

Dear Stakeholder,

CONSULTATION ON OFGEM E-SERVE'S DRAFT GUIDANCE – RENEWABLES OBLIGATION: CLOSURE OF THE SCHEME TO ONSHORE WIND

We are writing to inform you that our draft guidance 'RO: closure of the scheme to onshore wind' has been published today for a six week consultation period. The draft guidance is provided in annex 1.

We are inviting stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft guidance. The closing date for responding to the consultation is 24 March 2016.

The draft guidance explains our proposed administration of the closure of the RO to onshore wind stations, including the process for applying for the grace periods that are available.

The guidance is based on the Department of Energy and Climate Change's (DECC's) amendments to the Energy Bill 2015-6, tabled by the Government on 19th January, which will amend the Electricity Act 1989. The closure is expected to come into operation on 1 April 2016.

The guidance addresses how we intend to administer the scheme changes should the amendments tabled 19th January pass as intended. If any changes are made to the legislation before it comes into force, we will amend the guidance document as appropriate.

This document does not cover the proposed closure of the RO in Northern Ireland. Separate guidance will be published in due course once the Northern Ireland Assembly has made a final decision on these proposals and any relevant legislation is published.

How to respond

The purpose of this consultation is to gain your views on our proposed administration of the grace period and the process for applying. In responding to this consultation please answer the following questions:

- Question 1: Do you have any concerns relating to the proposed processes for administering the closure of the RO to onshore wind and the grace periods as set out in this document?
- Question 2: Are there any aspects of this guidance that could be made clearer or improved? If so, please provide specific comments including section references.
- Question 3: Are there any omissions in this guidance? If so, please provide comments.

Responses should be sent to either:

REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk , or

RE Development Team
Ofgem
9 Millbank,
London SW1P 3GE

Please be aware that this is not a consultation on the policy underpinning the Renewables Obligation, but on the clarity of the guidance document. Queries relating to the policy should be directed to DECC. Contact details can be found at: www.decc.gsi.gov.uk.

If you want your response to be kept confidential, please clearly mark the document/s to that effect and include your reasons for requesting confidentiality. (However, this may be subject to any obligations to disclose information, for example, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

Next steps

Once we have considered the responses to this consultation, we will publish the final guidance document as soon as possible.

Until the closure comes into force, stakeholders should refer to the current legislation and guidance.

If you have any comments or concerns relating to how this consultation has been conducted please refer to annex 2 for details.

Yours sincerely,

Renewable Electricity Development Team

Annex 1

Draft guidance

Renewables Obligation: Closure of the
scheme to onshore wind (England, Wales
and Scotland)

Renewables Obligation: closure of the scheme to onshore wind (England, Wales and Scotland)

DRAFT Guidance

11 February 2016

DRAFT



Overview

This draft guidance is for developers and operators of onshore wind generating stations in England, Wales and Scotland¹ who may be affected by the proposed closure of the Renewables Obligation (RO) scheme to onshore wind on 1 April 2016. It explains how we will administer the early closure and the grace periods that will be available if the drafting as set out in the government amendments tabled on 19 January 2016 are adopted. As the Energy Bill 2016 is yet to receive Royal Assent the **content of this document is subject to change**, but we are publishing a draft version for comment now to help industry prepare for the possible closure of the scheme.

Subject to parliamentary approval, this early closure of the scheme will be brought into effect by provisions in the Energy Bill 2016. The closure will apply to new generating stations and any additional capacity added to existing stations. Operators of stations that meet certain specified conditions may be eligible for a grace period, meaning that they could apply for accreditation after the closure date.

Context

The Renewables Obligation (RO) and the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) (ROS) are designed to incentivise large-scale renewable electricity generation in the UK and help the UK meet its requirements for 15 per cent of energy to be sourced from renewable sources by 2020. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority) administers the schemes, and its day-to-day functions are performed by Ofgem.

The RO and ROS schemes are provided for under the Renewables Obligation Order 2015 and the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Order 2009 (as amended) respectively. The Orders place an obligation on licensed electricity suppliers in England, Wales and Scotland to source an increasing proportion of electricity from renewable sources. All references to the RO in this document cover the RO and ROS schemes.

Subject to Royal Assent the Energy Act 2016 will amend the Electricity Act 1989 to close the RO schemes from 1 April 2016 for new onshore wind generating capacity. If the drafting as set out in government amendments tabled on 19 January 2016 is adopted it will also introduce a number of grace periods which would enable stations that can demonstrate they meet one or more of three specified conditions to apply for accreditation after the proposed closure.

This draft guidance document explains how we will administer the early closure and the grace periods that will be available if the changes expected to be covered by the Energy Act 2016 come into force from 1 April 2016. **The content of this document is subject to change.** However, we are publishing a draft for comment now to help industry prepare for the possible

¹ The guidance does not apply to Northern Ireland. The Department for Enterprise, Trade and Industry in Northern Ireland has consulted on bringing forward closure of the NIRO to onshore wind, however this proposal is still under consideration.

closure of the scheme. We will collect feedback on this draft document and make changes to it before it is finalised. A list of the changes made to the document as a result of the consultation will be published alongside the final document.

This document should be read in conjunction with chapter 3 of [RO: Guidance for generators](#), which has full details on seeking accreditation under the RO. This document is for guidance only and is not a legal guide.

Associated documents

The following documents support this publication:

Legislation

- Information on the proposals to close the Renewables Obligation to onshore wind early:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/renewables-obligation-ro-grace-period-for-new-onshore-wind/information-on-the-proposed-ro-grace-period-for-new-onshore-wind>

- The Energy Bill 2016: <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/energy.html>
- The Renewables Obligation Order 2015, the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Order 2009 as well as its amendment Orders for 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015, and the RO Closure Order 2014 (as amended) can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk.

Guidance

All documents are available at www.ofgem.gov.uk/ro:

- RO: Guidance for generators
- Renewables and CHP Register User Guide ('the User Guide')
- Renewables Obligation: Essential guide to commissioning
- Renewables Obligation: Guidance on the transition period and the closure of the RO

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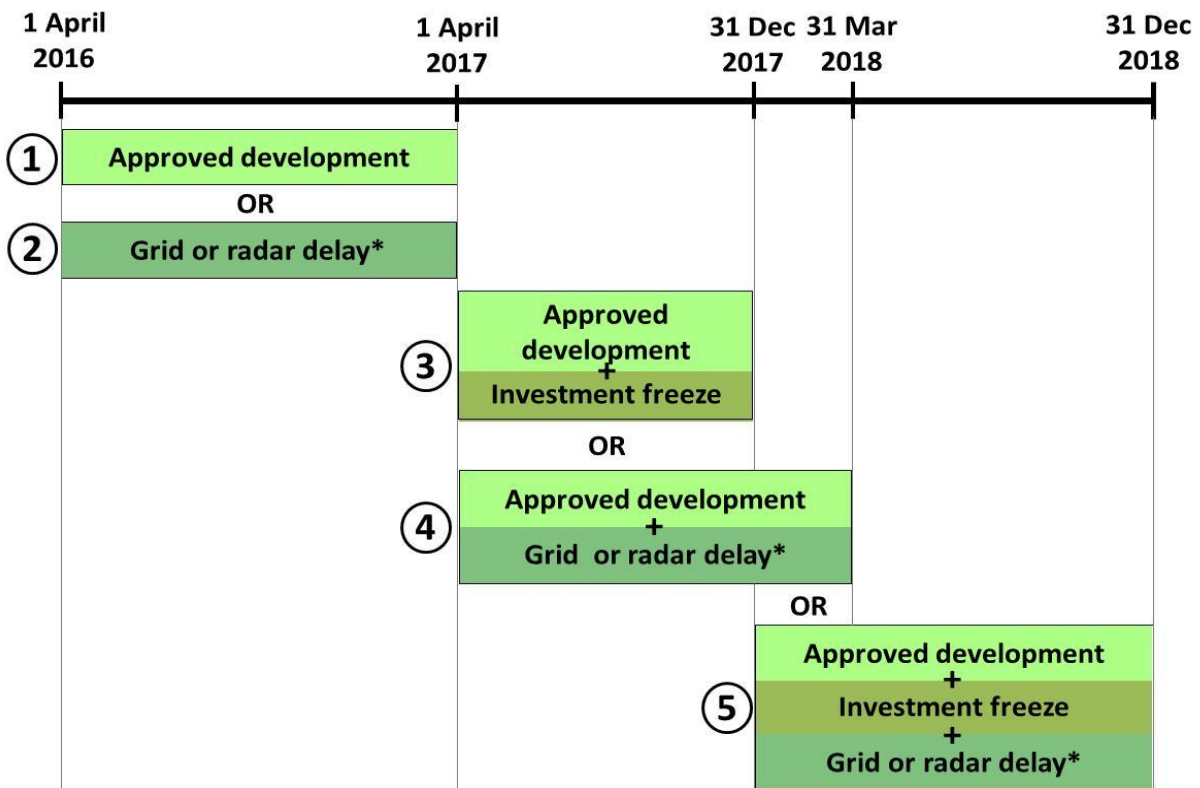
Executive Summary

