

## Window 5 Report

### Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme (ALoMCP)

The ALoMCP is an industry led project to accelerate compliance with the new Loss of Mains (LoM) protection requirements in the Distribution Code. It is delivered by National Grid ESO (NGESO), distribution network operators (DNOs), independent distribution network operators (IDNOs) and the Energy Networks Association (ENA). The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the programme status following completion of the fifth application window.

### Key messages

The programme is progressing well. Good engagement with potential customers means we are meeting expectations set at the beginning of the programme. There remains a significant number of sites that have either not made the required changes or have not notified the programme that they are already compliant. Given this, the Steering Group has approved additional quarterly application windows through to May 2022.

Last year, system conditions over the summer resulted in a significant increase in costs and risks associated with Loss of Mains protection. This means there is a need and an opportunity for the programme to deliver more.

The programme must be able to demonstrate that less generation would be impacted by Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) than was observed during the power disruption of 9 August 2019. Not enough customers needing to make changes at sites with a low RoCoF setting have applied to do this yet. We are keen to see these applications, or gather evidence that has the same effect, and the programme has therefore extended the timescales for the enhanced Fast-Track scheme for these sites until the end of March 2021 and the scope to generators at larger sites.

It would be very valuable for generator owners who have not yet engaged with the programme to apply, or to contact their DNO to confirm they do not need help from the programme. Especially larger distribution connected generators. This is because we have seen fewer applications from generators in the size range 5MW up to 50MW than in other categories, with applications covering around 43% of the available capacity so far. This contrasts with the coverage of over 70% from generators in the range 1MW up to 5MW. The programme is increasing its direct engagement activity with 5MW up to 50MW sites in early 2021 to close this significant gap in progress towards compliance.

### Summary

- A total of 702 applications were approved in window 5, for a capacity of 1,037MW at a cost of approximately £2.47m in payments to distributed generator owners.
- This brings the cumulative total approved applications to 5,594 sites, for a capacity of 10,700 MW at a cost of £20.2m in payments to distributed generation owners.
- 4,017 sites have declared completion of works at sites with a combined capacity of 7,410MW. DNOs have validated completion of site works for 3,188 sites (5,535MW) and 2,469 sites have now received payment<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Progress data to 14 January 2021

- The greater operational need to manage Loss of Mains risk has continued due to a combination of changes to electricity demand arising from the COVID-19 pandemic response, low inertia on the network<sup>2</sup> caused by low levels of synchronous generation output and weather conditions.
- The completion of the works is reducing the sites at risk of inadvertent tripping. This reduction in risk is now considered when operating the system. The reduction of Vector Shift (VS) risk is delivering a small but growing value. The reduction of RoCoF risk is not enough to reduce operational costs yet.
- The Fast-Track scheme for sites with RoCoF settings of 0.125Hz/s and 0.2Hz/s has resulted in approval of 49 sites with a total capacity of 71MW at an additional cost to the programme of £245k. 45 of these sites have reported completion of works with DNOs validating evidence for 26 sites so far.
- Over 11,000 sites have been directly contacted by their DNO or IDNO, notified of the Loss of Mains change requirements and invited to either apply to the programme for funding to make the changes or to notify the Programme of their existing compliance.
- 223 sites with a combined capacity of 2,782 MW have reported their compliance has been achieved outside of the Programme.
- Window 6 opened for applications 11 November and closes on 09 February 2021. The programme delivery team instigated an engagement campaign to directly contact all affected sites that have yet to apply to the programme by the end of 2020.

