

Allocation Round 7: timeline scenarios for offshore wind technologies – fixed bottom and floating offshore wind

| Description | Scenario 1 (shortest timeline): All applicants qualify | Scenario 2: No non-qualifying applicants request a Tier 1 review after application assessment | Scenario 3: Non-qualifying applicants request Tier 1 review and all qualify following review | Scenario 4: No non-qualifying applicants after Tier 1 review request a Tier 2 appeal | Scenario 5 (longest timeline): Non-qualifying applicants request a Tier 2 appeal |
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| Clean Industry Bonus results published | June 2025 | | | | |
| Publication of Minor & Necessary guidance. (LCCC's Minor & Necessary Modifications Guidance provides guidance on how an applicant may apply to LCCC for a minor and necessary modification to the Standard Terms. It also sets out the application form and the information to be included in the application). | June 2025 | | | | |
| Engagement on Minor & Necessary Modification requests. (This is the period during which potential CfD applicants can start early engagement with LCCC on minor and necessary modification requests). | June 2025 | | | | |
| Publish statutory notices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation Round Notice • Standard Terms Notice • Counterparty Costs Notice • Framework Notice | 24 July 2025 | | | | |
| Allocation Framework for AR7 published. (This document sets out the rules to be applied to AR7). | 24 July 2025 | | | | |
| CfD Standard Terms for AR7 published. (These are the final versions of the CfD Standard Terms and Conditions, the generic version of the CfD Agreement and contract variants for AR7). | 24 July 2025 | | | | |
| Minor & Necessary Modification request window. (This is the window for potential applicants to make their formal request to LCCC for minor and necessary modifications). | 24 July 2025 | | | | |
| Application Window for CfD Allocation Round 7. (This is the window for applicants to submit their CfD application and accompanying evidence/documents). | 7 August – 27 August 2025 | | | | |
| Latest date for Minor & Necessary determinations. (This is the deadline by which LCCC must respond to requests for minor and necessary modifications). | 19 August 2025 | | | | |

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| Qualification assessment window. (This is the window for the Delivery Body, NESO, to review CfD applications against the relevant CfD qualification criteria). | 28 August – 26 September 2025 | | | | |
| Applicants notified of outcome of qualification assessment. (Applicants informed whether their applications are considered to qualify for participation in AR7 (i.e., eligible) or are non-qualifying (i.e., ineligible). AR7 will proceed on scenario 1 if all applications qualify at this stage). | 26 September 2025 | | | | |
| Window for Non-Qualifying applicants to request a non – qualification review. (This is the window for non-qualifying applicants to request a Non-Qualification Review – a Tier 1 appeal - asking the Delivery Body to review their decision on qualification status. AR6 will proceed on scenario 2 if no Tier 1 appeals are submitted). | N/A | 29 September – 3 October 2025 | | | |
| Non-qualifying review assessment window. (This is the window for the Delivery Body to re-assess CfD applications against the relevant CfD qualification criteria if Tier 1 appeals are submitted). | N/A | N/A | 6 October – 17 October 2025 | | |
| Non-Qualifying applicants notified of outcome of non – qualification review (a “Non-Qualification Review Notice”). (Applicants informed whether after re-assessment their applications are considered qualifying (i.e., eligible) or non-qualifying (i.e., ineligible). AR7 will proceed on scenario 3 if all Tier 1 appeals are successful at this stage, i.e., all applications qualify following review of Tier 1 appeals). | N/A | N/A | 17 October 2025 | | |
| Window for non-qualifying applicants to request a Qualification Appeal (Tier 2 appeal). (This is the window for any non-qualifying applicants to submit a Qualification Appeal asking Ofgem to review the Delivery Body's non-qualification decision. If no Tier 2 appeals are submitted by 5pm on 24 October, AR7 will proceed on scenario 4. If Tier 2 appeals are submitted, AR7 will proceed on scenario 5). | N/A | N/A | N/A | 20 October – 24 October 2025 | |
| Ofgem informs the Delivery Body if any Tier 2 appeals have been received and Delivery Body has 5 working days in which to submit observations to Ofgem. | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 27 – 31 October 2025 |
| Tier 2 Ofgem non-qualification appeals stage. (Ofgem consider Qualification Appeals). | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3 – 28 November 2025 |
| Non-qualifying applicants notified of outcome of qualification appeals. (Applicants are informed whether after review of a Qualification Appeal their applications are considered qualifying (eligible) or non-qualifying (ineligible) to participate in AR7). | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 28 November 2025 |
| The Delivery Body submits the final valuation, or an updated valuation if any Qualification Appeals are upheld, to DESNZ and notifies its intention to open the sealed bid window. | 29 September 2025 | 6 October 2025 | 20 October 2025 | 27 October 2025 | 1 December 2025 |
| DESNZ publishes Contract Budget Notice | 6 October 2025 | 13 October 2025 | 27 October 2025 | 3 November 2025 | 8 December 2025 |

