DSO Non GPA Process

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Version 8

ESB Networks

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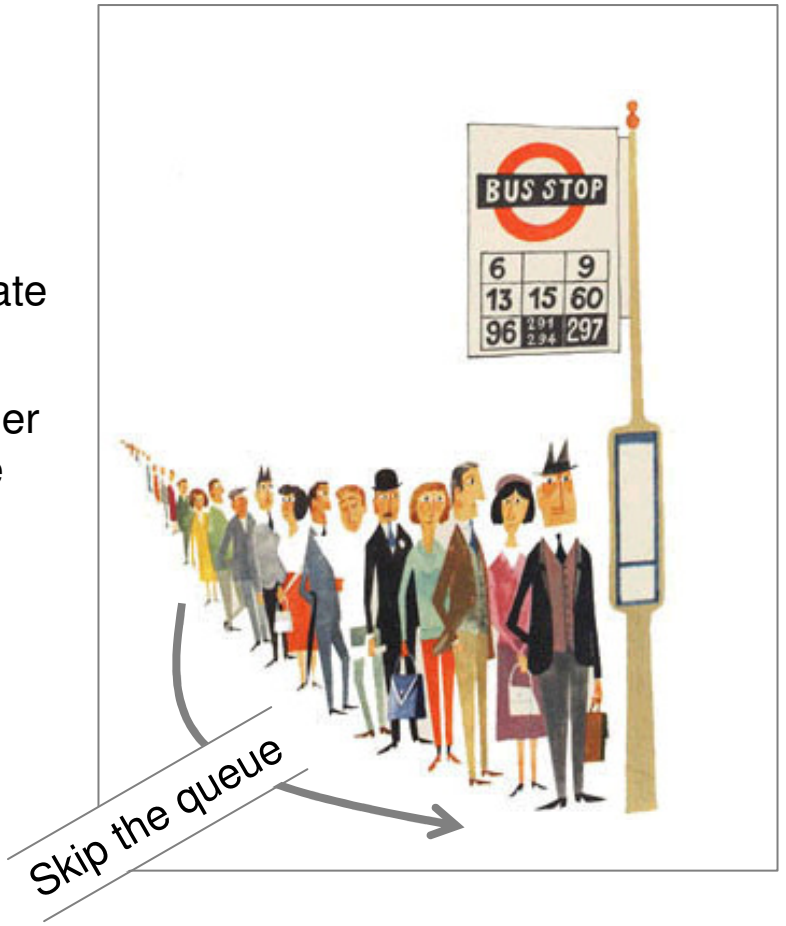
What is the Non GPA process?

- Gate process (GPA) is most common way to connect renewable generators to the grid; applications are collected and processed in batches
- Besides that, there is the sequential or non Gate approach
- Connection offers are issued in sequential order according to the application deemed complete date of application, the Gate queue is thus skipped
- Non GPA process is subject to CER approval, certain types of generation are preapproved
- DSO offer usually within 90 business days



Eligibility for Non GPA process

Renewable - Wind	Renewable – Non Wind*		Conventional Projects	
All processed through GPA Process. Exception: new build wind projects with MEC less than or equal to 0.5 MW	Processed through non GPA Process – must fulfil public interest criteria.		Processed through non GPA Process	Offers issued under the proposed Direction on Conventional Offer Issuance Criteria[6]
	=< 5 MW	>5 MW	=< 5 MW	> 5MW
	Connection offers made without performing interaction** studies	Interaction studies are performed. If no interactions then connect If interactions exist then CER look at on a case-by-case basis If interactions exist then look at public interest benefits (e.g. Security of Supply) and the impacts of interaction on other applicant in the queue If CER approves then connect and if not approve then option to buy out interaction or remain in the GPA queue	Interaction studies are performed If no interactions are found to exist then they can proceed to be given a connection offer If interactions exist then the conventional project will remain in the queue	Exception: Conventional autoproducers that are not in first 500MW tranche. These could be processed through the non GPA process Process allows for public interest criteria (e.g. Security of Supply) to move up the queue projects such as clean coal and includes high efficiency CHP.

