Data Centre Connection Offer Process and Policy Version 3

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Revision	Date	Description
R1	12/06/19	Original
R2	17/07/20	Updated per Appendix 1 of DCCOPP V2
R3	20/05/26	Updated to reflect the CRU Decision Paper “Large Energy Users Connection Policy” published on 12 December 2025 (CRU/2025236)

Executive Summary

The Commission for Regulation of Utilities ("CRU") published the *Large Energy Users Connection Policy* on 12 December 2025 ("CRU/2025236"), establishing a new structured framework for assessing and processing data centre connection applications.

The Data Centre Connection Offer Process and Policy Version 3 ("DCCOPP Version 3") implements this framework for all new data centre connection applications (≥1 MVA) to the transmission system received on or after the date on which CRU/2025236 was published. It replaces previous DCCOPP versions and sets out the application processing approach to enable a data centre to apply for and receive a connection offer (the "Offer") once the requisite conditions are met.

Under the new framework, a data centre can progress a connection application on the basis that it demonstrates access to dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity (Nominated Generation) and a credible pathway to meeting renewable requirements (Nominated Renewables). The requirements for this generation are set out in this document, including the need for the generation project(s) to be new capacity without an existing position in the capacity market and not supported under any other existing support/scheme.

Therefore, a data centre connection application package will comprise a minimum of three linked but separate applications:

1. **A Data Centre Application:** A data centre application can be submitted by the data centre customer at any time. However, any associated Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewables must be in, or already have been processed through, the Enduring Connection Policy – Generation and System Services ("ECP-GSS") connection offer process.
2. **The Nominated Generation Application(s):** For the nomination of dispatchable onsite or proximate generation or storage, the nominated generation must either have an existing connection agreement, live offer, application in train, or submit an application into the ECP-GSS process, progressed independently by the generator developer(s), which may be a different legal entity or entities from the data centre customer. The data centre application must reference the nominated generator(s) and provide evidence of a binding commercial relationship between the parties as part of its application (the "Nominated Generation").
3. **The Nominated Renewable Generation Application(s):** For the nomination of renewable generation to be used to meet the 80% renewable electricity requirement, EirGrid must be able to validate that there is a credible plan that the Nominated Renewables will be in place at the end of the glide path set out in the CRU/2025236. EirGrid has currently determined that in order to assess the credibility of this plan that the nominated renewable must either have an existing connection agreement, live offer, application in train, or submit an application into the ECP-GSS process. This can be progressed independently by a generator developer(s), which may be a different legal entity or entities from the data centre customer. The data centre application must reference the nominated renewable generator(s) and provide confirmation from the nominated renewable generator(s) that there is a commercial relationship between the parties as part of its application (the "Nominated Renewables"). A data centre shall have a 6-year glide path from the date of the demand site's energisation to reach 80% renewable compliance.

The time required to process a Data Centre connection application will be dependent on the status of the associated generation. For Data Centre connection applications whose Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewables have already gone through the ECP-GSS process and received connection offer(s), the standard processing timeline for a data centre connection offer would be approximately seven and a half (7.5) calendar months from receipt of application and fee to issuance of a connection offer. This assumes a complete and correct application with no clarifications required by EirGrid from the customer. For Data Centre connection applications whose associated generation has only just applied into ECP-GSS, the standard processing timeline for a data centre application would be up to eighteen (18) calendar months from receipt of application and fee to issuance of a connection offer. This is because under the ECP-GSS

process, EirGrid requires up to eighteen (18) calendar months to process Nominated Generation applications; accordingly, if the two (the data centre and the nominated generation) applied in parallel, the processing timeframe for the Nominated Generation application(s) would apply to the data centre application as this cannot be progressed in advance of the Nominated Generation.

The Table 1 below provides a concise overview of the end-to-end data centre connection offer process as set out in this DCCOPP Version 3, summarising the key steps, requirements, and decision points to support a customer seeking a transmission connection. It distils the process into a clear, sequential view of the application journey—from early engagement and pre-application preparation, through formal submission and technical assessment, to Offer issuance, acceptance, and ongoing compliance obligations—ensuring stakeholders can quickly understand the essential actions and criteria that underpin a successful data centre connection application.

Table 1. Overview of the End-to-end Data Centre Connection Offer Process

Stage	Description	Key Requirements / Outputs
1. Early Engagement (Optional)	Optional early meeting to introduce the project and understand obligations; allows customers the opportunity to see if they have a project that could potentially be connected to the grid before they elect to make any further commitments.	• Request meeting via email to info@eirgrid.com • High level project details to be provided as part of request (maximum import capacity ("MIC"), location etc) • Meetings will be facilitated with potential projects that are not in constrained areas and can outline, at a high level, their anticipated approach to nominated generation and nominated renewables.
2. Pre-application Meeting (Mandatory)	Required before any application can be submitted.	• Data centre has validated planning application for its data centre facility. • EirGrid and customer step through the connection offer process and review project details at high level to consider feasibility and compliance (non-binding). (see Section 3.1 for full details)
3. Submit Data Centre Application	Formal submission via online portal.	Must include: • Customer details, site location, landowner consents. • Requested MIC and energisation timeline. • Ramping details. • Evidence of validated planning application for the data centre facility. • Date of pre-application meeting reference. • Dynamic models to facilitate system stability analysis including Fault Ride-Through capability • Nominated Renewable glidepath plan (80% requirement), details and consent. • Nominated Generation details and consent. • Confidentiality agreements. • €7,000 first instalment of the application fee. (see Section 3.2 for full details)
4. Deemed Complete Assessment	EirGrid reviews full application to determine completeness and eligibility.	EirGrid may: • Deem application complete and request payment of balance of fees. • Request additional information.

Stage	Description	Key Requirements / Outputs
		• Terminate the application if criteria clearly not met.
5. Fee Balance Payment	Payment triggers the offer building phase.	• Total fee depends on MIC, connection works, Statement of Charges. • Only the contracting entity may receive invoices.
6. Offer Preparation	Once deemed complete and fees paid, EirGrid prepares the Offer.	• Offer includes: MIC and location, generation / autoproducer requirements, generation obligations, renewable requirements, works and costs, project milestones, etc.
7. Offer Issuance	Offer formally issued to the customer.	• Offer valid for two (2) calendar months. • Lapses if not accepted; requires new application.
8. Offer Acceptance	Customer must sign the Connection Agreement.	• Signed contract. • Nominated Generation must have accepted its connection offer.
9. Post-Acceptance Obligations	Customer must maintain generation and renewable compliance through project life.	• Nominated Generation must remain operational and meet maximum export capacity ("MEC")≥MIC (de-rated). • Nominated Renewable must maintain compliance with requirements outlined in Section 2.2. • If generator(s) fails or withdraws, data centre should have a credible plan for an immediate replacement or be subject to MIC reduction or disconnection.

This document also provides detailed guidance on the application assessment criteria relating to generation adequacy, renewable electricity requirements, constrained area assessment, provision of dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity, system stability, capacity market and de-rating factor considerations, and planning permission.

DCCOPP Version 3 provides data centre developers with a clear, predictable and transparent process aligned with national policy objectives ensuring that future data centre growth supports system adequacy, contributes to renewable energy goals, and maintains the security and reliability of Ireland's electricity network.

This paper has been prepared in advance of, and without reference to, forthcoming Private Wires legislation, which remains under development.

The process for non-data centres is set out under Section 5.0.

Contents

1 Introduction

Ireland's electricity system is experiencing a period of strong and sustained demand growth, reflecting the rapid expansion of data centres as a critical enabler of a technology-rich, innovative economy. Data centres have played a central role in Ireland's success in attracting high-value investment and supporting a broad range of sectors, contributing significantly to national economic growth over the past decade.

