



Making a positive difference  
for energy consumers

FIT generators, licensed  
electricity suppliers and other  
interested parties

Email: [REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk)

Date: 19 December 2018

Dear Stakeholder,

**Publication of Ofgem's Draft Guidance – 'Feed-in Tariffs: Essential guide to closure of the scheme' and updates to existing guidance**

We are writing to inform you that today we published our draft guidance 'Feed-in Tariffs: Essential guide to closure of the scheme' for an 8-week comment period. This guidance is provided in annex 1 to this letter.

We have also updated and are seeking feedback on the following guidance documents:

- ['Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers'](#)
- ['Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations'](#)

**We invite stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft guidance. The closing date for providing comment is 13 February 2019. We are also holding events for suppliers and generators – see below for details.**

Why have we published this guidance?

This guidance clarifies how we propose to administer the closure of the FIT scheme as announced by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). On 18 December 2018, the Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 was laid before Parliament. The legislation comes into force on 1 February 2019.

Please note that our guidance documents may be updated further if the legislation that is made by Parliament differs from that which was laid on 18 December 2018.

**'Feed-in Tariffs: Essential guide to closure of the scheme'**

The 'Feed-in Tariffs: Essential guide to closure of the scheme' is a new document which covers our new administrative processes as a result of closure and the relevant deadlines for applications to be submitted. It also explains how generators with preliminary accreditation can apply for a grace period if they have experienced grid connection or radar works delays. This document is not intended to be a comprehensive guide to the FIT scheme. You can view this guidance in annex 1 to this letter.

**'Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers'**

The table below highlights the key changes made to the ['Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers'](#); these are the sections of the guidance document that we invite stakeholders to comment on. You can view this amended guidance [via this link](#).

<b>Changes made</b>	<b>Page and paragraph reference</b>
Explains the final deployment cap and what happens when it is breached.	pp.17 & 19, paragraphs 3.9 & 3.11
Overview of eligibility and scheme closure	p.22, paragraphs 4.1 – 4.5
Deadline for MCS applications (31 March 2020)	p.31, paragraph 3.69
Introduced EII exemption into market share calculation for levelisation	p.86, paragraphs 9.6 & 9.7
Explanation of how metered export and EII exemption will be included in levelisation from 1 April 2019.	pp.88-93, paragraphs 9.17, 9.23, 9.24, 9.31, 9.33, 9.41, 9.44, 9.53
Details of how to report EII excluded electricity	p.117, paragraphs A7.7 – A7.9

### **'Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations'**

The table below highlights the key changes made to the '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations](#)'; these are the sections of the guidance document that we invite stakeholders to comment on. You can view this amended guidance [via this link](#).

<b>Changes made</b>	<b>Page and paragraph reference</b>
Explains the final deployment cap and what happens when it is breached.	pp.10 & 11, paragraphs 2.4 & 2.6
Overview of eligibility and scheme closure	pp.14-15, paragraph 3.2
Summary of preliminary accreditation validity periods and grace periods.	p.37, paragraphs 4.5 & 4.6
Overview of how grace periods work (for installations with preliminary accreditation)	p.45, paragraphs 4.58 - 4.62

#### Input requested

The purpose of the comment period is to gain your feedback on the clarity of the new and updated guidance. When providing comment please consider the following questions:

- Question 1: Do you have any concerns relating to the proposed processes for administering the closure of the Feed-in Tariff scheme and the grace period as set out in these documents?
- Question 2: Are there any aspects or sections 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.

#### How to respond

**Responses should be sent to either:**  
[REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk), or

Renewable Electricity Policy Team  
Ofgem  
10 South Collonade,  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 4PU

## Stakeholder Events

We are holding a number of events during the comment period, where we will discuss the guidance. Details are:

- Licensee workshop: London on 14 January 2019
- Licensee webinar: 17 January 2019
- Generator workshop: London on 23 January 2019
- Generator webinar: 28 January 2019

If you would like to attend one of the licensee events, please sign up by email to RECompliance@ofgem.gov.uk by 21 December 2018. If you would like to attend one of the generators' events, please sign up by email to REDevelopment@ofgem.gov.uk by 18 January 2019. Due to limited space, attendance is limited to 1 person per organisation. Any additional attendees will be added to a waiting list and we will contact them if space becomes available. We will confirm all times and locations by email; if you have any further queries please get in touch.