* Non Wind Renewable project is defined here as a renewable project that has a fuel source other than wind power. It is intended to be a short hand term to define those renewable projects other than wind renewable projects that are discussed in the document. Includes, biomass, hydro, high efficiency CHP, Autoproducers (renewable including wind)

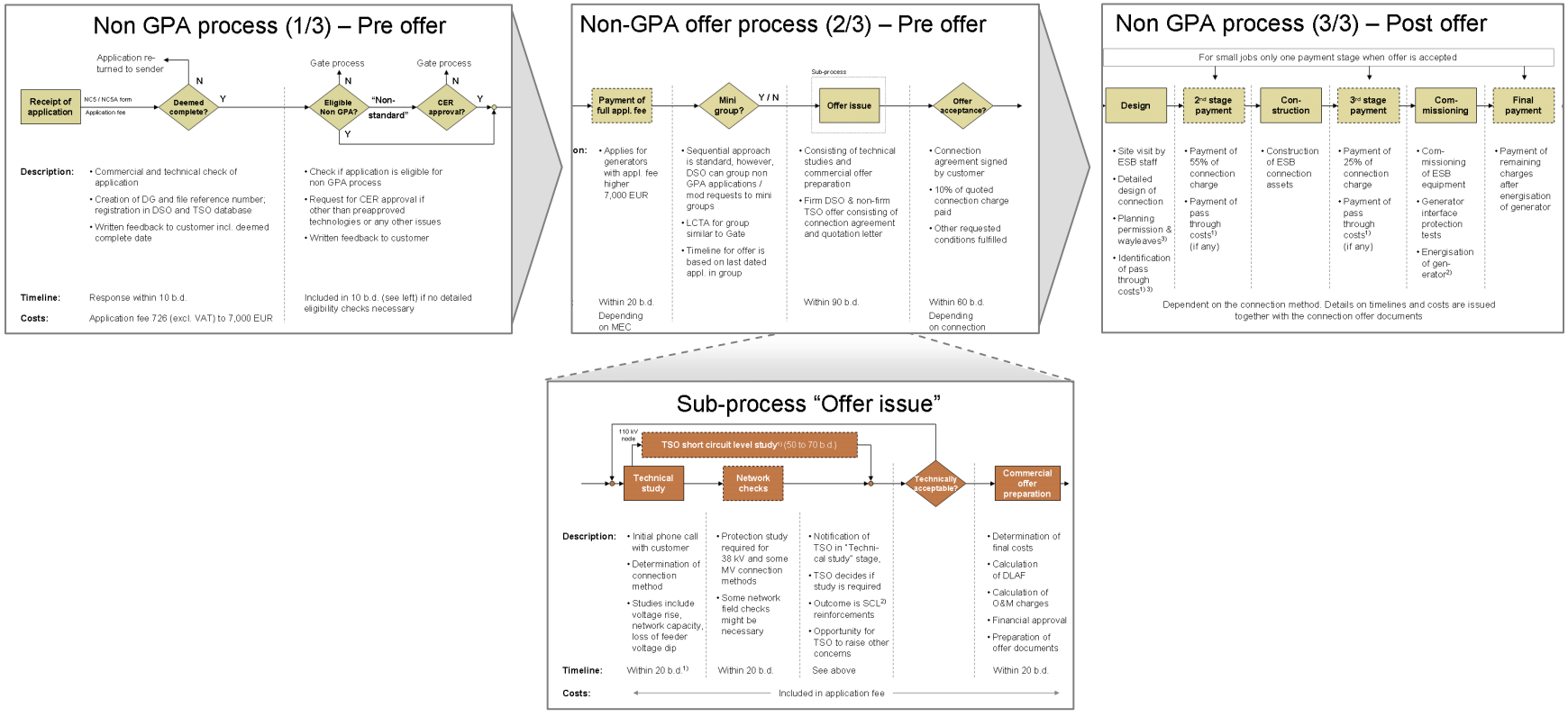
** Interactions - two applications are deemed to be interacting if progressing an application outside the GPA, results in an additional cost being incurred by other applicants in the GPA queue. Interaction studies relate to the shallow connection.

Source: CER Decision Paper 09/099

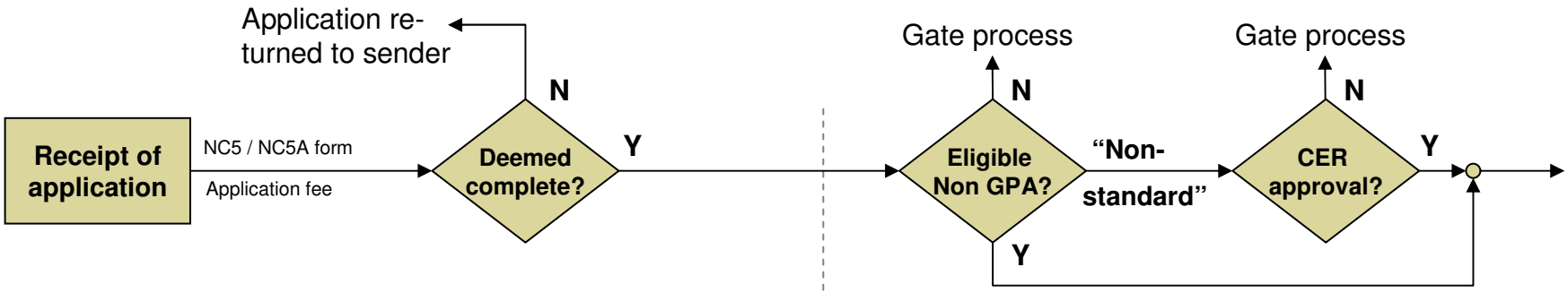
Non GPA process – Overview

Please see the next four pages for details on the process for the connection of a Non GPA generator

