

RenewableUK
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United Kingdom

08 August 2025

Kayte O'Neill
Chief Operating Officer. National Energy System Operator
Faraday House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick CV34 6DA

Via email

Dear Kayte,

As we come towards the end of the additional window extension, NESO will have the opportunity to announce the 10-day notice of closure of the Gate 2 submissions window on Monday, 11 August. We recognise and welcome the tireless effort NESO has put in to rectifying the issues with the Gate 2 portal and acknowledge that many of our members' projects are now able to submit.

However, significant issues remain. As we have previously stated, we believe that until all projects have had a full period of ten working days to submit without issues preventing them from doing so, NESO may not be regarded as having fulfilled its duties under the CUSC and could be subject to legal challenge. We know that many of our members are still experiencing issues that are preventing them from submitting. We also recognise that further delaying the closure of the submission window poses risks to downstream milestones and indefinite delay to the window's closure will cause issues for projects with earlier connection dates.

With this in mind, there are a number of conditions that we believe NESO must meet in order to provide comfort to the industry that notice of intent to close can be given:

- **Projects that have engaged in good faith with the process must be given the opportunity to submit.** This should include enhanced engagement (including calls with customers) as more projects make it through the submission window, which should free up NESO resources to provide enhanced support.
- **If projects are unable to submit via the portal and NESO is unable to fix their issue(s), NESO must provide an alternative submission pathway.** There

should be no negative impact on queue position for projects that are submitted via this alternate pathway.

- **Projects must be given the opportunity to edit and resubmit.** This may be to make changes to remove workarounds that are no longer valid, but may also be because the longer window has resulted in material changes in project status that will require an altered submission.
- **NESO must set out in detail the planned procedure for managing queries and challenges post-gate closure.** This must include a clear dispute mechanism, as many of our members have lost confidence in the process and may wish to challenge the outcome of the queue reorder. A clear dispute mechanism may also help avoid legal challenge.
- **NESO must explain the impact that the delay will have to future application windows.** For continued project development, members need immediate and detailed information on the timelines, duration and availability of the next opportunities for submission ahead of the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP).

Further to this, NESO must now start to address issues outside of the Gate 2 Window, particularly BAU connections, which have been severely impacted by the effects of the delay. We strongly recommend that NESO reinstate Connections Account Managers (CAMs) to address these urgent BAU issues and avoid legal challenge.

We once again reiterate how much we appreciate the hard work of the NESO team in challenging circumstances and the engagement and openness that NESO has shown with us. Industry is united with NESO in wanting this process to be a success, and we hope to continue to work towards a successful closure of the process.

Yours sincerely,



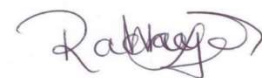
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