

# **New Minimum Information Requirements for Distribution Demand Connections ( $\geq 5$ MVA)**

**1<sup>st</sup> June 2026**

## New Minimum Info Requirements for Demand Connections (≥5 MVA)

Guidance for Demand Connection Applications Submitted to Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) at or above 5MVA.

Effective from 01<sup>st</sup> June 2026

### Executive Summary

Demand connection applications of 5MVA and above have increased significantly across the UK. In response, Ofgem issued a letter on 6 November 2025 outlining its expectation that DNOs strengthen the information required at the point of application to ensure that projects entering the connection queue are sufficiently developed and demonstrably viable.

Under the governance of the ENA Strategic Connections Group (SCG), DNOs and Transmission Operators (TOs) have worked together to strengthen and clarify queue entry requirements for larger demand connections. These updates complement earlier reforms introduced for generation projects in January 2025 and are aligned with the Connections Action Plan (CAP), the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan (CP30) and Ofgem's Demand Connections Reform Call for Input.

This guidance sets out the minimum information required for demand connections of 5MVA or above and provides additional guidance on the new requirements introduced through Ofgem's updates to the Electricity Distribution Regulatory Instructions and Guidance (RIGs) published on 16 April 2026. These requirements apply to all eligible applications received from 01<sup>st</sup> June 2026.

For more information refer to Ofgem's decision document [here](#).

### Purpose and Implementation

The purpose of these new minimum information requirements is to support a clearer and better-informed application process for demand connections at or above 5MVA, that aligns more closely with the process for generation connections and is applied more consistently across DNOs.

By ensuring that applicants provide a clearly defined set of core information at the point of application, DNOs can assess proposals more accurately, progress viable projects more quickly and improve transparency for customers. This approach also helps maintain a well-managed connections queue, enabling network capacity and resource to be focused where projects have demonstrated an appropriate level of readiness.

These updated minimum information requirements will apply to all eligible applications from **01<sup>st</sup> June 2026**.

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## 1.0 Scope

### 1.1 Scope

This document outlines the new minimum information requirements that will apply to demand applications for distribution connections, including non-contestable only requests, where the total requested import capacity is 5MVA or above. Submission of all minimum information determines the start date for the provision of a quote. The full list of minimum information is found in this document for metered demand quotations (2.1) and metered demand SLC15 quotations (2.2). However, we also recommend referring to Annex G of Ofgem's RIGs (Connections), as this guidance can change over time. The version in force when the quotation is prepared should be treated as the applicable standard.

More details on the new minimum information requirements can be found in section 1.2 below, and sections 3 – 7 of this document.

### 1.2 New or modified requirements

For all in-scope applications as set out above, the following items are now included as minimum information requirements and are further detailed in this document.

- **Letter of Authority:** A signed letter from the Customer, Landowner or Leaseholder authorising the Applicant to act on their behalf for the purposes of submitting and progressing a connection application.
- **Heads of Terms:** A document outlining the key commercial and land arrangements agreed in principle between the Landowner or Leaseholder and the Applicant/Customer.
- **Site Plan:** A drawing showing the site boundary and key features relevant to the proposed electricity connection.
- **Single Line Diagram:** A simplified high-level diagram showing how the site's main electrical equipment connects together and interfaces with the DNO network.
- **Preliminary Project Timeline:** a document identifying the key activities that underpin the milestones needed to meet the requested connection date .

