Timely Connections Report

01 April 2016 – 30 September 2016

1.0 Introduction

1.1 About the Timely Connections Report ("the Report")

The Report provides analysis of the new 124 licensed offers which have been made by National Grid, for the period 1st April 2016 to 30th September 2016.

The Report provides information on the factors that influence the connection dates being offered to customers and the timescales for connection by region. It also provides information on the type of generation seeking to connect.

In this Report we have included a section which looks at offers made under Connect and Manage arrangements and the average estimated advancement timescales provided to customers as a result a Connect and Manage offer.

Previous copies of the Report can be found via the following link:

http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Electricity-connections/Industry-products/timely-connections-report/

1.2 Key findings in this period

This period has seen an increase from the previous reporting period with 75% of offers issued meeting the requested connection date, albeit some were provided (at the request of the customer) with access restrictions which facilitated an earlier date than would have otherwise been provided.

While the amount of offers issued has decreased in this reporting period, volumes are broadly in line with the same period last year. One contributing factor to this decrease is the previous reporting period showing inflated figures due to the 'bulk statement of works process' trial that is ongoing with the DNO's (currently UPKN, WPD and SEPD). Although this trial is still ongoing the amount of bulk offers issued in this period has reduced.

For this period, the majority of applications are in England and Wales (although with a roughly equal balance of applications across each of the three Transmission Owners) and projects are still in some cases being given connection dates beyond their requested date due to the fact that there are other projects awaiting connection. This is also apparent in Scotland.

The issues highlighted in the previous report associated to the scale of the transmission reinforcements required still present a challenge in gaining planning consent and obtaining system access to complete transmission upgrade works. Many generation connections also remain in a 'scoping' phase without planning consent and therefore, there is significant uncertainty as to which generation is going to connect and in what timescales.

1.3 Feedback

We are continuing to review the content and format of this Report and therefore, your views are important to us. If you would like to provide feedback or have any questions regarding this Report then please do not hesitate to contact us via the following email address:

transmissionconnections@nationalgrid.com

2.0 Illustrative Connection Timescales

Please refer to Figure 3.2 of the Electricity Ten Year Statement 2016 and Section 2 of Transmission Networks Connections Update for illustrative connection timescales. Throughout this Report the data has been grouped by reference to the geographical regions which are shown within those documents.

2.1 Customer requested date vs. date offered and average difference

The table below shows the number of offers made by ETYS region, the number where the connection date offered was later than that which the customer requested and the average connection date difference (in months):

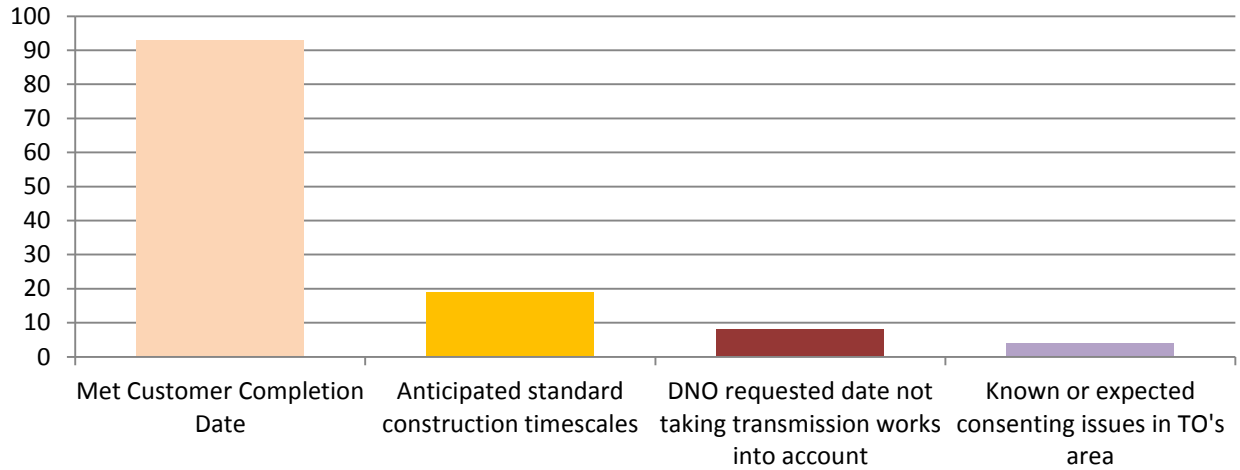
ETYS Region	No. of Offers made in period	No. with later connection date than requested	Average connection date difference** (months)
SP Transmission	30	11	29
SHE Transmission	22	10	25
West England and Wales*	34	7	35
South England	6	1	11
East England	7	0	0
Northern England	25	3	9
Grand Total	124	32	N/A

