



UK Government

DRAFT AR8 Contract Allocation Framework: List of Changes



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Rule 4 – Supplemental Requirements

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 4.1(a)(v)(vi)	<p>(v) the Target Dates for the second phase are the same as or after the Target Dates for the first phase.</p> <p>(vi) if applicable, the Target Dates for the third phase are the same as or after the Target Dates for the first and second phases.</p>
Rule 4.1(f)	<p>(f) The Applicant must confirm that it is aware that it is a contractual obligation that the BM Unit Metered Volume comprises all output electricity generated by the Facility, or in the case of:</p> <p>(i) a Private Network Generator, the Metered Volume comprises all output electricity generated by the Facility;</p> <p>(ii) an Applicant proposing a Phased Offshore Wind CFD Unit that will use apportionment methodology to assign net generation to each individual phase, the BM Unit Metered Volume comprises all output electricity generated by the Phased Offshore Wind CFD Unit.</p>
Rule 4.1(i)(ii)	<p>Where the Technology Type of the relevant CFD Unit is (or is to be) Offshore Wind, the Applicant must confirm, in accordance with Schedule 5, that, at the time of Application-</p> <p>(i) the proposed CFD Unit is expected to connect to the Transmission System in Generation Use of System Tariff Zones 13-27 or a Distribution System in Distribution Network Operator Licence Areas 10-16 or 19-23; or</p> <p>(ii) the proposed CFD Unit is expected to connect to the Transmission System in Generation Use of System Tariff Zones 1-12 or a Distribution System in Distribution Network Operator Licence Areas 17-18.</p>

Rule 6 – Valuation of Applications

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 6.6(d)	where one or more Amended Determination Review Request Notices have been given under Rule 9.5, the Applications Valuation carried out in accordance with Rule 6.6(c) must include the valuation of any Applications subject to an Amended Determination and the Applications Valuation must be determined the sixth Working Day after the date of the last Amended Determination Review Notice given; and

Rule 8 – Non-Qualification Reviews and Qualification Appeals

Rule / Section	Description
8.1(b)	Where an Applicant requests a Non-Qualification Review, the Delivery Body must submit a Non-Qualification Review Notice to the Applicant no later than 10 Working Days after the last day that an applicant may request a Non-Qualification Review

8.3 – 8.5	<p>8.3 Pursuant to Regulation 20(6)(b), in considering a Non-Qualification Review or an Amended Determination Review, the Delivery Body may take into account Additional Information or Documentary Evidence submitted by the Applicant if the Delivery Body determines that:</p> <p>(a) the relevant Application that is the subject of the review contained a Non-Material Error or Omission; and</p> <p>(b) the Additional Information or Documentary Evidence is capable of rectifying the Non-Material Error or Omission.</p> <p>8.4 Additional Information or Documentary Evidence must be submitted by the Applicant in the form and manner required by the Delivery Body.</p> <p>8.5 Additional Information or Documentary Evidence and Non-Material Error or Omission are defined in Schedule 1.</p>
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Rule 9 – Amended Determinations