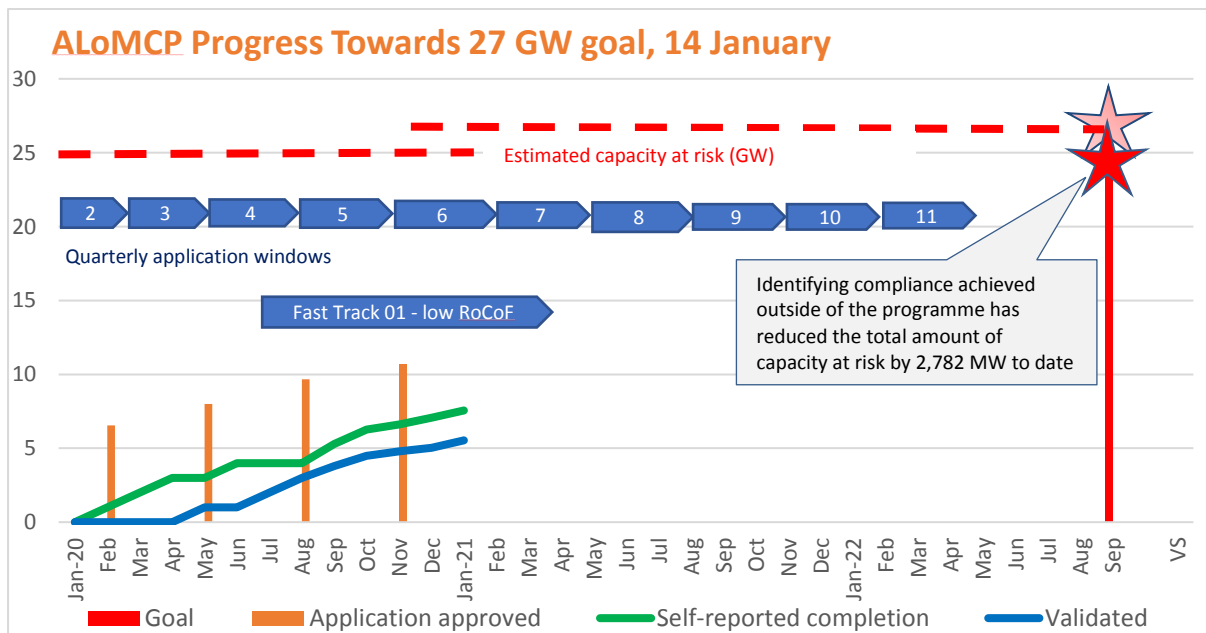


Figure 1: The progress of approved applications towards compliance by 01 September 2022 (Data at 14 January 2010)

<sup>2</sup> For context of the System operability challenge arising from low inertia, refer to ESO SOF Feb 2020 for Operating a Low Inertia System: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/164586/download>

## Timeline

The schedule for window 5 is presented in Table 1. The portal remained open for applications after the closing day for window five. Applications received after that date will be progressed on or before the closing day for window six.

*Table 1 – Key dates in window 5 timeline*

Opening Day	12.08.2020	Distributor Results Day	08.12.2020
Closing Day	10.11.2020	Provider Results Day	22.12.2020
Pre-qualification Day	24.11.2020		

## Process performance

Table 2 shows the number of applications and their assessment outcome for each completed assessment window. For successful applications, it shows their progress through each stage of the Programme. The data demonstrates at 14 January 2021 that 4,052 sites (7.56GW) have reported completion and have submitted evidence of their site changes. This evidence has been reviewed for 3,188 sites (5.54GW) and payment made to 2,469 sites.

It also shows the number of sites and their combined capacity declined in window 5. This highlights the need for increased communications and engagement to bring more sites with more capacity into the programme to deliver the reductions in Loss of Mains risks required and ensure compliance before the compliance deadline of 01 September 2022.

A major engagement campaign was instigated by all DNOs during autumn 2020. They directly contacted over 11,000 sites, with enquiries and applications in response to this continuing into 2021 (within application window 6). A targeted engagement campaign for sites with capacities from 5MW up to 50MW is being undertaken in early 2021, seeking to drive up applications (or evidence of existing compliance) from this most significant proportion of all sites.

*Table 2: Summary of applications by process stage and assessment window*

Window		One	Two	Three	Four	Five
Applications submitted to DNOs by the window closing day	No of applications	2,031	1,403 <sup>3</sup>	1,011	793	818
	Total MW	5,484	3,383	2,774	2,752	2,160
Applications received by NGENSO by the pre-qualification day	No of applications	2,039 <sup>4</sup>	1,306	998	775	786
	Total MW	5,315	2,846	2,368	2,269	1,713
Applications approved	No of applications	1,978 <sup>5</sup>	1,261	943	710	702
	Total MW	4,440	2,105	1,457	1,662	1,037
Sites accepting contractual terms	No of applications	1,786	1,065	898	796	297
	Total MW	4,174	1,904	1,239	1500	555

<sup>3</sup> Includes some applications not approved in window 1

<sup>4</sup> Some DNOs/IDNOs had enough capacity to process applications received between the window closing day and the pre-qualification day

<sup>5</sup> 45 sites, with a combined capacity of 88MW were given conditional offers in window 1 and have been added to this table. In the window 1 report these 45 sites appeared as a foot note, rather in the Table 2 figures.