Please be aware that this is not a consultation on the policy underpinning the Feed-in Tariffs scheme, but on the clarity of the guidance document. If you have queries about the policy, send them to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). You can find contact details at: [www.gov.uk/beis](http://www.gov.uk/beis).

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 comment period we will publish the final guidance documents.

Yours sincerely,

**Renewable Electricity Policy Team**

**Annex 1**

Draft Guidance

Feed-in Tariffs: Essential guide to closure of the scheme

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# Feed-in Tariffs (FIT)

[www.ofgem.gov.uk/fits](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/fits)

## **(Draft) Feed-in Tariffs: Essential Guide to Closure of the Scheme**

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## Overview

This document sets out the changes to procedures accompanying the closure of the Feed-in Tariffs (FIT) scheme from 1 April 2019. It provides information for licensed electricity suppliers and FIT generators or applicants on how we administer the FIT scheme during closure, including the available grace period.

This guidance is not intended to be a definitive technical or legal guide to the FIT scheme.

## Context

On 1 April 2010 the government introduced the FIT scheme. The scheme was aimed at encouraging the uptake of small scale renewable and low carbon technologies up to a Total Installed Capacity of 5MW in Great Britain (GB). The Order requires certain licensed electricity suppliers to pay eligible installations for the generation and export of renewable and low carbon electricity.

The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 was laid in Great Britain on 18 December 2018 to close the scheme to new generating capacity from 1 April 2019. Installations commissioned from 1 April 2019 may enter the scheme in their period of validity or if they meet grace period requirements. This document explains how we administer this and should be read in conjunction with the associated documents which have full details on the scheme.

The FIT scheme, introduced by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), is administered by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority), which is supported in its day-to-day functions by the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem, or 'us').

## Associated Documents

### Policy and legislation

- [The Feed-in Tariffs \(Closure, etc\) Order 2018](#)
- [The Feed-in Tariffs Order 2012](#) (as amended)
- [Government response to consultation on closure of the FIT scheme](#).

### Guidance

This guidance document is designed to be read alongside our main guidance documents:

- [Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers \(version 11\)](#)
- [Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Renewable Installations \(version 13\)](#)

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# 1. Introduction

## Summary of closure arrangements

- 1.1. On 18 December 2018, the government announced their decision to close the FIT scheme to new applicants from 1 April 2019.
- 1.2. No new applications made to the FIT scheme from 1 April 2019 will be accredited, subject to some limited exceptions. There are several ways for installations to still receive accreditation after this date, each of which is dealt with in more detail in Chapter 2:
  - Installations up to and including 50kW (Microgeneration certification scheme, MCS) that have an MCS certificate issue date on or before 31 March 2019 must apply on or before 31 March 2020.
  - Installations that apply for preliminary accreditation on or before 31 March 2019 can still receive and utilise the standard validity period within which to apply (for example 6 months for solar PV).
  - Community and school installations that apply for pre-registration on or before 31 March 2019 can still receive and utilise the standard validity period in which to apply.
  - ROO-FIT installations with preliminary accreditation that ends on or after 31 March 2019, whose applications have been delayed due to delays in grid or radar works beyond their control, can apply within a 12-month grace period after the end of their period of validity.
- 1.3. The closure of the scheme does not affect the payments received by installations already accredited under the scheme. These installations must continue to comply with the scheme requirements in order to receive payments.

## Scope of this guidance document

- 1.4. This guidance document provides a detailed overview of the administrative arrangements for the closure of the FIT scheme to new applicants. Its purpose is to clarify how suppliers can fulfil their obligations with respect to the FITs scheme, and how generators can gain accreditation for renewable installations before the various cut-off dates for applications.
- 1.5. Applications for full accreditation received on or before 31 March 2019 are unaffected by the closure of the FIT scheme and should follow the guidance on eligibility and the application process for these installations in our '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations](#)'. Applications for preliminary accreditation or pre-registration that convert to a full application on or after 1 April 2019 retain their usual validity periods – information on eligibility and tariff dates are in Chapter 3 of this document.
- 1.6. This guidance does not cover the changes to levelisation introduced by The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018. Information on these changes can be found in '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers](#)':

- Inclusion of metered export payment figures in the levelisation calculation.
- An exemption from paying the costs of the FIT scheme for energy intensive industries.