Application **Connection offer** **Energisation**



Non GPA process (1/3) – Pre offer



Description:

- Commercial and technical check of application
- Creation of DG and file reference number; registration in DSO and TSO database
- Written feedback to customer incl. deemed complete date

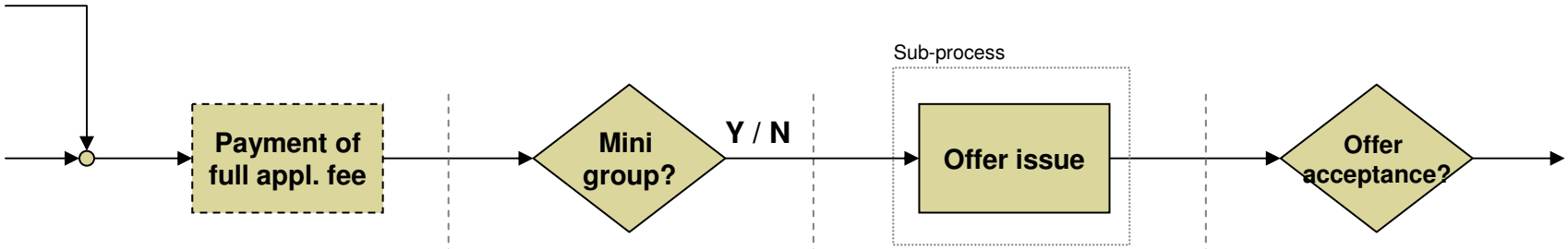
- Check if application is eligible for non GPA process
- Request for CER approval if other than preapproved technologies or any other issues
- Written feedback to customer

Timeline: Response within 10 b.d.

Included in 10 b.d. (see left) if no detailed eligibility checks necessary

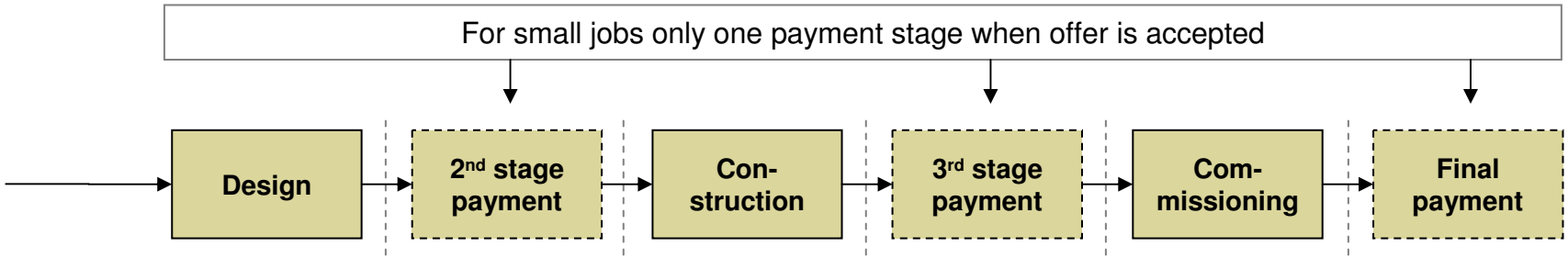
Costs: Application fee 726 (excl. VAT) to 7,000 EUR

Non GPA offer process (2/3) – Pre offer



Description:	• Applies for generators with appl. fee higher 7,000 EUR	• Sequential approach is standard, however, DSO can group non GPA applications / mod requests to mini groups • LCTA for group similar to Gate • Timeline for offer is based on last dated appl. in group	• Consisting of technical studies and commercial offer preparation • Firm DSO & non-firm TSO offer consisting of connection agreement and quotation letter	• Connection agreement signed by customer • 10% of quoted connection charge paid • Other requested conditions fulfilled
Timeline:	Within 20 b.d.		Within 90 b.d.	Within 60 b.d.
Costs:	Depending on MEC			Depending on connection

