

#ncslondon22

NETWORKS CUSTOMER SEMINAR

London
17th October 2022

Time	Presentation		Who
09:15	House keeping		
09:25	Welcome Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections, ESO		
09:30	Introduction to the day and Transmission Connection Updates Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections, ESO		
Breakout Sessions (attendees choose the session they wish to attend)			
10:15-11:00	HND Update – Tower Suite	ESO Pop Ups – Bridge Room	TEC Amnesty & Queue Management – Mortimer Room
45mins session	Graham Stein, Offshore Network Design Senior Manager (ESO) Peter Sipawa, GB Offshore Connections Team Manager (ESO)	Early Competition Winter Plan TNUoS task force Codes Future System Operator Markets Road Map	Joe Martin, England and Wales Onshore Connections Team Manager (ESO) Kavita Patel, Policy Officer (Connections ESO)
11:00-11:15	Coffee Break		
11:15-12:00 [45min session]	HND Update – Tower Suite	ESO Pop Ups – Bridge Room	TEC Amnesty & Queue Management – Mortimer Room
12:00-12:30	Slido Q&A – Tower Suite		

Time	Presentation		Who
12:30 – 13:15	Lunch – Bridge Room		
13:15 – 15:00	Breakout Sessions (attendees choose the session they wish to attend)		
13:15-14:00	ESO Connections – Connections Reform Workshop – Tower Suite	ESO Pop Ups – Bridge Room	CPA and Storage review Workshop – Mortimer Room
	Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections (ESO) James Norman, Networks Senior Policy Manager (ESO)	Early Competition Winter Plan TNUoS task force Codes Future System Operator Markets Road Map	Djaved Rostom, Connection Operability Assessment Team Manager (ESO) Ben Green, Electricity Connections Contract Manager (ESO)
14:00-14:15	Break		
14:15-15:00	ESO Connections – Connections Reform Workshop – Tower Suite	ESO Pop Ups – Bridge Room	CPA and Storage review Workshop – Mortimer Room
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break		
	Tower Suite		
15:15-16:00	Panel - “Transmission Connections, challenges and opportunities” Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections NGENO Paul Hawker, Head, Electricity Network Connections, BEIS Harriet Harmon, Deputy Director - Market Operations and Signals, OFGEM Merlin Hyman, Chief Executive, Regen		
16:00-16:05	Close		
	Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections (ESO)		
16:05-17:00	Join us for tea and coffee and network with industry leads		

WELCOME

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Objectives for Today



Share updates and information relevant to work being done by ESO

Engage and address questions from the Seminar attendees

Enable workshop environment and feedback sessions

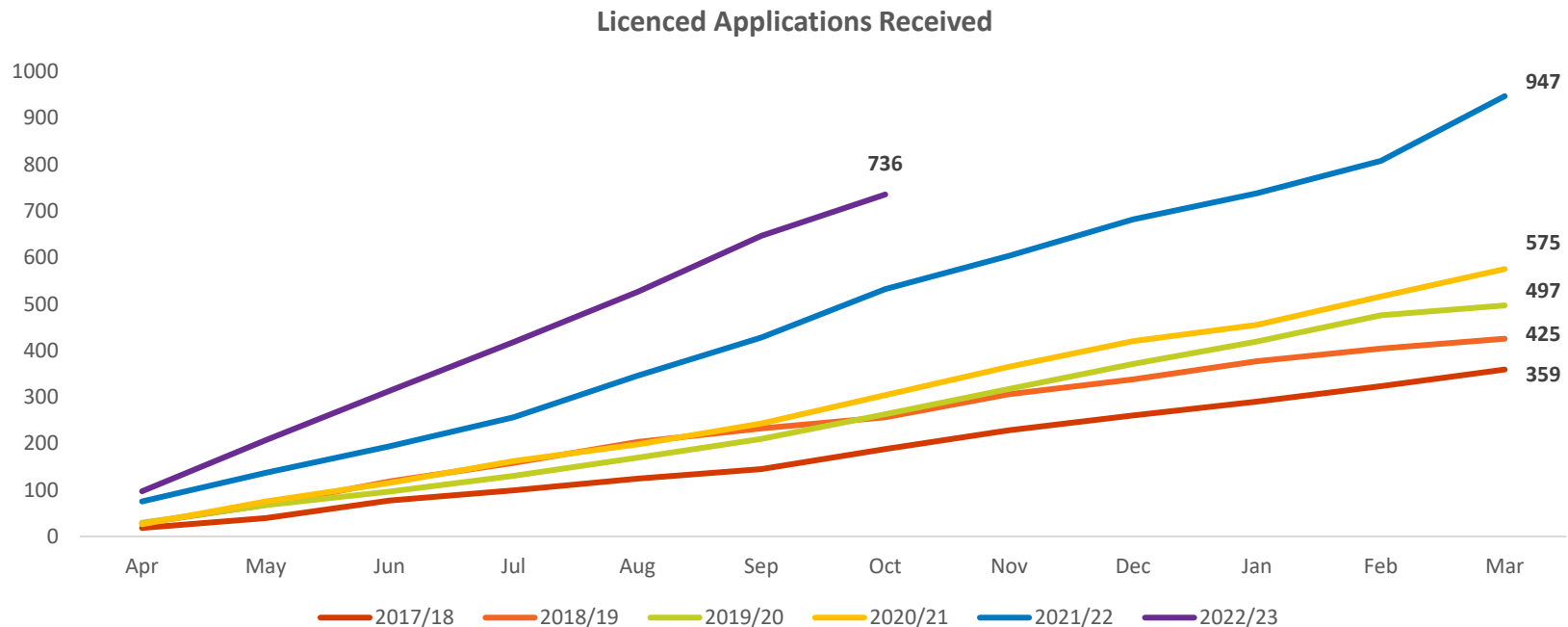
Networking and opportunity to engage with members of ESO Networks SMT and other ESO Teams

TRANSMISSION CONNECTIONS CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



Transmission Connections Challenges

Applications



The Transmission Contracted Connections background totals over **320GW** of generation and interconnectors