1.7. This document is designed to be a reference for changes to the way the scheme will be administered from 1 April 2019 as a result of the Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018. It is not a complete guide to all the administrative arrangements of the scheme. It should be read alongside our main guidance documents, which provide further detail.

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## 2. Eligibility for FITs

- 2.1. This chapter explains the deadlines for applications to the FIT scheme before and after 31 March 2019.

### MCS applications

- 2.2. Applicants using solar PV or wind with a declared net capacity (DNC) up to and including 50kW, or micro-combined heat and power (CHP) up to a total installed capacity (TIC) of 2kW, need to ensure they use Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS)-certified equipment installed by an MCS-certified installer.
- 2.3. These installations are required to commission and have an MCS certificate issue date on or before 31 March 2019, with the exception of pre-registered community installations (see below). They should then apply to a FIT licensee (electricity supplier) for accreditation.
- 2.4. Although they must commission on or before 31 March 2019, applications for MCS accreditation can be received up to and including 31 March 2020.
- 2.5. FIT licensees should continue to accredit installations from 1 April 2020 if there is space left in deployment caps, as long as the installations apply in time and meet the eligibility criteria.

### MCS community energy and school installations

- 2.6. For community energy and school installations applying for pre-registration, Ofgem must receive their application on or before 31 March 2019. School installations will then have 12 months from their pre-registration application date in which to apply for accreditation. Community installations will then have 12 months from their pre-registration application date in which to commission and then apply.

### ROOFIT applications

- 2.7. Installations with a DNC above 50kW, as well as all hydro and anaerobic digestion plants, must apply to Ofgem for ROOFIT accreditation. We provide information on eligibility for ROOFIT accreditation in '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations.](#)'
- 2.8. Generators applying for full ROOFIT accreditation must commission the installation and then we must receive their application on or before 31 March 2019.
- 2.9. For generators applying for preliminary accreditation, we must receive their application on or before 31 March 2019.
- 2.10. Installations with preliminary accreditation can still convert to full accreditation from 1 April 2019, as long as they commission and apply within their period of validity. Validity periods are six months for solar PV, one year for wind and anaerobic

digestion (AD), and two years for hydro. Community energy installations can benefit from a further extension of six-months to their validity period.

- 2.11. Installations with preliminary accreditation that ends on or after 31 March 2019 can benefit from a grace period of 12 months if they have experienced grid connection or radar works delays that were beyond their control (see chapter 3 for more details).

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### 3. Grace periods

3.1. This chapter explains which installations are eligible for grace periods, what evidence is required and how grace period applications should be made.

#### Eligibility for grace periods

- 3.2. Installations that have been granted preliminary accreditation, whose validity period ends on or after 31 March 2019, can benefit from grace periods. These are for installations that have been affected by delays in grid connection or radar works, but would otherwise have commissioned before the end of their relevant period of validity. Evidence for this must be submitted alongside an application to convert to full accreditation.
- 3.3. Installations must commission, provide grace period evidence and submit their application to convert to full accreditation under these grace periods within 12 months beginning on the day after the last day of the relevant validity period. Both types of delay, grid or radar, are entitled to the same grace period but require distinct sets of evidence.
- 3.4. Grid delay evidence required is explained in Table 1; radar delay evidence required is explained in Table 2.

**Table 1: Evidence for the grid delay grace period**

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
<b>Grid works agreement</b>	Evidence of an agreement with a transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder ("the relevant network operator") for the making of a grid connection in respect of the eligible installation ("the relevant grid works").	A copy of the grid connection agreement <sup>1</sup> from a network operator that clearly states the location of the grid connection and the connection capacity. We would expect the offer to cover the non-contestable aspects of any grid works required as a minimum. <b>AND one of the following:</b> a. A letter signed by an appropriate person from the network operator confirming that the operator of the installation accepted the grid works offer, <b>or</b> b. an acceptance form, signed by the operator of the installation.
<b>Estimated date of completion for grid works</b>	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	If the planned grid works completion date is not evident from the grid connection agreement (above), or the confirmation of delay of grid works (below), we will need to see a document, for example a letter or email from the relevant network operator, which estimates or sets a

<sup>1</sup> 'Grid connection agreement' in relation to an installation is defined in the Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 as "an agreement in writing with a transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder for the making of a grid connection; and "transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder" means the holder of a licence under section 6(1)(b) or 6(1)(c) of the 1989 [Electricity] Act".

