

# Regional Development Programmes (RDP) Megawatt Dispatch (MWD) Service

## FAQs

Megawatt Dispatch is a National Grid, Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Transmission Constraint Management Service. Applicable to five Grid Supply Points in UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks Plc (SPN) region.

**Captured below are some key common Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) with associated answers which you may find useful to read in conjunction with the Service Terms and Participation Guidance documents.**

### General Questions about the Service

Question	Answer
When is the service due / expected to go live?	We anticipate starting registration for providers (DERs) from late January 2024 with a view to beginning the actual service from March 2024. These dates are subject to change, we will keep providers updated.
Can I take part in this service as well as the NGESO Balancing Mechanism (BM) /Balancing Mechanism Wider Access also?	No. Providers can only take part in <b>either</b> the BM or the MW Dispatch Transmission Constraint Management Service currently, not both simultaneously.
Do I have to take part in the service?	Requirements to provide the ESO with 'Control & Visibility' or 'Connect & Manage' have been written into customers Connection Offers/Agreements (Export capacity >1MW) in the relevant areas since 2017. If you have these Special Condition terms in your offer from UK Power Networks, then you can either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign up to the BM service (directly or via Wider Access)</li> <li>2. Sign up to the MW Dispatch service.</li> </ol>
Can those without the Special Condition of 'Control and Visibility' in their Connection Offer/Agreement take part?	In our initial go live and rollout, we are only looking to offer this service to providers with Control and Visibility terms in their Connection Offer/Agreement.
Will the service evolve in future?	We expect so. We anticipate the service evolving after the initial go live as we learn from our first participants, we also look to deliver more capability and more benefits in the future.
Will this be rolled out elsewhere?	Yes, the plan is to extend the service wider, subject to the success of the initial rollout, and also subject to operational needs of course.
Can I move from MWD to BM and vice versa?	Yes, you can, but you can only participate in one or the other at any one time.

## Registration Questions

Question	Answer
How long will it take me to be registered and available to take part in the service from the point of application?	If the registration process runs smoothly, we expect it to take around 2 to 3 months to complete.
How far in advance of my expected Connection (Power On) or Completion date can I register for the service?	<p>We wouldn't anticipate anyone registering for this service any earlier than twelve (12) months at the most in advance of their anticipated Connection or Completion date.</p> <p>You will need an Export and Import Meter Point Administration Number (MPAN) to complete the registration process. If this is not available when you commence the registration process, please contact <a href="mailto:Commercial.Operation@nationalgrideso.com">Commercial.Operation@nationalgrideso.com</a> for assistance.</p>
Why do I need to submit a Utilisation Rate at the point of Registration? Can this subsequently be updated?	<p>This is to ensure that all applications going through to completion have a confirmed Utilisation Rate following completion of the onboarding process.</p> <p>Providers can then subsequently change this rate in accordance with the Service Terms up to 16:00 at Day Ahead, for use from 05:00 on the next operational day.</p>
What do I need to do if I want to participate in Balancing Services Wider Access instead of the MW Dispatch service?	Please email <a href="mailto:box.WholeElectricitySystem@nationalgrideso.com">box.WholeElectricitySystem@nationalgrideso.com</a> and one of the team will explain the process.