Window		One	Two	Three	Four	Five
Sites self-reporting completion	No of applications	1,731	944	817	564	47
	Total MW	4,104	1,340	1,023	1125	89
Evidence of completion verified by DNO / iDNO	No of applications	1,523	732	633	308	1
	Total MW	3,351	1,016	600	591	4
Sites paid	No of applications	1,276	549	508	143	0
	Total MW	2,782	830	432	242	0

Window 5 assessment led to 81 applications being rejected. Some applications did not progress through the application process due to inconsistencies, ambiguities or errors. DNOs/iDNOs are speaking with applicants to have these issues rectified prior to the window 6 closing day. Other applications did not progress due to their ineligibility to participate or because their protection settings are not currently compliant with existing requirements. Eligible applications that applied to complete their works within 39 weeks were approved. 15 sites were conditionally accepted within this assessment round subject to completing their sites works within 39 weeks.

DNOs/iDNOs have been remotely witnessing testing and conducting sample site visits. 291 site changes have been witnessed to date. This is to minimise travel and face to face interactions in line with the Government guidelines.

The delivery assurance workstream activities are designed to provide some insight on how the changes required are being implemented. So far, no major issues have been identified. Some minor issues were identified by DNOs when validating the evidence provided by customers. After some initial delays whilst minor issues were rectified, all sample site visits reported by DNOs/iDNOs have been satisfactory.

## Value delivery

Table 4 shows the estimate of the total generation capacity that require a change in their protection settings through the ALoMCP.

The initial estimate was informed by the standard planning data provided by DNOs (known as week 24 submissions) under the Grid Code, and some significant assumptions to cover for the uncertainty associated with legacy sites.

The revised estimates consider the data provided through applications and the knowledge gained through engagement with sites that require no change to their LoM protection through the programme. This resulted in:

- a reduction in the difference between the high estimate and the low estimate for the total risk as well as each of the two risk components, and
- a reduction in the high estimate for each of the two risk components.

The figures will be reviewed as more knowledge is gained.

*Table 4: Estimates of total generation capacity at risk of tripping due to inadvertent operation of LoM*

		Original programme estimates	Revised estimates (08 Oct '20)	Revised estimates (Jan'21)
High estimate	Total (GW)	24	24	25.3
	VS component (GW)	22	21	21.8
	RoCoF component (GW)	2	3	3.5
Low estimate	Total (GW)	20	22	23
	VS component (GW)	10	14.5	15.2
	RoCoF component (GW)	10	7.5	7.9

Table 5 shows how the volume at risk of disconnection due to RoCoF and VS protection will reduce as the sites with applications approved through each window implement the changes required.

*Table 5: Projected RoCoF and VS risk reduction<sup>6</sup>*

Window	Delivery Milestone	Dec 19 - Mar 20	Mar <sup>7</sup> - Jun 20	Jun - Sep 20	Sep - Dec 20	Dec 20 - Mar 21	Mar - Jun 21	Jun - Sep 21	Sep - Dec 21	Dec 21 - Jun 22
Previous windows	Projected RoCoF risk reduction (MW)	207.4	158.7	68.4	158.9	64.2	0	0	0	0
	Projected VS risk reduction (MW)	1,761.3	2,758.8	1,319.7	1,620.1	1,059.7	0	0	0	0
	Projected total risk reduction (MW)	1,968.7	2,916.5	1,388.2	1,778.9	1,124.0	0	0	0	0
Window Five	Projected RoCoF risk reduction (MW)					23.9	43.5	21.3	1.9	0
	Projected VS risk reduction (MW)					537.1	100.2	25.1	52.5	17.2
	Projected total risk reduction (MW)					593.1	161.3	118.3	54.4	110.1
Overall	Projected RoCoF risk reduction (MW)	207.4	158.7	68.4	158.9	88.1	43.5	21.3	1.9	0
	Projected VS risk reduction (MW)	1,761.3	2,758.8	1,319.7	1,620.1	1,596.8	100.2	25.1	52.5	17.2
	Projected total risk reduction (MW)	1,968.7	2,916.5	1,388.2	1,778.9	1,717.1	161.3	118.3	54.4	110.1

