

All interested industry parties and stakeholders in GB

Email: opennetworks@energynetworks.org

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Open Letter to the implementation of Queue Management principles in GB

You will probably be aware of the work that ENA's Open Networks Project has already undertaken to lay the foundations for a smart energy grid in Great Britain and informing future developments in Ireland and Northern Ireland. As part of the Open Networks Project, we have developed improvements to the existing Queue Management process, with extensive stakeholder engagement and wider industry consultation. The purpose of this open letter is to update you on our implementation plans and to give all customers time to prepare for the revised approach. We are also interested in your views as to our intended approach at a transmission level. Queue management is the process by which network companies manage contracted connections which have not yet connected in connection queues. This enables network companies to:

- a) Effectively manage contracted projects if they are not progressing against agreed milestones;
- b) Remove stalled or slow-moving projects to release capacity for other projects in the connection queues; and
- c) Utilise flexible resources in connection queues to better utilise the available capacity.

Through the use of milestones and tolerances, network companies will apply queue management in a clear and consistent way to remove delayed projects from connection queues. It ensures that the network capacity is effectively made available for other customer projects that are ready to progress, this includes projects that are already in the connection queue wanting to progress faster. Effective use of network capacity will reduce network reinforcement resulting in lower cost connections and help us to reach our net Zero targets.

Following the Open Networks Steering Group approval and publication of the Queue Management User Guide¹ network companies are committed to implementing the queue management principles from 1st of July 2021. Your network companies are making the necessary internal changes to support this go-live date

A key deliverable of Open Networks is to bring consistency in approaches across network companies and hence reflecting this in the Queue Management implementation.

For a distribution companies the milestones and tolerances within the updated Queue Management process will apply to all new and modified connection applications received on or after 1st July 2021.

¹ <https://www.energynetworks.org/assets/images/ON20-WS2-P2%20Queue%20Management%20User%20Guide-PUBLISHED.23.12.20.pdf>

For transmission companies, the milestones and tolerances within the Queue Management guide will be included in all new applications and modification applications submitted from 1st July 2021 onwards. In parallel, a code modification will be raised to apply these changes formally in Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) governance. This will be raised leading up to July.

We appreciate your input to date and while we are not formally consulting on this open letter, we would welcome any input from stakeholders on our proposed way forward and how we can further implement queue management quickly and consistently across all network areas. If you require any clarification on any of queue management, please provide feedback to us by COB 01/04/2021 at the following email address:

opennetworks@energynetworks.org