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
	grid works (“the planned grid works completion date”) no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity.	“planned grid works completion date” (the estimated or set date for the completion of grid works) which is no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity. 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.
<b>Confirmation of delay of grid works</b>	A letter or email written by, or on behalf of, the relevant network operator confirming (whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms) that— <b>(i)</b> the relevant grid works were completed after the planned grid works completion date; and <b>(ii)</b> 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 the installation developer of any agreement with the relevant network operator.	A letter or email from the network operator to the operator of the installation explicitly confirming points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.
<b>Operator declaration on delayed grid works</b>	A declaration by the FIT generator that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the eligible installation would have been commissioned on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity if the relevant grid works had been completed on or before the planned grid works completion date.	A declaration signed by the FIT generator (the owner of the installation) that follows the template in Appendix 1.

**Table 2: Evidence for radar delay grace period**

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
<b>Radar works agreement</b>	Evidence of an agreement between the installation developer and a person who is not the installation developer (“the radar works agreement”) for radar works (“the relevant radar works”).	A copy of a document that shows an agreement between an installation developer and a person who is not an installation developer for radar works <sup>2</sup> to be carried out. We would expect to clearly see that this agreement was for radar works required for the installation the grace period application is for. For example, you could demonstrate this by providing: 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, <b>AND</b> b. a letter from a person who is not an installation developer confirming that the operator of the installation accepted the radar works offer.
<b>Estimated date of completion for radar works</b>	A copy of a document written by, or on behalf of, a party to the radar works agreement (other than the installation developer) which estimated or set a date for completion of the relevant radar works (“the planned radar works completion date”) no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity.	If the planned radar works completion date is not evident from the radar works agreement (above), or the confirmation of delay of radar works (below), we will need to see a document, such as a letter or email, from a party to the radar works agreement (other than an installation developer) which estimates or sets a “planned radar works completion date” (see left-hand column) which is no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity. 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.
<b>Confirmation of delay of radar works</b>	a letter or email written by, or on behalf of, a party to the radar works agreement (other than the installation developer) confirming, whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms, that— (i) the relevant radar works were completed after the planned radar works completion date; and (ii) in that party’s opinion, the failure to complete the	A letter or email from a party to the radar works agreement (other than an installation developer) to the operator of the installation which explicitly confirms points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.

<sup>2</sup> Radar works’ is defined in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 as “(a) the construction of a radar station, (b) the installation of radar equipment, (c) the carrying out of modifications to a radar station or radar equipment, or (d) the testing of a radar station or radar equipment”.

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
	relevant radar works on or before the planned radar works completion date was not due to any breach of the radar works agreement by the installation developer	
<b>Operator declaration on delayed radar works</b>	A declaration by the FIT generator that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the eligible installation would have been commissioned on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity if the relevant radar works had been completed on or before the planned radar works completion date	A declaration signed by the FIT generator (the owner of the installation) that follows the template in Appendix 1.

### Third party grid or radar delay evidence

- 3.5. The sole purpose of the letter shall be for the assessment of FIT grace period eligibility. By providing confirmation of a grid/radar works delay, the network operator or radar works party is not admitting liability to Ofgem for any costs or damages.

### Grid and Radar Delay

- 3.6. 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 that relates to one delay. However, the legislation sets out that you could provide evidence (see tables above) to show that both had occurred and a declaration stating that the installation was unable to commission by the last day of the relevant period of validity due to delays to both the planned radar works and planned grid works. Installations cannot receive greater than the 12-month grace period, even if they are affected by both grid and radar delays.

### Variations on the required evidence

- 3.7. Grid connection/radar works offers and agreements may vary as a project progresses. In these cases, we will generally not take these changes into account for our grace period assessment, as the legislation does not ask for the latest offer or agreement. For example, if an original planned grid or radar works completion date was given which was before the last day of the relevant period of validity, but the network operator subsequently modified this to after the last day of the relevant period of validity, we would not take this variation into account – our assessment would be based on the original offer and agreement.

- 3.8. We will not grant a grace period if, when we are assessing the application for accreditation, it is not clear to us that the grid offer/radar works evidence submitted relates to the installation covered by the application. For example, we would expect that the connection capacity and location stated on the grid connection agreement is the same as the connection that is constructed for the installation applying for accreditation. If it is not, we may consider that the agreement was for a different connection and installation than the one which has been constructed.
- 3.9. We would expect any new connection offer to refer to the original “planned grid/radar works completion date” as being on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity.