This success has been accompanied by a marked increase in electricity demand, with data centres now representing one of the most significant drivers of overall system growth. At the same time, this demand expansion is occurring in a context where the delivery of new grid infrastructure and generation capacity is increasingly complex, giving rise to challenges for network capability and security of supply. Addressing these challenges requires a clear, credible pathway that supports continued economic development while ensuring the resilience and sustainability of the electricity system.

In response to these emerging challenges, the CRU has introduced a new *Large Energy Users Connection Policy*, published on 12 December 2025 (CRU/2025236). This policy establishes a clear, structured pathway for processing new large-demand connection applications, applying exclusively to data centres, with the aim of safeguarding security of supply, supporting renewable energy targets, and minimising impacts on national carbon emissions.

These policy changes represent a significant evolution from earlier data centre connection approaches, including EirGrid's 2019 and 2020 DCCOPP and DCCOPP Version 2. The new CRU framework supersedes prior directions, establishing a system-aligned foundation for future demand integration. It also acknowledges the continued national importance of the data centre sector while ensuring that its growth is compatible with Ireland's renewable electricity ambitions and long-term decarbonisation objectives. Applications received prior to the publication of this decision, and which are currently being processed, will continue to be assessed under CRU/21/124.

EirGrid has now integrated the CRU's updated requirements into its connection processes, ensuring that future data centre projects contribute to generation adequacy, support the transition to a low carbon electricity system, and uphold the high standards of reliability and security that underpin Ireland's electricity network. As part of this alignment, this updated paper sets out the revised procedures and criteria for data centres—applying to those with an MIC equal to or greater than 1 MVA, seeking to connect to the transmission network (the "Connection Offer Process").

This paper has been prepared in advance of, and without reference to, any forthcoming Private Wires legislation, which is currently under development but has not yet been delivered. As such, the content does not reflect any future legislative requirements that may arise once that framework is published.

At the time of publication of this DCCOPP Version 3 paper, EirGrid notes that judicial review proceedings have been initiated against the CRU in relation to its decision paper '*Large Energy Users Connection Policy*' (CRU/2025236). Any potential applicant seeking a connection under this DCCOPP Version 3 should be aware that any changes to CRU/2025236 as a result of the legal proceedings may require EirGrid to make changes to this DCCOPP Version 3 paper, including the Connection Offer Process. This DCCOPP Version 3 is therefore subject to change depending on the outcome of the legal proceedings. Applicants that proceed on the basis of CRU/2025236 and/or this DCCOPP Version 3 whilst the proceedings are pending do so at their own risk and EirGrid accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever to applicants as a result of any changes made to this DCCOPP Version 3, including the Connection Offer Process, after publication of this paper.

2 Application Assessment Criteria

Applications for data centre connections will be assessed against the following criteria to determine whether an Offer can be made in line with the stability and reliability requirements of the electricity system. If EirGrid determines that an application does not meet these criteria, the application will not proceed and will be terminated.

EirGrid will also assess the delivery timelines of both the data centre and the associated dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage to ensure these align such that the dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage will be in place at the same time or before the data centre, otherwise the data centre application will not proceed.

2.1 Generation Adequacy

The customer must demonstrate the ability to provide an autoproducer unit or dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity, with the required volume determined by the site's MIC. This generation capacity must be sufficient to cover the site's MIC (subject to de-rating).

The customer must provide full details of its nominated dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage. In addition, the dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Planning permission should be in line with ECP-GSS
- Additionality criteria:
    - The generation must not already hold a Capacity Market contract at the time of the data centre's application
    - It must constitute newly developed capacity and not rely on existing system capacity as defined in the Capacity Market Code.
- Performance compliance:
    - Must comply with all relevant Grid Code and European Connection Network Code Requirements, including but not limited to being subject to Central Dispatch.
    - Must meet the availability performance requirements set out in Section 2.8.
    - Must not be subject to any run-hour restrictions (including limits arising from permitting conditions) that would prevent operation on an ongoing basis, other than for routine maintenance and testing.

Data centres are subject to generation and capacity requirements based on their MIC, as outlined in Table 2. A de-minimis threshold of 1 MVA applies; below this level, DCCOPP Version 3 does not apply. However, EirGrid must still consider locational constraints when assessing connection requests.

Table 2. Data Centre Capacity Requirements under CRU Decision CRU/2025236

Data Centre MIC	Requirement	Remarks
1 MVA ≤ MIC < 10 MVA	• Autoproducer unit sufficient to cover the site's MIC (subject to de-rating). • Autoproducer is a participant in the Single Electricity Market ("SEM").	• Not subject to Mandatory Demand Curtailment ("MDC") provisions. • The contribution of associated renewable generation (up to 80% of annual demand) shall be acknowledged and reflected, on a de-rated basis, against the autoproducer unit requirement. • The autoproducer must, at a minimum, meet the site's MIC for the duration of the connection and be operational. • 'Project splitting' to classify a larger project as a smaller data centre shall not be permitted.
MIC ≥ 10 MVA	• Provide dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity sufficient to cover the site's MIC (subject to de-rating). • Generation facilities shall be separately connected and	• Not subject to MDC provisions. • The contribution of associated renewable generation (up to 80% of annual demand) shall be acknowledged and reflected, on a de-rated basis, against the dispatchable generation requirement.

Data Centre MIC	Requirement	Remarks
	metered, with mandatory participation in the SEM.	• The de-rated capacity of the onsite or proximate generation and/or storage must, at minimum, meet the site's ramped or enduring MIC for the duration of the connection and be operational. • Data centre cannot become operational or ramp-up unless associated onsite or proximate generation is delivered.

2.2 Renewable Electricity Requirements

The customer must demonstrate the capability to meet at least 80% of their annual electricity demand through the provision or procurement of additional, indigenous renewable electricity. Each data centre is required to submit a renewable glidepath plan outlining how it will achieve a minimum of 80% renewable electricity sourced from generation located within Ireland.

The customer must provide full details of its nominated renewable generation project(s). The associated generation project(s) must have applied to the ECP-GSS connection process.

The data centre customer may nominate a number of different projects for its Nominated Renewable requirement and can subsequently elect which projects to proceed with in order to meet the requirements as stipulated under CRU/2025236.

The CRU's *Large Energy User Connection Policy* introduces a mandatory requirement for data centres to generate the majority of their electricity demand from new renewable generation sources.

Table 3 below summarises the key elements of the 80% Renewable Electricity Requirement under CRU Decision CRU/2025236, including what qualifies, how compliance is measured, and the consequences of non-compliance.

Table 3. Summary of the 80% Renewable Electricity Requirement under CRU Decision CRU/2025236

Element	Requirement Summary
Minimum Renewable Share	Data centres must meet at least 80% of their annual electricity demand with renewable electricity generated in Ireland.
Type of Renewable Generation Allowed	Only new/additional renewable generation counts. Must be renewable electricity generated in Ireland and that physically feeds into the Irish grid. Existing operational renewables do not qualify.
Supports / Schemes Excluded	Renewable output from projects supported under Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariff (REFIT), Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS), Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) or other existing support schemes cannot be used to meet the requirement (unless fully repowered).
How Data Centres Can Comply	• Direct development of new renewable generation or Power Purchase Agreements with new Irish renewable projects. • Repowered projects may qualify if fully decommissioned and replaced.
Measurement Basis	Requirement is measured annually, based on actual renewable output. Network location and curtailment impact must be factored into generation planning.
Glide Path (Transition Period)	A six-year glide path applies from the date of energisation for the data centre to build up to full 80% compliance.
Interaction with Generation Requirement (MIC)	Renewable generation (up to the 80% annual demand) can be credited on a de-rated basis against the autoproducer or dispatchable generation requirement. An indicative example of this calculation is provided in Appendix 1, which reflects the methodology set out in Section 3.5.3 of CRU/2025236.
Compliance Plan Requirement	Customers must submit a credible plan identifying the renewable projects involved and the expected delivery timeline.

