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Network access rights for new Electricity Storage connections

Distribution Networks Operators (DNOs) and other industry stakeholders have been working to resolve challenges associated with the connection of electricity storage systems to electricity distribution systems. This document outlines the arrangements that are being introduced for new electricity storage connection applications received on or after 30 September 2023.

What are the new arrangements?

Applications to connect an electricity storage system to Northern Powergrid's distribution system received on or after 30 September 2023, will receive a connection offer based on import and export capacity being available only when the distribution system is in a normal (intact) operating condition. Under normal (intact) operating conditions an electricity storage system would be able to import from and export to the distribution system, up to agreed import and export capacities respectively. During pre-arranged outages and faults on the local distribution system, the import from and/or export to the distribution system may be restricted or reduced until the distribution system returns to its normal (intact) operating condition. There will not be any financial compensation when any such restrictions are applied.

What is not changing?

- The connection application process; and
- The implications of transmission constraints on network access for distribution-connected electricity storage schemes are not affected by these new arrangements.

Which customers do these arrangements apply to?

These arrangements apply to all new connection applications and applications to modify existing connections where:

- the application is received on or after 30 September 2023;
- the primary purpose of the customer's import wholly or mainly electricity storage; and
- the customer has or would have CT metering.

Where can I find more information?

- The Energy Networks Association has published a guidance note that can be downloaded from www.energynetworks.org/publications/battery-storage-connections-tactical-solutions-guidance-notes
- Northern Powergrid has published information on the changes to connection charges and network assess associated with the Access and Forward-Looking Charges Significant Code Review: www.northernpowergrid.com/access-significant-code-review
- If you have any questions on this briefing or any aspect of our connections service, please contact our dedicated team on **0800 011 3433** Mon - Fri: 8am - 8pm and Sat: 9am - 5pm.