## 2.0 Ofgem Regulatory Instructions and Guidance: Annex G - Connections

Sections 2.1 and 2.2 below replicate the minimum information requirements defined in Ofgem's RIGs Annex G<sup>1</sup> for:

- Metered demand quotation applications
- SLC15 quotation application

### 2.1 Minimum information needed for a metered demand connection quotation (≥5 MVA):

- Customer name and address (correspondence address), other contact details and preferred method of contact.
- Site address.
- Site plan at an appropriate scale that indicates the site boundary (typically outlined with a red line), the layout of buildings and roads, and where the Customer expects, or the proposed location of, a substation(s). The plan should be free of unnecessary detail and be suitable for use as a background layer for the Electricity Distributor proposal drawing.
- Proposed location of each metering point.
- Letter of authority where the applicant is acting as an agent of the Customer.
- Date when the Customer requires the connection(s) to be made.
- Maximum capacity (kVA) at each metering point to be connected (for Domestic Premises the Electricity Distributor may require a description of the premises and whether electric space and water heating is to be installed).
- Technical details of any electricity generator or storage device that is required to operate in parallel with the supply, as set out in the relevant ENA Engineering Recommendation G98 or G99 Standard Application Forms.
- Technical details of any Customer owned equipment that is likely to cause disturbance to the electricity supply (i.e. large motors, welders etc).
- Any payment that is required to be made in advance for the service to be provided.
- Where the applicant is not the existing owner/leaseholder of the site, an appropriately signed agreement of Heads of Terms for the land indicated on the site plan (red line boundary).
- Single line diagram of any existing and/or proposed electrical plant (for Demand Applications this is only required where there is customer owned equipment likely to cause disturbance).
- A preliminary project timeline.

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<sup>1</sup> An accurate replication (abridged for items relevant to demand applications at 5MVA or above only) at the time of publication of this document. While best efforts will be made to keep this ENA guidance document up-to-date, we recommend that reference should be made to Ofgem's RIGs, which may be amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time, and which shall be treated as setting out the prevailing standards applicable at the relevant time.

## 2.2 Minimum information needed for an SLC 15 demand connection quotation ( $\geq 5$ MVA):

- Customer name and address (correspondence address), other contact details and preferred method of contact
- Site address/location
- Site plan at an appropriate scale that indicates the site boundary (typically outlined with a red line), and where the Customer expects, or the proposed location of, a substation(s). For sites to be adopted by the DNO, the layout of buildings and roads shall be included. The plan should be free of unnecessary detail.
- The service required
- Date when the Customer requires the connection(s) to be made
- Total maximum capacity (kVA) requirement (import and/or export)
- Technical details of any electricity generator or storage device that is required to operate in parallel with the supply, as set out in the relevant ENA Engineering Recommendation G98 or G99 Standard Application Forms.
- Technical details of any Customer owned equipment that is likely to cause disturbance to the electricity supply (large motors, welders etc).
- Any payment that is required to be made in advance for the service to be provided.
- Letter of authority where the applicant is acting as an agent of the Customer.
- Where the applicant is not the existing owner/leaseholder of the site, an appropriately signed agreement of Heads of Terms for the land indicated on the site plan (red line boundary).
- Single Line Diagram of any existing and/or proposed electrical plant (for Demand Applications this is only required where there is customer owned equipment likely to cause disturbance).
- A preliminary project timeline.

The rest of this document will provide further details on the new or modified minimum information requirements for demand connections at or above 5MVA.

### 3.0 Letter of Authority

A Letter of Authority (LoA) is required for all in-scope applications where the Applicant is acting on behalf of the Customer or Landowner/Leaseholder.

The parties who may be involved in applying for a connection can broadly be summarised as follows:

- **Applicant** – The organisation or individual submitting a connection application to the Distribution Network Operator. This includes any Independent Connection Provider (ICP) who is not the Customer or Landowner...
- **Customer** – The end-user or developer for whom the connection is being sought.
- **Landowner/Leaseholder** – The legal owner or holder of leasehold rights for the land associated with the connection application.

A party (person or legal entity) may take on all or more than one of the above roles. For example, the Applicant might also be the Customer, or they could be both the Customer and the Landowner/Leaseholder.

#### 3.1 When to provide a LoA

A LoA is required whenever the Applicant is acting on behalf of another party. It confirms what actions the Applicant is authorised to carry out in relation to the connection, and identifies any other parties involved. Where the Applicant is the Landowner/Leaseholder or Customer and is submitting the application, a LoA is not required.