The changes that the programme is making to Loss of Mains protection for VS are significantly reducing the occasions when NGENSO needs to take an action to increase system inertia. This ensures that the

<sup>6</sup> Not considering any extension granted in response to COVID 19 pandemic

<sup>7</sup> The column headers in Tables 5, 8 and 9 appear to show overlapping months. This is due to the quarterly delivery windows ending and starting a week before the end of the affected calendar month. The data in each column is not duplicated.

loss of generation due to the operation of VS protection alone does not trigger further generation loss due to RoCoF relays. Peak Vector Shift risk has reduced from 1,000MW down to less than 700 MW as a result of Programme delivery. This means National Grid ESO will no longer have to increase inertia specifically to cover this risk, which will significantly reduce operational expenditure and balancing actions.

For RoCoF risks, neither the projected short-term reduction in RoCoF risk following the completion of works at all sites approved in windows 1 to 5 nor the currently assumed reduction in that risk are yet sufficient to influence the actions the NGENSO Control Room takes to manage the risk. As a result, the Programme is further increasing efforts to identify and engage sites with critical RoCoF settings, including through the extension of the Fast-Track scheme to all sites with a capacity of 500kW and above and RoCoF settings up to 0.2 Hz/s.

The targeted long-term reduction in RoCoF risk is intended to eliminate the need to take actions to ensure that RoCoF relays are not inadvertently activated. The overall opportunity for savings is over £170m per annum through a combination of further VS changes and the completion of RoCoF changes.

This evaluation of benefit is based on the historic cost of balancing actions to address the Loss of Mains issue, which was £144m in 2018-19 and £201m in 2019-20. In the first eight months of 2020-21 the cost of managing Loss of Mains risk totalled £256m. This is due to the COVID-19 pandemic response, and low inertia on the network caused by low levels of synchronous generation output and weather conditions. These factors have resulted in a greater operational need to manage Loss of Mains risk. We expect higher costs in the future in the absence of the Programme, as the contribution from traditional synchronous forms of generation of electricity production decreases. This means we are likely to increase the estimated benefits from delivering the Programme once the estimated cost of managing this risk through other actions have been revised.

This situation explains the priority that the Programme is placing on identifying RoCoF risks within protection relays at generator sites (and RoCoF risks elsewhere within the generator) and encouraging these sites to make applications and implement changes promptly.

The forecast cost of the Programme is £100m, which will be charged through BSUs over the relevant timeframe. The cost is included within our BSUs forecasts alongside the cost of the balancing actions which are expected to be taken to manage this issue before it is resolved. Once the Programme is complete, the commercial cost of managing the issue will be removed.

With many sites indicating completion of the works and progressing through the delivery assurance process, NGENSO is modelling the risk reduction delivered by the Programme when securing the system in operational timescales. The assumed risk reduction values are shown in Table 6. These values will continue to increase as more sites indicate completion of the works and as the delivery assurance activities progress.

*Table 6: Assumed RoCoF and VS risk reduction*

Delivery Milestone	July 20	Sept 20	Jan 21
RoCoF risk reduction (MW)	82	124	216
VS risk reduction (MW)	1,847	3,789	4,885

The Programme team is continuing to identify sites that have LoM protection and are compliant with G59/3 issue 7, and do not need to apply to the Programme. Since the window 4 report was published in October 2020, an additional 1,360MW of pre-existing compliance achieved outside of the Programme has been identified (Table 7). This increase includes some large Scottish power stations that have been included within the Programme during window 5 for the first time. This activity identifying compliance outside of the programme in addition to ALOMCP delivery of changes at sites is reducing the number of generation sites that remain to either apply to the Programme or to report their existing compliance ahead of the compliance deadline of 01 September 2022, as illustrated previously in Figure 1.

