

Customer Notice

Due to the large volume of applications being processed currently by EirGrid, we are undertaking a number of key measures to help ensure that the processing of applications for connection to the transmission system is done as efficiently as possible.

A prioritisation of resources is being implemented in relation to some key areas of the Offer Process (which includes managing modification requests to existing offers). The following sets out these measures at a high level:

Modification Offers: Modification requests deemed by EirGrid not to be critical to the delivery of a new project will be processed outside of the standard timelines. Customers applying for modifications to existing offers are advised to do so at least 6 months in advance of the required date for the modification offer.

Demand Load Offers: EirGrid will endeavour to check load applications within 10 business days, however we advise customers applying for a new demand connection or for an increase in an existing demand connection to do so at least 6 months ahead of the required date for the offer.

Non-Firm Connection Offers: Further to a CER Direction (see below), EirGrid is currently advancing a number of non-firm connection offers for conventional plant in order to help alleviate security of supply concerns for Winter 2009/10. Due to the tight timeframe for delivering new generation capacity, these offers are being advanced ahead of the Gate 3 process.

The delivery of the modification offers, new demand offers and non-firm offers referred to above is not expected to impact the delivery of Gate 3, however if it becomes apparent that it will, further engagement with the industry on the issue will take place.

Applications:

- The completeness check for new applications not included in Gate 3 will be deferred for the time being, however this will not impact on their deemed complete date.
- Applications for conventional plant expected to be included in Gate 3 will be checked outside the standard timelines, however this will not impact on their deemed complete date.
- Applications from Gate 3 applicants modifying their Maximum Export Capacity (MEC) will be assumed to be complete for the purpose of commencing the Gate 3 ITC Program phase of work.
- Gate 3 applications that require rechecking will be checked during the running of the Gate 3 ITC Program phase of work.

The following table outlines the above points in greater detail:

	<p><u>Non-Firm Connection Offers</u> Further to CER Direction, CER/08/149, dated 8th August 2008, EirGrid is currently advancing a number of non-firm connection offers for conventional plant in order to help alleviate security of supply concerns for Winter 2009/10. Due to the tight timeframe for delivering new generation capacity, these offers are being advanced ahead of the Gate 3 process.</p>
	<p><u>Connection Agreement Modification Requests</u> Except for those modification requests which are deemed by EirGrid to be non-critical to the delivery of a new project (see below), EirGrid will endeavour to maintain the standard lead-time of 70 business days for processing modification applications, once all clarifications requested have been provided by the customer. EirGrid will also continue to check modification applications within 10 business days in so far as possible. EirGrid however, advises our customers to apply for modifications at least 6 months in advance of the required date of the revised offer in order to allow for completion of the clarification phase.</p> <p>Modification requests which are deemed by EirGrid to be non-critical to the delivery of a new project will be processed outside the standard 10 business days application checking period and the 70 business day period.</p>
	<p><u>Demand Load Offers</u> EirGrid will endeavour to issue load offers within 70 business days of the application being deemed complete. EirGrid will also continue to endeavour to check load applications within 10 business days. However, EirGrid would like to advise that in order to allow for the clarification phase, customers should apply for new load at least 6 months in advance of the required date for the offer.</p>
	<p><u>Gate 3 Connection Offers</u> The commencement of Gate 3 and its scheduled completion date is currently awaiting a Direction from the CER. There has been some allowance made for the changes in processing outlined previously to be delivered without impacting on Gate 3 timelines. However in the event that these changes negatively impact on the completion of Gate 3, EirGrid will engage with the industry further.</p>
	<p><u>Gate 3 Conventional Generator Applications</u> Applications from conventional plant that are due to be included in Gate 3 will be processed outside the standard 10 business day checking period. However, any additional time will be given back by advancing the deemed complete date, meaning that no material impact will result from a delayed completeness check.</p>
	<p><u>Gate 3 Renewable Generator Applications - MEC Change</u></p>

	<p>A number of Gate 3 renewable applicants have elected to revise their MEC. These applications will be assumed to be complete for the purposes of commencing the Gate 3 ITC Program phase. The relevant checks will occur during the running of the ITC Program phase which is currently scheduled to run for 6 months following the CER's Gate 3 Final Direction.</p>
	<p><u>Gate 3 Application Re-checks</u> A substantial number of the proposed Gate 3 applicants need to be rechecked to ensure that the information provided is sufficient to make an offer. This will occur over the period of the running of the Gate 3 ITC Program phase which is currently scheduled to run for 6 months following the CER's Gate 3 Final Direction.</p>
	<p><u>Non-Gate 3 Generator Applications</u> Generator applications which are currently expected to be outside of Gate 3 will be processed in due course but will be outside the standard 10 business days checking period timeline. Any additional time taken by EirGrid will be reflected in the deemed complete date - therefore no material impact will occur. The process to be applied to generator applications outside Gate 3 and the associated lead time for an offer will be determined at a subsequent date by the CER.</p>

EirGrid assures our customers that we are committed to maintaining and delivering a fair, efficient and quality service and believes that the measures outlined above will result in the overall most efficient solution for the delivery of transmission connecting projects.

If you have any queries in relation to the above information please contact our Customer Relations team at +353 1 7026642 or info@eirgrid.com.

Note: In addition to the above information, EirGrid would like to draw your attention to the CER website, www.cer.ie, which sets out the expected standard lead-times for constructing transmission infrastructure once connection offers are accepted by customers. It is advised that customers are mindful of these lead-times when developing the overall project plan for advancing their projects.