The Renewables Obligation (RO) and the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) (ROS) incentive schemes are scheduled to close to new capacity on 31 March 2017. However, the Energy Bill 2016, currently under consideration in Parliament, proposes to amend the Electricity Act 1989, to close the RO and ROS schemes to all new onshore wind capacity one year earlier. This means that from 1 April 2016, if the proposed legislation as submitted to Parliament on 19 January 2016 comes into force, the RO will close to any new onshore wind generating capacity in Great Britain, including additional capacity.

The Department for Trade and Industry in Northern Ireland has consulted on bringing forward closure of the Northern Ireland RO (NIRO) to onshore wind, however this proposal is still under consideration. This document and the changes referred to do not cover the NIRO.

The Energy Bill 2016 also proposes to introduce grace periods for stations affected by the early closure. If the grace period conditions are met, and if all other RO eligibility criteria are met, these grace periods will allow a station to gain accreditation under the RO after 1 April 2016. The proposed grace periods, and the conditions that must be met for each are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Proposed grace periods to be available and the conditions that must be met for a station to be eligible for accreditation under the RO grace periods from 1 April 2016



*Depending on when the grid or radar delay condition is being applied for, the cut-off date by which a station would have commissioned (but for the grid or radar delay outside the developer’s control) will differ.

The three conditions that are set out in the Energy Bill 2016 are:

- i. 'approved development' condition: for generating stations where a grid connection agreement, land rights, and the planning permission were in place on or before 18 June 2015²
- ii. 'grid or radar delay' condition: for generating stations that have been subject to grid connection or radar works delays that were not because of a breach by a developer, and
- iii. 'investment freezing' condition: for generating stations where previously agreed finance has been suspended as a result of legislative uncertainty before the Energy Bill 2016 becomes law.

This guidance document explains how we will administer the early closure and the grace periods. Please read it together with the [RO: Guidance for generators](#) which provides full details on seeking accreditation under the RO.

It also explains the process for applying for accreditation and a grace period at the same time. To gain accreditation after 1 April 2016, you will need to submit an application for accreditation, submit the necessary grace period evidence, commission the station and meet all RO eligibility and relevant grace period conditions on or before the grace period's closing date. The individual grace periods end on different dates, but all grace periods will be closed by 31 December 2018, after which we will not accept any applications for the RO from onshore wind stations in Great Britain.

This document is for guidance only and is not a legal guide. Generators might find it helpful to seek their own legal and technical advice before applying. The document does not anticipate every scenario which may arise. If a scenario arises but is not addressed in these procedures, we will act in a way that's consistent with legislation. We will publish any additional guidance on our website.

² The condition can also be met where planning permission for the station was applied for and refused or not determined before 18 June 2015, but was subsequently granted on appeal. See chapter 3 for details.

1. Introduction

Chapter summary

Explains the background to the proposed changes for onshore wind generating stations intended to have effect from 1 April 2016, the key terms the operators should be aware of, and Ofgem's functions as administrator of the RO scheme.

- 1.1. If the proposed RO changes in the Energy Bill 2016 come into effect as drafted in the amendment tabled on 19 January 2016, the RO and ROS schemes will close to onshore wind capacity on 1 April 2016. This will apply to new onshore wind generating stations and any additional capacity added to existing stations that are accredited under the RO and ROS and wish for the new capacity to be accredited. Between 1 April 2016 and 31 December 2018, five grace periods will be available for operators of generating stations affected by the closure, providing they meet certain conditions.
- 1.2. This guidance document explains how we intend to administer the early closure (should it take effect), and the grace periods that will be available. It should be read in conjunction with the [RO: Guidance for generators](#), which provides full details on seeking accreditation under the RO.

Explanation of key terms

- 1.3. You should be aware of the meaning of the following key terms and approaches in reading this document. For full explanations and further helpful detail about these terms you should refer to the [RO: Guidance for generators](#).

Generating stations

- 1.4. There is no definition of 'generating station' in the legislation. It is defined in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary as a "building and site for generating electrical current" and in the Oxford English Dictionary as a "power station for the generation of electricity".
- 1.5. Table 2 in the [RO: Guidance for generators](#) gives further details on the factors we may consider when determining what constitutes a generating station.

Commissioned

- 1.6. Generating stations must be commissioned in order to be eligible for accreditation. The Orders define "commissioned" as:

"commissioned", 'in relation to a generating station, means the completion of such procedures and tests in relation to that station as constitute, at the time they are undertaken, the usual industry standards and practices for commissioning that type of generating station in order to demonstrate that that generating station is capable of commercial operation.'
- 1.7. The [RO: Guidance for generators](#) and [RO: Essential guide to commissioning](#) provide more information on what is required to demonstrate a generating station has been commissioned.

Use of 'RO'

1.8. Where we use "RO" in this document, it means the Renewables Obligation (RO) scheme and the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) (ROS) scheme. In this guidance, the RO Order and ROS Order are collectively referred to as 'the Orders' but individually referenced where necessary.

Ofgem's functions

1.9. The Orders detail what the Authority does for the RO schemes in England, Wales and Scotland. A number of these functions are carried out via our IT system, which is called the Renewables and CHP Register (the Register). These duties include:

- Accrediting generating stations as being capable of generating electricity from eligible renewable energy sources
- Issuing Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs) and Scottish Renewable Obligation Certificates (SROCs)
- Establishing and maintaining a register of ROCs and SROCs
- Revoking ROCs and SROCs if necessary
- Monitoring compliance with the requirements of the Orders
- Calculating annually the buy-out price resulting from the adjustments made to reflect changes in the Retail Price Index (RPI)
- Receiving buy-out payments and redistributing the buy-out fund
- Receiving late payments and redistributing the late payment fund
- Recovering the administration costs of the RO from the buy-out fund
- Publishing an annual report on the operation of and compliance with the requirements of the Orders

1.10. Further information about the RO scheme is available in the associated RO documents (see page 2).

2. Eligibility for the RO from 1 April 2016

Chapter summary

Explains the impact of the proposed closure of the scheme to onshore wind generating capacity. Also covers the scenarios in which new onshore wind generating stations may or may not be eligible for the RO, and the scenarios in which RO accredited onshore wind generating stations may add additional extra capacity under the RO, including how 'excluded capacity' is treated.