The Programme will consider what verification is appropriate to verify the capacity that is self-declared by generators as being compliant outside of Programme delivery.

*Table 7: Compliance achieved outside of the programme*

	Pre-existing compliance – cumulative		
	July 2020	October 2020	January 2021
Sites identified	34	97	223
MW	450	1,422	2,782

## Fast-Track Scheme

On Monday 29 June 2020, the Programme launched Fast-Track Scheme 1. This scheme initially incentivised sites of capacity from 500kW to <5,000kW and with sensitive RoCoF protection (up to and including 0.2Hz/s) to complete the protection changes within four weeks of acceptance by the programme. Sites meeting these criteria are eligible for an additional £5,000 payment.

49 sites have been approved through the Fast-Track scheme and have reported completion of works with a combined capacity of 71.19MW at an additional cost of £245k to the programme.

The Steering Group has approved extending the Fast-Track scheme for applications until the end of March 2021. The scheme is now open to all generation sites of 500kW or greater capacity with sensitive RoCoF protection (up to and including 0.2Hz/s). With Fast-Track requiring works to be completed within 4 weeks of acceptance, this will ensure that changes are delivered before summer 2021, when costs of managing RoCoF risk are greatest.

## Cost reporting

The projections of site-related costs are shown in Table 8. These projections cover the costs associated with the implementation of site changes (based on the data provided in the applications) and estimates of the costs required to cover delivery assurance activities. The table forecasts timely completion of the works, completion of delivery assurance activities, and payment.

Table 8: Projections of site-related costs<sup>8</sup>

Delivery stage	Dec - Mar 20	Mar <sup>9</sup> - Jun 20	Jun - Sept 20	Sept - Dec 20	Dec - Mar 21	Mar - Jun 21	Jun - Sept 21	Sept - Dec 21	Total
No of sites completed	1,066	1,298	1,272	930	587	88	39		5,280
No of sites witnessed	150	95	17	75	69	8	4	7	425
No of sites sampled	0	183	241	251	171	158	16		1,020
No of sites self-certified	733	962	1004	684	630	64	28		4,105
Provider payment (£m)	3.72	5.234	4.343	3.509	3.001	0.479	0.128	0.003	
DNO cost (£m)	0.15	0.222	0.2064	0.2608	0.192	0.133	0.016	0.006	
<b>Total site related cost (£m)</b>	<b>3.87</b>	<b>5.456</b>	<b>4.5494</b>	<b>3.7698</b>	<b>3.193</b>	<b>0.612</b>	<b>0.144</b>	<b>0.009</b>	

The actual numbers of sites declaring completion, witnessed, sampled, and self-certified are given in Table 9.

Table 9: Actual costs and progress to date

Delivery stage	Dec 19	Dec - Mar 20	Mar - Jun 20	Jun - Sep 20	Sep - Dec 20	Total cost (£m)
No of sites completed	77	1,079	817	1382	703	
No of sites witnessed		108	21	88	39	
No of sites sampled		0	85	109	97	
No of sites self-certified		548	282	949	669	
Provider payments (£m)	0	0	1.592	1.825	2.579	5.996
DNO costs (£m)	0	0	0.052	0.083	0.070	0.205
<b>Total site related costs (£m)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.644</b>	<b>1.908</b>	<b>2.649</b>	<b>6.201</b>
DNO administration costs	0.044	0.099	0.421	0.564	0.390	<b>1.518</b>
DNO costs not yet categorised	0	0	0	1.588	0.927	<b>2.496</b>
<b>TOTAL by Quarter (£m)</b>	<b>0.044</b>	<b>0.099</b>	<b>2.065</b>	<b>4.060</b>	<b>3.966</b>	
<b>TOTAL cumulative (£m)</b>	<b>0.044</b>	<b>0.143</b>	<b>2.189</b>	<b>6.249</b>	<b>10.215</b>	<b>10.215</b>

Site delivery and DNOs validation of the submitted evidence of completion of site works increased September – December 2020. However, the number of sites where DNOs undertook witness testing of the LoM protection following the completion of the works continues to be below the initial estimates. The actual progress reflects the time required to process the application through each stage. We expect the numbers to continue to track behind the original projections.

