	20.2	45	3
Pumped Storage Hydro	5	4.6	3	2
Vanadium Flow Battery/Zinc Battery	16	2.6	15	1
Vanadium Flow Battery	5	0.9	5	-
LAES & BESS Hybrid	2	0.4	2	-
Compressed Air Energy Storage	1	0.1	1	-
Grand Total	**77**	**28.7**	**71**	**6**

4. Project Assessment stage

4.1 The publication of the list of eligible projects along with the Multi Criteria Assessment (MCA) Framework starts the 8-week Submission Period for Eligible Projects to complete and send to Ofgem their Project Assessment Data Submission Forms and associated evidence. Eligible projects are required to submit the required information for the Project Assessment phase as per guidelines set out in Project Assessment Framework.

4.2 To support Eligible Projects in preparing their submissions for the next phase, we will continue to use the BRAVO Q&A platform and plan to hold a series of drop-in online Q&A workshops during the Submission Period. Ofgem will contact Eligible Projects directly to invite them to these workshops.

4.3 Ofgem and NESO will undertake the Project Assessment in Q4 2025, aiming to publish the Initial Decision List of Projects offered a C&F in Spring' 2026 with final decisions on C&F awards expected in Summer' 2026. Projects will be evaluated on their economic, strategic, and financial merits, without predetermined weightings. This approach aligns with the interconnectors cap and floor regime. Please refer to the LDES Window 1 MCA Framework for more details.