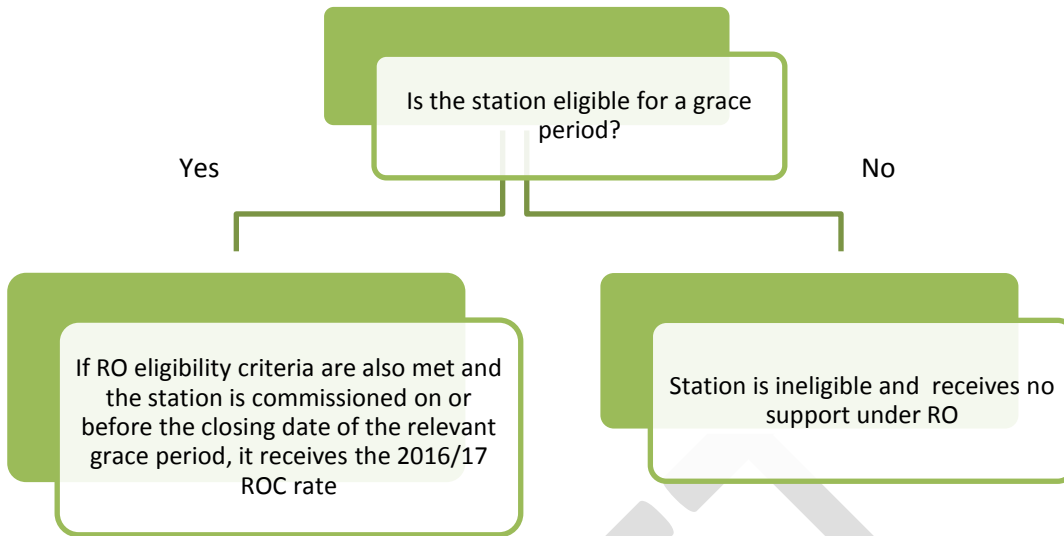
- 2.1. Subject to the proposed closure coming into effect, from 1 April 2016 the RO will close to onshore wind stations. An onshore wind station is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as 'a generating station that: (a) generates electricity from wind, and (b) is situated in England, Wales or Scotland, but not in waters in or adjacent to England, Wales or Scotland up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea.'
- 2.2. From 1 April 2016:
 - any new onshore wind generating station will be unable to apply for accreditation, either full or preliminary, under the RO, and
 - existing onshore wind stations cannot add additional capacity under the RO.
- 2.3. There are exceptions to these rules for capacity that is eligible for one of the grace periods available (see chapter 3 for details of what makes a station eligible for these grace periods).
- 2.4. An existing RO station may also wish to add capacity to a station in the knowledge that this capacity will not gain support under the RO. Such capacity is called 'excluded capacity' and must be declared to Ofgem. This is explained further in this chapter.

Onshore wind generating station scenarios

New onshore wind generating stations

- 2.5. Figure 2 shows how we will handle applications from new onshore wind generating stations from 1 April 2016 until 31 December 2018. Any new onshore wind station that applies will only be accredited if:
 - it is eligible for a grace period,
 - it meets the RO eligibility criteria,
 - it commissioned before the end of the appropriate grace period, and
 - an application in relation to the station was submitted before the end of the appropriate grace period.
- 2.6. Provided they meet the eligibility criteria and are commissioned by the end of the relevant grace period, they will gain accreditation under the RO.

Figure 2

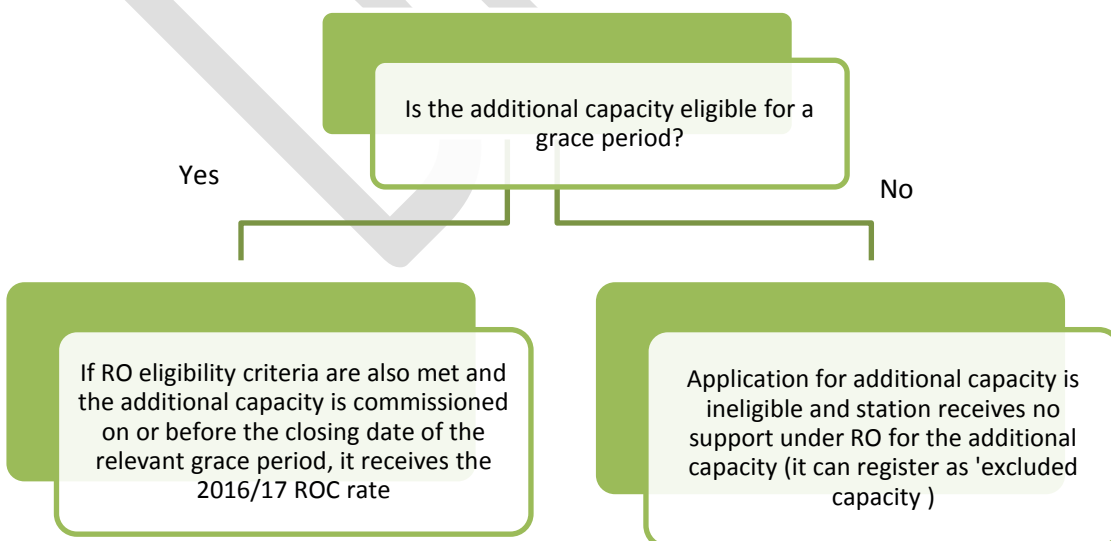


Adding additional capacity

2.7. Figure 3 shows how we will handle additional capacity being added to an onshore wind generating station from 1 April 2016 until 31 December 2018. Additional capacity added to a station will only be eligible for RO support if:

- it is eligible for a grace period,
- it meets the RO eligibility criteria, and
- it commissioned before the close of the appropriate grace period.

Figure 3



2.8. Where capacity is added to an RO station and the capacity is ineligible for support under the RO, this will be considered as 'excluded capacity'. See below for further details on adding excluded capacity to an RO station. For further information on adding additional capacity under the RO, refer to our [RO: Guidance for generators](#).

RO-accredited stations with "excluded capacity"

2.9. The proposed closure of the RO to onshore wind may create a scenario where a station has some capacity accredited under the RO, ie its original capacity, and some that is added later and is not supported under the RO, ie it has not been registered as additional capacity. This unsupported capacity is called 'excluded capacity'.

2.10. You will need to ensure that the excluded capacity is separate from the RO capacity. This is so the correct level of support is issued for the capacity that the scheme supports. For a station with excluded capacity (including dual scheme facilities³), we would expect the following arrangements to be in place to ensure the RO capacity and the excluded capacity are separate.

Output electricity

2.11. The RO output⁴ electricity is metered separately, or the excluded capacity output is metered separately, and deducted from the electricity metered for the whole generating station.

Input electricity

2.12. The RO input electricity can be calculated either:

- pro rata on the basis of the total installed capacity (TIC)⁵, ie by comparing the RO and excluded capacities,
- separate metering of the input electricity used for the excluded capacity, or
- separate metering of the input electricity used for the RO capacity.

Information relating to excluded capacity

2.13. **If you want to add excluded capacity, you should tell Ofgem as early as possible.** You will need to update the plant description (question QE100 on the register) to confirm the TIC of the excluded capacity and its expected commissioning date. You should also provide an updated schematic diagram (question QI100 on the register) showing the entire capacity of the generating station (ie the RO capacity and the excluded capacity) including the separate metering arrangements. On this diagram you should highlight the RO capacity and the excluded capacity so they can be easily distinguished.

³ A station that has some capacity under the RO and some under the CfD.

⁴ Article 27 of the ROO 2015, Article 23A of the ROS.

⁵ As defined by Article 2 of the Orders, "total installed capacity" in relation to a generating station, means the maximum capacity at which the station could be operated for a sustained period without causing damage to it (assuming the source of power used by it to generate electricity was available to it without interruption).

- 2.14. It is the operator's responsibility to ensure they are familiar with the metering arrangements and eligibility conditions under any scheme that they intend to seek support under.
- 2.15. Additional guidance on adding excluded capacity and on becoming a dual scheme facility is in [RO: Guidance on the transition period and closure of the RO](#). This includes information on RO-accredited stations with excluded capacity that want to claim Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) certificates on both their RO capacity and their excluded capacity. For information on applying for support under the CFD scheme for the excluded capacity, refer to National Grid's guidance.