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| Delivery Body issues a 'Notice of Auction'. (The 'Notice of Auction' will specify that an auction is to be held and inform of the sealed bid window). | 6 October 2025 | 13 October 2025 | 27 October 2025 | 3 November 2025 | 8 December 2025 |
| Sealed bid window. (Qualifying applicants may submit sealed bids during this window). | 21 – 27 October 2025 | 28 October – 3 November 2025 | 11 - 17 November 2025 | 18 – 24 November 2025 | 5 – 9 January 2026 |
| Independent audit and Delivery Body valuation (NESO processes information requested by DESNZ and audits all calculations). | 28 October – 3 November 2025 | 4 – 10 November 2025 | 18 – 24 November 2025 | 25 November – 1 December 2025 | 12 – 16 January 2026 |
| Delivery Body shares anonymised bid stack information with DESNZ | 3 November 2025 | 10 November 2025 | 24 November 2025 | 1 December 2025 | 19 January 2026 |
| DESNZ review anonymised bid stack information | 4 – 26 November 2025 | 11 November – 3 December 2025 | 25 November – 17 December 2025 | 2 December 2025 - 12 January 2026 | 20 January – 11 February 2026 |
| Run allocation process and independent audit. (This is when the allocation/auction process takes place, followed by an independent audit to confirm that the process has been accurately followed). | 27 November – 3 December 2025 | 4 – 10 December 2025 | 5 – 9 January 2025 | 14 – 18 January 2026 | 13 – 19 February 2026 |
| NESO send DESNZ Secretary of State recommendations and Independent Audit Report. | 4 December 2025 | 11 December 2025 | 12 – 13 January 2025 | 19 January 2026 | 20 February 2026 |
| Consideration of Audit Report and Delivery Body recommendations on next steps. (Secretary of State considers the Audit Report and the Delivery Body's recommendation to proceed to notify qualified applicants of their results or to re-run the allocation round). | 5 – 8 December 2025 | 12 – 15 December 2025 | 14 – 15 January 2026 | 20 – 21 January 2026 | 23 – 24 February 2026 |
| NESO notify applicants of the results. (Delivery Body notifies all qualified applicants of the allocation/auction outcome; LCCC notified of successful projects only; DESNZ publishes details of the successful projects and confirms final budget). | 9 – 10 December 2025 | 16 – 17 December 2025 | 16 – 19 January 2026 | 22 – 23 January 2026 | 25 – 26 February 2026 |
| Contracts processed and distributed. (This is the period in which LCCC sends out contracts to the successful applicants making a formal offer of a CfD). | 11 – 29 December 2025 | 18 December – 5 January 2026 | 20 January – 3 February 2026 | 26 January – 6 February 2026 | 27 February – 12 March 2026 |
| Sign contracts and return to LCCC. (Successful applicants must return signed contracts to LCCC within 10 working days of the offer being made). | 30 December 2025 – 13 January 2026 | 6 – 19 January 2026 | 4 – 17 February 2026 | 9 – 20 February 2026 | 13 – 26 March 2026 |