Growth of Licenced Transmissions Connection Applications

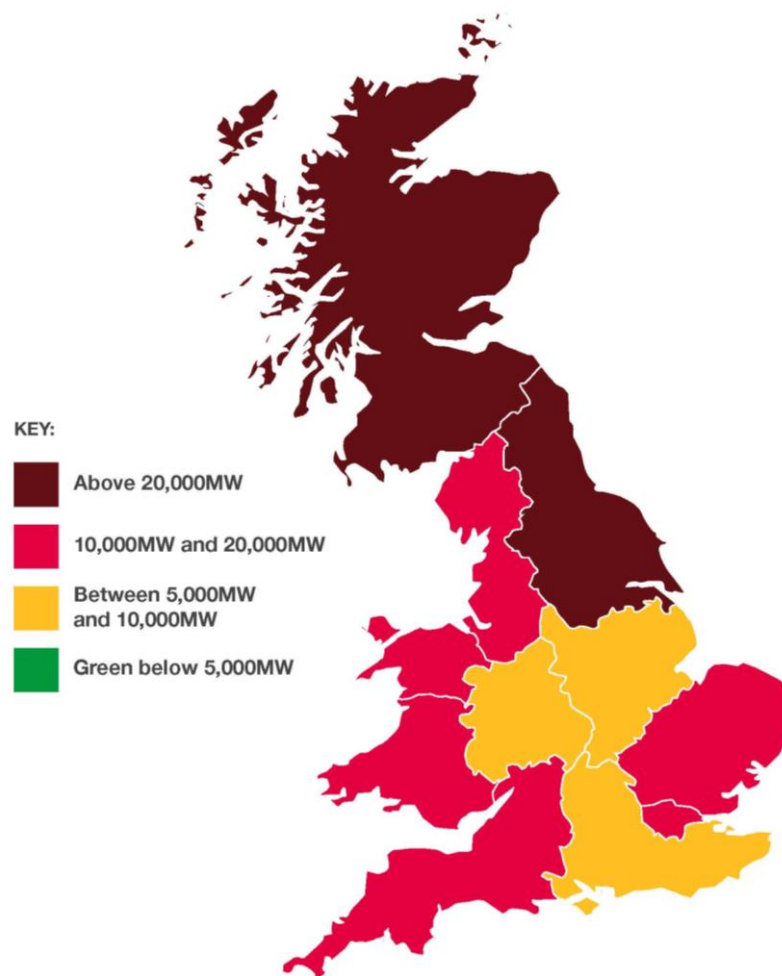
In FY23, 70% YTD, current end of year projection on 1277 applications, 74% increase on FY22

In FY22, overall 64%

Transmission Connections Challenges

Heat Map

A single plan view of the generation volume and type due to connect across GB by 2036



Transmission Connections Challenges

Summary



Transmission Connection Opportunities



Transmission Connection Opportunities

Transmission Connection Light(er) Offer

What are we doing [in collaboration with TOs]

Urgent focus on a more coordinated approach to:

- Review the connections offer process
- Create of opportunities for acceleration of connections already in the contracted queue
- Reviewing the scope of works and detailed design undertaken as part of production of a new connection offer

What can we do differently:

- Supply a light(er) Connection Offer
- Timeline for detailed review of solution
- Focus on providing Customers with certainty of connection date and scope of works earlier than our Customers are experiencing at the moment

Next Steps:

- Issue Light(er) Offer from the 1st of November 2022
- Hold a webinar on the 25th of October focused on providing insight into the what the lighter connection offer shall look like and the follow-on process

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CONNECTION PORTAL UPDATE

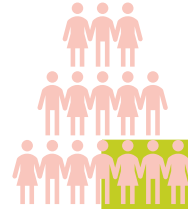
Connections Portal - Update



27th January 2023

Connections Portal Phase 1a release

- **Controlled released approach:**
 - Release access to portal for the Early Adopters [approx. 50 customers]
 - Focus on staged release of the portal to assess performance and prevent platform to be overwhelmed from high number of users following release (+800 users)
 - Registration issues addressed (Feb 23)



13th March 2023

Connections Portal Phase 1b release

- **Open access to Registration and Portal to all ESO Customers**
 - Focus on addressing any defects or issues identified from Early Adopters user experience ahead of wider release
 - Ensure wider release is successful and delivers on the improvement to connection application process



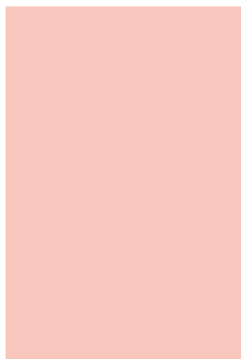
1st May 2023

Connections Portal Phase 2 – Focus Groups

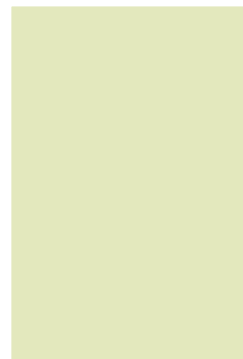
- **Focus Groups**
 - Run a series of webinars and workshops where NGENSO will invite Customer to participate to enable further development of existing functionality to enable further improvements to the customer journey
 - Review requirement for development of further functionality and automation

Connections Portal - Update

Why is the Connections Portal delayed?



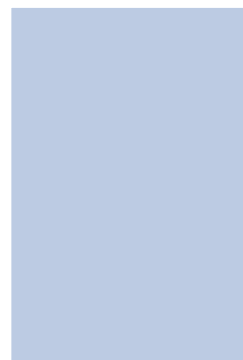
Focus on delivering a product that is fit for purpose



Ensure final product meets Customer expectations and improves customer experience



Complexity of build of new platform requires review and change of release strategy



Interdependency of Portal with other new and existing ESO platforms [impact to management of change]

BREAKOUT SESSIONS



Breakout Sessions

HND Update – Bridge Room	ESO Pop Ups – Atrium Area	TEC Amnesty & Queue Management – Beaufort Room
<p>Graham Stein, Offshore Network Design Senior Manager (ESO)</p> <p>Peter Sipawa, GB Offshore Connections Team Manager (ESO)</p>	<p>Early Competition Winter Plan</p> <p>TNUoS task force Codes</p> <p>Future System Operator Markets Road Map</p>	<p>Joe Martin, England and Wales Onshore Connections Team Manager (ESO)</p> <p>Kavita Patel, Policy Officer (Connections ESO)</p>