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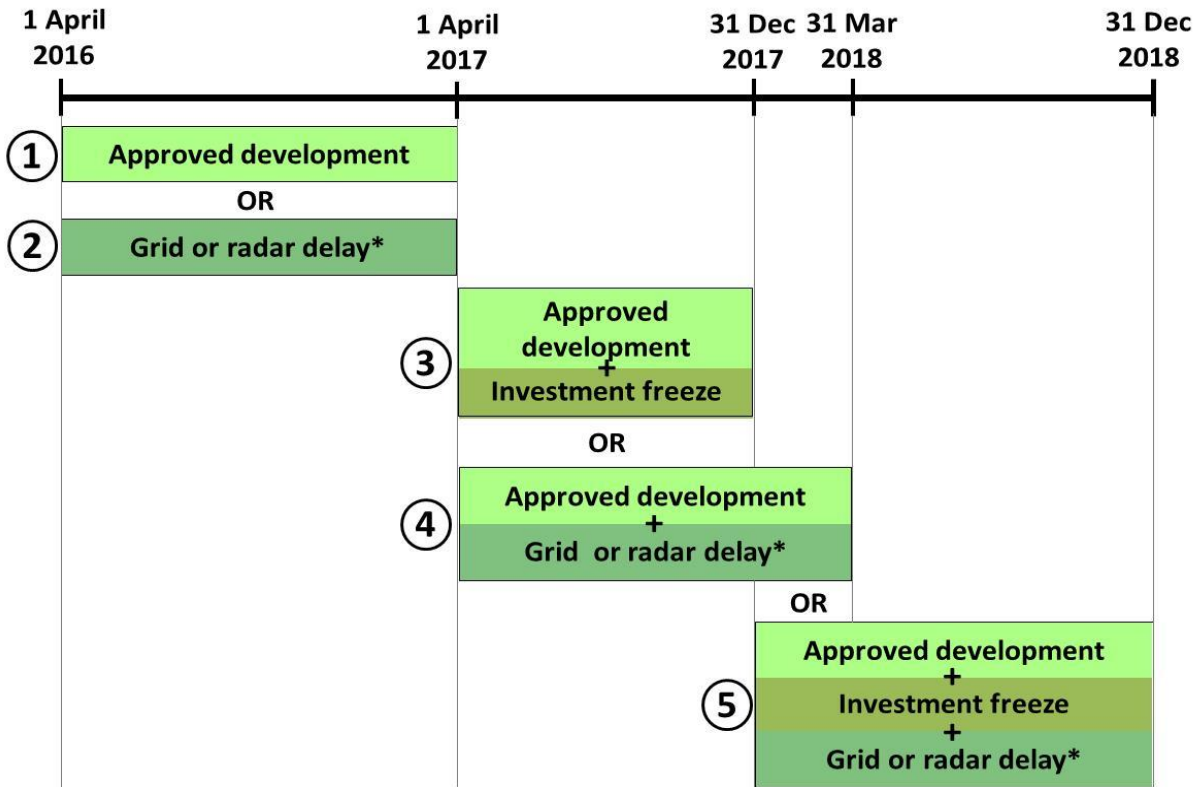
3. Eligibility for grace periods

Chapter summary

Explains the five grace periods that will be available for onshore wind generating capacity in the event of closure. If eligible for a grace period, the operator can apply for accreditation after 31 March 2016, when the scheme closes to all other new or additional onshore wind capacity. We also describe the eligibility requirements and the evidence we would expect in support of an application.

- 3.1. The Energy Bill 2016 intends to allow operators of onshore wind stations in certain situations to apply for accreditation under the Renewables Obligation scheme after it has closed to onshore wind generating capacity. To do so, you will need to apply for one of the available grace periods when you apply for accreditation from 1 April 2016 onwards. The grace period you are able to apply for will vary depending on whether you can evidence that you meet one or more of the conditions set out in the Energy Bill 2016. Subject to the Energy Bill 2016 as tabled 19 January 2016 being adopted, we will not accept any applications from operators of new onshore wind generating stations after 31 December 2018. The grace periods also cover operators applying for support for additional capacity.
- 3.2. A decision on eligibility for both accreditation and the grace period will be taken at the same time. You will have to be eligible for both. We will not assess your eligibility for a grace period before we receive an application for full accreditation. You must have commissioned by the end of your relevant grace period in order to be accredited under the scheme. The process for making the accreditation application, providing grace period evidence and commissioning evidence, is outlined in chapter 4. The evidence we would expect in order for you to meet the conditions is outlined below.
- 3.3. There are five grace periods that you may apply for. If you apply for accreditation in the first year after closure (1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017), there are two grace periods available, each requiring you to meet one of the conditions set out in the Energy Bill 2016.
- 3.4. However, if you wish to apply for accreditation from 1 April 2017 you will have to meet at least two conditions. In order to qualify for any grace period after this date, evidence that the station is eligible for the 'approved development' condition will also be required alongside the 'grid or radar delay' condition and/or the 'investment freezing condition'.
- 3.5. This means that, in general terms, the later you commission within the whole onshore wind grace period window, the more conditions you will have to meet to be eligible under the scheme.
- 3.6. If applying for any of the grace periods which require you to meet the grid or radar delay condition, you should be aware of the importance of the 'primary date'. The primary date is the relevant cut off date by which a station would have commissioned, but for grid and/or radar delays outside the developer's control, and the date is different depending on when you apply for accreditation. Further details on the primary date are provided in paragraph 3.17.

Figure 4: Proposed grace periods to be available and the conditions that must be met for a station to be eligible for accreditation under the RO grace periods from 1 April 2016.



*Depending on when the grid or radar delay condition is being applied for, the cut off date by which a station would have commissioned but for a grid or delay outside the developer’s control (the ‘primary date’ – see 3.17 for details) will differ.

N.B. Evidence should not be submitted until the time you apply for accreditation - see chapter 4.

Grace periods

Grace periods available from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

Approved development: A grace period for generating stations that meet the ‘approved development’ condition. These are generating stations that had planning permission, grid connection and land rights in place in line with the condition, in most cases this means by 18 June 2015.

OR

- **Grid or radar delay:** A grace period for generating stations that meet the ‘grid or radar delay’ condition. These are generating stations that would have commissioned by 31 March 2016 (the ‘primary date’), but have been subject to grid and/or radar connection delays that were not due to a breach by a developer.

Grace period available from 1 April 2017 to 31 December 2017

'Approved development' AND 'investment freezing': A grace period for stations that meet **both** the **'approved development'** condition and the **'investment freezing'** condition. These are generating stations that would have commissioned before 1 April 2017, but were unable to secure required finance during the passage of the bill through Parliament due to parliamentary uncertainty.

Grace period available from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

'Approved development' AND 'grid or radar delay': A grace period for stations that meet both the 'approved development' condition and the 'grid or radar delay' grace period. These are generating stations that would have commissioned by 31 March 2017 (the 'primary date'), but have been subject to grid and/or radar connection delays that were not due to a breach by a developer.

Grace period available from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018

'Approved development' AND 'investment freezing' AND 'grid or radar delay': A grace period for generating stations that meet the 'approved development' condition, and the 'investment freezing' condition, and the 'grid or radar delay' condition. These are generating stations that would have commissioned by 31 March 2017, but:

- were unable to secure required finance during the passage of the bill through Parliament due to parliamentary uncertainty, and
- were then unable to commission by 31 December 2017 (the 'primary date') because of grid or radar connection delays that were not due to a breach by a developer.

3.7. The eligibility criteria for each grace period and the evidence we would expect to see in support of a grace period application are outlined in the following sections. Applicants should also ensure that they understand the legislation that sets out the evidence requirements.

Meeting the 'approved development' condition

3.8. The following evidence and/or declarations must accompany an application for a grace period which requires the approved development condition to be met. You must provide:

- for planning permission: documents in relation to one of options A – D, and
- for grid works offer and acceptance: documents in relation to either option A or B, and
- for land rights: the required declaration.