Total invoiced costs to the end of December 2020 totalled £10.215m. This is comprised of:

- £5.996m in payments to providers that have implemented changes at their sites
- £0.205m for witness testing and site visits
- £1.518m in DNO programme administration and delivery costs.

<sup>8</sup> Site-related costs are forecast according to when applicants originally committed to complete the works. It should be noted that actual costs may be delayed both by the difficulties arising from the coronavirus pandemic and the time taken to complete delivery assurance activities and payment process.

<sup>9</sup> The column headers in Tables 5, 8 and 9 appear to show overlapping months. This is due to the quarterly delivery windows ending and starting a week before the end of the affected calendar month. The data in each column is not duplicated.



A further £2.5m in invoices are not yet categorised by NGESO and this information is being sought.

## Focus Areas

The largest current inertia challenge is due to Loss of Mains Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) relays with settings up to 0.2 Hz/s<sup>10</sup>. The Programme's Fast-Track has approved support for changes at 49 sites (71MW). The Fast-Track scheme for sites with these settings has been extended in duration and in scope in order to maximise the delivery of changes at these sites before summer 2021. The Fast-Track enables sites with a capacity of 500kW or above to apply by the end of March 2021 and receive an additional payment if they complete the required changes within 4 weeks of their acceptance by the programme. The Programme is working to identify and contact these sites in early 2021 to encourage their participation.

The Programme estimates that there are 800 sites with a capacity of 5 to less than 50MW (up to 12.5 GW in total) that have yet to either apply to the Programme or confirm that they are already compliant. This represents 84% of the forecast capacity at risk that has neither applied to the Programme nor confirmed their existing compliance. Directly engaging these sites is a key focus area in early 2021 and should a high level of response can be secured, we will have made substantial progress in reducing the remaining capacity with an unknown status regarding Loss of Mains risk.

There are a very large number of sites with generation capacity below 250 kW that have yet to apply to the programme. Whilst the combined capacity of these sites is estimated to be less than 1GW, there are thought to be over 40,000 sites, which creates a significant challenge in both reaching these sites and handling enquiries. Smaller sites are also much less likely to have in-house technical expertise to understand Loss of Mains protection and the Programme's requirements. To respond to this challenge, the Programme is working to enhance its existing guidance materials and is considering what additional assistance may be required.

In the last assessment report, we detailed the engagement activity with sites with an export MPAN (Meter Point Administration Number) during autumn 2020 to encourage them to participate in the programme as soon as possible. Over 11,000 sites were contacted resulting in a response rate to date of 7%. DNOs continue to handle enquiries arising from this activity and insight from this is shared through the Programme's Customer Support workstream to inform delivery, address issues identified and improve guidance materials. This activity is being followed with a similar exercise for sites with import-only MPANs.

The programme team continue to identify sites that have achieved compliance outside of the programme (2.8 GW identified to date). This is important to establish both for the updating of the system operational data on the scale of outstanding Loss of Mains risk to be managed, and to reduce the scale of outstanding sites that need to make the take action. Further engagement work in 2021 will encourage sites to report this information to the Programme.

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<sup>10</sup> For further details on this challenge, refer to the System Operability Framework paper on *Operating a Low Inertia System*: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/164586/download>

Communications activities are increasing, with a strategy being implemented across four key themes:

- Nationwide activity – to raise awareness, programme legitimacy and ease of access
- Sectoral – targeted at specific generation types and ownership groups
- Local engagement – through DNOs directly to their customers and through customer forums
- Suppliers – engaging suppliers to harness their existing relationships with sites

Collaborative communications are planned in early 2020 with key national sector influencers including Ofgem and ENA to increase the visibility and authority of the Programme's messages to drive further participation.

This communications activity will be supplemented by a programme of notifying all sites of the impending compliance deadline of 01 September 2022 and implementing a rolling phase of reminders as this deadline draws closer.

We continue to speak to inverter manufacturers to establish if their products provide LoM protection functionality or not, the type of this protection (if it exists) and how their equipment would need to be reprogrammed to meet the new requirements. We are also engaging with manufacturers we have identified that have products with other forms of protection, e.g. under frequency protection that could cause unnecessary tripping of generation.