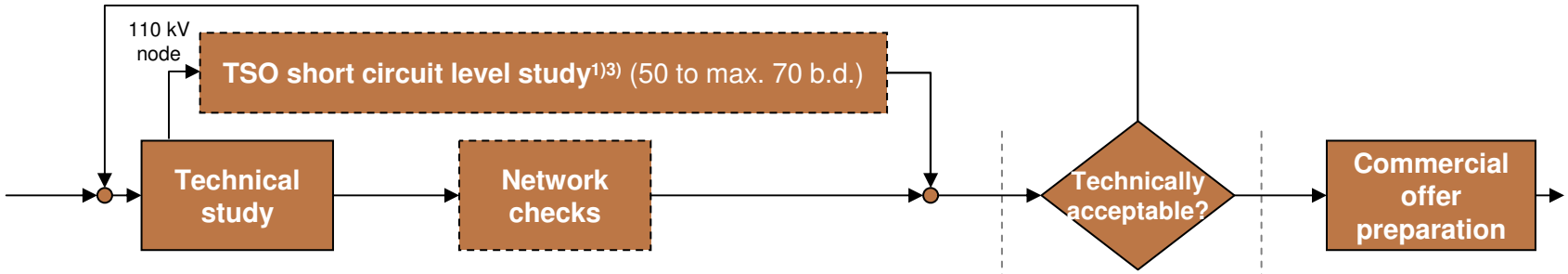
Non GPA process (3/3) – Post offer



Description:	• Site visit by ESB staff • Detailed design of connection • Planning permission & wayleaves[3)] • Identification of pass through costs[1) 3)]	• Payment of 55% of connection charge • Payment of pass through costs[1)] (if any)	• Construction of ESB connection assets	• Payment of 25% of connection charge • Payment of pass through costs[1)] (if any)	• Com-missioning of ESB equipment • Generator interface protection tests • Energisation of gen-erator[2)]	• Payment of remaining charges after energisation of generator
Timeline & Costs:	Dependent on the connection method. Details on timelines and costs are issued together with the connection offer documents					

1) Costs which can only be identified at the Design stage (e.g. deforestation costs, add. costs for cable instead of overhead line)
2) Energisation date is also dependent on completion of TSO SCL reinforcements and outcome of TSO dynamic studies
3) Not always possible to finalize in Design phase

Sub-process “Offer issue”



Description:	• Determination of connection method • Studies include voltage rise, network capacity, loss of feeder voltage dip	• Protection study required for 38 kV and some MV connection methods • Some network field checks might be necessary	• Notification of TSO in “Technical study” stage, • TSO decides if study is required • Outcome is SCL[2] reinforcements • Opportunity for TSO to raise other concerns		• Determination of final costs • Calculation of DLAF • Calculation of O&M charges • Financial approval • Preparation of offer documents
Timeline:	Within 20 b.d.[1]	Within 20 b.d.	See above		Within 20 b.d.
Costs:	← Included in application fee →				

1) If either System Operator deem the circumstances of the connection method to be unusually complex, the technical study or the short circuit level studies stage can be extended by 20 b.d. 2) Short circuit level 3) For generators only with capacity > 500 kVA

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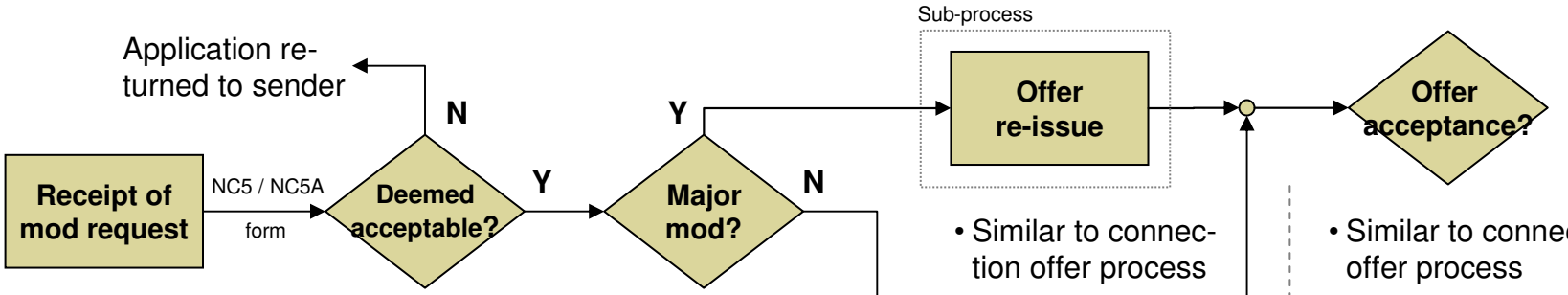
Non-GPA offer modification request process



Description:

- Check if documents are complete (incl. mod request letter signed by applicant)
- Assessment of feasibility and scope of modification
- Notification of Eirgrid
- Written feedback to customer

Timeline: Within 30 b.d.

Costs:

Less than 90 b.d.

Labour and other costs

1) To be set off against previous payments