

EirGrid Ex-Ante Outturn Availability Connection Asset Maintenance Plan for 2026

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Introduction

The Single Electricity Market Committee (SEMC) decision SEM-15-071 “Process for the Calculation of Outturn Availability”, published on 29 September 2015, required that the TSOs establish a forum which will be responsible for publication of separate ex-ante outage plans for Northern Ireland and Ireland. The SEMC decision also required that the ex-ante outage plans for each outage season be sent to the RAs for review. This Ex-Ante Outturn Available Connection Asset (OACA) Annual Maintenance Plan contains the scheduled maintenance of Outturn Availability Connection Assets for 2026.

The Ireland Ex-Ante Outturn Availability Forum takes place in Q1 annually. At this forum, questions can be asked about the Ex-Ante Outturn Available Connection Asset (OACA) Annual Maintenance Plan.

This Ex-Ante OACA Annual Maintenance Plan forms the baseline for 2026. The Ex-Ante OACA Annual Maintenance Plan includes details of the individual work items, the scheduling status, scheduled dates or planned window, the maintenance duration associated with the work and a unique identifier (Transmission Outage Programme identifier also known as a TOP-ID) for each OACA. Outages, work items’ completion, scheduled dates, actual dates and designated days are being recorded and will be reported in the Ex-Post Outturn Availability Connection Asset Maintenance Report for 2026.

Note: Transmission Outage Programme Timelines

The transmission outage planning process aims to increase flexibility in the outage programme to the benefit of our customers by better accommodating project changes as they occur with the least disruption. In doing so it is anticipated that the amount of work which can be carried out on the transmission system in a given year will be maximised with a nominal amount of schedule changes. A full programme of work for the year ahead was developed in which outages were classified as Planned, Proposed or Scheduled.

Outage Classification	Outage Description
<i>Planned</i>	A viable outage window identified to complete a particular work item or work items. Works will not be assigned a date until later in the year, for example works which are not expected to take place until several months in the future. These works are given an indicative outage window (date range) in which a fixed duration of work will be carried out.
<i>Proposed</i>	An outage slot for the work to be completed in, with proposed specific start and end dates. This is an intermediary stage between <i>Planned</i> and <i>Scheduled</i> where dates have been proposed by the TSO but not yet confirmed by all parties.
<i>Scheduled</i>	Outages scheduled with specified start and end dates, where these dates are unlikely to change. The outage dates are scheduled approximately 4 weeks before the start of the relevant month.

Details of designated days for Outturn Availability purposes will be assigned when the outage is scheduled (i.e. when the outage moves to the Scheduled state which will happen typically four weeks in advance of the relevant month).

The following section includes details of the maintenance works planned for OACAs for the 2026. The total maintenance duration is the actual length of time of the works, with works running concurrently this may not always be the sum of the durations of the individual work items.

Appendix

The spreadsheet for the Ex-Ante Outturn Available Connection Asset Maintenance Plan for 2026 containing all of the work items is available on the EirGrid website [here](#).