The table below describes the circumstances in which a LoA is required. Note that a single LoA may cover multiple sites owned by the same Landowner/Leaseholder, provided each site is clearly referenced within the document.

Applicant	Letter of Authority Required?
Is the Customer and the Landowner/Leaseholder	No LoA required
Is the Customer but not the Landowner/Leaseholder	Yes - between Applicant (Customer) and Landowner/Leaseholder
Is the Landowner/Leaseholder but not the Customer	Yes - between Applicant and Customer
Is not the Customer or Landowner/Leaseholder	Yes – between Applicant and Customer Yes – between Applicant and Landowner/Leaseholder

### 3.2 Minimum content of the LoA

Please note that specific documentation requirements may vary between DNOs, and Applicants should adhere to the minimum information standards required by the relevant DNO. This may include:

- Customer (Grantor of authority)
  - Legal name of the Customer and/or Landowner/Leaseholder giving authority.
  - Company number (if applicable).
  - Registered/correspondence address.
  - Authorised signatory's name and role.
- Applicant
  - Legal name of the Applicant.
  - Company number (if applicable).
  - Registered/correspondence address.
  - Primary contact name, email and phone.
- Site identification
  - Full site address to which the authority applies. If covering more than one site, attach a schedule of sites (each clearly identified).
- Scope of authority
  - The specific actions the Applicant is authorised to carry out, at a minimum:
    - submit and manage the DNO connection application(s) for the site(s)
    - receive and discuss technical/commercial information with the DNO
- Validity
  - a) The LoA must have been signed by all parties within the 12 months prior to the application, and
  - b) must state a start date and expiry date to avoid indefinite authority to act on their behalf in respect of the site (unless clearly stated otherwise)
- Execution
  - Issued on the Customer's letterhead (where a company);
  - signed and dated by the authorised signatory.

## 4.0 Heads of Terms

A Heads of Terms (HoT) is required for all demand applications at or above 5MVA where the party seeking the connection is not the current Landowner/Leaseholder and the site has been identified for development.

### 4.1 When to provide a HoT

HoT is a document that sets out the key commercial and land arrangements agreed in principle between the Landowner and the party seeking connection for the site where the project will be developed. The table below outlines the scenarios where HoT is required.

Where a specific site not owned or leased by the party seeking connection has been identified for development, HoT is required for that site. It should outline the key terms agreed between the parties that shall form the basis of any future lease or freehold transfer.

As the HoT represents a preliminary agreement, it does not need to be legally binding, as any subsequent purchase or lease of the land is subject to contract. For avoidance of doubt, HoT will not be valid evidence of secured land rights (e.g. for the purposes of queue management milestones).

Unlike LoAs, which may be used for larger parcels of land and can be used for several sites and applications, the HoTs are unique and specific to a single site. Where the application for connection relates to a site with multiple landowners, HoT are required for each landowner.

Applicant	Heads of Terms
Is applying on behalf of a Customer who is not currently the Landowner/Leaseholder.	Yes, between Customer and Landowner
Is the Customer but not currently the Landowner/Leaseholder.	Yes, between Applicant (Customer) and Landowner
Is applying on behalf of the existing Landowner/Leaseholder (who may be the Customer)	No, subject to evidence of the Landowner’s land rights
Is the Landowner/Leaseholder	No, subject to evidence of the Landowner’s land rights

## 4.2 Minimum content of the Heads of Terms

Please note that specific documentation requirements may vary between DNOs, and Applicants should adhere to the minimum information standards required by the relevant DNO. This may include:

- **Parties:** names and where applicable, company numbers and contact details of the parties involved. As a minimum, this must include the existing Landowner (or Leaseholder) and the Applicant / Customer.
- **Description of the Land:** detailed description of location of the site. The HoT must include a red line boundary plan of the site/parcel of land to which the agreement relates.
- **Term:** length of the term of any lease.
- **Use:** permitted use of the land.
- **Conditions:** any conditions that the transaction is subject to, such as board approval or obtaining planning consent.