Element	Requirement Summary
Ongoing Reporting	Annual reporting to EirGrid is required to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the 80% renewable requirement. The customer must provide: • Credible plan details identifying the renewable projects involved and the expected delivery timeline (updated annually) • Actual demand for Year 7 (and subsequent years thereafter) • Actual renewable generation for Year 7 (and subsequent years thereafter).
Non-compliance Consequence	If, after the six-year glide path, the 80% target is not met, EirGrid may reduce the data centre's MIC to the level that has been met and/or terminate the Connection Agreement. Assessment will be for the 7th year which starts six (6) years from the date of energisation of the date centre. Continued assessment/compliance is required thereafter. Failure to submit annual reporting or requested details may result in termination of the Connection Agreement.

2.3 Constrained Area Assessment

CRU/2025236 requires EirGrid to consider the location of a data centre application with respect to whether it is in a constrained or unconstrained part of the electricity network. This will require EirGrid to complete a comprehensive assessment of the power system in order to understand the impact of connecting the new data centre application. The assessment will be carried out in accordance with the Transmission System Security and Planning Standards (TSSPS), which sets out the standards against which the transmission system is planned. For further details on how the Constrained Area Assessment will be completed, refer to the Data Centre Technical Assessment paper.

For the avoidance of doubt, a data centre application cannot be progressed if it is in a constrained area. CRU/2025236 requires EirGrid to publish locational information identifying areas of the network that have capacity. On an interim basis, this information will be provided in the Data Centre Constrained Area Overview document. On an enduring basis EirGrid will provide heat maps which will be made available via the upcoming 2027 Ten Year Transmission Forecast Statement (TYTFS).

2.4 Dispatchable Onsite or Proximate Generation and/or Storage Capacity

CRU/2025236 requires the dispatchable generation to be either "onsite", which EirGrid considers to be at the same node as the data centre demand, or "proximate" which EirGrid considers to be defined as generation that is connected to the same local network as the data centre.

A local network is defined as the network between any two meshed nodes, where a meshed node is defined as a node with three or more connections to the wider network (none of which constitute tail-ended circuits). The meshed nodes themselves are included in the definition of the local network, provided they are at the same voltage as the local network. Figure 1 shows an illustrative network diagram showing a local network and meshed nodes.

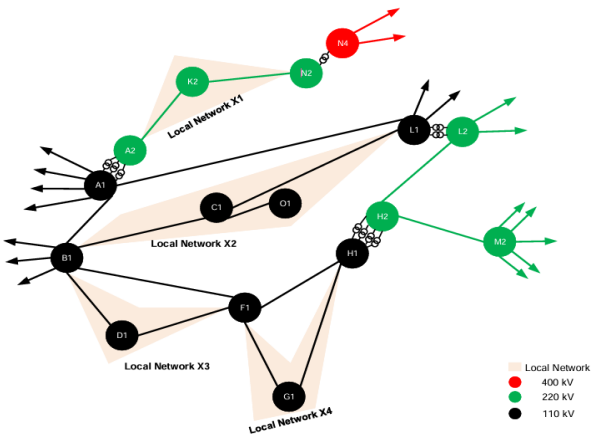

Figure 1: Illustrative Network Diagram Showing a Local Network and Meshed Nodes

To maintain the continuity, security, and quality of electricity supply, and to ensure system security standards are consistently met, data centres with a MIC greater than or equal to 10 MVA will be required to provide dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity equal to their MIC, subject to applicable derating requirements. This capacity must be located either onsite or in close proximity to the demand connection, enabling the data centre to offset its own consumption and thereby support overall grid stability.

A summary of the dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage requirements under CRU Decision CRU/2025236 is outlined in Table 4.

Table 4. Requirements for Dispatchable Onsite or Proximate Generation and/or Storage Requirements under CRU Decision CRU/2025236

Category	Requirement
Generation / Storage Capacity Requirement	Must provide new dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage with de-rated capacity sufficient to meet 100% of the site's MIC. Capacity sizing must apply the prevailing Capacity Remuneration Mechanism ("CRM") de-rating factors relevant to the technology. An indicative example of this calculation is set out in Section 3.5.3 of CRU/2025236, which shows that a 30 MVA data centre would require approximately 34.8 MW dispatchable generation prior to accounting for any renewable electricity contribution.
Connection Configuration	Generation and/or storage must be connected and metered separately from the data centre connection (i.e. separately connected bay).
Market Participation	Generation and/or storage must participate in the SEM as a standalone market unit. Includes compliance with Trading and Settlement Code, CRM Rules, Bidding Code of Practice, etc.
New Asset Requirement	Generation and/or storage must be new and additional. Existing operational, previously contracted, or adequacy-counted generation cannot be used to meet this requirement.
Renewable Electricity Interaction	Additional renewable electricity generated in Ireland, meeting up to 80% of annual demand, may be credited on a de-rated basis against the dispatchable generation requirement. Only renewable output up to the 80% cap may be reflected. An indicative example of this calculation is provided in Appendix 1, which reflects the methodology set out in Section 3.5.3 of CRU/2025236.
Timing and Ramping	The data centre cannot energise or ramp demand without delivery of the associated dispatchable generation/storage. Generation must ramp in step with MIC ramp-up, with de-rated capacity meeting the ramped or enduring MIC for the duration of the connection.
Performance and Availability	Generation and/or storage must meet minimum performance and availability requirements to be specified by EirGrid. Failure to maintain required performance may result in MIC reduction.
MDC	Where compliant with dispatchable generation/storage requirements, the data centre is not subject to MDC provisions.
Shared Generation Option	Multiple data centres may share a single proximate generator, provided de-rated capacity meets combined MIC and all other requirements as outlined herein are met, including confirmation from the parties regarding the allocation of the Nominated Generation.

2.5 System Stability

CRU/2025236 underscores the importance of a stable power system and describes the operational issues that have arisen due to the Fault Ride Through ("FRT") performance of data centres. FRT issues occur due to data centres automatically, and near instantaneously, reducing their consumption from the grid following a disturbance and then reconnecting their demand sometime after clearance of the disturbance. This response can cause a large imbalance between supply and demand and has the potential to compromise the stability of the power system. EirGrid is managing this with operational measures and a proposed grid code modification while industry is expediting a technical solution. New data centres must remain stable during disturbances and should not exhibit rapid demand fluctuations during normal operation. It is expected that

new data centres will avail of the new technology currently in advanced development that will address the FRT challenge.

Data centre customers will be required to provide sufficient detail on the demand behaviour of their facility including dynamic models, typical demand profiles and details of any equipment to be installed to mitigate stability issues. The customer's impact on system stability will be considered as part of the Technical Assessment. For further details, refer to the Data Centre Technical Assessment paper.

EirGrid is completing extensive work (working with industry) on the FRT issue and power system stability issues particularly in relation to the existing data centre connections. The successful conclusion of this work will be a key enabler to the continued sustainable growth of data centres in Ireland.

2.6 Capacity Market

A Capacity Market is in place to ensure that sufficient generation capacity (including storage, demand side response and interconnection capacity) is available to meet adequacy standards in Ireland and Northern Ireland at all times. It provides payments to capacity providers in return for being able to deliver energy to support system adequacy and maintain security of supply. The Capacity Market is governed by the Capacity Market Code and is operated jointly by the System Operators in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

In order to comply with CRU/2025236, data centres with dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage must ensure these units participate in the Capacity Market, following execution of the data centre Connection Agreement.

The policy sets specific Capacity Market participation rules for these units to avoid market distortions and to ensure that any new data centre does not exacerbate system adequacy challenges. These rules include limitations on contract duration, bid volume, and the use of de-rating factors from the latest CRM T-4 auctions.