Holistic Network Design Follow Up

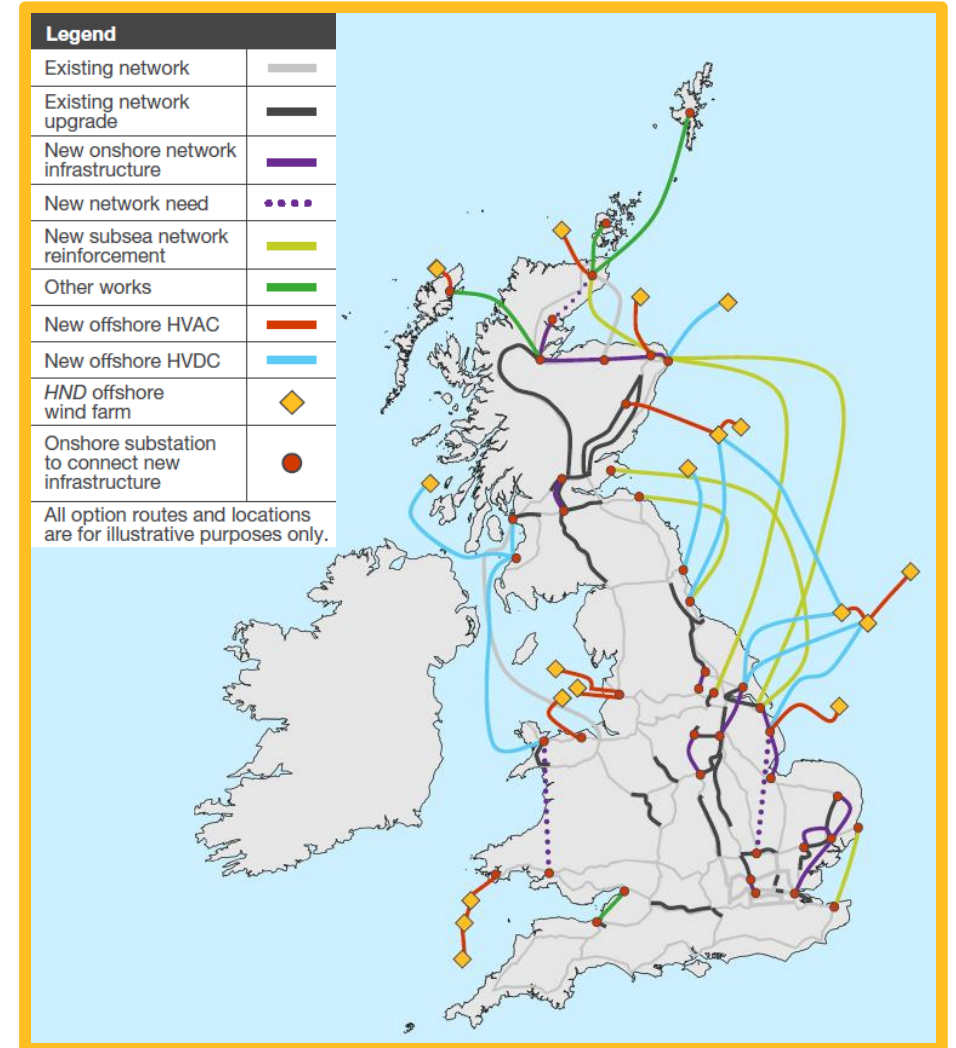


Graham Stein – Network Planning Senior Manager
Peter Sipawa – GB Offshore Connections Manager

Holistic Network Design

Overview of Recommendations

- Published in July
- Connects all 18 in scope offshore wind farms (23 GW)
- 15 landing points
- Establishes new offshore connections between different onshore regions
- Identifies and distinguishes onshore transmission projects that are required to facilitate the 2030 ambitions
- Reduces the impact on the seabed by a third smaller footprint of cables coming to shore than the radial design
- Additional network capacity increases the availability of offshore wind on the system by 32 TWh over 10 years from 2030 compared to the radial design – equivalent of powering 10 million homes for an entire year



Holistic Network Design



Implementing the Recommendations

Connection Contract Update

We are working through these with the three onshore TOs. Significant interactions with the business as usual connection process and associated changes mean these are taking longer than expected. We now expect to work through contract updates until the end of Q1 next year.

Asset Classification and Pathway to 2030 Delivery Model

Ofgem expect to shortly conclude their asset classification work for assets within the HND. A further publication on the delivery models for the Pathway to 2030 workstream is expected Q4.

Accelerating onshore electricity transmission investment

In August, Ofgem consulted on how to support the accelerated delivery of strategic onshore electricity transmission (ET) network upgrades, needed to help meet the Government's 2030 renewable electricity generation ambitions. Ofgem is currently considering the responses to this consultation and analysing the TOs' delivery plans. Ofgem intends to publish a decision on the accelerated delivery framework in December.

Holistic Network Design

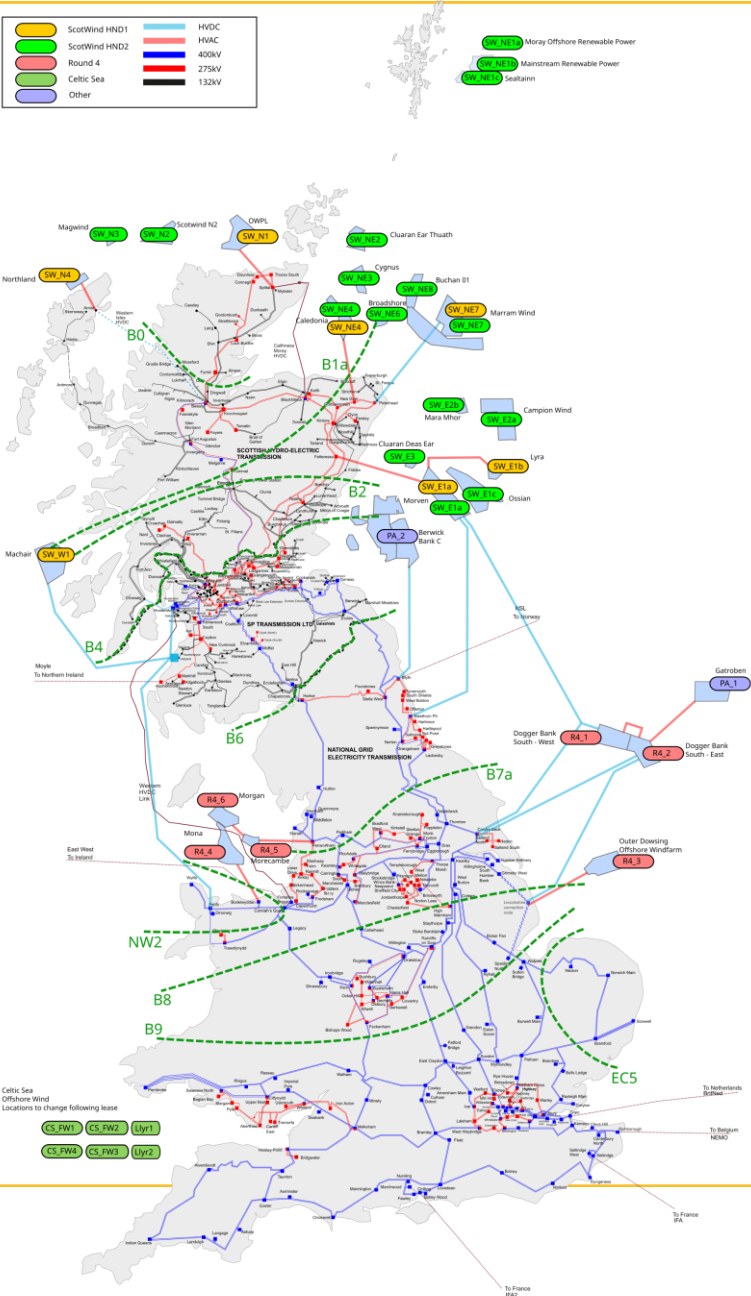
What's in Scope?

ScotWind (~17GW)

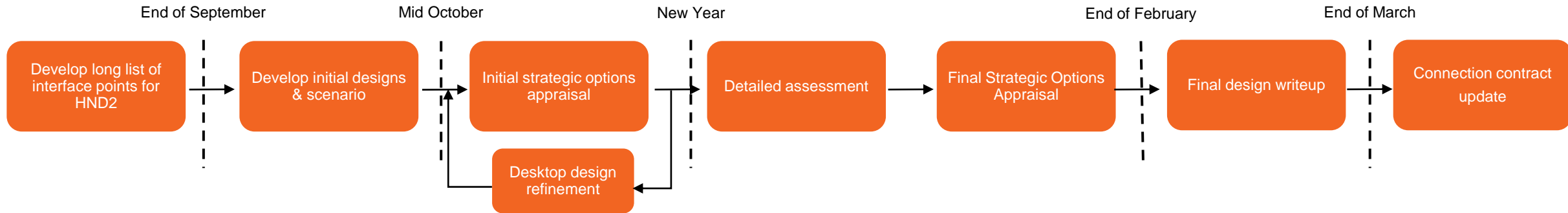
ScotWind clearing (~3GW)

Celtic Sea (4GW)

Celtic Sea test and demo (2 x 100MW)



Holistic Network Design



- Feedback received from Scotwind Developers on technology and cost assumptions, methodology, capacities and interface points
- Terms of Reference available on the Offshore Transmission Network Review webpage
- Scotwind and Celtic Sea update webinars scheduled for October (25th and 27th)
- Our methodology will be published by the end of October
- Scotwind design workshops scheduled for the 14th to 16th November
- INTOG process closely monitored – we are working with Crown Estate Scotland to develop next steps
- Recommendations due by the end of March 2023
- Recommendations will feed into the second Transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan (TCSNP2) which is being developed under the Electricity Transmission Network Review (ETNPR) and scheduled to conclude by the end of 2023
- We will be able to say more about how connections which are falling outside of HND will be managed by the end of this year


TEC Amnesty & Queue Management



Kavita Patel – Connections Senior Policy & Change Officer
Joe Martin – E&W Onshore Connections Manager

TEC Amnesty





“We’re here to help build a system of the future that is clean, reliable and fair. We realise that to deliver net zero, we need to free up space on the connections register so that new low carbon projects can connect much more quickly.”