Rule / Section	Description
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<p>9.1 – 9.13</p>	<p>9.1 Pursuant to Regulation 20A, the Delivery Body may issue-</p> <p>(a) an amended non-qualification determination to correct an error made by the Delivery Body in a non-qualification determination previously given to an Applicant under Regulation 19; or</p> <p>(b) a non-qualification determination to an Applicant who has received, due to an error made by the Delivery Body, a notice under Regulation 19 stating that the Application made by the Applicant is a Qualifying Application.</p> <p>9.2 A determination issued in accordance with Rule 9.1 is an “Amended Determination”. An Amended Determination replaces an earlier determination given under Regulation 19.</p> <p>9.3 In an Amended Determination, the Delivery Body must give all reasons for its determination that an Application is not a Qualifying Application.</p> <p>9.4 An Amended Determination must not be given-</p> <p>(a) after the contract allocation process for an allocation round has commenced pursuant to Regulation 33; or</p> <p>(b) if one or more non-qualification determinations have been given under Regulation 19, any later than 15 Working Days after notices under Regulation 19 are given.</p> <p>9.5 Where an Applicant has received an Amended Determination in accordance with Rule 9.1, the Applicant may, by notice given to the Delivery Body (an “Amended Determination Review Request Notice”), request an “Amended Determination Review” no later than 5 Working Days after the date of the Amended Determination (the “Amended Determination Review Request Date”).</p> <p>9.6 An Amended Determination Review Request Notice must be made in the form and manner as may be required by the Delivery Body and contain the matters set out in the Regulation 20(3) as they apply to the Amended Determination in dispute. An Amended Determination Review Request Notice must comply with Regulation 20(2)(c).</p>
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9.7 Where the Delivery Body receives an Amended Determination Review Request Notice in accordance with Rules 9.5 and 9.6, it must give a notice (an “Amended Determination Review Notice”) to the Applicant which-

(a) states whether or not the Delivery Body has determined to uphold the Amended Determination; and

(b) gives reasons for the determination.

9.8 An Amended Determination Review Notice must be given to the Applicant no later than-

(a) 15 Working Days after notices under Regulation 19 are given; or

(b) 10 Working Days after the date on which the Amended Determination Review Request Notice is received.

9.9 Where an Applicant receives an Amended Determination after the Applicant has requested a Non-Qualification Review with respect to an earlier non-qualification determination, the Delivery Body must, after the relevant Amended Determination Review Request Date, consider the Non-Qualification Review and any Amended Determination Review together and issue one decision (being an Amended Determination Review Notice).

9.10 An Applicant who has received an Amended Determination Review Notice upholding a non-qualification determination may make a Qualification Appeal to the Authority no later than 5 Working Days after the date of the Amended Determination Review Notice.

9.11 Regulation 21 concerning additional applications applies to an application to which an Amended Determination applies.

9.12 Regulation 32 concerning notices of requests for review or appeal applies with the following modifications to take account of Amended Determinations:

(a) where the Delivery Body has given one or more Amended Determinations under Regulation 20A, the Delivery Body must give to the Secretary of State and the Authority as soon as practicable after the last Amended Determination Review Request Date a notice stating the number, if any, of Amended Determination Review Request Notices received;

(b) where the Delivery Body gives a notice under Rule 9.12(a) which states that at least one Amended Determination Review Request Notice has been received, and upholds the non-qualification determination in at least one Amended Determination Review, the Authority must give a notice to the Secretary of State and the Delivery Body as soon as practicable after the date for submitting a Qualification Appeal in respect of an Amended Determination, stating the number, if any, of such Qualification Appeals made.

9.13 An Applicant who has received an Amended Determination will be deemed a Pending Applicant with a Pending Application for the purposes of submitting a Pending Bid pursuant to Regulation 50(2)(a) if, at the time that the contract allocation process has commenced—

(a) the period for the Applicant to request an Amended Determination Review under Rule 9.5 has not expired; or

(b) the Applicant has requested an Amended Determination Review and has not been given an Amended Determination Review Notice pursuant to Rule 9.7; or

(c) the Applicant has received an Amended Determination Review Notice upholding the non-qualification determination and the period to request a Qualification Appeal with respect to that Amended Determination Review Notice pursuant to Rule 9.10 has not expired; or

(d) the Applicant has made a Qualification Appeal against an Amended Determination Review Notice and the Qualification Appeal has not been determined; or

(e) the Applicant has made a Qualification Appeal against an Amended Determination Review Notice and the Authority has upheld the non-qualification determination but the time to appeal to Court referred to in Regulation 47(2) has not expired; or

(f) The Applicant has made an appeal to the High Court or Court of Session in accordance with Regulation 47 and the appeal has not been determined by the relevant court.