The customer must ensure that the Nominated Generation used to support its MIC is additional to existing system capacity. Accordingly:

- A Nominated Generation cannot already hold a capacity market contract for the relevant delivery year.
- A Nominated Generation can be new capacity with no capacity market position.

This ensures the Nominated Generation is genuinely contributing new deliverability to support the data centre.

It is important that the process ensures that one of the following sets of conditions are met:

- The date centre MIC and the de-rated capacity of the proximate generation are both included in a Capacity Auction.
- Neither the date centre MIC nor the de-rated capacity of the proximate generation are included in a Capacity Auction. This second set of conditions would arise where the Required Quantities for a Capacity Auction have been set and they do not include the MIC of the date centre (due to the Connection Agreement being executed after the data freeze for the Required Quantities calculations).

The Required Quantities for a Capacity Auction should not include the MIC of the date centre unless the proximate generator is qualified for the relevant Capacity Auction. Similarly, the proximate generator should not participate in a Capacity Auction where the MIC of the Large Energy User is not reflected in the Required Quantities.

A summary of the CRM requirements under CRU Decision CRU/2025236 is outlined in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of CRM Requirements under CRU Decision CRU/2025236

Category	Requirement
Eligibility and Participation	Dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage must participate in the CRM in accordance with SEM rules. This requirement arises from capacity market participation obligations and is reflected, as appropriate, in the Connection Agreement.
Offer Quantity Limit	Maximum CM offer quantity (de-rated) is capped at the data centre's contracted MIC for each delivery year. If MIC is ramping, the offer quantity must reflect the ramped MIC for that year.
Contract Duration	New generation and/or storage linked to a data centre may only bid for 1-year CRM contracts (no multi-year/10-year contracts allowed). This is to avoid long-term exposure if data centre does not materialise.
Excess Generation	Where generation capacity is developed in excess of that required to meet the data centre's MIC requirement, the excess capacity may participate in the CRM on a normal basis. However, such excess capacity is not subject to the MIC-linked offer cap and cannot be counted towards meeting data centre generation obligations in future delivery years.

Once nominated, a generator must retain its nominated generation status for the full duration of the data centre's MIC contract. If at any time during the term of the data centre's Connection Agreement the nominated generation abandons its nominated role, this may result in a breach of the data centre's Connection Agreement with EirGrid and subsequently a potential reduction in MIC or termination of this Connection Agreement. If the nominated generator later seeks to participate as a standard generator, it cannot be treated as new and remains limited to one-year contracts. These measures are designed to encourage and maintain long-term alignment between the generator and the data centre.

2.7 De-rating Factors

The CRU/2025236 requires that any onsite, proximate, or autoproducer generation or storage used to support a data centre must be sized after applying technology-specific de-rating factors taken from the most recent SEM Capacity Market T-4 auction. The key rule is that the de-rated capacity must be at least equal to the site's MIC for the entire duration of the connection, ensuring that the data centre is fully backed by reliable, system-visible capacity. For data centres between 1 and <10 MVA, the autoproducer unit must meet 100% of MIC on a de-rated basis, while those ≥10 MVA must deliver new, separately connected dispatchable generation or storage whose de-rated output meets or exceeds MIC. In both cases, up to 80% renewable supply can reduce the required dispatchable capacity, but only according to its own de-rated contribution. Data centres may not energise or ramp beyond the level of de-rated capacity actually delivered, and failure to maintain required performance can lead to MIC reduction or non-firm status.

2.8 Performance and Availability Requirements

Unit availability performance will be assessed by reference to the technology-class outage statistics used in the Capacity Market. These outage statistics represent the expected performance standard against which actual unit performance will be evaluated.

For example, assume that for a given technology class the forced outage rate derived from the Capacity Market outage datasets is 10%, implying an expected availability of 90%. On this basis, the generator would be expected to be available for approximately 329 days per year.

Where a unit's observed availability deviates materially and persistently from the relevant technology-class benchmarks, this under-performance may trigger a re-assessment. In such cases, the impact of actual performance on system value will be quantified through a re-assessment of de-rating factors derived from observed outage behaviour, with any resulting change in de-rated capacity informing the revaluation of the Nominated Generation and any consequential adjustment to the MIC.

2.9 Planning Permission

When applying to EirGrid for a connection, the customer must submit full supporting documentation. This explicitly includes the relevant planning permissions for both the data centre facility and the associated generation and/or storage assets. A summary of the planning permission requirements is outlined in Table 6.

Table 6. Summary of Planning Permission Requirements

Category	Requirement
Data Centre (demand)	Validated planning application, confirmed by the relevant planning authority, must be in place prior to the pre‑application meeting. Full planning permission, confirmed by the relevant planning authority, and free of any periods of judicial review is required before Offer acceptance.
Nominated Generation	Full planning permission is required before entering ECP-GSS. In line with ECP-GSS ruleset.
Nominated Renewable Generation	Evidence that planning application has been submitted and acknowledged as 'complete' is required at ECP-GSS entry; full planning permission required free of any periods of judicial review before Offer acceptance. In line with ECP-GSS ruleset.

The planning permission must be specific to the connection application and supported by a certified declaration, witnessed by a solicitor or accredited planning consultant, confirming alignment between the planning approval and the proposed transmission system connection.

If a customer submits an inaccurate declaration in relation to their data centre application, it will constitute an "event of default" under the applicable Connection Agreement, giving EirGrid the right to terminate the agreement. If such inaccuracies are identified before a contract is executed, the application may be removed from processing and any live Offer rescinded. Should planning permission expire or become invalid before the project is constructed, EirGrid may withdraw or terminate the application, Offer, or contract accordingly.

For customers opting to proceed with grid connection works on a non-contestable basis, EirGrid can only submit a planning application for the connection works once the Connection Agreement has been executed. Estimated timelines for these works will be included in the Offer.

3 Connection Offer Process

A data centre connection application package will comprise a minimum of three linked but separate applications:

1. **A Data Centre Application:** A data centre application can be submitted by the data centre customer at any time. However, any associated Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewables must be in, or already have been processed through, the ECP-GSS connection offer process.
2. **The Nominated Generation Application(s):** For the nomination of dispatchable onsite or proximate generation or storage, the nominated generation must either have an existing connection agreement, live offer, application in train, or submit an application into the ECP-GSS process, progressed independently by the generator developer(s), which may be a different legal entity or entities from the data centre customer. The data centre application must reference the nominated generator(s) and provide evidence of a binding commercial relationship between the parties as part of its application.
3. **The Nominated Renewable Generation Application(s):** For the nomination of renewable generation to be used to meet the 80% renewable electricity requirement, EirGrid must be able to validate that there is a credible plan that the Nominated Renewables will be in place at the end of the glide path set out in the CRU/2025236. EirGrid has currently determined that in order to assess the credibility of this plan that the nominated renewable must either have an existing connection

agreement, live offer, application in train, or submit an application into the ECP-GSS process. This can be progressed independently by a generator developer(s), which may be a different legal entity or entities from the data centre customer. The data centre application must reference the nominated renewable generator(s) and provide confirmation from the nominated renewable generator(s) that there is a commercial relationship between the parties as part of its application. A data centre shall have a 6-year glide path from the date of the demand site's energisation to reach 80% renewable compliance.

The time required to process a Data Centre connection application will be dependent on where in its journey the associated generation is. For Data Centre connection applications whose Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewables have already gone through the ECP-GSS process and received connection offer(s), the standard processing timeline for a data centre connection offer would be approximately seven and a half (7.5) calendar months from receipt of application and fee to issuance of a connection offer. This assumes a complete and correct application with no clarifications required by EirGrid from the customer. For Data Centre connection applications whose associated generation has only just applied into ECP-GSS, the standard processing timeline for a data centre application would be up to eighteen (18) calendar months from receipt of application and fee to issuance of a connection offer. This is because under the ECP-GSS process, EirGrid requires up to eighteen (18) calendar months to process Nominated Generation applications; accordingly, if the two (the data centre and the nominated generation) applied in parallel, the processing timeframe for the Nominated Generation application(s) would apply to the data centre application as this cannot be progressed in advance of the Nominated Generation.