### The parties the evidence was originally issued to

- 3.10. The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 201X 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.

### Additional grid connection and/or radar works evidence

- 3.11. 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.

## 4. Submitting a grace period application

- 4.1. This chapter covers how to make an application for FIT accreditation under a grace period.

### Applying for accreditation under a grace period

- 4.2. To apply for accreditation under a grace period, installations must:
- **Apply for preliminary accreditation** on or before 31 March 2019. The end of their period of validity must also fall on or after 31 March 2019 (those whose period of validity ends before this date can make a new application).
  - **Commission the installation** and provide evidence of this within 12 months after their relevant period of validity.
  - **Submit an application to convert to full accreditation** within 12 months after their relevant period of validity.
  - **Submit grace period evidence to us** within 12 months after their relevant period of validity.
- 4.3. For more details on the process for preliminary accreditation and converting to full accreditation, see the '[Essential Guide to applying for preliminary accreditation under FIT](#)'.
- 4.4. Installations with preliminary accreditation who attempt to convert to full accreditation within 12 months of the end of their validity period will be asked if they want to make a grace period application. Applicants must respond "yes" to this question if they intend to apply for a grace period.
- 4.5. Grace period evidence must be submitted separately, via email (see 'submitting grace period evidence' below).
- 4.6. Grace period applications will not be processed until evidence of eligibility for the grace period is supplied (and we will not review the grace period eligibility evidence until we've received an application for accreditation). When we receive your application for accreditation we will request the grace period eligibility evidence if it has not already been received.

### Submitting grace period evidence

- 4.7. Send grace period evidence to: [renewable@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:renewable@ofgem.gov.uk), stating in the subject line the installation name and which grace period you are applying for.
- 4.8. 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 installation, the address of the installation and the Total Installed Capacity (TIC). There is an example email template in Figure 1 below.
- 4.9. Your application will not be processed until the evidence in support of the grace period has been supplied. Evidence must be provided within the period of one year

following the end of the installation's validity period. Once you have submitted your grace period evidence to us, you will receive an email also confirming the date it was received.

4.10. 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.

4.11. 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: FIT grace period, Ofgem, Commonwealth House, 32 Albion Street, Glasgow, G1 1LH

4.12. For assistance with applications, please contact the ROO-FIT team. Call us on 020 7901 7310 (Option 1) or email [renewable@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:renewable@ofgem.gov.uk).

### Figure 1: Example email for submitting grace period evidence

**From:** Operator of a generating station  
**Sent:** 01 June 2019 09:44  
**To:** [Renewable@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:Renewable@ofgem.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Application for the FIT 'grid delay' grace period [station name]

Dear Ofgem Renewables Team,

I have submitted an application for accreditation for an installation via the Register

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

I am applying for the FIT 'grid delay' grace period. The required evidence is attached:

1. Grid connection agreement
2. Estimated date of completion for grid works
3. Confirmation of delay of grid works
4. Operator declaration on delayed grid works.

## Difficulties submitting an application

4.13. If you have problems submitting your application, you should contact the Renewables Team ([renewable@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:renewable@ofgem.gov.uk) or 020 7901 7310 option 1).

4.14. Please let us know as soon as possible by email if you become aware that the Register is not functioning correctly, and provide a screenshot of the problem. We will not accept any applications for accreditation after the relevant grace period deadline.

## Processing the application for accreditation and a grace period

- 4.15. Applications for accreditation must be received by us by the end of the relevant grace period (midnight on the closing date). We won't accept any applications received after this date.
- 4.16. We will review the evidence provided in support of the conversion to full accreditation and for a grace period at the same time.
- 4.17. Throughout the review process, we will contact applicants via the Register, email and phone if we have queries. **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.
- 4.18. We will grant accreditation only if we are satisfied that all statutory requirements are met. This means the FIT eligibility criteria, the grace period criteria and the station commissioning on or before the end of the relevant validity period.

## Audit

- 4.19. We regularly audit accredited installations to guard against fraud and error. If an operator applied for one of the available grace periods, and the installation 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.
- 4.20. We can withdraw accreditation in certain circumstances, including if we later find that information provided to us was incorrect. More information on this can be found in chapter 5 of our ['Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Renewable Installations'](#).
- 4.21. Ofgem takes a zero tolerance approach to fraud. We have a dedicated Counter Fraud team who investigate allegations of suspected fraud and will refer any matters to the relevant authorities where appropriate. Counter fraud and audit activity will increase during the closure period.