Rule 12 – Notice of Auction

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 12.2(e)	that an Applicant who has received an Amended Determination and is deemed a Pending Applicant pursuant to Rule 9.13, must submit a Pending Bid, and that pursuant to Rule 16.3, if an Applicant, which includes a Pending Applicant, does not submit a sealed bid on or before the Submission Closing Date, their Application will be treated as withdrawn.

Rule 13 – Submission of Sealed Bids

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 13.1(c)(i)	the Applicant's Target Dates, which must be such that the Target Commissioning Date is no earlier than 1st April in the Delivery Year specified in the Applicant's Original Application and no later than 31st March of the last applicable Delivery Year; and
Rule 13.1(c)(iii)	the capacity of the CFD Unit, which cannot exceed the initial installed capacity estimate provided in the Applicant's Original Application, but can be less than the estimate provided at application stage.
Rule 13.3	Any Application subject to Anonymised Bid Information (as specified in Schedule 8) may only submit one sealed bid and may not submit Flexible Bids.

Rule 13.4 – 13.6	<p>All sealed bids—</p> <p>(a) should be requested and submitted using 2024 prices; and will be valued using 2024 prices (which are set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of Schedule 2).</p> <p>13.5 Where no sealed bid is submitted by the Applicant by the Submission Closing Date, the Delivery Body must follow Rule 16.3 below.</p> <p>13.6 The Delivery Body must not accept any sealed bids submitted after the Submission Closing Date.</p>
Rule 13.10	Only one Flexible Bid per Application may be a Successful Application.

Rule 14 – Sending of Anonymised Bid Information (New Chapter)

Rule / Section	Description
Rules 14.1	Pursuant to Regulation 54, the Delivery Body may send Anonymised Bid Information to the Secretary of State, before the Auction is held. For Allocation Round 8, this will apply to Technology Types listed in Schedule 8.

Rule 15 – Phased Offshore Wind CFD Units

Rule / Section	Description

<p>Rule 15.1</p>	<p>15.1 In respect of Applications for Phased Offshore Wind CFD Units and in accordance with Rule 4.1(a)—</p> <p>(a) a sealed bid must include a single Strike Price to apply to all phases (but Flexible Bids may be submitted in accordance with Rule 12.6 above in respect of a Phased Floating Offshore Wind CFD Unit);</p> <p>(b) the Target Dates for the first phase will be treated as the first Target Dates; and</p> <p>(c) all phases must be taken into account when the Delivery Body is assessing the impact of a Phased Offshore Wind CFD Unit on the Budget Profile in the Applications Valuation and/or any relevant auction.</p> <p>(d) in respect to any bid made for a Phased Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind CFD Unit, the requirements for a sealed bid under Rule 12.1 apply.</p>
<p>Rule 15.2</p>	<p>In respect of a Flexible Bid made by an Applicant in relation to an Application for a Phased Floating Offshore Wind CFD Unit or a Phased Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit —</p> <p>(a) No such bid may have:</p> <p>(i) Target Dates for any phase which are earlier than the Target Dates for the first phase specified in the Original Application; or</p> <p>(ii) a capacity for the first phase which is greater than the capacity for the first phase specified in the Original Application.</p> <p>(b) Subject to (a), the bid may have:</p> <p>(i) Target Dates for any later phase which is earlier than the corresponding Target Dates specified in the Original Application; and</p> <p>(ii) a capacity for any later phase which is greater than the corresponding capacity specified in the Original Application (subject to Rule 4.1(a) above).</p>

Rule 16 – Withdrawal of Applications and Sealed Bids

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 16.3	If an Applicant does not submit a sealed bid on or before the Submission Closing Date, the Applicant's Application will be treated as withdrawn.
Rule 16.4	The Applicant may withdraw a previously submitted sealed bid and submit a new bid or bids provided that any new bid is submitted to the Delivery Body on or before the Submission Closing Date. If a sealed bid is withdrawn and no new sealed bid is submitted on or before the Submission Closing Date, the Application will be treated as withdrawn by the Delivery Body