3.1 Pre-application Requirements

An optional early-engagement meeting may be requested by the customer. This is to allow the customer the opportunity to set out their project details and to engage EirGrid in a non-binding manner. Meetings will be facilitated with potential projects that are not in constrained areas and can outline, at a high level, their anticipated approach to nominated generation and nominated renewables.

Before an application is submitted, a customer must engage with EirGrid through a pre-application meeting which is mandatory.

The customer may request these meetings by submitting a meeting application request to info@eirgrid.com. The customer must clearly specify whether they are seeking an early-engagement meeting or a pre-application meeting.

These meetings allow EirGrid and the customer an opportunity to:

- Identify any obvious impediments (e.g., infeasible locations, missing fundamental components).
- Explain the application requirements, process, and indicative timelines.
- Ensure the customer fully understands the generation obligations.
- Support the customer in having a valid application to minimise inefficient processing.

The customer must have the following information prepared in advance of scheduling a pre-application meeting with EirGrid for its data centre facility:

- Evidence of validated planning application for the data centre
- Single Line Diagram, Site Layout Drawings
- Details of the renewable generation site(s) that will ensure at least 80% of the data centres annual electricity energy demand will be met by renewables including:
    - Name, technology type, MEC, and location
    - Site specific capacity factors for the renewable generator(s)
    - Demonstration that locational specific Dispatch Down from the latest EirGrid Constraint Forecast Analysis Reports has been take account of in determining that the renewables can provide 80% of the data centre's annual energy requirement

- Details of the dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity plan or autoproduction plan, including:
    - Name, technology type, MEC, location and proposed connection method
    - Demonstration of how the generation and/or storage will meet 100% of facilities MIC following the application of a technology specific derating factor
    - Demonstration, where appropriate, of how renewable generation is considered in a reduction of the derated dispatchable generation and/or storage requirement
    - Details on the approach to generator fuelling arrangements where applicable (for example, type of gas connection, evidence of gas connection contracts, logistic arrangements for other fuel types etc.)
    - Drawings and layouts to demonstrate how nominated proximate generation meets the definition/requirements (as applicable)

All of the above information must be submitted prior to any pre-application meeting with EirGrid.

3.2 Data Centre Application

Following a pre-application meeting, a developer may proceed to submit a data centre application through the updated online application portal (https://connectionregistration-eirgrid.powerappsportals.com). The customer must complete the required *Data Centre Customer Application Form*. The information provided shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Customer details (legal entity, contact details)
- Site location (coordinates, address)
- Landowner Consents
- Requested MIC and proposed energisation timeline
- Ramping details
- Evidence of validated planning application for the data centre
- Date of pre-application meeting reference
- Confidentiality Agreement
- Dynamic models (see Section 2.5)
- Details of the renewable generation site(s) that will ensure at least 80% of the data centres annual electricity demand will be met by renewables including:
    - Renewable generation details as required under Section 3.1
    - Evidence of relationship between the data centre and the generator
    - Director's Declaration (a director-signed declaration confirming the data centre has secured sufficient renewable generation to meet 80% of the data centre's annual energy requirement having taken account of network constraints, curtailment and renewable surplus and that the delivery timelines align with the six-year glide path)
- Details of the dispatchable onsite or proximate Nominated Generation and/or storage capacity plan or autoproduction plan, including:
    - Dispatchable or autoproduction plan details as required under Section 3.1
    - Evidence of relationship between the data centre and the generator
    - EPA licence proposals/plan and details of any generation run hour limitations
    - Director's Declaration (a director-signed declaration confirming the data centre has secured sufficient generation to match their MIC (subject to derating requirements), that the generation is not subject to run hour limitations and that the generation delivery timelines are aligned with the data centre.)

The data centre application must explicitly state which generation projects are providing the Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewable capacity. Furthermore, the Nominated Generation and Nominated

Renewable legal entities must provide a formal confirmation letter signed by a Director confirming the nomination and relationship to the data centre and that the allocated MW capacity of generation has not been assigned to any other data centre capacity/application. For the avoidance of doubt, Nominated Generation and Nominated Renewables can associate with more than one data centre, provided they do not allocate the same MW capacity to them. The data centre customer must submit these letters as part of its application.

The customer must provide generator(s) nomination evidence through the following:

- A letter of consent from the generator(s), confirming:
    - Agreement to act as the dispatchable onsite or proximate generation and/or storage capacity (from the Nominated Generation)
    - Agreement to act as the renewable generation (for the Nominated Renewable)
    - Allocation of the required MEC to the data centre
    - Confirmation that the same MW capacity is not allocated to another data centre
    - Confirmation that the same MW capacity has not been successful in a T-4 Capacity Auction
- A declaration confirming that the generator(s) meets the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 2.

The customer shall also provide all the supporting documentation specified in the Data Centre Customer Application Form (see start of this Section 3.2 above), including:

- Two (2) signed copies of EirGrid's standard Confidentiality Agreement
- First instalment of the application fee (€7,000 inclusive of Value Added Tax)

EirGrid will then assess the application over a one and a half (1.5) calendar month period to determine whether it is deemed complete. Following the one and a half (1.5) calendar month period, EirGrid will respond to confirm either that:

- the application is deemed complete, along with a request for the payment of balance fees;
- additional information is required before the application can proceed; or
- to terminate the application if it does not meet the requirements under this section 3.2*

The total fee is based on the data centre's size and whether new connection works are necessary. The fee calculation is outlined in the annually approved Statement of Charges by the CRU. EirGrid will assess the likelihood of shallow connection works and determine the fee balance accordingly. Invoicing can only be issued to the contracting entity named in the application. If the application is incomplete, EirGrid will specify the missing data and/or required clarifications. The application will only progress once all requested information is received and formally acknowledged by EirGrid.

Once the full application fee has been paid, EirGrid will begin processing the application and will issue an Offer within the timelines as outlined above. The customer will then have two (2) calendar months to accept the Offer before EirGrid proceeds to execute it. Figures 2 and 3 below illustrates the data centre application process leading up to the issuance of an Offer (assuming no terminations/lapsing of Offer arise). Customers should note that if an application is deemed to be complex the standard timelines shall no longer apply and new indicative processing timelines will be provided to the customer.

* *If an application is terminated, a customer may not submit a new application for the same project until a minimum of six (6) months after the termination of the previous application.*