**Julian Leslie, ESO Head of Networks and Chief Engineer,
National Grid ESO**

TEC Amnesty



ESO launches new initiative to connect electricity generation to the transmission system faster



TEC (Transmission Entry Capacity) Amnesty launched to clear stalled projects from the TEC register.



[Expression of Interest](#) running from 1 October to 30 November 2022 the amnesty window allows customers to leave the register at no cost or a reduced fee.



Part of a wider initiative of actions and reforms that the ESO are leading on to improve connections management in the short and longer term

TEC Amnesty

The TEC Amnesty and Queue Management reforms are here to address short / long term challenges.

Review of Construction Planning Assumptions:

Ensuring processes are recognisant of the changes in volume of contracted generation and technologies.

Djaved Rostom

Review of Storage Modelling:

By end of October, ESO to share the conclusions of their research into how they model storage and different types of storage, so that the latest evidence is reflected in how network needs are assessed.

Djaved Rostom

Developing Regional Development Plans:

looking across the whole electricity system to unlock more network capacity, reduce constraints and open new revenue streams for market participants, to help unlock capacity at distribution level.

Andy Wainwright

TEC Amnesty

What is the TEC Register?

- The TEC Register dictates the queue for connections to the national electricity transmission network and includes all projects that seek a connection offer.

What is the TEC Amnesty?

- To support the delivery of Net Zero, the ESO are offering network participants the opportunity to request to Terminate their Connection Agreement with minimal or no charges.

What are the criteria for projects to leave the TEC Register?

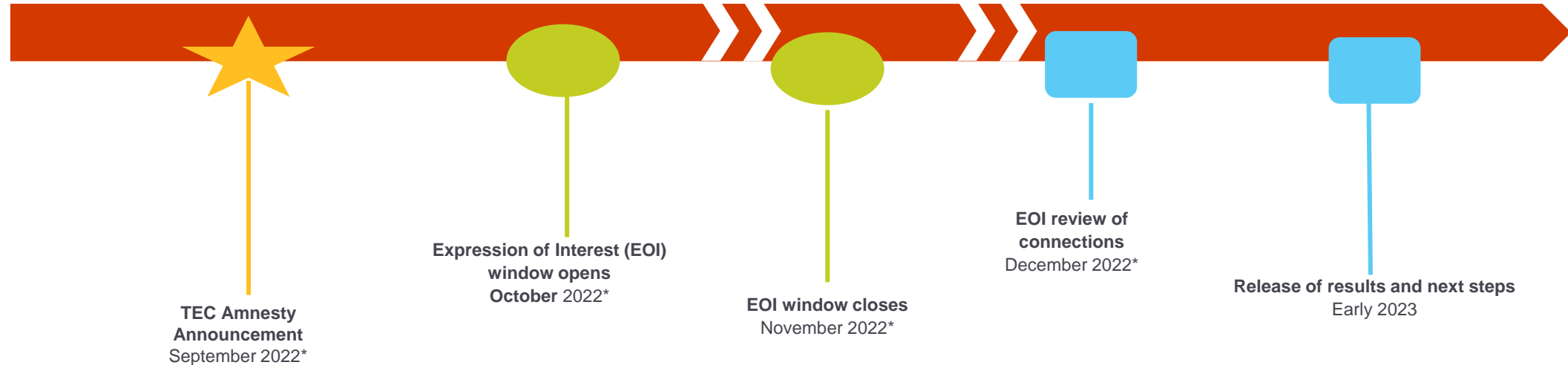
- That no costs associated with Transmission reinforcements would still have to be incurred had the original application been for the newly requested value;
- That the Termination is not considered to require any further analysis beyond a desktop assessment to ascertain the impact of the Termination on the planned Transmission works, or have an impact on the local connection works or to require significant changes to the Connection Agreement;
- That there is no detrimental effect on other Users of the network in that connection dates or costs are adversely affected

Does TEC Amnesty apply to Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement (BEGA) connections?

- Customers that hold a BEGA can also come forward to express their interest to terminate or reduce TEC on the transmission contract held with NGESO;
- However, the TEC Amnesty doesn't extend to connection contracts between Customer and the relevant Distribution Network Operators

What are the timescales to apply for this voluntary process?

For the period 1 October to 30 November 2022 inclusive users can fill out an expression of interest form and their agreement will then be assessed against the criteria and a decision will be made by early 2023.



*Dates for reference only

TEC Amnesty Q&A Sessions

In August 2022 we held a Customer Connections Agora dedicated to providing further insight to the TEC Amnesty process, you can find the slides and recording from this session [on our website](#).

Transmission Entry Capacity (TEC) Amnesty - Next Steps



Reach agreement with OFGEM on the principles of this TEC Amnesty event and the timeline



Review and agree Terms of Reference with OFGEM and TOs for the Cost Benefit Analyses exercise for those connections that come forwards to terminate and reduce TEC



Provide ESO Customers with an update asap on timeline and details of the TEC Amnesty Expression of Interest event

Queue Management

CMP376

Introduction of Queue Management



There is also a need to implement more effective Queue Management (QM) arrangements. To that end, the ESO has raised a code modification, [CMP376](#), under the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC), to formally introduce QM arrangements. This modification is subject to approval.



QM will mean that projects which are ready to connect can do so ahead of those customer projects that may have applied earlier but are not ready or able to progress – currently the ESO are unable to prioritise the queue based on readiness to connect.



At the simplest level, if implemented, QM will introduce contractual milestones that customers must meet to retain their place in the connection queue, which will benefit everyone.

Summary of Proposal

Milestones

Date back from contracted completion date (note that the milestone duration time period is the contracted completion date to the effective date of the agreements)

Evidence

Evidence for each milestone set out in the CUSC
Process to submit/validate evidence set out in guidance.

Termination

Will apply to missed milestones if the evidence is not provided within 60 days of the missed milestone. *Projects will not be moved down the queue – they will be terminated*

Scope and Implementation

All new applications and Modification Applications for parties who are requesting TEC (except BEGAs and non radial offshore connections) after the implementation date, which is 10 working days after Ofgem's decision.