**The HoT must be signed by authorised signatories for both the current Landowner / Leaseholder and the Applicant / Customer. Furthermore:**

- a) all signatures must be made within the 12 months prior to the application, and**
- b) any expiry date specified must be at least 12 months from the application date.**

The Applicant's / Customer's solicitor (including in-house solicitors where applicable) must also provide written confirmation that the HoT applies to the entirety of the site that is the subject of the application.

**Example:**

An example HoT is shown in Appendix 1.

## 5.0 Site Plan

A Site Plan is a drawing showing the site boundary and key features relevant to the proposed electricity connection must align with any LoA or HoT required.

For metered demand connection applications where the DNO is to design the network, the minimum content of the Site Plan is:

- A site plan at an appropriate scale that indicates the site boundary (typically outlined with a red line), the layout of buildings and roads, and where the Customer expects, or the proposed location of, a substation(s). The plan should be free of unnecessary detail and be suitable for use as a background layer for the electricity distributor proposal drawing.

For metered demand connection applications where an ICP is to design the network, the minimum content of the Site Plan is:

- A site plan at an appropriate scale that indicates the site boundary (typically outlined with a red line), and where the Customer expects, or the proposed location of, a substation(s). For sites to be adopted by the DNO, the layout of buildings and roads shall be included. The plan should be free of unnecessary detail.

Additional detail on the Site Plan may be provided which may enable the DNO to provide a more accurate quote, for example:

- **Site grid coordinates:** Should be present on the diagram.
- **Title and Legend:** Clearly state the purpose of the diagram and explain any symbols, colours, and abbreviations used in the diagram. This ensures that the diagram is easily understandable.
- **Connection Points:** Show where the site will connect to the DNO network. This improves planning the integration of the site into the existing network.
- **Scale and Orientation:** Indicate the scale used in the diagram and show the orientation of the site. This provides context and helps in visualising the site layout. Use a consistent metric scale and confirm any DNO-specific scale/sheet-size requirements before submission.
- **Annotations and Notes:** Provide additional information and relevant notes to explain specific parts of the site. This adds clarity and detail to the diagram.

### Example:

- An illustrative example site drawing is shown in Appendix 2.

## 6.0 Single Line Diagram

A Single Line Diagram (SLD) is a clear, simplified drawing that shows how the site's main electrical equipment connects and interfaces with the DNO network.

For both metered demand connection applications where the DNO is to design the network and where an ICP is to design the network, the minimum content of the SLD is:

- An SLD of any existing and/or proposed electrical plant. Please note that, for demand applications at 5MVA or above, this is only required where there is customer owned equipment likely to cause disturbance (i.e. Impacts from the installation that could impact the quality or stability of the electricity network).

The SLD must include as a minimum:

- clearly identify where the customer's electrical plant is intended to connect to the DNO's network (the Supply Point),
- the main switchgear and how it links the Supply Point to the customer plant,
- any transformers that form part of the connection arrangement.

Additional detail on the SLD may be provided which may enable the DNO to provide a more accurate quote, for example:

- The **protection devices** including details of all protection devices and the switchgear that it will operate.
- The location and type of **meters** used for measuring electricity imported from and exported to the DNO's network.
- An outline of the **cabling** between all units and the associated plant and equipment, including their ratings.
- The **earthing arrangements** showing the earthing system to ensure safety and compliance with regulations.
- **Load Details:** Provide information on the loads connected to the system, if applicable

Disturbing Loads:

Any equipment which may interfere with the DNO network or the supply of electricity to others (e.g. apparatus which can cause voltage fluctuations, such as large motors associated with air conditioning systems, lifts, cranes, hoists and other similar plant; or apparatus which can produce harmonics, such as uninterruptible power supplies, electronic control systems or inverters used in high capacity EV chargers).