## Communication and engagement

After the end of each application window, customers are asked to complete a feedback survey to help us enhance the process for customers in the future. Feedback from window 5 applicants in the customer survey indicated that most customers' (who responded) preference was to find out about the programme directly from their DNO. This was also the favoured communication channel in the window 4 survey. The continuation of these responses reinforces the importance of the continuation of DNOs contacting potential customers directly. DNOs lead this activity through their customer support teams to raise awareness of sites connected to their networks and to encourage their participation in the programme. In addition to this substantial DNO-led direct engagement campaign with their customers and contractors, this section of the report summarises broader communications activity that has been undertaken at a national level.

In November, we published an article on the ENA's [news page](#). This was written as a blog post from Graham Stein, Programme Manager at ESO, and highlighted why more applications are needed in the Programme quickly. Posting on channels of other programme partners broadens our audience reach and helps us raise awareness on nationally.

In parallel, NGENSO led a national campaign issuing a joint press release in January with the ENA. This highlighted the programme's milestone of over 10GW worth of applications approved. This was issued to trade and national media as the team recognise that owners of sites who we are trying to reach aren't always aware of the technical details. This was shared on ESO's social media channels, website and internally too. The national campaign was a good way to share programme updates after the December 2020 Steering Group (approving additional quarterly application windows and the extension of the Fast-Track scheme for sites with low RoCoF settings) as well as reach smaller generators.

Another way we have tried to engage with smaller, less technical audiences is by highlighting the programme with the agricultural sector. We know the programme can affect landowners or farmers that have generation technology on their land. In October 2020, we published an article in Gridline Magazine which is distributed to over 40,000 readers. The primary audience types being landowners and farmers.

The ESO were going to attend the British Hydro Association's (BHA) annual conference in November 2020 to highlight the Programme. However, this has been postponed and will take place when COVID restrictions are lifted. The programme team at ESO continue to work closely with the BHA and an article was published in the Winter edition of their member magazine (called Spotlight) in November.

In December 2020, the Programme collaborated with Energy UK who hosted a webinar for generators and suppliers. Over 20 delegates attended and the team were able to address questions directly from delegates in the Q+A session. As the Programme progresses, we will work closely with them to use this opportunity again to engage with potential applicants.

The stakeholder workstream of representatives from all Licensees participating on the Programme, manages an activity tracker to capture activity across all regions. This ensures we were aware of communication activity across Great Britain, avoid duplication and are consistent with messages. The tracker means we are also aware of what activity is scheduled in the short or long term, meaning we can see where more effort/planning is needed to help drive engagement.

ESO has engaged with internal teams who have initiatives that include frequency response audiences, which the programme is keen to target. We continue to speak with these teams to keep sharing updates and making new generation site owners aware using these channels when we can. We have included programme updates in the Future Energy Scenarios newsletter which has an audience reach of over 6,000 people, which include generators and suppliers.

Suppliers are an audience type that has proven successful working with to help promote the ALoMCP. Northern Powergrid, who provide the chairperson for the stakeholder workstream, has engaged a PR agency (Greenhouse PR) to create bespoke material to build on and expand this channel throughout 2021. This work builds on the library of material Greenhouse PR have created which has been tailored to reach other specific audience types. A bespoke forum for suppliers will begin in early 2021. As well as providing a means to collate and report detailed feedback and issues from suppliers, it will help capture feedback where they feel targeted engagement will be beneficial, at both a national and a local level. This forum provides good insight / feedback which is shared through the Stakeholder Workstream members to enhance communication activity.

## Window 6 and future applications

Applications can be submitted for assessment in window 6 via the registration portal (<http://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP>).

The Programme Steering Group has approved additional application windows as detailed in Table 10.

*Table 10: Schedule for future application windows*

Application window	Closing date for applications
6	09 February 2021
7	11 May 2021
8	10 August 2021
9	09 November 2021
10	08 February 2022
11	10 May 2022

In December 2020, the Programme's Steering Group approved the continuation of the Fast-Track incentive for early delivery of priority sites (sites with RoCoF protection settings up to 0.2 Hz/s and a site capacity of 500kW or above). This will run alongside the general application process, with weekly assessment of Fast-Track applications until the end of March 2021.

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