Exemptions

Force Majeure; Planning appeals (M2) in relation to the User's Consents; Any delay from Transmission Licensee or The Company or CUSC 6.19

Mod App

All QM milestone dates stay fixed unless exception provided (if milestones are missed prior to mod app and QM was not in place on their agreement then a 60-day notice will be issued alongside the mod app acceptance)

Response to feedback – Changes taken forward

“Tolerance periods and cumulative delay proposals are confusing”



Tolerance periods have been removed with adjustments made to milestone durations. This also removes the need for a cumulative delay process

“Milestones do not cater for seasonality or challenges obtaining planning”



Timescales have been amended to reflect a number of factors, including the longer lead times and seasonality in relation to planning consents.

“Referencing milestones against Offer date makes it difficult for us to sequence our development activities”



The timescales now run backwards from Connection Date

“The use of connection voltages to tier milestone compliance durations is arbitrary”



We are proposing to tier milestone durations based on the lead time for project connection. This removes any risk of undue discrimination by technology or connection voltage.

Updated Transmission Milestones Proposal

Retained Distribution Milestone Names for consistency	1 year from requested Completion date	2 years from requested Completion date	3 years from requested Completion date	4 years from requested Completion date	5 years and above from requested Completion date (including EIA, DCO)
Milestones:	All durations referenced from contracted Completion Date				
M1 - Initiate Planning Consent	Bilaterally negotiated	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
M2 - Secure Consent		12 months	18 months	24 months	30 months
M3 - Land Rights		21 months	30 months	39 months	48 months
M4	N/A for transmission (referenced to provide consistency to distribution)				
M5 - Contestable Design Works Submission	Bilaterally negotiated	18 Months	24 months	36 months	48 months
M6 - Agree Construction Plan		9 Months	12 months	15 months	18 Months
M7 - Project Commitment		6 Months	9 months	12 months	15 Months
M8 - Project Construction		3 months	6 Months	9 months	12 months

Timeline for CMP376V5b as at 3 October 2022

Milestone	Date	Milestone	Date
Workgroup Nominations (15 working days)	Closed	Panel sign off that Workgroup Report has met its Terms of Reference	24 February 2023
Workgroups 1 – 5	28 October 2021, 13 December 2021, 28 January 2022, 6 September 2022 and 27 September 2022	Code Administrator Consultation(15 Working Days)	27 February 2023to 20 March 2023 (5pm)
Workgroup 6 – Agree the Milestone timings; Agree how Modification Applications impact on the Milestones set out in the Construction Agreement; Clarify the Original proposal and confirm if any possible alternatives; Review updated version of Legal Text; and Note possible questions to be raised as part of the Workgroup Consultation	21 October 2022	Draft Final Modification Report (DFMR) issued to Panel (5 working days)	23 March 2023
Workgroup 7 – Clarify solutions to be consulted upon, check in on Transmission vs Distribution differences, finalise Legal Text, finalise Workgroup consultation (including agreeing Workgroup Consultation questions), check in on progress vs Terms of Reference	17 November 2022	Panel undertake DFMR recommendation vote	31 March 2023
Workgroup Consultation(20 Working Days)	25 November 2022 to 23 December 2022 (5pm)	Final Modification Report issued to Panel to check votes recorded correctly (5 working days)	4 April 2023
Workgroups 8 and 9- Assess Workgroup Consultation Responses, further review of Original and alternatives (including legal text) and carry out Alternative Vote	9 January 2023 and 26 January 2023	Final Modification Report issued to Ofgem	12 April 2023
Workgroup 10 - Finalise solution(s) and legal text, agree that Terms of Reference have been met, Review Workgroup Report and hold Workgroup Vote	8 February 2023	Ofgem decision	TBC
Workgroup report issued to Panel(5 working days)	16 February 2023	Implementation Date	10 working days after Authority Decision



CONSTRUCTION PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS & BATTERY MODELLING REVIEW

Background

- Oversubscribed generation background
- Studies indicating that the network will be constrained
 - Drives the need for substantial enabling works
 - Causes late connection dates as a result
- Common goal is to achieve net zero together.
- ESO's responsibility is to ensure network remains operable, economic and efficient
- Customer need to connect project in a reasonable amount of time at a fair cost.

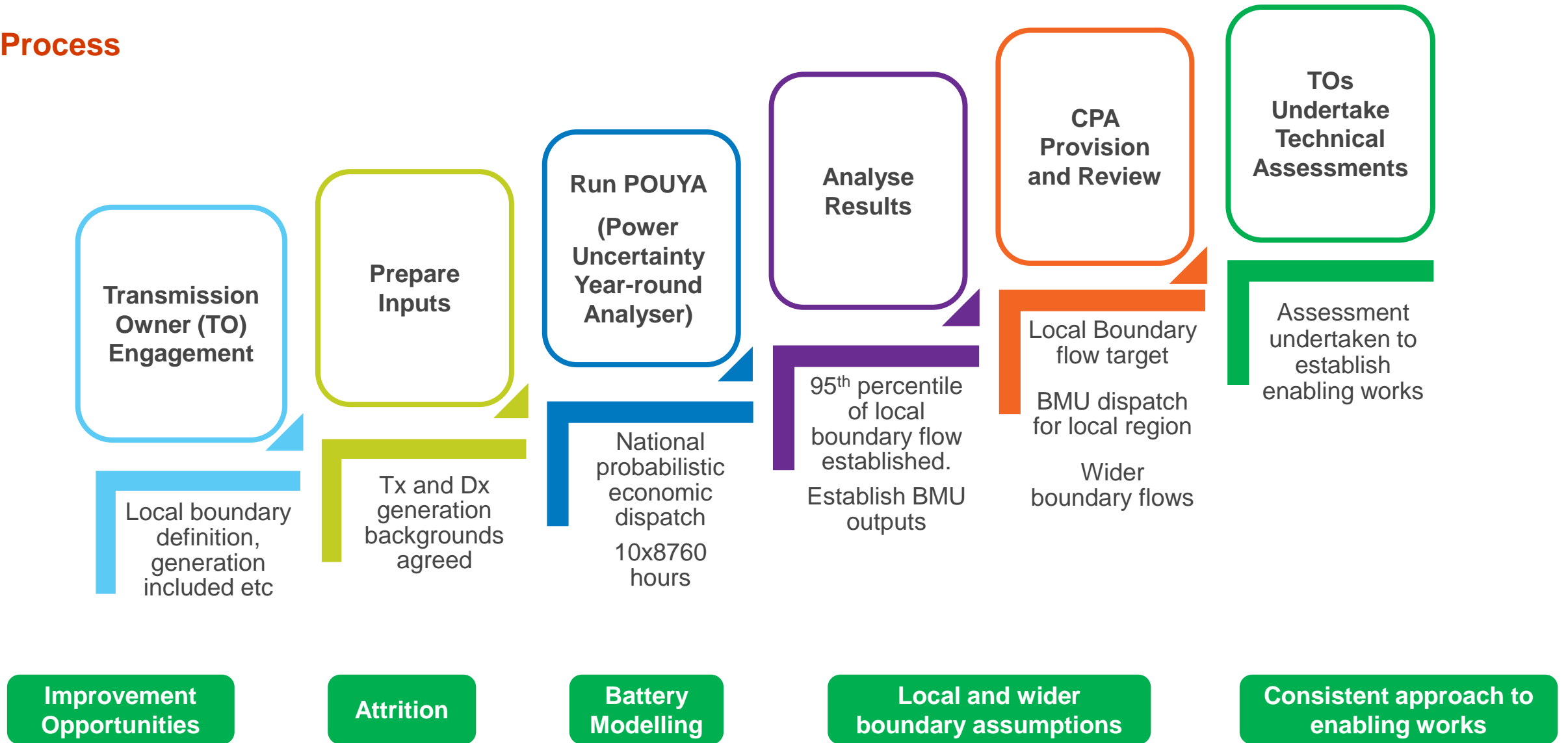
- Connection dates depends on
 - The volume of projects in the study background
 - The dispatch of the different technology types
 - Triggering of enabling reinforcement works



We have reviewed the Construction Planning Assumptions including Battery Modelling and would like your feedback on the proposed approach.