Table 1: 'Approved development' condition evidence

Type of evidence	Evidence option	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
Planning permission ⁶	A	<p>(i) evidence that planning permission for the station or additional capacity was granted on or before 18 June 2015, and</p> <p>(ii) any conditions as to the time period within which the development to which the permission relates must be begun have not been breached</p>	<p>Decision notice from the relevant planning authority confirming planning permission has been granted for the station, or capacity in question, dated on or before 18 June 2015</p> <p>AND</p> <p>If the planning permission required you to start development within a particular time period, and you did not commission within that time period, then we will require confirmation from the relevant planning authority that time period conditions were not breached.</p>
	B	<p>(i) evidence that planning permission for the station or additional capacity was refused on or before 18 June 2015, but granted after that date following an appeal or judicial review, and</p> <p>(ii) any conditions as to the time period within which the development to which the permission relates must be begun have not been breached</p>	<p>The decision letter from the relevant planning authority (eg the Planning Inspectorate or the Scottish Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals) confirming the success of the appeal. This letter will contain the original date of planning permission refusal, and identify the station in question and the technology and location.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>If the planning permission required you to start development within a particular time period, and you</p>

⁶ 'Planning permission' is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as "(a) consent under section 36 of this Act, (b) 1990 Act permission, (c) 1997 Act permission, or (d) development consent under the Planning Act 2008".

Type of evidence	Evidence option	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
			did not commission within that time period, then we will require confirmation from the relevant planning authority that time period conditions were not breached.
	C	<p>(i) evidence that an application for 1990 Act permission or 1997 Act permission was made on or before 18 June 2015 for the station or additional capacity,</p> <p>(ii) the period allowed under section 78(2) of the 1990 Act or (as the case may be) section 47(2) of the 1997 Act ended on or before 18 June 2015 without any of the things mentioned in section 78(2)(a) to (b) of the 1990 Act or section 47(2)(a) to (c) of the 1997 Act being done in respect of the application,</p> <p>(iii) the application was not referred to the Secretary of State, Welsh Ministers or Scottish Ministers in accordance with directions given under section 77 of the 1990 Act or section 46 of the 1997 Act,</p> <p>(iv) 1990 Act permission or 1997 Act permission was granted after 18 June 2015 following an appeal, and</p> <p>(v) any conditions as to the time period within which the development to which the permission relates must be begun have not been breached</p>	<p>For (i), (ii) and (iv): the decision notice from the relevant planning authority (such as the Planning Inspectorate or Scottish ministers) confirming the success of the appeal. This letter will identify the station in question and the technology and location, and will contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the date of original planning application, and - the reason the appeal was made. <p>AND</p> <p>For (iii): a letter from the Secretary of State, Welsh Minister or Scottish Minister, confirming that the application was not referred to them.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>For (v): If the planning permission required you to start development within a particular time period, and you did not commission within that time period, then we will require confirmation from the relevant planning authority that time period conditions were not breached.</p>

Type of evidence	Evidence option	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
	D	A declaration by the operator of the station that, to the best of the operator's knowledge and belief, planning permission is not required for the station or additional capacity	We would expect planning permission to be required, but if not send us: a document signed by the operator of the station (ie, the super-user of the account on the register) stating that to the best of their knowledge and belief planning permission is not required for the station.
Grid works offer and acceptance	A	A copy of an offer from a licensed network operator ⁷ made on or before 18 June 2015 to carry out grid works in relation to the station or additional capacity, and evidence that the offer was accepted on or before that date (whether or not the acceptance was subject to any conditions or other terms).	A copy of the offer to carry out grid works from a licensed network operator that clearly states the location of the grid works and the connection capacity. It must be evident that the offer was made on or before 18 June 2015. We would expect the offer to cover the non-contestable aspects of any grid works required at a minimum. AND one of the following: a. a letter from a licensed network operator confirming that the operator of the station accepted the grid works offer on or before 18 June 2015, or b. a signed acceptance form from the operator of the station on or before 18 June 2015.
	B	A declaration by the operator of the station that, to the best of the operator's knowledge and belief, no grid works were	We anticipate that grid works would usually have been required. However, if not, send us a document signed by the

⁷ 'Licensed network operator' is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as 'a distribution license holder or a transmission license holder'.

Type of evidence	Evidence option	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
		required to be carried out by a licensed network operator in order to enable the station to be commissioned or the additional capacity to form part of the station.	operator of the station (ie, the super-user of the account on the register) stating that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, no grid works were required to be carried out by a licensed network operator in order to enable the station to be commissioned.
Land rights declaration	N/A	<p>A declaration by the operator of the station that, to the best of the operator's knowledge and belief, as at 18 June 2015 a relevant developer⁸ of the station or additional capacity (or a person⁹ connected, within the meaning of section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010, with a relevant developer of the station or additional capacity)—</p> <p>(i) was an owner or lessee of the land on which the station or additional capacity is situated,</p> <p>(ii) had entered into an agreement to purchase or lease the land on which the station or additional capacity is situated,</p> <p>(iii) had an option to purchase or to lease the land on which the station or additional capacity is situated, or</p> <p>(iv) was a party to an exclusivity agreement¹⁰ in relation to the land on which the station or additional capacity is situated</p>	A declaration, signed by the operator, that follows template 1 in Appendix 3.

3.9. Projects may need off-site supporting infrastructure, which may also require planning permission. However, we will require evidence of planning permission for the site where the electricity generating equipment will be.

⁸ See paragraph 3.10 for definition of 'relevant developer'.

⁹ A person could include a registered director of a limited company (ie a director of the company who is registered as such at Companies House) or the company secretary.

¹⁰ 'Exclusivity agreement' is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as 'in relation land, means an agreement by the owner or a lessee of the land not to permit any person (other than the persons identified in the agreement) to construct an onshore wind generating station on the land'.

'Relevant developer'

- 3.10. 'Relevant developer' in relation to an onshore wind generating station or additional capacity, is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as 'a person who:
- a) applied for planning permission for the station or additional capacity,
 - b) arranged for grid works to be carried out in relation to the station or additional capacity,
 - c) arranged for the construction of any part of the station or additional capacity,
 - d) constructed any part of the station or additional capacity, or
 - e) operates, or proposes to operate, the station'.

Variations to the required evidence

- 3.11. We are aware that variations may be made to a planning permission or grid connection arrangements as a project progresses. Should such variations have happened after planning consent was granted in accordance with the requirements of the Energy Bill 2016, we will not take these into account for the purposes of our grace period assessment. However, if, the relevant evidence was not in place in accordance with the conditions set out in the legislation, (eg if, on assessment, it is clear to us that the subject of the application does not relate to the station covered by the grace period evidence), a grace period will not be granted.

The parties that evidence was originally issued to

- 3.12. The Energy Bill 2016 does not specify that the planning permission must have been issued to, or the grid connection offer made to, the person applying for the grace period. Therefore, the party the planning permission was issued to, or the grid connection was made to, will not form part of our grace period assessment.

Grid connection evidence

- 3.13. We recognise that additional consents, easements and wayleaves will be required for grid connections. However, for this grace period, we don't need evidence of these.

Meeting the 'grid or radar delay' condition

- 3.14. The grace periods have been designed in order to provide an additional 12 month period for a generating station to accredit, if it would have been commissioned by the 'primary date (see below) but grid and/or radar delays that were not the fault of the generator are experienced.
- 3.15. The 'grid or radar delay' condition applies to two distinct types of delays that may impact the ability of a generating station to commission. Both types of delay are entitled to the same grace periods, but require distinct sets of evidence.
- 3.16. Grid delay evidence that must be provided is set out in Table 2, radar delay evidence required is explained in Table 3.

Primary date

3.17. As the grid or radar delay condition is a requirement of multiple grace periods that start at different times, the term 'primary date' in Table 2 and 3 below is used to describe the relevant cut off date by which a station would have commissioned, but for grid and/or radar delays outside the developer's control. The 'primary date' is the final date before the start of each grace period:

- 31 March 2016 for the grace period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017
- 31 March 2017 for the grace period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018
- 31 December 2017 for the grace period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018.

