



# Impact of Forward-Looking Queue Management Milestones

## Background to illustrative examples

Requirement to submit the application for planning consent at the earliest of:

- i) the Queue Management Milestone M1 (“M1”) calculated back from the connection date (as per current CMP376 methodology); or
- ii) M1 calculated forwards from the Gate 2 offer acceptance date (based on an agreed standard time period calculated from the date that the Gate 2 offer is accepted for each planning type) to move from Queue Management Milestone M3 (“M3”) to M1.

The following slides show attached examples of how forward calculated M1 and M2 would work with some illustrative time periods for discussion. There are four principle examples, with completion dates in 2030, 2032, 2033 and 2035 and in each case, two scenarios, the first with “typical” timescales for the main planning regimes, the second with illustrative reduced timescales that assumes more planning work is done ahead of Gate 2 i.e. in parallel with securing land.

We have also at the request of the Workgroup, added in illustrative examples of how forward calculated M1 would work for a staged connection (same technology) and a staged connection (different technologies)

## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025  
Connection Date – 1 April 2030

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated	<del>1 June 2027</del>	<del>1 June 2027</del>	<del>1 December 2027</del>	<del>1 December 2028</del>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (36 months from Connection Date)	<b>1 April 2027</b>	<b>1 April 2027</b>	<b>1 April 2027</b>	<b>1 April 2027</b>
M2 forward calculated from M1 <b>(assumed 18 months*)</b>	<del>1 October 2028</del>	<del>1 October 2028</del>	<del>1 October 2028</del>	<del>1 October 2028</del>
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated 24 months from Connection Date)	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>

\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

**Text in green shows what the Queue Management Milestones would be in the Construction Agreement**

## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025

Connection Date – 1 April 2030

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated	<b>1 December 2026</b>	<b>1 December 2026</b>	<del>1 June 2027</del>	<del>1 December 2027</del>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (36 months from Connection Date)	1 April 2027	1 April 2027	<b>1 April 2027</b>	<b>1 April 2027</b>
M2 forward calculated from M1 ( <b>assumed 18 months**</b> )	<del>1 June 2028</del>	<del>1 June 2028</del>	<del>1 December 2028</del>	<del>1 June 2029</del>
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated 24 months from Connection Date)	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>	<b>1 April 2028</b>

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

\*\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

**Text in green shows what the Queue Management Milestones would be in the Construction Agreement**

## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

**Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025**  
**Connection Date – 1 April 2032**

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 December 2027</b>	<del>1 December 2028</del>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	<del>1 April 2028</del>	<del>1 April 2028</del>	<del>1 April 2028</del>	<b>1 April 2028</b>
M2 forward calculated from M1 <b>(assumed 18 months*)</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 June 2029</b>	<b>1 October 2029</b>
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	<del>1 October 2029</del>	<del>1 October 2029</del>	<del>1 October 2029</del>	<b>1 October 2029</b>

\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

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## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025

Connection Date – 1 April 2032

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated	1 December 2026	1 December 2026	1 June 2027	1 December 2027
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028
M2 forward calculated from M1 <b>(assumed 18 months**)</b>	1 June 2028	1 June 2028	1 December 2028	1 June 2029
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	1 October 2029	1 October 2029	1 October 2029	1 October 2029

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

\*\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

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## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025

Connection Date – 1 April 2033

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 December 2027</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	1-April-2029	1-April-2029	1-April-2029	1-April-2029
M2 forward calculated from M1 <b>(assumed 18 months*)</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 June 2029</b>	<b>1 June 2030</b>
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	1-October-2030	1-October-2030	1-October-2030	1-October-2030

\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

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## Queue Management Milestones – Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025

Connection Date – 1 April 2033

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated	1 December 2026	1 December 2026	1 June 2027	1 December 2027
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	1 April 2029	1 April 2029	1 April 2029	1 April 2029
M2 forward calculated from M1 ( <b>assumed 18 months**</b> )	1 June 2028	1 June 2028	1 December 2028	1 June 2029
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	1 October 2030	1 October 2030	1 October 2030	1 October 2030

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

\*\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

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## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

**Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025**  
**Connection Date – 1 April 2035**

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 June 2027</b>	<b>1 December 2027</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	<del>1 April 2031</del>	<del>1 April 2031</del>	<del>1 April 2031</del>	<del>1 April 2031</del>
M2 forward calculated from M1 <b>(assumed 18 months*)</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 December 2028</b>	<b>1 June 2029</b>	<b>1 June 2030</b>
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	<del>1 October 2032</del>	<del>1 October 2032</del>	<del>1 October 2032</del>	<del>1 October 2032</del>

\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

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## Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 and M2 forward looking (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer – 1 December 2025

Connection Date – 1 April 2035

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated	1 December 2026	1 December 2026	1 June 2027	1 December 2027
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date)	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031
M2 forward calculated from M1 ( <b>assumed 18 months**</b> )	1 June 2028	1 June 2028	1 December 2028	1 June 2029
M2 - based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (30 months from Connection Date)	1 October 2032	1 October 2032	1 October 2032	1 October 2032

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

\*\* Based on current Queue Management Milestones, 18 months is the longest time allowed between M1 and M2.

