

# Timely Connections Report

1<sup>st</sup> of April 2017- 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2017

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nationalgrid



# 1.0 Introduction

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## **1.1 About the Timely Connections Report (“the Report”)**

The Report provides analysis of the new 78 licensed offers which have been made by National Grid, for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

The Report provides information on the factors that influence the connection dates being offered to customers and the timescales for connection by region. It also provides information on the type of generation seeking to connect.

In this Report we have included a section which looks at offers made under Connect and Manage arrangements and the average estimated advancement timescales provided to customers as a result a Connect and Manage offer.

**Previous copies of the Report can be found via the following link:**

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/electricity/connections/after-you-have-connected>

## **1.2 Key findings in this period**

This period in England and Wales has seen an increase from the previous reporting period with 90% of offers issued meeting the requested connection date, albeit some were provided with access restrictions which facilitated an earlier date than would have otherwise been provided.

Overall the amount of offers issued has decreased in this reporting period from 109 to 78 with the majority of applications remaining in England and Wales. 90% of projects in England and Wales have received connection dates in line with their application which is an increase of 20% from the previous period. Initiatives to improve the customer experience and the ongoing development of a connections strategy for connections in South Wales have helped to achieve this.

The issues highlighted in the previous report associated to the scale of the transmission reinforcements required still present a challenge in gaining planning consent and obtaining system access to complete transmission upgrade works. Many generation connections also remain in a ‘scoping’ phase without planning consent and therefore, there is significant uncertainty as to which generation is going to connect and in what timescales.

## **1.3 Feedback**

We are continuing to review the content and format of this Report and therefore, your views are important to us. If you would like to provide feedback or have any questions regarding this Report then please do not hesitate to contact us via the following email address:

[transmissionconnections@nationalgrid.com](mailto:transmissionconnections@nationalgrid.com)

## 2.0 Illustrative Connection Timescales

### 2.1 Customer requested date vs. date offered and average difference

The table below shows the number of offers made by ETYS region, the number where the connection date offered was later than that which the customer requested and the average connection date difference (in months):

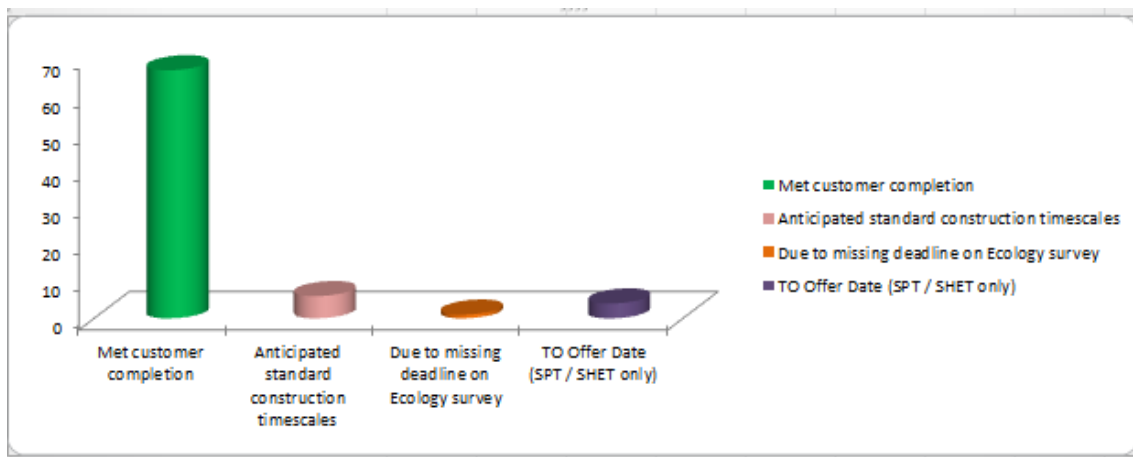
ETYS Region	No. of Offers made in period	No. with later connection date than requested	Average connection date difference <sup>**</sup> (months)
SP Transmission	17	4	7
SHE Transmission	19	4	6
West England and Wales*	12	3	8
Southern England	3	1	2
Eastern England	12	0	0
Northern England	15	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>N/A</b>

\* Please note that many of the offers in this area relate to Embedded Generation and the offer has been viewed in the context of the offer to the DNO rather than the offer to each individual Embedded Generator as is the case for Project Progression in Scotland.