Table 2: Grid delay evidence for the 'grid or radar delay' condition

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
Grid works agreement	Evidence of an agreement with a network operator ("the relevant network operator") to carry out grid works in relation to the station ("the relevant grid works").	<p>A copy of the offer to carry out grid works from a network operator that clearly states the location of the grid works and the connection capacity. We would expect the offer to cover the non-contestable aspects of any grid works required at a minimum.</p> <p>AND one of the following:</p> <p>a. A letter from the network operator confirming that the operator of the station accepted the grid works offer on or before the primary date</p> <p>or</p> <p>b. a signed acceptance form, signed by the operator of the station, on or before the primary date.</p>
Estimated date of completion for grid works	A copy of a document written by, or on behalf of, the relevant network operator which estimated or set a date for completion of the relevant grid works ("the planned grid works completion date") which was no later than the primary date.	A document, eg a letter or email, from the relevant network operator which estimates or sets a "planned grid works completion date" (see across) which is no later than the primary date. The location of the grid works and connection capacity should be clearly stated. If a document refers to a grid connection needing to be completed within a specific number of months it must be clear when this period of time starts.

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
Confirmation of delay of grid works	<p>A letter from the relevant network operator confirming (whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms) that—</p> <p>(i) the relevant grid works were completed after the planned grid works completion date, and</p> <p>(ii) in the relevant network operator’s opinion, the failure to complete the relevant grid works on or before the planned grid works completion date was not due to any breach by a generating station developer of any agreement with the relevant network operator.</p>	A letter or email from the network operator to the operator of the station explicitly confirming points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.
Operator declaration on delayed grid works	A declaration by the operator that, to the best of the operator’s knowledge and belief, the station would have been commissioned, or the additional capacity would have formed part of the station, on or before the primary date if the relevant grid works had been completed on or before the planned grid works completion date.	A declaration signed by the operator of the generating station that follows template 2 in Appendix 3.

Table 3: Radar delay evidence for ‘grid or radar delay’ condition

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
Radar works agreement	Evidence of an agreement between a generating station developer and a person who is	A copy of a document (or documents) that show an agreement between a generating station developer and a person

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
	not a generating station developer ('the radar works agreement') for the carrying out of radar works ('the relevant radar works')	<p>who is not a generating station developer for radar works¹¹ to be carried out.</p> <p>We would expect to clearly be able to see that this agreement was for radar works required in relation to the generating station the grace period application is for and was entered into before the primary date. For example, you could demonstrate this by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. evidence of an offer to carry out the radar works that clearly states the location of the radar works and the type of radar works to be carried out, <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. a letter from a person who is not a generating station developer confirming that the operator of the station accepted the radar works offer on or before the primary date.
Estimated date of completion for radar works	A copy of a document written by, or on behalf of, a party to the radar works agreement (other than a generating station developer) which estimated or set a date for completion of the relevant radar works ("the planned radar works completion date") which was no later than the primary date.	A document, eg a letter or email, from a party to the radar works agreement (other than a generating station developer) which estimates or sets a "planned radar works completion date" (see across) which is no later than the primary date. The document should clearly identify the location of the radar works and the type of radar works to be carried out. If a document refers to radar works needing to be completed within a specific number of months it must be clear when this period of time starts.
Confirmation of delay of radar works	A letter from a party to the radar works agreement (other than a generating station developer) confirming (whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or	A letter or email from a party to the radar works agreement (other than a generating station developer) to the operator of the station which explicitly confirms points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.

¹¹ 'Radar works' is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as "the construction of a radar station, the installation of radar equipment, the carrying out of modifications to a radar station or radar equipment, or the testing of a radar station or radar equipment".

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
	<p>other terms) that—</p> <p>(i) the relevant radar works were completed after the planned radar works completion date, and</p> <p>(ii) in that party’s opinion, the failure to complete the relevant radar works on or before the planned radar works completion date was not due to any breach of the radar works agreement by a generating station developer</p>	
Operator declaration on delayed radar works	<p>A declaration by the operator that, to the best of the operator’s knowledge and belief, the station would have been commissioned, or the additional capacity would have formed part of the station, on or before the primary date if the relevant radar works had been completed on or before the planned radar works completion date.</p>	<p>A declaration signed by the operator of the generating station that follows template 2 in Appendix 3.</p>

Grid and radar delay

3.18. It is possible that your project may experience both grid and radar delays. You can meet the ‘grid or radar delay’ condition by only providing evidence in relation to one delay. However, the legislation sets out that you could provide with your application evidence to show that both had occurred (see tables above) and a declaration stating that the station was unable to commission by the primary date due to delays to both the planned radar works and planned grid works.

Variations to the required evidence

3.19. Grid connection/radar works offers and agreements may vary as a project progresses. In these cases, we will not take these changes into account for our grace period assessment. But we won’t grant a grace period if, when we are assessing the application for accreditation, it is clear to us that the grid offer/radar works evidence submitted does not relate to the station covered by the application.

3.20. For example, if an original planned grid or radar works completion date was given which was before 31 March 2016, but the network operator subsequently modified this to after 31 March 2016, we would not take this variation into account - our assessment would be based on the original offer and agreement. But we would not grant a grace period if it

was clear to us that the original offer or agreement did not relate to the station that an accreditation application was made for.

3.21. We would expect any new connection offer to refer to the original “planned grid/radar works completion date” as being on or before the primary date.

The parties that evidence was originally issued to

3.22. The Energy Bill 2016 does not specify that the grid connection/radar works offer or agreement must have been made to the person applying for the grace period. Therefore, the party to which the grid connection/radar works offer was made will not form part of our grace period assessment.

Grid connection and radar works evidence

3.23. We recognise that additional consents, easements and wayleaves may be required for grid connections and radar works. However, for this grace period, we will not ask for evidence of these.

Meeting the ‘investment freezing’ condition

3.24. Table 4 sets out the documents that must accompany an application for a grace period which requires the ‘investment freezing’ condition to be met:

Table 4: ‘Investment freezing’ condition evidence

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
Declaration	<p>A declaration by the operator of the station that to the best of the operator’s knowledge and belief, as at the Royal Assent date¹²-</p> <p>(i) the relevant developer required funding from a recognised lender before the station could be commissioned or additional capacity could form part of the station,</p> <p>(ii) the recognised lender was not prepared to provide that funding until enactment of the Energy Act 2016, because of uncertainty over whether the Act would be enacted or its wording if enacted, and</p>	<p>A declaration signed by the operator of the generating station that follows template 3 in Appendix 3.</p>

¹² The date on which the Energy Act 2016 in passed.

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in Energy Bill 2016)	What evidence could you provide?
	(iii) the station would have been commissioned, or the additional capacity would have formed part of the station, on or before 31 March 2017 if the funding had been provided before the Royal Assent date.	
Investment freeze letter	A letter or other document, dated on or before the date which is 28 days after the Royal Assent date, from a recognised lender confirming (whether or not the confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms) that the lender was not prepared to provide funding in respect of the station or additional capacity until enactment of the Energy Act 2016, because of uncertainty over whether the Act would be enacted or its wording if enacted.	A letter from the recognised lender* to the operator of the station dated on or before the date which is 28 days after the Royal Assent date , explicitly stating the confirmation required by the legislation (see left-hand column). *The letter should be signed by the Directors (or equivalent) of the recognised lender and be on headed paper, or otherwise recognisable as from that recognised lender.

'Recognised lender'

3.25. 'Recognised lender' is expected to be defined in the Energy Act 2016 as a provider of debt finance which has been issued with an investment grade credit rating¹³ by a registered credit rating agency¹⁴.

¹³ Expected to be defined as 'a credit rating commonly understood by registered credit rating agencies to be an investment grade' in the Energy Act 2016

¹⁴ Expected to be defined as 'a credit rating agency registered in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1060/3009 of the European Parliament and the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies', in the Energy Act 2016.

4. Submitting an application on or after 1 April 2016

Chapter summary

Explains the process for operators of onshore wind generating stations submitting an application for accreditation and a grace period from 1 April 2016 onwards.