**Text in green shows what the Queue Management Milestones would be in the Construction Agreement**

Queue Management Milestones – Example if M1 forward looking for a staged connection in same Construction Agreement and same technology with a different Queue Management appendix (Appendix Q) for each stage (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering both Stage 1 and Stage 2 – 1 December 2025  
 Connection Date – 1 April 2032 (Stage 1); 1 April 2035 (Stage 2)

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated – Stage 1	1 June 2027	1 June 2027	1 December 2027	1 December 2028
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 1	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028
M1 forward calculated – Stage 2	1 June 2027	1 June 2027	1 December 2027	1 December 2028
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 2	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031

Text in green shows what the Queue Management Milestones would be in the Construction Agreement

Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 forward looking for a staged connection in same Construction Agreement and same technology with a different Queue Management appendix (Appendix Q) for each stage (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering both Stage 1 and Stage 2 – 1 December 2025  
Connection Date – 1 April 2032 (Stage 1); 1 April 2035 (Stage 2)

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated – Stage 1	1 December 2026	1 December 2026	1 June 2027	1 December 2027
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 1	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028	1 April 2028
M1 forward calculated – Stage 2	1 December 2026	1 December 2026	1 June 2027	1 December 2027
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 2	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031	1 April 2031

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

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Queue Management Milestones – Example if M1 forward looking for a staged connection in same Construction Agreement and different technology with a different Queue Management appendix (Appendix Q) for each technology (typical timescales based on views provided by some Workgroup Members)

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering Stage 1 – 1 December 2025

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering Stage 2 – 1 December 2027

Connection Date – 1 April 2032 (Stage 1); 1 April 2035 (Stage 2)

Assumes Stage 1 follows a DCO process and Stage 2 follows a Town and Country Planning process

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (18 months)*	Section 36 (18 months)	DNS – Wales only (2 years)	DCO (3 years)
M1 forward calculated – Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 December 2028
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>1 April 2028</b>
M1 forward calculated – Stage 2	<b>1 June 2029</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 2	<del>1 April 2031</del>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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Queue Management Milestones –Example if M1 forward looking for a staged connection in same Construction Agreement and different technology with a different Queue Management appendix (Appendix Q) for each technology (ESO proposed timescales)

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering Stage 1 – 1 December 2025

Signed Gate 2 Offer covering Stage 2 – 1 December 2027

Connection Date – 1 April 2032 (Stage 1); 1 April 2035 (Stage 2)

Assumes Stage 1 follows a DCO process and Stage 2 follows a Town and Country Planning process

Illustrative dates for discussion:	Town and Country Planning (1 year)*	Section 36 (1year)	DNS – Wales only (18 months)	DCO (2 years)
M1 forward calculated – Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>1 December 2027</b>
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 April 2028
M1 forward calculated – Stage 2	<b>1 December 2028</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a
M1 based on CMP376 – backwards calculated (48 months from Connection Date) – Stage 2	1 April 2031	n/a	n/a	n/a

\* Have assumed developers will do land and some planning work in parallel so have took some time off the typical timescales provided by Workgroup but this is just for illustration.

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## Queue Management Milestones – Pre-Construction

<b>Conditional Progression Milestones</b>	<b>From 0 up to 2 years (0 – 729 days) from contracted Completion date</b>	<b>2 up to 3 years (730 – 1094 days) from contracted Completion date</b>	<b>3 up to 4 years (1095 to 1459 days) from contracted Completion date</b>	<b>4 up to 5 years (1460 – 1824 days) from contracted Completion date</b>	<b>5 years (1825 days) and above from contracted Completion date</b>
<b>Milestones:</b>	All durations referenced back from contracted Completion Date				
<b>M1 - Initiated Statutory Consents and Planning Permission</b>	Bilaterally negotiated	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
<b>M2 - Secured Statutory Consents and Planning Permission</b>		12 months	18 months	24 months	30 months
<b>M3 - Secure Land Rights</b>		21 months	27 months	39 months	51 months