Rule 20 – Auction in Relation to Pots or the Contract Budget

Rule / Section	Description
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Rule 20.4(e)	<p>(e) bids subject to a Specific Separate Clearing Prices category, as stated in the Contract Budget Notice, (see Rule 22 below) are cleared to a separate clearing price for each Specific Separate Clearing Prices category, rather than the provisional clearing price of the bid under consideration, unless that bid is subject to the same Specific Separate Clearing Prices category–</p> <p>(i) if a Specific Separate Clearing Prices bid is the bid under consideration, the Delivery Body must use the Strike Price of the bid under consideration as the provisional clearing price for that Qualifying Application, for any Qualifying Application(s) subject to that same Specific Separate Clearing Prices category and that the Delivery Body has already determined to be Successful Applications, capped at the relevant Administrative Strike Price; and;</p> <p>(ii) if a Specific Separate Clearing Prices bid is the bid under consideration, the Delivery Body must not use the Strike Price of the bid under consideration as the provisional clearing price for any Qualifying Application(s) that the Delivery Body has already determined to be Successful Applications and are not subject to the same Specific Separate Clearing category or;</p> <p>(iii) if the bid under consideration is not subject to any Specific Separate Clearing Prices categories, the Delivery Body must use the Strike Price of the bid under consideration as the provisional clearing price for that Qualifying Application and only any relevant Qualifying Application(s) which are not subject to any Specific Separate Clearing Prices categories, and that the Delivery Body has already determined to be Successful Applications, capped at the relevant Administrative Strike Price;</p>
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Rule 23 – Specific Separate Clearing Prices (New Chapter)

Rule / Section	Description
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<p>Rules 23.1– 23.5</p>	<p>23.1 The Secretary of State may determine that Specific Separate Clearing Prices apply to Technology Types in the Pot and Price Notice and the Contract Budget Notice.</p> <p>23.2 The categories for Specific Separate Clearing Prices are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Technology specific clearing rules (ii) Locational specific clearing rules (iii) Repowering specific clearing rules (iv) Project size specific clearing rules <p>23.3 If no Specific Separate Clearing Prices are set out in the Pot and Price Notice or the Contract Budget Notice, then the clearing rules set out in Rules 19-22 that do not apply with respect to Specific Separate Clearing Prices shall be followed.</p> <p>23.4 If bids are subject to a Maximum, the bids are to be cleared to a Maximum- only clearing price, regardless of any Specific Separate Clearing Price category assigned.</p> <p>23.5 In the case of Applications for Phased Offshore Wind CFD Units subject to Project size specific clearing rules, project size will be defined as the Overall Capacity, being the total capacity across all phases.</p>
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Rule 26 – CFD Notifications

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 26.1(n)	where the Technology Type is a Floating Offshore Wind CFD Unit, the depth chart or map of the Facility (or in the case of a Phased Floating Offshore Wind CFD Unit, the Facilities) and the Director’s declaration that the relevant CFD Unit will meet all the Floating Offshore Wind conditions, with which the Delivery Body was provided by, or on behalf of, the Applicant at the time of Application;

Rule 26.1(o)	where the Technology Type is an Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit, the depth chart or map of the Facility and the Director’s declaration that the relevant CFD Unit will meet all the Other Deepwater Offshore Wind conditions, which was provided to the Delivery Body by, or on behalf of, the Applicant at the time of Application;
Rule 21(q)	where the CFD Unit intends to use hybrid metering, confirmation of this, as provided to the Delivery Body by, or on behalf of, the Applicant at the time of Application.