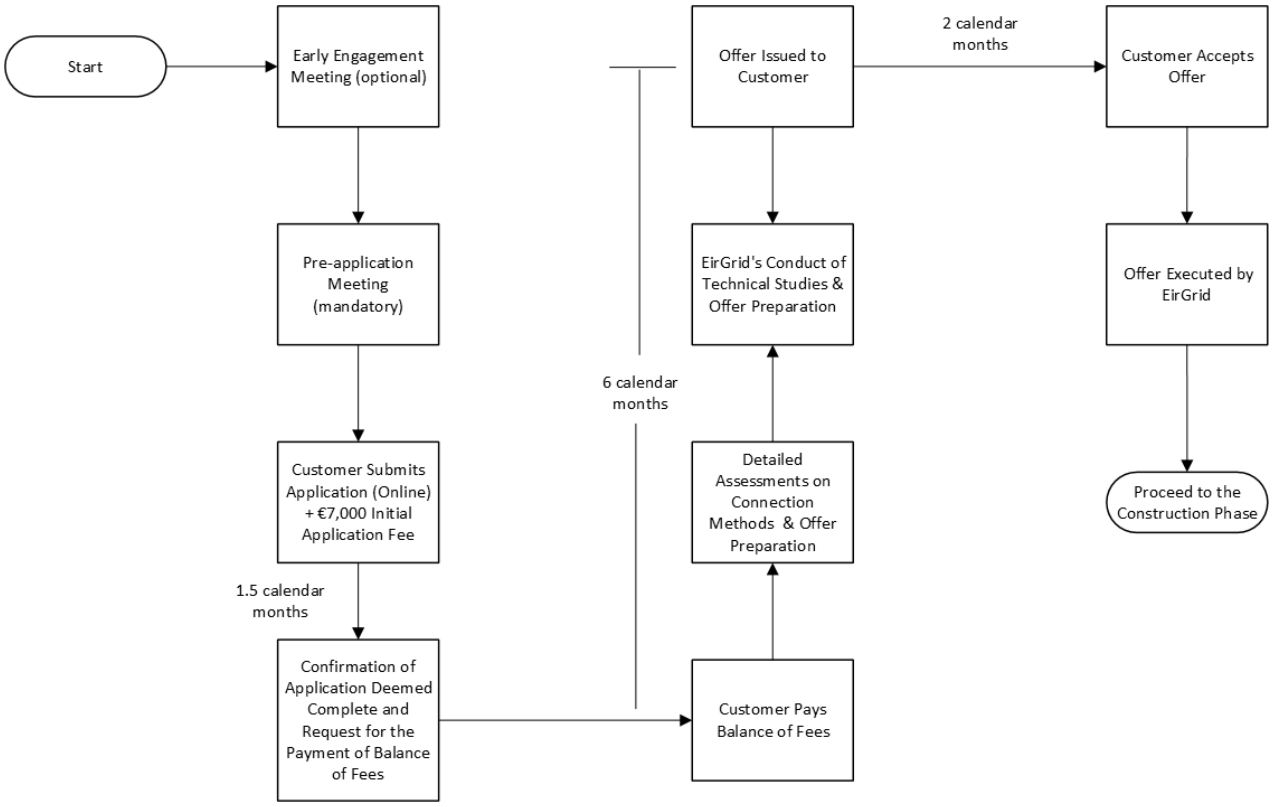

Figure 2. Data Centre Application Process where Associated Generation have Progressed through the ECP-GSS Process and Received Connection Offer(s)

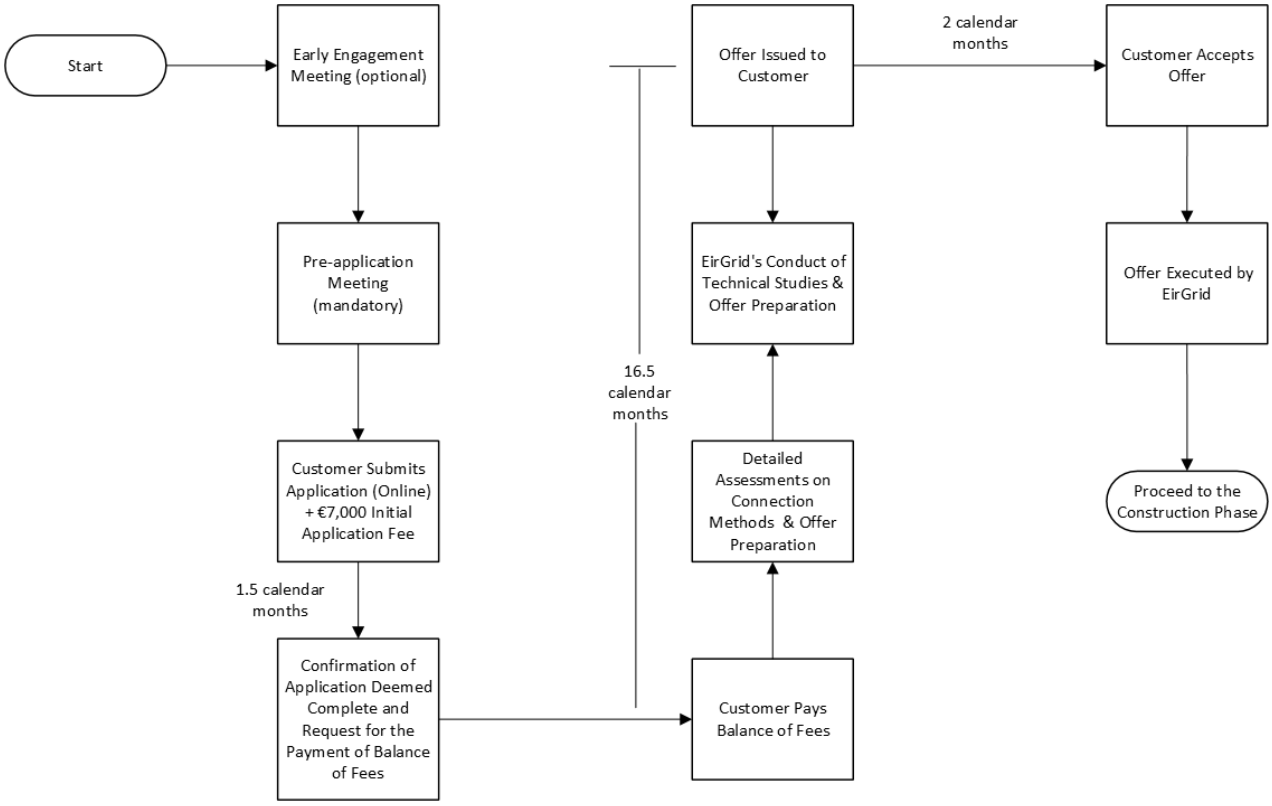

Figure 3. Data Centre Application Process where Associated Generation have Recently Applied into the ECP-GSS Process

3.3 Accepting a Data Centre Offer

To accept an Offer, the customer must return a signed Connection Agreement to EirGrid and meet all the Conditions Precedents of Offer Acceptance within two (2) calendar months of the Offer's issuance. Furthermore, the Nominated Generation must accept its Offer(s) before the data centre is permitted to accept its own Offer. Acceptance of the Nominated Generation Offer(s) will therefore constitute a Condition Precedent to acceptance of the data centre Offer. If the Offer is not accepted within this period, it will automatically lapse unless an extension has been formally agreed with EirGrid. The Offer will include, but is not limited to, the elements outlined in Table 7 below.

Table 7. Summary of Offer Content

Category	Content to be Included in the Offer
Connection Capacity and Location	• MIC requested and any staged ramp up profile.
Generation/Autoproducer Requirements	• Autoproducer: requirement for meeting 100% MIC (derated) and participating in SEM, plus minimum performance and availability standards. • Generation: requirement for separately connected and metered onsite or proximate dispatchable generation/storage meeting MIC (derated) and SEM participation. • Generation delivery linked to MIC ramp up.
Renewable Electricity Requirement	• Obligation to meet ≥80% of annual demand with renewable electricity generated in Ireland. • Six-year glide path to reach full compliance. • Annual reporting of renewable compliance to EirGrid.
Performance, Availability and Compliance	• Minimum performance/availability standards for required generation or autoproducer units. • Statement that non-compliance may lead to MIC reduction, non-firm status, or termination of the agreement.
Connection Method, Technical Works and Costs	• Proposed connection method, voltage level, and contestable/non contestable works. • Connection charges per standard charging methodology, including payment schedule • Any need for upstream reinforcements.
Project Delivery Milestones	• Required sequencing of demand energisation with delivery of associated generation/storage. • Deadlines for provision of evidence on renewable/generation project development. • Offer validity period.
Contractual Documentation	• Confirmation that detailed legal terms are set out in the Connection Agreement.

If an Offer lapses, the customer must go back to the start of the process and submit a new application and pay the applicable fees if it wishes to pursue a transmission system connection. This will be considered a new application and treated accordingly.