**Example:**

- An illustrative example SLD is shown in Appendix 3.

## 7.0 Preliminary Project Timeline

A requested connection date must be included as part of the connection application. Before applying, the Applicant is expected to have taken reasonable steps to review and ensure that the requested date is both viable and realistic considering the timescale to plan and construct the facility.

To support this, the Applicant must provide a preliminary project plan. This is not a full project management document. Instead, it is a document identifying the key activities that underpin the milestones needed to meet the requested connection date. Its purpose is to show that the project has been thought through in sufficient detail and that the proposed timeline is achievable.

For clarity, DNOs will not hold the customer to the dates in the plan, nor require that detailed planning documents are submitted as part of the application, but early engagement with the DNO is encouraged before submitting the application, as this will help shape a realistic timeline.

Please note that dates provided in the preliminary project plan are for planning purposes only and will not automatically alter queue management/customer progression milestones, which will be communicated to the Customer in their Connection Offer from the DNO.

The preliminary project plan should demonstrate that the requested connection date is credible by providing clear and realistic interim dates / timescales that reflect:

- Type of planning process the Applicant expects to follow
- Any need for Environmental Impact Assessments
- Any need for third party land rights
- Assumptions on equipment lead times
- The anticipated offer acceptance date
- The anticipated planning consent submittal date / approval date
- The date by which the Applicant expects to provide full instruction to the DNO/ICP to proceed with detailed design and construction works
- The date the Applicant expects to place the order for the main plant
- The date the Applicant expects to start / complete site construction works
- The date the Applicant expects to commence commissioning works

If beneficial, commentary can be added to each element of the timeline, particularly if the date may otherwise seem unrealistic. Please note – generic statements such as “as soon as possible” or “TBC” will not be accepted.

### Example:

- A template for the provision of the preliminary project timeline is available to provide further support. See Appendix 4.

## 8.0 Glossary

Term	Definition
<b>Applicant</b>	The organisation or individual submitting a connection application to the Distribution Network Operator. This includes any Independent Connection Provider (ICP) who is not the Customer or Landowner, below.
<b>Common Connection Charging Methodology (CCCM)</b>	The charging methodology published by each DNO under DCUSA, setting out connection charging rules and minimum information requirements.
<b>Connection Date</b>	The date on which the Applicant requests the connection to be energised.
<b>Customer</b>	The end-user or developer for whom the connection is being sought.
<b>Development Consent Order (DCO)</b>	A statutory planning route for certain large infrastructure projects requiring national consent.
<b>Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA)</b>	A multi-party industry agreement governing the use of the distribution system and the associated charging arrangements.
<b>Distribution Network Operator (DNO)</b>	The licensed company responsible for operating, maintaining and developing the electricity distribution network in its region.
<b>Earthing Arrangements</b>	The method by which a site's electrical installation is earthed and interfaces with the DNO network.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	A statutory process for identifying and assessing potential environmental effects of a proposed development.
<b>Heads of Terms (HoT)</b>	A document outlining the key commercial and land arrangements agreed in principle between the Landowner or Leaseholder and the Applicant/Customer.
<b>Landowner / Leaseholder</b>	The legal owner or holder of leasehold rights for the land associated with the connection application.
<b>Letter of Authority (LoA)</b>	A signed letter from the Customer, Landowner or Leaseholder authorising the Applicant to act on their behalf for the purposes of submitting and progressing a connection application.
<b>Load Details</b>	Information on the significant loads connected to the system, including any large or disturbing loads.
<b>Protection Devices</b>	Equipment such as circuit breakers, relays or fuses used to provide electrical protection within the Applicant's installation.
<b>Red Line Boundary</b>	A clearly marked boundary on a plan showing the full extent of the site relevant to the connection request.
<b>Regulatory Instructions and Guidance (RIGs)</b>	Ofgem's reporting and information framework, including minimum information requirements for connection applications.

