

December 2nd, 2024

Submitted via email: box.connectionsreform@nationalenergyso.com

Re: Hydrostor's Response to Great Britain's Connections Reform Consultation

To whom it may concern,

Hydrostor, a Canadian company investing in Great Britain, is pleased to submit comments to the NESO Connections Reform Consultation. Hydrostor is a technology provider and developer of 8+ hour long duration energy storage (LDES) through our Advanced-Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES) technology. A-CAES provides low-cost, long-duration energy storage that is 100% emission-free and can be flexibly located.

Our response is written from an LDES perspective. Hydrostor has opted to provide such feedback as we expect this to be an underrepresented technology in the consultation responses issued to the NESO. Given the critical role that LDES technologies will play in achieving Clean Power 2030 and beyond, this response seeks to ensure that proposals give due attention to emerging technologies such as LDES.

Hydrostor recognises the importance of connections reform and is a strong supporter of the NESO's intention to align the connections process with the Government's Clean Power 2030 (and beyond) Action Plan. These reforms, if done correctly, will assist the country in meeting its decarbonisation goals while ensuring grid reliability and affordability for the bill payers. The comments attached follow four main recommendations/themes:

- **The time horizon needs to include 2031-2035.** This will be required for investor confidence and to enable investment in long-lead time assets.
- **The delineation of short and long duration storage** will be critical to ensure LDES is not inadvertently deemed 'oversupplied' despite a stated need for an additional 3-5GW by 2030.
- **Prompt clarification** of definition/scale of the pathways for each technology, timings of 'Gate 2 to whole queue' process and sequencing of implementation steps will allow continued early development expenditure.
- **Locational diversity of LDES** assets is critical to the cost-effective integration of intermittent renewable generation technologies, which are by their nature inherently diverse in location. Prompt clarification of the zones for each technology will allow developers to assess the viability of their developments.

Hydrostor appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this matter and looks forward to the ongoing engagement with the NESO. Please reach out if further information is required.

Yours sincerely,

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