Rule 27 – Pending Applications

Rule / Section	Description
Rule 27.1 – 27.2	<p>27.1 Pursuant to Regulation 50(2)(a), a Pending Applicant is permitted to submit a sealed bid during the sealed bid window.</p> <p>27.2 If a Pending Applicant does not submit a sealed bid before the close of the sealed bid window, then the Delivery Body must follow Rule 16.3 above.</p>

Schedule 1 – Definitions

Rule / Section	Description

Additional Information or Documentary Evidence	means information or documentary evidence which- (a) was not provided by the Applicant to the Delivery Body with the Applicant's Application; (b) existed at the time that the Applicant submitted its Application; and (c) was in the Applicant's possession at the time that the Applicant submitted its Application.
Amended Determination	has the meaning given in Rule 9.2;
Amended Determination Review	has the meaning given in Rule 9.5;
Amended Determination Review Notice	has the meaning given in Rule 9.7;
Amended Determination Review Request Date	has the meaning given in Rule 9.5;
Amended Determination Review Request Notice	has the meaning given in Rule 9.5;
Application Opening Date	has the meaning given in Regulation 2(1);
Anonymised Bid Information	means any information the Secretary of State has requested pursuant to Regulation 54 with respect to the Technology Types set out in Schedule 8.

CMP435 Application	refers to the Code Modification Proposal (CMP) 435 Gate 2 application which was submitted to the NESO and/or the Distribution Network Operator as part of the connections reform process which is in direct relation to the proposed CFD Unit, the G2tWQ Notification and Requested Advancement Date;
Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind CFD Unit	is an Offshore Wind CFD Unit which is not a Floating Offshore Wind CFD Unit or Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit
Fully Adjusted Metered Output	has the meaning given in the most recently published version of the CFD Standard Terms and Conditions;
Gate 1	refers to either a 'Gate 1 Offer' or 'Gate 1 Agreements' as defined in the Complete Connection and Use of System Code (CuSC)
Gate 1 Connection Point and Capacity Reservation (Gate 1 CPCR)	refers to 'Connection Point and Capacity Reservation at Gate 1' as outlined and described in section 6.5 of NESO's Connection Networks Design Methodology (CNDM);
Gate 2	refers to either a 'Gate 2 Modification Offer' or 'Gate 2 Existing Agreements' as defined in the CuSC;
Gate 2 to Whole Queue (G2tWQ) Notification	means the notification issued by the System Operator (National Energy Systems Operator) or the relevant Distribution Network Operator confirming the Connections Reform queue formation outcomes in relation to the proposed CFD Unit, specifically whether the outcome is a Gate 1 or Gate 2 status, and where the project is Gate 2, also confirming whether the proposed CFD Unit is in Phase 1 or Phase 2 ;
Initial Installed Capacity Estimate	means the Generator's initial estimate of the Installed Capacity as notified to the Delivery Body in an Application, Sealed Bid or Flexible Bid. This follows 'Provisional Capacity Estimate' as outlined at Regulation 25;

Islanded Generator	has the meaning given in the most recently published version of the Private Network CFD Agreement;
Map	means a map showing the scale, name, shape of the CFD Unit and the Longitude and Latitude (in WGS84 format to 3 decimal places) of the Northerly, Easterly, Southerly and Westerly extreme coordinates of the site where the CFD Unit is located.
Non-Material Error or Omission	<p>means an error or omission in the Applicant's Original Application which is-</p> <p>(a) manifest, and either inadvertent or the result of a mistake; and</p> <p>(b) clerical, typographical or trivial in nature; and</p> <p>(c) determined by the Delivery Body, if rectified, not to-</p> <p>(i) be a material alteration to the substance or intent of the Application; or</p> <p>(ii) create inconsistencies within the Application submitted.</p>
Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit	is an Offshore Wind CFD Unit that satisfies the Other Deepwater Offshore Wind (ODOW) conditions;