If accepted and all Conditions Precedent are met, the Offer will be executed and becomes an Executed Connection Agreement.

As part of the assessment process, EirGrid will determine whether the delivery timelines for both the data centre and the associated Nominated Generation are aligned. The Nominated Generation delivery date will be treated as the earliest possible energisation date for the data centre. If the timelines do not align, the data centre application cannot proceed.

3.4 Data Centre Post Offer Obligation

The customer must maintain its Nominated Generation/Nominated Renewable relationship for the entire duration of the MIC contract. This includes ensuring that the generator(s) remain fully operational and available, continue to allocate the required MEC to the data centre, and do not reassign that MEC to any other data centre.

If the generator(s) are no longer able or willing to provide the contracted generation capacity, the customer must immediately notify EirGrid and apply to reduce its MIC to a level that can be supported without those generator(s). The MIC may only be restored once a replacement generator(s) are fully operational and demonstrably meet all eligibility criteria. Any replacement generator(s) must have an MEC (after any derating) at least equal to the MIC sought. Until this is verified by EirGrid, the reduced MIC will remain in effect. Failure to comply may result in the data centre being disconnected and its contract terminated.

3.5 General Provisions

3.5.1 Interacting Applications

It is in the nature of a national electricity system that, at times, multiple applications will be in progress simultaneously, some of which may compete with or otherwise affect other applications. If an offer is accepted, work that EirGrid may be undertaking for another customer—or an issued Offer that has not yet been accepted—may no longer be valid or appropriate.

EirGrid will adopt a 'first come, first served' approach when processing data centre applications. When a customer submits a request to connect to the transmission system, EirGrid will proceed according to the process outlined in Figures 2 and 3.

However, if another data centre(s) seek to connect to the same transmission infrastructure, EirGrid will inform the first customer that a second application has been received and that any potential extensions to processing and/or validity period acceptance timelines will have to be limited accordingly. Similarly, when a second application to connect to the transmission system is received, EirGrid will inform the second customer that an application is already progressing in the same area as their proposed connection. The second customer will have the choice to:

- Wait until the completion of the Connection Offer Process for the first customer; or
- Continue with their application, on the basis that the first project will proceed to completion as an Influencing Connection.

The risk associated with choosing the second option is that the connection method may be more expensive and/or take more time to complete compared to choosing the first option. However, choosing the first option would likely extend the time required to receive an Offer.

EirGrid will advise all affected interacting customers, as soon as reasonably practicable, of the receipt of a deemed complete application and of any acceptance of an Offer that affects or invalidates a live Offer or a connection application being processed. In general, EirGrid can only base connection rights on the ability of third parties to proceed to a committed connection, which may occur before an Offer is accepted by the original customer. The first interacting or conflicting customer to accept an Offer will be given priority. Other customers will be informed that the capacity situation has changed and, where appropriate, the extent to which the terms and conditions of their unaccepted Offers or applications are affected or invalid.

In addition to the above, non-data centre capacity applications may be classed as Interacting Applications.

3.5.2 Influencing Applications

An Offer made to a customer may be one of several Offers issued for connections to the transmission system. The charges, method of connection, and connection dates and periods specified in a customer's Offer Letter may be based on a number of 'Influencing Connections', which will be identified in the customer's Offer. If any of the Influencing Connections do not proceed in accordance with the timeframes set out in their

Connection Agreements, the method of connection, the timing of the connection, and/or charges may be amended to reflect the changed circumstances.

3.5.3 Modification Requests

While EirGrid assumes that customers endeavour to submit accurate applications, it is recognised that there may be instances where a customer wishes to modify their application. In assessing any such modification request, EirGrid will take into account the impact on all Offers that have been issued or due to be issued before the modification is processed. Customers should be aware that modification requests will likely delay Offer dates (when submitted during offer processing) and may require an additional processing fee. There are also cases where EirGrid may need to make a Company Modification, and Clause 21.3 of the *Transmission General Conditions of Connection and Transmission Use of System* sets out the terms and conditions that apply in this context.

For modification applications to Executed Connection Agreements, the customer must apply via the online portal. Modification applications will be subject to the requirements set out in this DCCOPP Version 3 and in CRU/2025236.

3.5.3.1 Reductions in MIC

Reductions in MIC can create additional work, uncertainty, and delays when processing an application. Therefore, reductions in MIC can only be accommodated where the reduction would be beneficial to a project(s), without a negative impact to other customers. This scenario generally arises where a project does not share connection assets with other projects. Accordingly, the rules under which a reduction in MIC can be allowed are as follows:

- The reduction in MIC can be accommodated without negatively impacting costs for other transmission system customers;
- The reduction in MIC can be accommodated by EirGrid without negatively impacting the delivery dates of Offers for other data centre customers; and
- A processing fee will be charged to reflect the additional work undertaken by EirGrid.

3.5.3.2 Increases in MIC

MIC increases are assessed and treated in the same manner as new applications for capacity.

3.5.4 Mergers

Mergers occur whereby two or more separate projects, each with its own MIC, apply to combine into a single project with a combined MIC and a single connection point to the transmission system, with the individual site connected via the developer's internal network. Customers should note that applications to merge projects during the offer process may result in delays to the processing of their application.

To merge projects, customers must:

- Submit an updated application form from a single legal entity, including all required information.
- Include a signed declaration on official company letterhead stating that all customers owning the projects seeking to merge agree to the merger and identifying the single legal entity to whom the new Connection Agreement will be issued.
- Note that the Offer will be issued on the assumption that this legal entity will be formed and that all premises and equipment will be owned by it (to be confirmed by declaration). This will also be included as a pre-condition in the Offer.
- Pay an appropriate fee, which will apply where a merger is requested—even if an Offer has yet been issued—to cover any additional costs required to process the merger. This fee will be levied in accordance with the standard EirGrid practice.
- Follow the timeline for processing the modification, which will be advised at the time of application or in accordance with the relevant modification process.

3.5.5 Capacity relocation

The relocation of capacity offered to a data centre customer is not permitted. Capacity relocation occurs when a customer seeks to move capacity to a site that is not proximate to the location of the capacity at the existing site.

4 General Contractual Information

Customers should consider a number of key commercial items when applying for a connection to the transmission system. The Offer is a contract issued to a customer by EirGrid, which the customer can either accept or allow to lapse. The Offer for transmission connections is made up of two key documents:

- A Connection Agreement, which includes site-specific schedules such as customer details, the schedule of works to be carried out by EirGrid and by the customer, payment schedules, and other contractual details. One of the schedules of the Connection Agreement is the Offer Letter.
- The General Conditions, which outline the terms and conditions applicable to all parties connecting to the transmission system.

Once connected, the customer pays Demand Transmission Use of System (TUoS) Charges on a monthly basis, calculated based on the MIC. Changes to the MIC are only permitted in accordance with the MIC Administration Paper.

4.1 Standard Regulated Contractual Documents

The customer should, in advance of receiving the Offer, familiarise themselves—and their legal representatives, if required—with the standard regulated contractual documents. It is recommended that customers arrange for any required due diligence to be carried out on these documents in parallel with the Connection Offer Process period. Please note that, as these are regulated documents, changes cannot be made to them unless approved by the CRU. Further information on Connection Agreements and associated charging documentation is available on EirGrid's official website.

4.2 EirGrid's Standard Payment Terms

EirGrid's standard payment terms are as set out in Section 7 of the General Conditions. If a customer has any issues with these payment terms, they should raise them with EirGrid as early in the process as possible so that alternative payment terms for charges related to connection can be considered under Clause 7.7 of the General Conditions.

4.3 Security Arrangements

MIC security is required on acceptance of an Offer, and connection charge security is required by the Consents Issue Date ("CID") where further connection charges fall due after the CID. MIC and/or connection charge security may be provided through a bond or via alternative security arrangements in accordance with the General Conditions. Customers are encouraged to prepare such security arrangements well in advance of Offer execution where possible.