Current Construction Planning Assumptions

Process



Attrition

Data Review

- Contracted parties tracked across 10 years of TEC registers
- Projects tracked from application status to connected or terminated status
- Challenge to undertake this assessment for Distribution projects

Observation

- 1/3 contracted MW actually connected
- Fairly small sample size, especially per technology group
- Could be dominated by large parties and vary over time

Proposal

- Proposal for local and wider regional attrition percentages to be applied
- Attrition to be applied at both transmission and distribution level

Implement

- Discuss and agree approach with Network Owners
- Review risks of the proposed approach and identify mitigation measures

Proposed Attrition Assumptions and opportunities

Local Region

50% Attrition rate applied to MW capacity

Applied to projects without consents

Applied by fuel type

Applied to projects in the queue and projects with a connection offer

Wider Region

66% Attrition rate applied to MW capacity

Attrition by fuel type

Opportunity to align wider background with FES

Wider boundary capability limits applied

Distributed Energy Resources

66% attrition applied to local and wider regions

Mixture of appendix G data and FES

DER output from POUYA

Implication of DNO ANM Schemes

Battery Assumptions

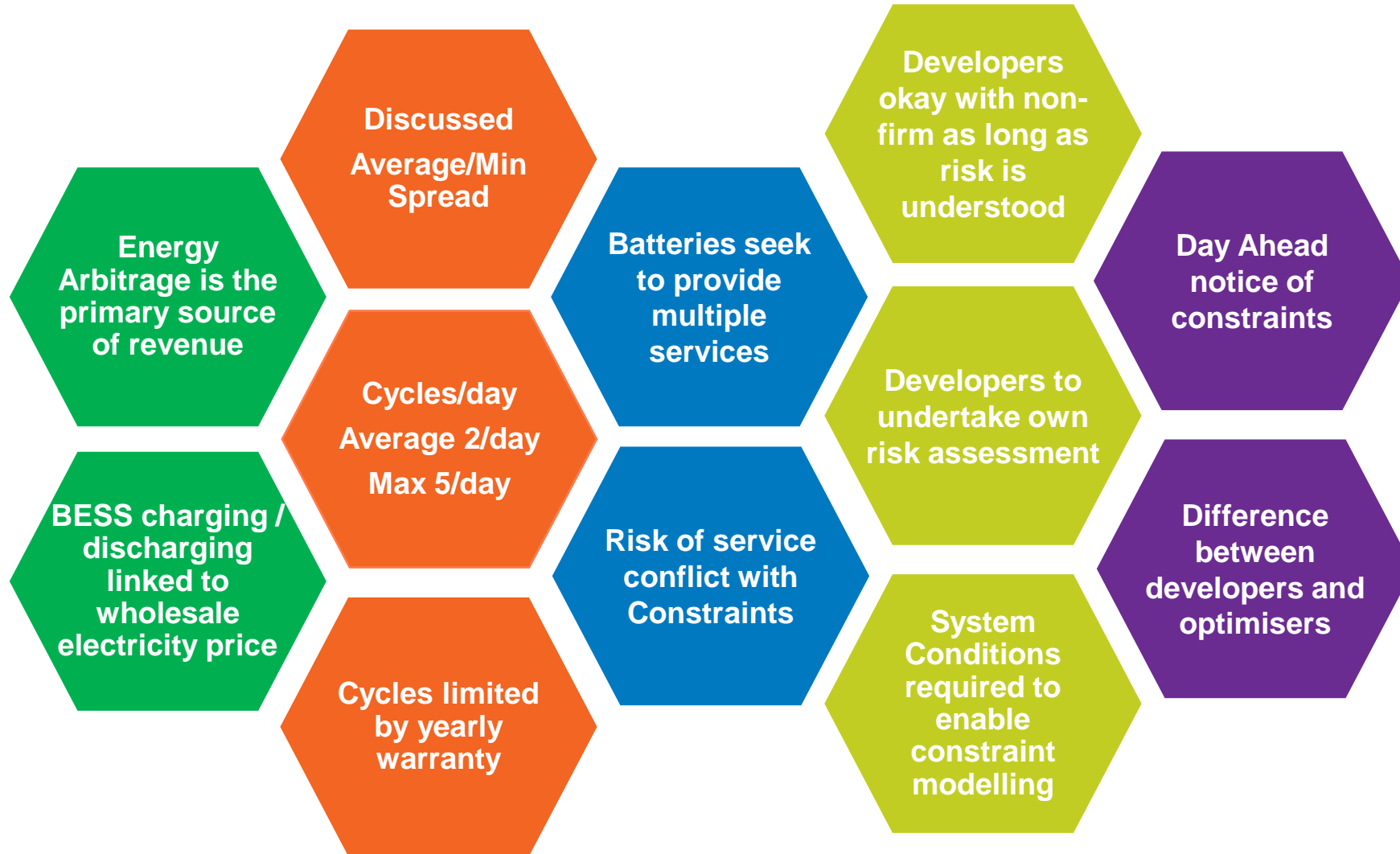
- Energy storage can play an important role as enabler of renewable energy penetration and facilitate the transition to net zero.
- Battery operation can have a negative correlation with system constraints.
 - Times of high renewable output – batteries unlikely to be discharging
 - Times of high demand – batteries unlikely to be charging
- A working group has been set up to explore news way of assessing battery connections that better reflects how the assets operate.
- We have engaged with selected battery developers to understand the business model for Battery storage.

nationalgrid



nationalgridESO

What have we learnt so far?



Our proposal for battery assessments

- Non-firm connections to be provided allowing ESO to instruct batteries (both Tx and Dx) to move to 0MW should they be contributing to constraints. **Visibility and Control required**
- Based on the operating principles of energy arbitrage and implementation of visibility and control, batteries **could be treated as 0MW** instead of being considered as
 - Discharging at times of peak renewable generation output (generation export constraints)
 - Charging during peak demand conditions (demand driven constraints)
- Opportunity to monitor the performance of batteries over a period of time to offer firm connection
 - Without reinforcements, if frequency and duration of curtailment is acceptable
 - With reinforcements, if frequency and duration of curtailment has been underestimated
- NGESO will look at what information can be provided to enable BESS developers to model frequency and durations of constraints.
- We will be doing further work to understand how the operational profiles could change when BESS provide services
- We will be improving the battery modelling in POUYA based on the feedback received.