- 4.1. If the proposed changes in the Energy Bill 2016 come into effect, operators of onshore wind generating stations that apply under the RO for accreditation from 1 April 2016 until 31 December 2018 will be asked to provide evidence that they are eligible for a grace period as part of their application for accreditation. Any operator that does not apply for a grace period will not be able to proceed with their application. The complete application must be received by Ofgem on or before the close of the relevant grace period. Refer to Appendix 2 for the checklist of evidence that should be provided and that will constitute a complete application.
- 4.2. To be successful in applying for accreditation, the operator must:
 - Apply for accreditation: You must submit an RO accreditation application to us on or before the final date of the relevant grace period, or amend the existing application if adding additional capacity, and meet the RO eligibility criteria. (You can apply up to two months before the date the generating station is to be commissioned).
 - Submit grace period evidence to us by email, as part of your RO accreditation application, on or before the final date of the relevant grace period, and meet all the grace period eligibility conditions. (We will request this if it has not been provided).
 - Commission the generating station (or the additional capacity) on or before the final date of the relevant grace period and provide commissioning evidence.
- 4.3. The next sections explain these steps in more detail.
- 4.4. Please note, generators who add capacity to an RO-accredited station not eligible for a grace period, ie excluded capacity, should refer to chapter 2

Applying for accreditation and a grace period

Applying for accreditation

- 4.5. In applying for accreditation you should be familiar with the RO eligibility criteria by referring to the Orders and the 'RO: Guidance for generators', chapter 3 in particular.
- 4.6. Before applying for accreditation the operator must register an account for their organisation (or themselves as applicable). Register at: <https://renewablesandchp.ofgem.gov.uk/>
- 4.7. Our [Renewables and CHP Register – System User Guide](#) has a step-by-step guide to registering an account, applying for accreditation and managing the account once the generating station has been accredited.

- 4.8. When completing the application form, applicants who select onshore wind as their technology will be asked whether they are applying for a grace period. If an applicant selects 'no' for this question, they will not be able to progress with their application.
- 4.9. You will need to send us your grace period evidence by email (see below). Depending on the circumstances, if your online declarations or other information in support of your application are provided after the closing date of the relevant grace period, this will mean the application cannot be processed and the station cannot be accredited.
- 4.10. The application is not considered to be submitted if it is not complete. Once your accreditation application has been submitted, you will receive an email confirming the date it was received. However, it should be noted that applications are not fully submitted until the SuperUser of the account agrees the relevant electronic declarations so you need to **make sure the declarations are signed on or before the closing date of the relevant grace period.**
- 4.11. If email notifications are set up correctly, you will receive an automated email reminding you to submit your declarations.

Submitting grace period evidence

- 4.12. **Send grace period evidence to:** renewable@ofgem.gov.uk stating the station name and which grace period (or grace periods) are being applied for in the subject line.
- 4.13. All the required evidence and declarations for the grace period you are applying for, as listed in the previous chapter, should be attached to the email and listed in the body of the email. In addition, the email should confirm the name of the generating station, the address of the station and the TIC. Figure 4 (below) shows an example email template. Also, there is a checklist for applying for accreditation and a grace period in Appendix 2.
- 4.14. **This evidence must be received by us on or before the closing date of the relevant grace period.** Your application will not be processed, until this evidence has been supplied. Once you have submitted your grace period evidence, you will receive a separate email also confirming the date it was received.
- 4.15. Our system will reject emails larger than 20MB. If you are concerned about the size of your files, or you receive a notification that it has been rejected, please contact us. We have a file-sharing service which can be used to transfer large files.
- 4.16. Grace period evidence may also be submitted by post. It should be clearly labelled, include all the required information and sent to:

Renewable Electricity, ref: RO grace period, Ofgem, 9 Millbank, London, SW1P 3GE

Figure 4: Example email for submitting grace period evidence

From: Operator of an onshore wind generating station
Sent: 01 April 2016 09:44
To: Renewable@ofgem.gov.uk
Subject: Application for the onshore wind 'approved development' grace period
 [station name]

Dear Ofgem Renewable Team,

- 1.1. I have [delete as appropriate]: submitted an application for accreditation for an onshore wind generating station via the register / amended an existing accreditation via the register to add capacity to an existing onshore wind generating station.

Generating station name: [insert name]
 Generating station address: [insert address]
 Total Installed Capacity: [insert capacity] kW

I am applying for the 'approved development' grace period. The required evidence is attached:

1. The planning permission decision notice
2. The grid connection offer
3. The acceptance of the grid connection offer
4. My land rights declaration.

Commissioning evidence

- 4.17. Once a generating station has been commissioned, the operator needs to send us evidence of this via email to renewable@ofgem.gov.uk. For more detail, consult our [Essential Guide to Commissioning](#).

Processing the application for accreditation and a grace period

- 4.18. Applications for accreditation and the grace period evidence must be received by us by the end of the closing date (ie midnight) of the relevant grace period. Applications received after this date from an onshore wind station will not be accepted.
- 4.19. All supporting evidence will be reviewed at the same time. We will initially check the information provided and may ask for more clarification or information. The application will then undergo an eligibility assessment, with queries being raised as required. Throughout the first two stages of the checking process, we will contact applicants via the register, email and phone if we have queries.
- 4.20. **It is important you set up email notifications or check the system and your email inbox regularly** so you can respond to queries quickly. If you need to edit your application please make sure you click through to the end of the application to submit it. Note that a review screen will appear at the end of the application – you must scroll to the bottom of this and re-submit your application.

- 4.21. Once the checks above are complete, the application will go to a member of staff with authority to do a final check and, if appropriate, grant accreditation and the grace period. We will grant accreditation only if we are satisfied that all statutory requirements are met. This means the RO eligibility criteria, the grace period conditions and the station commissioning on or before the end date of the relevant grace period.
- 4.22. We anticipate receiving a lot of accreditation and grace period applications. If decisions are to be made promptly, it is essential that applicants familiarise themselves with the legislation and the guidance before applying. Applicants should ensure that all necessary information has been provided and that they respond to our queries promptly. These queries will be raised by email, and on the register. Incomplete or unclear applications and evidence will slow down the decision-making process.
- 4.23. To aid this process further, Appendix 1 has some tips on how to complete certain aspects of the application form. Appendix 2 has a checklist of the tasks that will need to be completed in applying for accreditation and the information to be submitted in applying for a grace period.

Accreditation under the RO

- 4.24. To be issued with ROCs, a generating station must be accredited under the RO as being capable of generating electricity from eligible renewable sources. The generating station must also meet all other RO eligibility criteria. When accreditation is granted, it will be effective from the later of the following dates:
- The date the application is submitted to us via the register
 - The date the generating station is commissioned
- 4.25. The Orders¹⁵ explain how we should grant and withdraw accreditation. They also detail when we may attach and amend conditions to any preliminary accreditation or accreditation. For more information on the scheme's eligibility requirements see 'RO: Guidance for generators'.

Audit

- 4.26. We regularly audit accredited generating stations to guard against fraud and error. If an operator applied for one of the five available grace periods, and the station is subsequently audited, the grace period evidence and declarations will be reviewed alongside the information provided in support of the accreditation application. Our auditors will pay particular attention to evidence provided in support of the commissioning date and other dates relevant to the grace period conditions.
- 4.27. We can withdraw accreditation and revoke or permanently withhold ROCs in certain circumstances, including if we later find that information provided to us was incorrect. There is more information in chapter 3 of 'RO: Guidance for generators'.

¹⁵ Article 89 of the RO Order 2015, article 58ZZA of the ROS

Appendix 1: Application tips

There are some questions in the application form which people often answer incorrectly. We have put together tips and specific examples to illustrate points to help you get your application right first time. Not all questions are covered in this guide. This is not a definitive legal guide and is not a substitute for getting your own independent legal or technical advice. For more detailed information, we encourage you to read the [RO: Guidance for generators](#).

QA100: Name for the generating station. Use the same name here as in any correspondence. Think carefully about the name you choose as once the name has been entered it cannot be amended.