* Please note that many of the offers in this area relate to Embedded Generation and the offer has been viewed in the context of the offer to the DNO rather than the offer to each individual Embedded Generator as is the case for Project Progression in Scotland.

** Please note that for the treatment of "staged" offers (i.e. a single contract but with more than one stage of construction and / or capacity) an average has been derived for the purposes of the connection date difference. This has been achieved by summing the difference (in months) per stage and then dividing this total by the number of stages e.g. Stage 1 advancement of 12 months and Stage 2 advancement of 6 months = total 18 months (12 + 6) divided by 2 (stages) = 9 months average difference for that single contract. This value is then added to the other values for offers made within that ETYS region to determine the average connection date difference for that region.

2.2 Factors that have influenced connection dates offered

The bar chart below shows a summary of those factors that have influenced the connection dates which have been offered during this period:



Expressed as a percentage the factors show that for the 124 offers which were issued by National Grid during the period of 1st October 2015 to 31st March 2016.

- 15% were based upon the anticipated standard construction timescales
- 75% met the customers requested completion date, some with interim access restrictions
- 6% DNO requested date not taking transmission works into account; and
- 4% had known or expected consent issues within the TO Area

3.0 Size and Type of Generation Offers

3.1 Offers made by generation type

ETYS Region	No. of Offers made in period	Renewable	Non Renewable	Demand	Interconnector
SP Transmission	30	29	1	0	0
SHE Transmission	22	21	1	0	0
West England and Wales	34	5	12	17	0
South East England	6	0	2	2	2
East England	7	5	1	1	0
North England	25	11	10	3	1
Grand Total	124	71	27	23	3

Note: The classification "Renewable" includes low carbon technology and the demand figures include 'bulk' project progression offers as referenced above.

The data shows that there continues to be significant interest in applications for (or modifications related to) renewable projects in Scotland whereas in England and Wales the applications are for a broader spectrum of technology types. The more prominent effect of various Embedded Generation technology types in certain areas within England and Wales can also be seen (primarily) in West England and Wales.

3.2 Offers made by generation size

ETYS Region	No. of Small Offers made	No. of Large Offers made	No. of Demand Offers made
SHE Transmission	6	16	0
SP Transmission	18	12	0
England and Wales	6	40	23

Notes - does not include interconnectors and the majority of the 'Demand' offers in England and Wales relate to 'small' Embedded Generation rather than new demand connections. In terms of sizes the classification is as follows:

- A "Small" generator is a site that is: <10MW in SHE Transmission, <30MW in SP Transmission, <50MW across the England and Wales regions.
- A "Large" generator is a site that is: >10MW in SHE Transmission, >30MW in SP Transmission, >100MW across the England and Wales regions.
- The classification of "Medium" generator exists in the England and Wales regions and is a site that is >50MW and <100MW. No Medium sized offers were made in the period which is covered by this Report.

4.0 Connect and Manage Offers

4.1 Number of C&M Offers made per ETYS Region and associated advancement timescale

The table below shows the number of Connect and Manage offers made during the period by ETYS region and the associated average advancement that customer may benefit from should they choose to enter into a Connect and Manage agreement.

ETYS Region	No. of C&M offers made in period	Average Advancement (in years)	Renewable	Non Renewable
SP Transmission	30	6	29	1
SHE Transmission	22	5	21	1
West England and Wales	16	7	5	11
South England	2	7	0	2
East England	6	5	1	5
North England	21	7	11	10
Grand Total	97	6	67	30

Connect and Manage offers are given to those customers who request a connection date ahead of when the identified wider transmission reinforcement works can be completed. The agreements contain the requirement for derogation against the National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standards which once approved allows for a connection to be made ahead of those wider transmission reinforcement works.