Exploring alternative connection arrangements to facilitate earlier connection dates

- It is possible that the proposed CPA and battery assumptions do not result in earlier connection dates for some customers projects.
- We are exploring alternative connection arrangements to facilitate earlier connection dates.
- These ideas are conceptual at this stage but we would like to understand whether there is an appetite amongst the industry for such type of connections

Non – firm connections for other generator types

- Customers can already request an earlier non-firm connection ahead of their firm connection date.
- Traditionally restrictions have been linked to circuit unavailability, either planned or unplanned.
- This approach is different as the non-firm conditions could be based on certain system conditions in addition to the unavailability of transmission circuits.
- Under such scenarios, customers would be required to reduce their output to 0MW.

“Delayed Enabling” works

- There may also be an opportunity to enable earlier connection dates on a firm but temporary basis.
- This applies where customer A who is ahead in the queue is not intending on connecting until a much later date and/or can't connect until enabling works are completed.
- This could enable customer B, who is behind in the queue, to connect their project and use the spare capacity until customer A comes along or network reinforcement enabling works are completed .
- Customer B would need to come off the system unless their enabling works were completed.

What are the proposed next steps?



*Timescales subject to implementation of “lighter” approach to connections assessments

GB CONNECTIONS REFORM [GBCR]

TRANSFORM | CONNECT | ENABLE NET ZERO

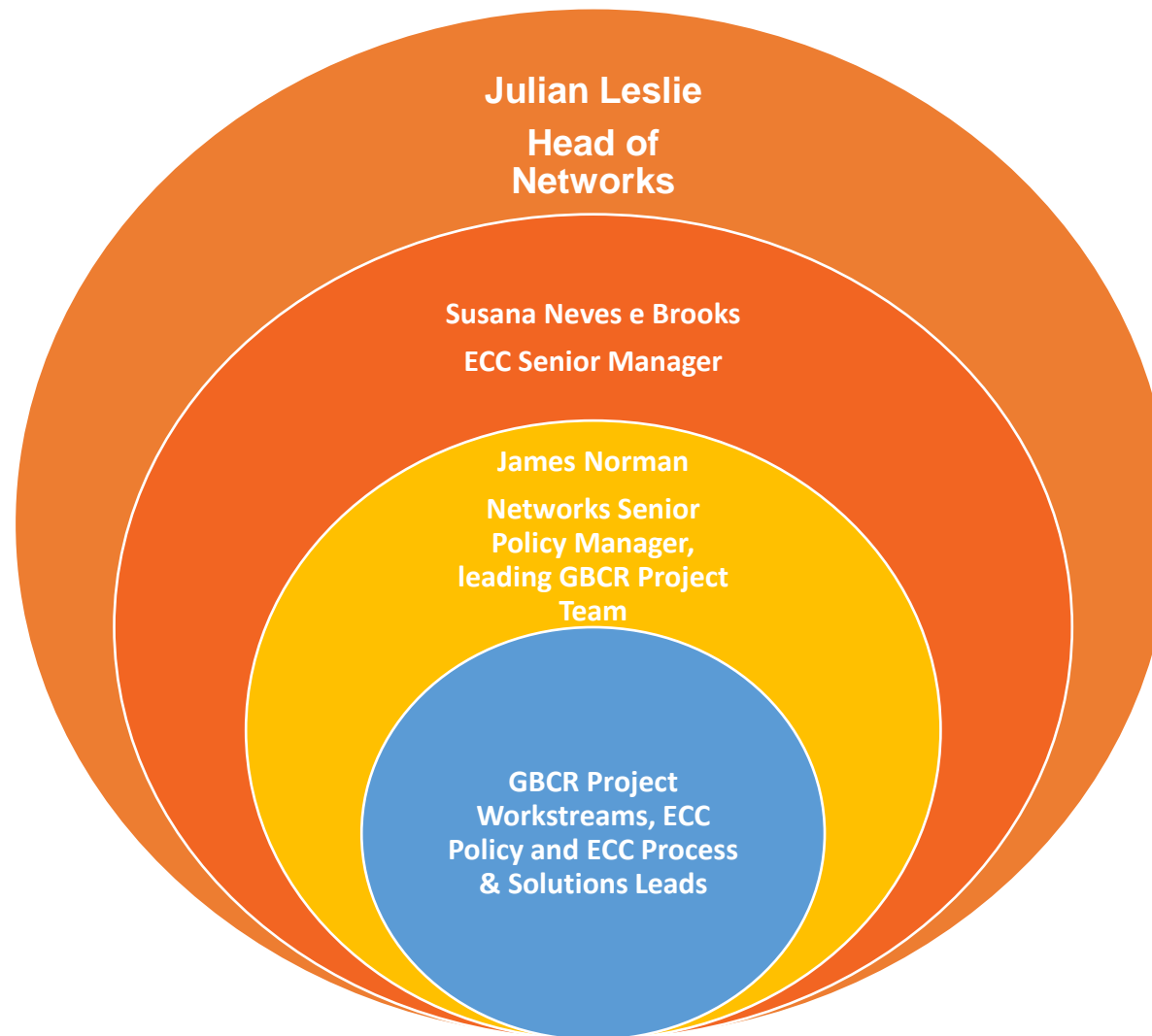
GB Connections Reform – Mission Statement

ESO CONNECTIONS REFORM



- ▶ Whole System Approach to Transmission Connections
- ▶ Improvement to Customer Experience & Engagement
- ▶ Alignment with GB Energy Strategy and delivery of value to end consumers
- ▶ Supports the delivery of NetZero
- ▶ Enable a process that advances the projects that are ready to connect
- ▶ Process that embraces diversity and complexity of Connections within an evolving Energy System
- ▶ Future proof process [new framework for periodic reviews & simplify change]

GB Connections Reform – ESO Leadership Team



GB Connections Reform in one page

CURRENT STATE

The queue for applications to Connect to the Grid at both distribution and transmission level has increased exponentially
The way in which these processes work was not designed for the volume and agility now required
The modelling of these future connections is driving an unprecedented level of reinforcements required on the system, creating system planning challenges
The pace we need to transform our energy system including encouraging the right mix of technologies means that this is likely to increase