Other Deepwater Offshore Wind (ODOW) Conditions	<p>are that all turbines forming part of the relevant CFD Unit, in normal operation-</p> <p>(a) are mounted on foundations supported by any combination of buoyancy, support-structure transferring loads to seabed through a rigid or articulating structure within water column, and/or slender tensile members/moorings, where the support structure shall not comprise:</p> <p>(i) a monopile, with a L/D ratio of less than 18 (where L is measured from seabed to chart datum and D is the diameter of monopile at the seabed), or, a monopile with a seabed penetration depth exceeding 20% of the water depth measured from seabed to chart datum; or</p> <p>(ii) a jacket or lattice-structure with a width at its base at the seabed of greater than 20m; or</p> <p>(iii) a continuous gravity base structure with a depth-averaged width in the water column from seabed to chart datum of greater than 10m; and</p> <p>(b) are situated in offshore waters of at least 50 metres depth (measured from the seabed to chart datum).”</p>
Overall Capacity	means the total capacity across all phases, as described in Rule 23.5;
Pending Applicant	has the meaning given in Regulation 2(1);
Pending Bid	has the meaning given in Regulation 2(1);
Phase 1	refers to the period from 2026 – 2030 as described in NESO’s Connection Networks Design Methodology (CNDM)
Phase 2	refers to the period from 2031 – 2035 as described in NESO’s Connection Networks Design Methodology (CNDM);
Phased Facility	means the Facility and all other related Phase Facilities that formed part of the same application;

Phased Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind CFD Unit	means a Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind CFD Unit which is a Phased Offshore Wind CFD Unit;
Phased Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit	means an Other Deepwater Offshore Wind CFD Unit which is a Phased Offshore Wind CFD Unit;
Requested Advancement Date	refers to the process and date, in relation to the CMP435 application, where projects requested advancement of their firm connection date as part of the G2tWQ process as referenced in section 5.25 of NESO's Connections Network Design Methodology (CNDM)
Specific Separate Clearing Prices	has the meaning given in Rule 23;
Technology Type	means the technology type notified to the Delivery Body in an Application as the CFD Unit's Facility Generation Technology

Schedule 7 – Unconsented Fixed-Bottom Offshore Wind Planning Update Declaration

Rule / Section	Description
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Schedule 7	<p>This is the template prescribed for the purposes of Rule 4.1(k) and 16.5.</p> <p>This date must, for the purposes of compliance with Rule 4.1(k), be no earlier than 20 Working Days before the Application Opening Date; and for the purposes of compliance with Rule 15.5, be no later than the Working Day before the Submission Closing Date and no earlier than 11 Working Days before the Submission Closing Date.</p> <p>We, the below named Directors, declare on behalf of the above named company that in regard to the Application named above, there has been no refusal of any relevant Pending Applicable Planning Consent(s) by the relevant issuing authority that has not been formally overturned up to and including the date stated above.</p>
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Schedule 8 – Application of Anonymised Bid Information

Rule / Section	Description
Schedule 8 — Subject to Anonymised Bid Information	Offshore Wind Onshore Wind (<5MW) Remote Island Wind (>5MW) Solar PV (<5MW)

Schedule 8 — NOT subject to Anonymised Bid Information	<p>ACT</p> <p>Anaerobic Digestion (<5MW)</p> <p>Dedicated Biomass with CHP</p> <p>Energy from Waste with CHP</p> <p>Floating Offshore Wind</p> <p>Geothermal</p> <p>Hydro (<5MW and <50MW)</p> <p>Landfill Gas</p> <p>Other Deepwater Offshore Wind</p> <p>Sewage Gas</p> <p>Tidal Stream</p> <p>Wave</p>
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Schedule 5 – Application checks to be carried out by the Delivery Body

Rule / Section	Description
Applicable Planning Consents	Updates and new additions to Requirement, Documentary Evidence, and MW.
Connection Agreements	Updates and new additions to Requirement, Documentary Evidence, and Dates

Incorporation	Update to Check Against CFD Application
Leasing arrangements for Offshore Generating Stations	Updates to Check Against CFD Application
Non-receipt of other funds under Government support schemes	Updates to Documentary Evidence and Check Against CFD Application
Specific requirements for Other Deepwater Offshore Wind	New Requirement
Locational Specific clearing rules – confirmation of Generation Use of System Tariff Zones or Distribution Network Operator License Area	Updates to Requirements and Check Against CFD Application

Islanded Generators – confirmation of generation Use of System Tariff Zone or Distribution Network Operator License Area	New Requirement
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