

Public

Ref: FOI/24/0026

National Energy System Operator

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20 January 2025

Dear requester

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 17 December 2024.

Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) as we believe that the requested information falls within the definition of environmental information as set out in Regulation 2(1) the EIR. The exemption at Section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) covers information that a public body is obliged to consider under the EIR and has the effect of routing all requests for environmental information via the EIR rather than the FOIA.

Request

You asked:

1. Could you please segment the existing **clean energy developers** in the queue on the basis of their connection dates as follows. I understand that excel technology can expedite requests such as this:
2. Could you please provide the total number of clean energy developers in the queue and break those numbers down into the mix of technologies: solar, wind, etc
3. Can you provide the average wait time *for clean energy developers is?*
4. Can you say where in the country the average wait is the longest?
5. What is the sum of the expected energy capacity of the five applicants at the back of the queue (those with the longest waits ahead of them)

Our response

We can confirm that NESO holds information in scope of your request.

Questions 1, 2 and 5

The Transmission Entry Capacity (TEC) register is a list of existing and future connection projects that can be directly connected to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) or make use of it.

The TEC register is updated twice weekly and published here: [Transmission Entry Capacity \(TEC\) register | National Energy System Operator](#).

The current version of the TEC register can be downloaded as a CSV file and sorted by relevant columns:

- Column G shows a project's 'cumulative total capacity (MW)'
- Column H shows a project's 'effective date'
- Column L shows a project's 'plant type'

The TEC register is supplemented by our Connections 360 portal which you can register to access: [Connections 360 | National Energy System Operator](#)

Questions 3 and 4

In 2024 National Grid ESO commissioned Regen to assess the planning status of the UK electricity transmission project pipeline. The Regen NESO Transmission Pipeline Report includes analysis of the development timeframes of renewable energy projects.

The Regen report was disclosed in response to a previous request for information received by NESO.

The response letter and disclosed information for this previous request can be accessed through NESO's Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) disclosure log, within the 'Oct to Dec 2024' tab: [Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations | National Energy System Operator](#). The reference number of the relevant request is **FOI/24/0014**.

This concludes our response to your request.

Advice and assistance

For further information on Connections please see our website: [Connections | National Energy System Operator](#).

You may be aware that NESO announced the implementation of new arrangements which will pause connections applications (with some exceptions) as of 29 January. Further information is available here: [Next steps in grid connections reform | National Energy System Operator](#)

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter.

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team

National Energy System Operator (NESO)