Term	Definition
<b>Requested Capacity</b>	The maximum import capacity requested as part of the connection application.
<b>Site Plan</b>	A drawing showing the site boundary and key features relevant to the proposed electricity connection.
<b>Single Line Diagram (SLD)</b>	A simplified high-level diagram showing how the site’s main electrical equipment connects together and interfaces with the DNO network.
<b>Standard Licence Condition 15 (SLC 15)</b>	A condition of the electricity distribution licence granted by Ofgem to DNOs defining DNO obligations relating to the provision of connection services and publication of minimum information documents.
<b>Supply Point</b>	The point at which the Applicant’s electrical system will connect to the DNO’s network.
<b>Third-Party Land Rights</b>	Land rights outside the Applicant’s ownership or control that are required to deliver the proposed connection.
<b>Transmission Operator (TO)</b>	A licensed company responsible for constructing, operating and maintaining the electricity transmission system in its region.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1. Heads of Terms Example.

#### Heads of Terms for Data Services Energy Connection Project

**Date:** 14 November 2025

**Parties:**

1. **Landowner:** John Smith

Contact details: [john.smith@example.com](mailto:john.smith@example.com), 01234 567890

2. Applicant: DSE Ltd.

Contact details: Jane Doe, [jane.doe@anotherexample.com](mailto:jane.doe@anotherexample.com), 07876 543210

**Key Terms:**

1. **Framework for Negotiations:** The Landowner agrees to negotiate exclusively with Joe Bloggs Ltd. for a period of 6 months from the date of this agreement. The negotiations will cover the terms of the lease of the land, including price, duration, and any conditions precedent.
2. **Land Details:** The land in question is located at 123 Green Lane, Eco Town, UK, and covers an area of 50 acres. The land is identified by the red line boundary map attached to this document.
3. **Use of Land:** The land in question will be used to build a Data Centre.
4. **Duration:** the Leasehold will be for a period of 30 years.
5. **Conditions:** Subject to board approval, planning consent, and satisfactory due diligence.

Name	Role	Signature	Date
<b>John Smith</b>	Landowner		
<b>Jane Doe</b>	Applicant		

### Red Line Boundary

The land in question is located at 1 New Build Road, Commercialville, UK, and covers the area indicated below.