5 Non-Data Centre Demand Application

Non-data centre demand customers follow the same overarching application structure and procedural steps set out in this DCCOPP Version 3 document; however, their applications are not subject to the additional requirements that apply exclusively to data centre projects. While these customers must still complete pre-application engagement, satisfy any planning permission requirements, and progress through the standard technical and contractual assessment stages, they are not required to provide dispatchable onsite or proximate generation, develop a renewable electricity glidepath, or undergo the specialised constraint assessment methodologies designed for large energy users under the CRU/2025236.

Non-data centre applications may be considered to be Interacting Applications with data centres and assessed on that basis.

For the avoidance of doubt, any request for a change of facility use, specifically where a customer is seeking to change from a non-data centre to a data centre, will require the customer to meet the data centre requirements as set out under CRU/2025236 and the DCCOPP Version 3.

6 Document Governance and Reserved Rights

EirGrid reserves the right to amend, update, or replace DCCOPP Version 3 at any time to reflect (without limitation) new or amended CRU directions, changes in legislation, system conditions, market arrangements, industry codes and standards, and/or internal policy requirements. Any amended, updated or revised policy shall only apply to applications received after the date of publication of that policy, save where EirGrid is obliged by legislation or direction to apply such amendments, updates or revisions to all live applications.

Where applications give rise to specific scenarios, technologies, or circumstances not explicitly addressed within this DCCOPP Version 3, EirGrid will assess such applications on a case-by-case basis, applying prevailing regulatory guidance, system needs, and relevant internal policies.

Certain timelines set out within this DCCOPP Version 3 (specifically application assessment and Offer preparation) are indicative and remain subject to, among other things, completion of detailed technical assessments and EirGrid internal approvals. EirGrid gives no warranties or representations that applications shall be processed within these timelines, and customers rely on these timelines entirely at their own risk.

Nothing in this document shall be construed in and of itself as creating any obligation on the part of EirGrid to issue an Offer. Terms for connection to and use of the transmission system remain as set out in Section 34 of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (as amended).

7 References

1. Commission for Regulation of Utilities. *Large Energy Users Connection Policy*. Dublin: CRU; 2025.
2. EirGrid plc. *EirGrid Statement of Charges 2025/2026*. Dublin: EirGrid; 2025.
3. EirGrid plc. *Policy Statement on Options for Connection Customers to the Transmission Network*. Dublin: EirGrid; 2022.
4. EirGrid plc. *General Conditions of Connection and Transmission Use of System*. Dublin: EirGrid; 2013.
5. Commission for Regulation of Utilities. *Electricity Connection Policy – Generation and System Services Decision Paper*. Dublin: CRU; 2024.

Appendix 1: 80% Renewable Requirement - Worked Example

The CRU/2025236 requires data centres to meet at least 80% of their annual electricity demand with renewable electricity generated in the Republic of Ireland, achieved over a 6-year glidepath. Renewable generation delivered toward this requirement may be credited—on a de-rated basis—against the dispatchable generation requirement, up to the 80% cap.

For a 30 MVA data centre operating at an 80% utilisation rate, the annual electricity demand is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Annual Demand} = \text{MIC x Utilisation Rate x } 8760 = 30 \text{ x } 0.8 \text{ x } 8{,}760 = 210{,}240 \text{ MWh}$$

$$\text{Annual Demand} \approx 210 \text{ GWh per year}$$

Computing the 80% renewable-energy requirement:

$$\text{Renewable Requirement} = 210 \text{ GWh x } 0.80 = 168 \text{ GWh per year}$$

$$\textbf{Renewable Requirement} = \textbf{168 GWh per year}$$

The site must therefore procure at least 168 GWh per year of new renewable electricity generated in the Republic of Ireland.

To convert the renewable-energy requirement into installed capacity, assuming a 35% capacity factor:

$$\text{Installed Wind} = \frac{168{,}000 \text{ MWh}}{0.35 \text{ x } 8{,}760 \text{ h}}$$

$$\textbf{Installed Wind} \approx \textbf{54.9 MW}$$

Using the wind CRM de-rating factor of 0.056 (from Table 5 of the 2028/2029 T-4 Capacity Auction Initial Auction Information Pack), the de-rated wind contribution is:

$$\text{De-rated Wind Contribution} = 54.9 \text{ MW x } 0.056$$

$$\textbf{De-rated Wind Contribution} = \textbf{3.1 MW}$$

Calculating the remaining dispatchable generation requirement:

$$\text{Remaining Dispatchable} = 30 - 3.1$$

$$\text{Remaining Dispatchable} = 26.9 \text{ MW}$$

If using gas turbines as the dispatchable generation technology, a CRM de-rating factor of 0.863 can be applied to determine the required installed gas capacity.

$$\text{Installed Gas} = \frac{26.9}{0.863}$$

$$\textbf{Installed Gas} \approx \mathbf{31.2\ MW}$$

For a 30 MVA data centre, meeting 168 GWh per year (equivalent to 80% of annual electricity demand) requires approximately 54.9 MW of installed wind capacity, which equates to a 3.1 MW de-rated wind contribution. When this de-rated renewable contribution is credited against the dispatchable generation requirement, the remaining requirement—if met using gas turbines—corresponds to approximately 31.2 MW of installed gas-turbine capacity.

The above calculation does not account for any Dispatch Down factor. Dispatch Down levels are published by EirGrid on its website. Applying a 30% Dispatch Down assumption to the previously calculated 168 GWh per year results in the adjusted calculation shown below.

$$\text{Installed Wind} = \frac{168{,}000\ \text{MWh}}{0.35\ \text{x}\ (1 - 0.3)\ \text{x}\ 8{,}760\ \text{h}}$$

$$\textbf{Installed Wind} \approx \mathbf{78.3\ MW}$$

$$\text{De-rated Wind Contribution} = 78.3\ \text{MW x}\ 0.056$$

$$\textbf{De-rated Wind Contribution} = \mathbf{4.4\ MW}$$

$$\text{Remaining Dispatchable} = 30 - 4.4$$

$$\text{Remaining Dispatchable} = 25.6\ \text{MW}$$

$$\text{Installed Gas} = \frac{25.6}{0.863}$$

$$\textbf{Installed Gas} \approx \mathbf{29.7\ MW}$$

For the same 30 MVA data centre, meeting 168 GWh per year (equivalent to 80% of annual electricity demand) would require approximately 78.3 MW of installed wind capacity once a 30% Dispatch Down factor is applied. This corresponds to a de-rated wind contribution of 4.4 MW. When this de-rated renewable contribution is credited against the dispatchable generation requirement, the remaining requirement—if met using gas turbines—corresponds to approximately 29.7 MW of installed gas-turbine capacity.

Appendix 2: Data Centre Customer Application Form

The Data Centre Customer Application Form referenced in this DCCOPP Version 3 has not been included as an appendix. Instead, customers are directed to the EirGrid website, where the material is publicly available and maintained.

Appendix 3: Confidentiality Agreement Template

The Confidentiality Agreement template referenced in this DCCOPP Version 3 has not been included as an appendix. Instead, customers are directed to the EirGrid website, where the material is publicly available and maintained.

Appendix 4: Grid Code Acknowledgement/Compliance Declaration

The Grid Code Acknowledgement/Compliance Declaration referenced in this DCCOPP Version 3 has not been included as an appendix. Instead, customers are directed to the EirGrid website, where the material is publicly available and maintained.

Appendix 5: Landowner Consent Confirmation

The Landowner Consent Confirmation referenced in this DCCOPP Version 3 has not been included as an appendix. Instead, customers are directed to the EirGrid website, where the material is publicly available and maintained.