\*\* Please note that for the treatment of "staged" offers (i.e. a single contract but with more than one stage of construction and / or capacity) an average has been derived for the purposes of the connection date difference. This has been achieved by summing the difference (in months) per stage and then dividing this total by the number of stages e.g. Stage 1 advancement of 12 months and Stage 2 advancement of 6 months = total 18 months (12 + 6) divided by 2 (stages) = 9 months average difference for that single contract. This value is then added to the other values for offers made within that ETYS region to determine the average connection date difference for that region.

### 2.2 Factors that have influenced connection dates offered

The bar chart below shows a summary of those factors that have influenced the connection dates which have been offered during this period:



Expressed as a percentage the factors show that for the 78 offers which were issued by National Grid during the period of 1st of April 2017- 30th of September 2017

- 86% met the customers requested completion date, some with interim access restrictions
- 8% were based upon the anticipated standard construction timescales
- 1% Due to missing deadline on Ecology survey
- 5% TO Offer Date(SPT/SHET only)

## 3.0 Size and Type of Generation Offers

### 3.1 Offers made by generation type

ETYS Region	No. of Offers made in period	Renewable	Non Renewable	Demand	Interconnector
SP Transmission	17	10	5	2	0
SHE Transmission	19	12	5	1	1
West England and Wales	12	2	6	4	0
Southern England	3	0	1	2	0
Eastern England	12	1	6	4	1
Northern England	15	7	6	2	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>

Note: The classification "Renewable" includes low carbon technology and the demand figures include 'bulk' project progression offers as referenced above.

The data shows that there continues to be significant interest in applications for (or modifications related to) renewable projects in Scotland whereas in England and Wales the applications are for a broader spectrum of technology types. The more prominent effect of various Embedded Generation technology types in certain areas within England and Wales can also be seen (primarily) in West England and Wales.

### 3.2 Offers made by generation size

ETYS Region	No. of Small Offers made	No. of Medium Offers made	No. of Large Offers made	No. of Demand Offers made
SHE Transmission	10	0	8	1
SP Transmission	4	0	11	2
England and Wales	1	1	29	11

Notes - does not include interconnectors and the majority of the 'Demand' offers in England and Wales relate to 'small' Embedded Generation rather than new demand connections. In terms of sizes the classification is as follows:

- A "Small" generator is a site that is: <10MW in SHE Transmission, <30MW in SP Transmission, <50MW across the England and Wales regions.
- A "Large" generator is a site that is: >10MW in SHE Transmission, >30MW in SP Transmission, >100MW across the England and Wales regions.
- The classification of "Medium" generator exists in the England and Wales regions and is a site that is >50MW and <100MW.

## 4.0 Connect and Manage Offers

### 4.1 Number of C&M Offers made per ETYS Region and associated advancement timescale

The table below shows the number of Connect and Manage offers made during the period by ETYS region and the associated average advancement that customer may benefit from should they choose to enter into a Connect and Manage agreement.

ETYS Region	No. of C&M offers made in period	Average Advancement (in years)	Renewable	Non Renewable
SP Transmission	17	3.6	10	5
SHE Transmission	19	5.6	11	5
West England and Wales	12	2.5	2	6
South England	3	5	0	1
East England	12	4	1	6
North England	15	4	7	6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>

Connect and Manage offers are given to those customers who request a connection date ahead of when the identified wider transmission reinforcement works can be completed. The agreements contain the requirement for derogation against the National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standards which once approved allows for a connection to be made ahead of those wider transmission reinforcement works.