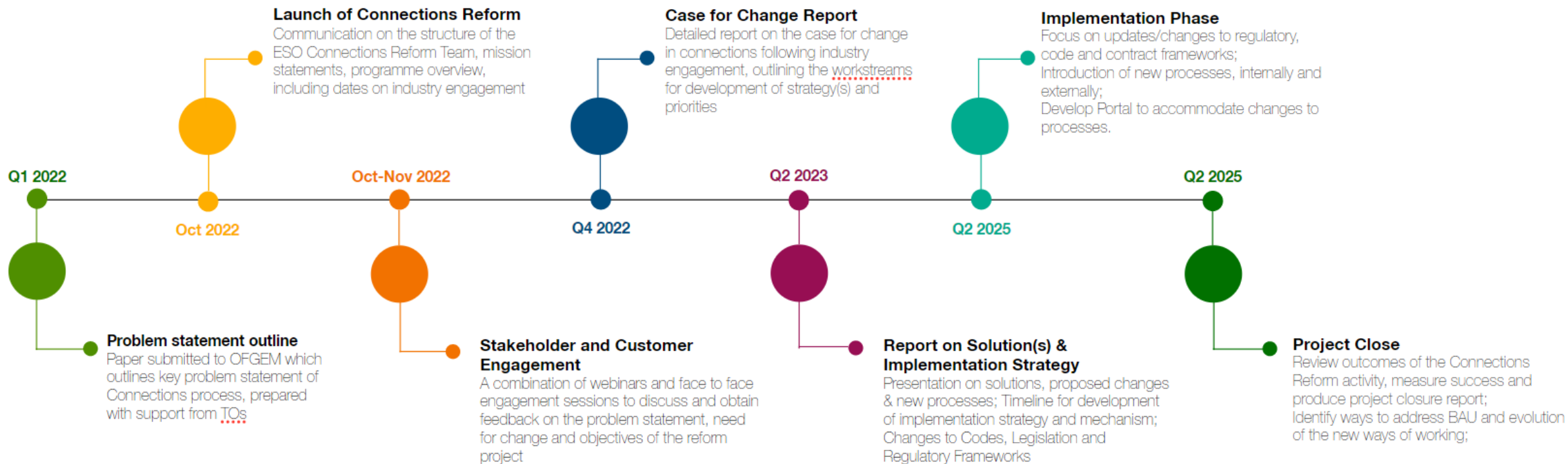
CHALLENGE

Progress to enable decarbonisation of the UK Energy system will be inhibited should nothing change
The current process doesn't enable us to easily assess progress to Net Zero goals and take corrective actions
Potential for wasted effort and unnecessary spend leading to consumers paying more than required

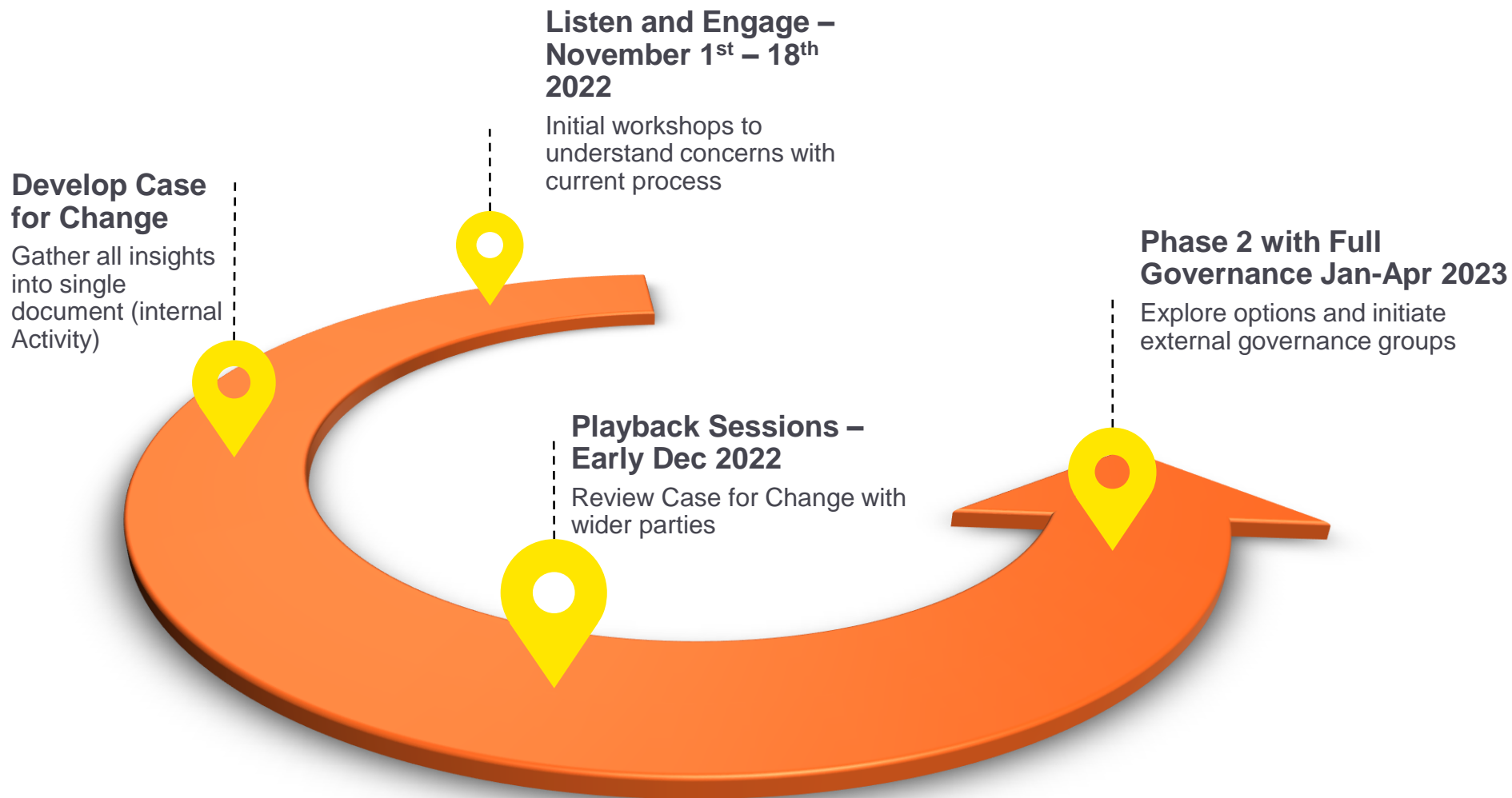
WAY FORWARD

Involve all parties to reform the connections process across OFGEM, TOs, DNOs, key Energy Stakeholders and Customers to ensure focus on the right outcomes
Look more holistically at the challenges and ensure the right reforms are targeted across the system
Create a fit for purpose process that enables us to progress the net zero aims and other whole system goals

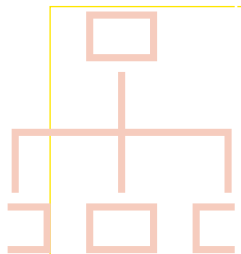
Connections Reform - Timeline



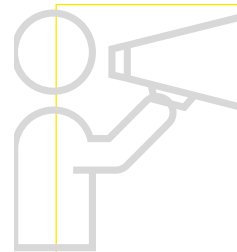
GB Connections Reform – How will we Engage You



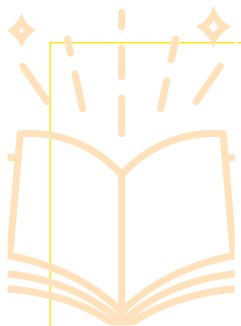
Connections Reform – What will happen next?



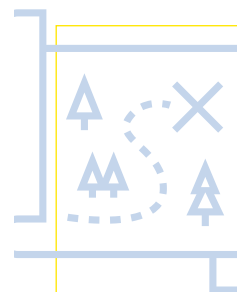
Define and communicate Governance Model



Release detailed stakeholder engagement programme



Share Pre-Read content for Customer and Stakeholder Engagement Sessions



Release first draft of the Connections Reform Customer Journey Map

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SEMINAR CLOSING PANEL

Panel

Transmission Connections: Challenges and Opportunities

Susana Neves e Brooks, Head of Customer Connections NGENSO

Paul Hawker, Head, Electricity Network Connections, BEIS

Harriet Harmon, Head of Electricity Network Charging and Connections, OFGEM

Merlin Hyman, Chief Executive, Regen

Thank you for attending today's seminar

Please provide feedback now on Sli.do:

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