## Dispatch Questions

Question	Answer
How will I be informed that I need to reduce my output?	<p>NGESO will send a dispatch instruction to service providers (DER) through UKPN Application Programming Interface (API) dispatch interface.</p> <p>UKPN will publish the API specification document once this has been reviewed by DER and approved for publication.</p>
How long will I have to reduce output to the required level of zero MW?	Please refer to the MWD Participation Guidance (UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks region) document, sections titled Response Time and Performance Monitoring.
What happens if I don't manage to make the reduction in time or if I do not stay at zero throughout the curtailment period?	Please refer to the MWD Participation Guidance (UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks region) document, sections titled Dispatch and Performance Monitoring.
How long could my output be curtailed / held at zero?	<p>There is no minimum or maximum curtailment period for this service – it will be deemed to have ended once the Cease Instruction is issued.</p> <p>Please also refer to the MWD Participation Guidance (UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks region) document, section titled Dispatch.</p>
How quickly after receiving an instruction to go to zero MW output (Dispatch Instruction) might I then be asked to cease curtailment (able to ramp my output back up if I so wish)?	Whilst contractually there is no minimum utilisation period for the service, NGESO will endeavour to ensure instructions are not ceased within 15 minutes of the original dispatch instruction being enacted.
Once I receive a cease instruction, can I then begin exporting again if I so wish?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>This is the point at which the ESO no longer requires the Provider to curtail output and therefore you will be able to increase your output again if you so wish as you will be 'out of service'.</p>
What's the minimum time after receiving a Cease instruction that I can expect to receive a Dispatch Instruction?	Whilst contractually there is no minimum time after one instruction has ceased that you may be asked to curtail again, we would aim to minimise or eradicate any short lead time cease and then re-dispatch requests, network conditions permitting.
Once I begin exporting again after receiving the Cease Instruction is there a minimum time or volume I need to return to?	<p>No.</p> <p>You can increase your output as desired or remain at zero if you so wish as you will be 'out of service'.</p>
Can I import whilst being curtailed to 0MW for Export?	Battery Energy Storage Solutions (BESS) are able to import during curtailment events but will not be paid to do so.

## Settlements Questions

Question	Answer
At what point will I start being paid for reducing my output?	Please refer to the MWD Participation Guidance (UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks region) document, section Performance Monitoring.
At what point will the payments for curtailing output stop?	Please refer to the MWD Participation Guidance (UK Power Networks' South Eastern Power Networks region) document, section Payment.
How often / when will I receive my curtailment payments for taking part in the service?	<p>NGESO will send a Monthly Utilisation Statement to each provider no later than the end of the second month after any instruction was issued detailing the payment due.</p> <p>ESO will issue a self-billing invoice (Credit) to the Provider no later than eighteenth (18th) business day of the second month after an instruction was issued and will issue the associated payment no later than five (5) business days after this.</p> <p>As a provider, it is important (and your responsibility) to ensure that your payment details are correct in the Single Markets Platform (SMP).            Visit: <a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/balancing-services/single-markets-platform">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/balancing-services/single-markets-platform</a> for further information.</p>
What data source will be used for Settlement?	The generation output (MW) will be collated via UK Power Networks Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) at the substation and shared with ESO in 15 seconds intervals. NGESO will use this data for both operational assessment and settlement purposes.

## Contacts

<p>Who can I contact for more information?</p>	<p>Please contact UK Power Networks, to discuss:</p> <p>Your Connection Offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• your allocated Project Manager (name and email address found on Connection Offer)</li></ul> <p>Your Connection Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="mailto:connection.agreements@ukpowernetworks.co.uk">connection.agreements@ukpowernetworks.co.uk</a></li></ul> <p>Distribution Flexibility Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="mailto:flexibility@ukpowernetworks.co.uk">flexibility@ukpowernetworks.co.uk</a></li></ul> <p>Please contact NGENSO, to discuss the transmission constraint management MW Dispatch service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="mailto:box.WholeElectricitySystem@nationalgrideso.com">box.WholeElectricitySystem@nationalgrideso.com</a></li></ul> <p>Please contact NGENSO, to discuss any registration queries for the MW Dispatch service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="mailto:Commercial.Operation@nationalgrideso.com">Commercial.Operation@nationalgrideso.com</a></li></ul>
<p>Where can I find the documents?</p>	<p>Please visit:</p> <p>NGESO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/research-and-publications/regional-development-programmes-rdps">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/research-and-publications/regional-development-programmes-rdps</a></li></ul> <p>UK Power Networks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional Development Programmes - UKPN DSO (<a href="http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk">ukpowernetworks.co.uk</a>)</li></ul>