

Ofgem consultation: Window 1 minded-to decisions, Long Duration Energy Storage

26 June 2026 – 7 August 2026

[Link to consultation page¹](#)

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Summary

What is Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)?

The definition for LDES varies, but in the case of Ofgem’s consultation, it refers to energy storage systems which can hold and release electricity for eight hours or more. This helps to balance the grid, particularly when there is a dearth of renewables like wind or solar. LDES projects store electricity when there is a surplus of renewables and energy prices are low. They can then sell this power back to the grid when extra capacity is needed.

Some of the main LDES technologies are:

- Lithium-ion battery energy storage system (Li-ion BESS)
- Pumped storage hydropower (PSH)
- Compressed-air energy storage (CAES)
- Vanadium redox flow (VFB/Zn)

¹ <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/consultation/long-duration-electricity-storage-window-1-minded-decisions>

Cap and Floor Window 1

Ofgem is running its first application window for LDES projects – support will be provided via a ‘cap and floor’ system. This means that projects are guaranteed a minimum price per MWh electricity (the floor), even if market conditions are poor. Conversely, if energy prices are very high, profits are capped and any money earned above the cap is paid to UK consumers, offering relief on energy bills.

A similar system is in place for interconnectors – the floor offers protection and reassurance to investors, while the cap prevents excessive profits.

The award of cap and floor support is conditional on the projects meeting specific delivery requirements (evidence of project finance, regulatory compliance, achieving planning consents, meeting design standards etc). Projects will have to “demonstrate ongoing viability” and will be held to time-bound milestones.

Timeline

77 projects were eligible for the cap and floor regime – the eligibility criteria were published by Ofgem in **September 2025**. Ofgem then assessed the projects, using analytical outputs from NESO, and input from external advisers.

This Ofgem consultation published on **26th June 2026** lists the 16 projects that Ofgem is minded-to support via the cap and floor regime. You can view the full list below.

After the consultation closes in **early August**, Ofgem will analyse the responses and publish a final awards decision in **Autumn 2026**.

Ofgem intends to consult on the design of future cap and floor Windows, with the aim of opening Window 2 in **2027**. The design of Window 2 will consider:

- The recommendations in the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP)
- Alignment with overall energy system reforms
- Improvements to the selection process
- The role of new/emerging technologies

Methodology

In order to apply, LDES applicants had to submit data to Ofgem about their projects – this process took place in late 2025. As well as the applications, Ofgem collected data using a cost assessment and system benefit modelling.

- **Cost assessment:** after reviewing project-submitted information, Ofgem decided whether to adjust or exclude any costs
- **System benefit modelling:** an estimate of the impact of LDES projects on the electricity grid (including socio-economic welfare, CfD costs, wholesale market costs etc.)

Using all of the data collected, Ofgem then undertook an assessment for each project, using three main components:

- **Economic assessment:** includes system value, security of supply and system operability
- **Financial assessment:** considers project costs, revenue estimates and cap and floor levels
- **Strategic assessment:** considers credibility of projects to deliver, overall mix of technologies on the grid, locations and interdependencies, and balancing of technologies

List of Projects

Ofgem is minded-to include the following 16 projects in Window 1 of the cap and floor regime. Altogether, the projects deliver 7.645GW of storage capacity. Ofgem acknowledges that some projects which are offered an award may not proceed to operation. The amount of capacity included in Window 1 assumes a certain risk of project attrition.

Name	Developer	Technology	Region	Capacity (MW)	Duration (hours)
Loch Kemp Storage	Statera Energy	Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH)	North Scotland	660	22.3
Coire Glas	SSE Renewables	Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH)	North Scotland	1440	32
TeesCAES	Storelectric	Compressed-air Energy Storage (CAES)	Northeast England	50	30
Earba PSH	Gilkes Energy	Pumped Storage	North Scotland	1800	15

		Hydropower (PSH)			
Field Netherton	Field	Lithium-ion BESS	North Scotland	400	16.3
Field New Deer	Field	Lithium-ion BESS	North Scotland	400	18
Field Rigifa	Field	Lithium-ion BESS	North Scotland	200	18
Field Fyrish	Field	Lithium-ion BESS	North Scotland	200	16.5
Field Long Stratton	Field	Lithium-ion BESS	East England	400	16
East Claydon Storage	Statera Energy	Lithium-ion BESS	East England	500	12
Ocker Hill BESS	Eku Energy	Lithium-ion BESS	West Midlands	145	8
Sundon Storage	Statera Energy	Lithium-ion BESS	East England	500	8
Drakelow	Innova	Lithium-ion BESS	West Midlands	385	8.7
Frontier Legacy	Invinity	Vanadium redox flow (VFB/Zn)	North Wales	65	8
Springwell	EDF & Luminous Energy	Lithium-ion BESS	East Midlands	400	11.1
Thornton BESS 2	Windel Energy & Recurrent Energy	Lithium-ion BESS	East Midlands	100	11.1

List of Consultation Questions:

1. *Do you agree with the minded-to decisions set out in this consultation?*
2. *Do you agree with our minded-to capacity decision for Window 1?*
3. *Do you agree with our minded-to decisions on Regime Requests?*
4. *Do you agree with opening further application windows?*