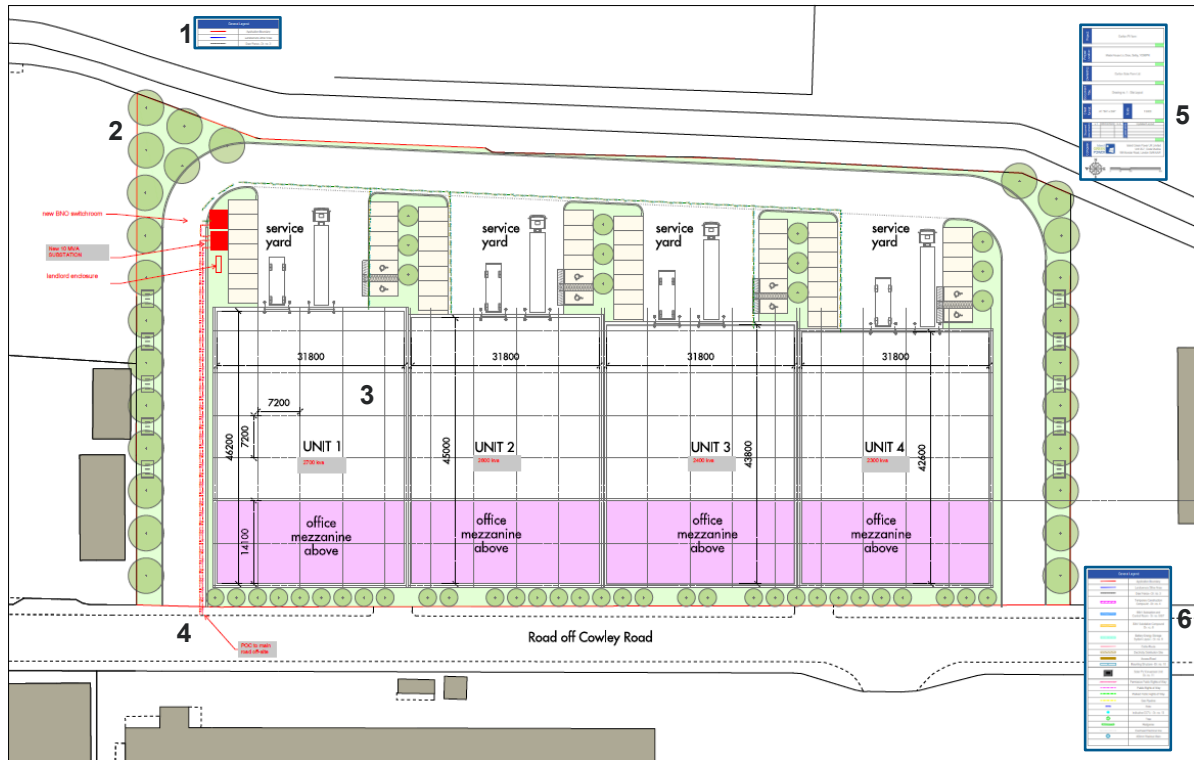


### Written Confirmation:

I confirm that the Heads of Terms attached are in connection with the land illustrated in the red line boundary plan attached and cover the entirety of the site that is the subject of an application for a connection to the electricity distribution network of [please insert].

Name	Role	Solicitor's Firm/employer	SRA ID number	Signature	Date
M Brown	Customer's solicitor (SRA Regulated)				

Appendix 2. Example Site Layout Plan:



- 1. Title and Legend:**
  - Title: Clearly state the purpose of the diagram.
  - Legend: Explain symbols, colours, and abbreviations used in the diagram.
- 2. Site Boundaries:**
  - Red Line Boundary: Clearly marked to show the extent of the site.
  - Dimensions: Accurate measurements of the site boundaries.
- 3. Key Infrastructure:**
  - Substations and Transformers: Placement of substations, transformers, and other electrical equipment.
  - Access Roads: Routes for construction and maintenance access.
- 4. Proposed Connection point(s) to DNO Network:**
  - Existing Infrastructure: Nearby substations, power lines, and other relevant infrastructure.
  - Connection Points: Where the site will connect to the DNO network.
- 5. Scale and Orientation:**
  - Scale: Indicate the scale used in the diagram.
  - North Arrow: Show the orientation of the site.
- 6. Annotations and Notes:**
  - Detailed Annotations: Provide additional information about specific parts of the site.
  - Notes: Any relevant notes that help explain the diagram



Appendix 4. Preliminary Project Timeline Template:

Background Questions	Yes / No	Comments
Do you expect / anticipate the project to be subject to an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment)?		
Do you expect / anticipate the project to have significant Third-Party Land Rights that will need to be secured beyond the site boundary?		
Are you planning to follow a Development Consent Order (DCO) based planning methodology		
Planned Dates	Date	Comments
Anticipated Acceptance Date *		
Planning Consent Submitted		
Planning Consent Secured		
Detailed Construction Programme Provided		
Financial Close (for full project)		
If different to Financial Close – Date at which Full Financial Release for DNO / ICP to proceed with Contestable Works		
Site Construction Commencement		
Main Construction Works Completed		
Commissioning Works Commenced		
Planned Energisation / Connection Date		
Planning Assumptions	Months	Comments
Assumption for Main Plant Lead Time (order to site delivery)		
Assumption for DNO Connection Works Lead Time (Financial Release to Energisation)		

\* Anticipated Acceptance Date should be no earlier than 3 months from the application date and no later than 6 or 9 months (depending on the specific DNO acceptance period)