## 5. Deployment Caps and Tariff Rates

- 5.1. This chapter explains how installations applying or gaining accreditation from 1 January 2019 are assigned to deployment caps. It also explains the eligibility and tariff dates for these installations.

### Deployment Caps

- 5.2. Deployment caps place limits on the total capacity that can receive a particular FIT tariff in a particular tariff period. For more information on how deployment caps have worked during the lifetime of the scheme, see our '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Renewable Installations](#)' and '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers](#)'.
- 5.3. Our indicative weekly and definitive quarterly [reports on deployment caps](#) show the space left in each cap, as well as any installations queued past the end of the cap.
- 5.4. The tariff period beginning on 1 January 2019 is the final tariff period for the FITs scheme.
- 5.5. Installations that apply for preliminary or full accreditation between 1 January 2019 and 31 March 2019, inclusive, fall into this final tariff period. This is not a change from the way deployment caps have been administered since their introduction.
- 5.6. If an application for accreditation or preliminary accreditation causes the limit of the deployment cap for the final tariff period to be breached:
- We will not accredit that installation, and
  - We will not accredit any other installations of that type which are received after that installation.

### Grace Period Applications

- 5.7. Grace periods do not change how preliminary applications contribute to deployment caps.

### MCS Installations

- 5.8. MCS certificates issued up to and including 31 March 2019 count towards the deployment caps for the tariff periods their certificate issue date falls in. From 1 April 2019, MCS certificates will stop automatically counting towards any deployment caps.
- 5.9. MCS community installations that pre-register on or before 31 March 2019, but whose MCS certificate is issued after this date, will be allocated to the final deployment cap if there is space.

- 5.10. These installations will be ordered under the deployment cap by the date and time that the installation's MCS certificate was first issued.

### Reporting on deployment caps

- 5.11. If a final deployment cap is breached after 1 April 2019, we will inform queued ROOFIT applicants and suppliers that affected installations will not be accredited to the FIT scheme.
- 5.12. As soon as possible after a final deployment cap is breached, we will publish this information on our website.<sup>3</sup>
- 5.13. Soon after 1 April 2019, we will be able to assess whether or not the final deployment caps can be breached by the community installations which have pre-registered but are yet to receive an MCS certificate. If the total capacity of these installations is greater than the spare capacity left in the final deployment cap, we will inform all the potentially affected community installation applicants via email.

### Tariff Dates and Eligibility Dates

- 5.14. Installations that apply on or before 31 March 2019, and MCS installations that commission on or before this date, have an Eligibility Date and Tariff Date as described in '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Renewable Installations](#)' and '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers](#)'.
- 5.15. Tariff and Eligibility Dates for preliminary accreditation are unaffected by closure, as they are based upon when the application for preliminary accreditation is made. This includes installations that apply for a grace period.
- 5.16. For a community installation whose MCS certificate is issued on or after 1 April 2019, their Eligibility Date will be the date they apply for accreditation to their FIT licensee, and the Tariff Date will be 1 January 2019.

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<sup>3</sup> This will follow the reporting timelines outlined in Appendix 9 of '[Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers](#)'.

## Appendix 1: Grace period declaration template

This is a template declaration confirming that the installation would have been commissioned on or before 31 March 2019, had the grid connection or radar works delay not occurred, as required by article 7 of The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018. It must be submitted within 12 months of the end of the validity period with the relevant supporting documentation, for an installation to be assessed as meeting the grid or radar delay condition. This declaration form should be printed, signed by the operator of the installation and sent to Ofgem.

Declaration of grid or radar delay (example)

Installation name:

.....

I confirm that,

- to the best of my knowledge and belief, the installation named above would have been commissioned on or before 31 March 2019/the final day of the installation’s preliminary accreditation validity period [*delete as appropriate*] if the relevant grid/radar [*delete as appropriate*] works had been completed on or before the planned grid/radar [*delete as appropriate*] works completion date, and
- I am the owner of the installation stated in this declaration.

Signed .....

Full name .....

Position/Job title .....

Date .....

This declaration is to be submitted once you have submitted your application for accreditation with the other documents set out in article 7 of The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018.

Before making this declaration you should read and understand the relevant legislation and, if necessary, take your own independent legal advice to ensure that the proposed installation which is subject to this declaration qualifies.