QA201: Commissioning date. Refer to our 'Essential Guide to Commissioning' for details of how to work out your commissioning date and what evidence we expect to see in support of this.

QA301: Total Installed Capacity (TIC). Refer to the definition of TIC in the 'RO: Guidance for generators'. To confirm the TIC you will need to provide details of the number and rating of each type of solar panel you have.

QA302: Declared Net Capacity (DNC). Refer to the definition of DNC in the 'RO: Guidance for generators'. To confirm the DNC you will need to provide details of the inverters and/or any other internally-used electricity.

QB201: Address. The address of the station should be for the land on which the turbine(s) are situated.

QB206 and QB300: Postcode and Ordnance Survey (OS) grid reference. The OS grid reference should match the location of the postcode. Please use the link in the question text to convert your postcode into an OS grid reference and double check to make sure they are the same, correct, location.

QC237: Capacity details. The capacity details must match the values given QA201, QA301 and QA401.

QC251: Grace period. The system will ask if you are applying for a grace period if you have selected onshore wind as the technology. If you select 'no' you will see a terminating message and you will only be able to go back and correct your previous answers. If you select 'yes' you will be able to complete and submit your application as normal.

QC239: Method of generating electricity. Answer 'onshore wind only'.

QC600 and QC700: REGO. If applying for REGO the selection is 'solar (REGO code=PV)'. For further details on the REGO scheme please see our website.

QE100: Plant description. Tell us the number and type of wind turbine and any associated equipment used at your generating station. For example, 4 x Senivon MM82 2.05MW wind turbine generators; 33kV sub-station and associated control equipment.

QF100, QF200, QF300, QF400: Claiming certificates. Please make it very clear about how you measure your electricity, and how this relates to your chosen method for claiming certificates. The method of claiming certificates and responses on the metering must match

the metering set up at the station. Definitions of input, export, gross output and net output electricity are provided in the 'RO: Guidance for generators'. As ROCs can only be claimed on the net output electricity, if this is not measured directly the metering arrangements must show how this can be calculated.

QF500-QF516: Export metering. The details of the metering must be provided in full. They also must match the details provided on the single line diagram. The meters used must be approved meters. Explanations of approved meters are in the 'RO: Guidance for generators'.

QG100 and QG200: Imported electricity and generated electricity used by the generation equipment. For onshore wind applications we expect the answer to these to be Yes. This means that you will need to provide the monthly data for imported electricity or electricity generated and used by the system, as ROCs can only be issued on your net output electricity.

QG120- QG129: Import metering. Provide the details of the metering in full. They also must match the details provided on the single line diagram. The meters used must be approved meters. Explanations of approved meters are provided in the 'RO: Guidance for generators'.

QH500: Connection capacity. The connection capacity should be for the amount agreed with the network operator. A correct connection capacity gives us another way to confirm the TIC and expected export.

QI100: Single line diagram. The single line diagram should be uploaded and include the points detailed in QI100:

- all generating equipment,
- all import and export connections,
- location of all metering and serial numbers,
- any standby generation, and
- the TIC breakdown of the generating station.

These details should also match the information given elsewhere in the application form.

Appendix 2: Application checklists

Table 5 is a checklist of the information that should be submitted for each type of generating station when applying for accreditation and a grace period.

Table 5: Application checklist evidence to be submitted to Ofgem

Evidence to be submitted	Grace Period(s)				
	1 April 2016-31 March 2017 Approved development condition only	1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017 Grid or radar delay condition only	1 April 2017-31 December 2017 Approved development and investment freeze conditions	1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018 Approved development and grid or radar delay condition	1 April 2018 - 31 December 2018 Approved Development and investment freezing and grid or radar delay
The completed accreditation application received by Ofgem on or before the end date of the relevant grace period.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Final planning permission document (or declaration)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Grid connection offer and acceptance (or declaration)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Land rights declaration	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Investment freeze letter	N	N	Y	N	Y

Evidence to be submitted	Grace Period(s)				
	1 April 2016-31 March 2017 Approved development condition only	1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017 Grid or radar delay condition only	1 April 2017-31 December 2017 Approved development and investment freeze conditions	1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018 Approved development and grid or radar delay condition	1 April 2018 - 31 December 2018 Approved Development and investment freezing and grid or radar delay
Investment freeze declaration	N	N	Y	N	Y
Estimated/set date for completion of grid works	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Confirmation of grid works delay	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Operator declaration in relation to grid or radar delay	N	Y	N	Y	Y

Appendix 3: Declaration templates

Template 1: Land rights declaration for the 'approved development' condition

A declaration confirming land use rights, as set out under **Section TBA of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**, must be submitted for a station to be assessed as meeting the approved development condition. Set out below is an example declaration form that can be printed, signed by the operator of the generating station and sent to Ofgem.

Declaration of land rights (example)

Generating Station name:

I confirm that,

- to the best of my knowledge and belief, as at 18 June 2015 a relevant developer of the station named above (or a person connected with a developer of the station within the meaning of section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010): (i) was an owner or lease of the land on which the station is situated, (ii) had entered into an agreement to lease the land on which the station is situated, (iii) had an option to purchase or to lease the land on which the station is situated; or (iv) had entered into an exclusivity agreement in relation to the land on which the station is situated [*delete as appropriate*], and
- I am the operator for the generating station stated in this declaration.

Signed

Full name

Job title

Date

This declaration is to be submitted once you have submitted your application for accreditation with the documents set out in **Section TBA of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**. Before making this declaration you should read the relevant legislation and take your own independent legal advice to ensure that the proposed generating station which is subject to this declaration qualifies.

Template 2: Grid or radar delay declaration for the 'grid or radar delay' condition

This is a declaration confirming that the generating station was ready to commission, and would have been commissioned before the relevant 'primary date' (31 March 2016/31 March 2017/31 December 2017), had the grid connection delay not occurred, as set out under **Section TBA of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**. It must be submitted with the relevant supporting documentation, for a station to be assessed as meeting the grid or radar delay condition. Set out below is an example declaration form that can be printed, signed by the applicant and sent to Ofgem.

Declaration of grid or radar delay (example)

Generating station name:

I confirm that,

- to the best of my knowledge and belief, the station named above would have been commissioned/the additional capacity at the station named above would have formed part of the station [*delete as appropriate*] on or before 31 March 2016/31 March 2017/31 December 2017 [*delete as appropriate*] if the relevant grid/radar [*delete as appropriate*] works had been completed on or before the planned grid works completion date, and
- I am the operator of the generating station stated in this declaration.

Signed

Full name

Job title

Date

This declaration is to be submitted once you have submitted your application for accreditation with the documents set out in **Section TBA of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**. Before making this declaration you should read the relevant legislation and take your own independent legal advice to ensure that the proposed generating station which is subject to this declaration qualifies.

Template 3: Frozen investment declaration for 'investment freezing' condition

This is a declaration confirming that the generating station was ready to commission, and would have been commissioned before the 31 March 2017, had the necessary funding not been suspended due to legislative uncertainty, as set out in **Section TBC of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**. It must be submitted with the relevant supporting documentation, for a station to be assessed as meeting the investment freezing condition. Set out below is an example declaration form that can be printed, signed by the applicant and sent to Ofgem.

Declaration of frozen investment (example)

Generating station name:

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that as at the Royal Assent date of the Energy Bill 2016:

- the station named above required funding from a recognised lender before it could be commissioned/additional capacity could form part of the station [**delete as appropriate**],
- the recognised lender in question was not prepared to provide that funding until enactment of the Energy Act 2016, because of uncertainty over whether the Act would be enacted or its wording if enacted, and
- the station would have been commissioned/the additional capacity would have formed part of the station, on or before 31 March 2017 if the funding had been provided before the Royal Assent date.

Signed

Full name

Job title

Date

This declaration is to be submitted once you have submitted your application for accreditation with the documents set out in **Section TBA of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)**. Before making this declaration you should read the relevant legislation and take your own independent legal advice to ensure that the proposed generating station which is subject to this declaration qualifies.