

Overview

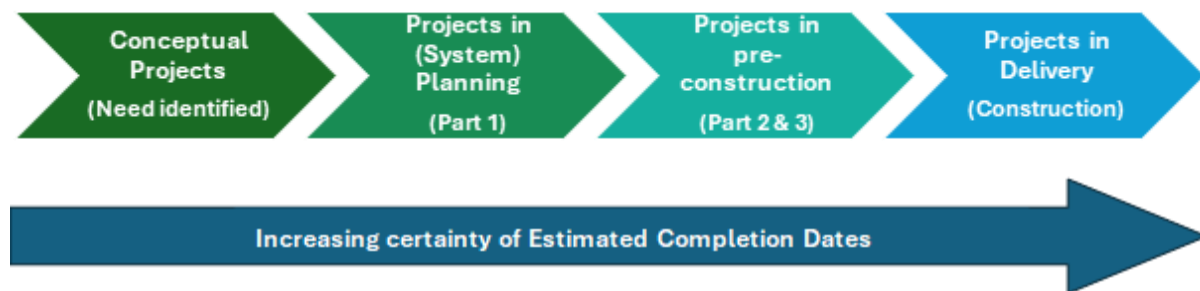
As part of our joint commitment to transparency and collaboration, SONI and NIE Networks provide a quarterly update on transmission infrastructure projects through our Joint Programme Management Office (JPMO). These updates are intended to keep stakeholders and partners informed on the progress of projects and status of Estimated Completion Dates (ECD) for projects.

SONI and NIE Networks understand the important role we play in meeting Northern Ireland’s collective energy ambitions, and our JPMO is committed to doing everything we can to support this within our licences, the wider policy and regulatory landscape and public acceptability.

To provide stakeholders with a clearer understanding of ECD, it is important to understand where a project sits in the grid delivery cycle. JPMO project categories are aligned with the [3-part Grid Development Framework](#), to reflect the certainty of a project's ECD and a view of our portfolio of delivery end to end.

The figure below illustrates the project lifecycle and how the level of certainty of ECD improves as the project matures.

For further details please refer to Section 6 of the [TDPNI 2025-2034](#).



Project Life Cycle Stages Explained

Conceptual Projects

These are early-stage projects which have been identified as necessary to meet the long-term needs of the Transmission system. Conceptual projects have not yet formally entered SONI’s 3-Part Grid Development Framework. As such, at this very early stage in the project’s lifecycle, where no preliminary preferred option has been selected, the initial ECD have been determined based on high-level initial assessments and indicative scoping, or it is simply too early to determine an initial ECD.

Projects in (System) Planning

These projects are progressing through Part 1 of the Grid Development Framework where the project need has been confirmed or is under consideration. At this stage potential solutions are being identified and assessed and brought forward by SONI for Transmission Network Pre-construction Project (TNPP) approval with the UR. Transmission projects in the system planning phase that support distribution connection applications, in line with Section S of the Transmission Interface Arrangements (TIA), are also included in this category. The indicative ECD associated with these projects are subject to further refinement as the needs, options and designs develop, along with feedback from early stakeholder engagement.

Projects in Pre-construction

These projects are progressing through Part 2 and 3 of the Grid Development Framework where TNPP approval has been received. These projects are undergoing route and/or site selection, outline design and consenting. Whilst forecast ECD have been defined, they are subject to significant external risks such as the planning process, landowner negotiations and environmental constraints. The ECD for these projects reflect a range of constraint scenarios but acknowledge that many projects remain constrained or at risk of delays from the consenting process and/or third-party challenges.

Projects in Delivery

These projects have passed through Part 2 and 3 of the Grid Development Framework, and have necessary planning consent, and are going through detailed design, procurement, execution of land agreements and construction. At this stage in the project's lifecycle, uncertainty has materially reduced so the planned ECD in this category are the most certain.

Quarterly update Explained

Through the JPMO, SONI and NIE Networks have jointly agreed ECD for individual project delivery, and the development plan, considering the impact and complexity of grid infrastructure delivery and the critical interdependencies with external partners. The ECD were included in the Draft TDPNI shared for consultation in October 2025. These are the dates which are reported against in this quarterly update.

ECD are cognisant of, and impacted by, planning decision timelines, legal challenges, the difficulties encountered in obtaining public acceptance and landowner consent as well as challenges in the global supply chain increasing procurement lead times - critical dependencies in delivery that are somewhat outside of SONI and NIE Networks' control.

SONI and NIE Networks remain committed to continuously seeking opportunities to maintain and improve ECD where possible. As part of our commitment to transparency,

status updates on the ECD for our Network Development Portfolio will be reviewed and published on a quarterly basis.

There are 3 classifications of Status Update to outline the progress of the project: On Track, Under Review and Revised, with detailed descriptions provided below. Any update noted as Under Review or Revised will include commentary on the driver, the detail and the mitigation measures SONI and NIE Networks are putting in place.

On Track

No significant variance from published ECD.

Under Review

An early signal of possible change - uncertainty exists and we want to communicate that. The change cannot yet be quantified, but ECD remains achievable.

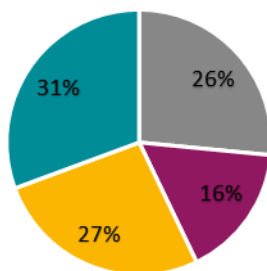
Revised

Significant change impacting key milestones or delivery targets. Revised date published highlighting reason for variance.

The current distribution of our Network Delivery Projects stage and status against the number of projects is below.

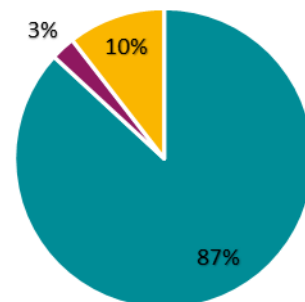
Project Distribution by Stage

- Conceptual
- Delivery
- Pre-Construction (Part 2)
- System Planning (Part 1)



Distribution by Status

- On Track
- Revised
- Under Review



More information on the scope of these projects in your area can be found at www.soni.ltd.uk/community/projects-your-area

For further information on Network Delivery Portfolio contact JPMO@soni.ltd.uk

Project title	ID	Planning area	Project stage	ECD	Status Up-date	Comment
Airport Road 110/33 kV Substation	CP0922	South-East	Delivery	2027	On Track	
Armagh Upgrade	CP1507	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2036	On Track	
Ballylumford – Ballyvallagh 110 kV Uprate		South-East	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Ballylumford – Hannahstown 275 kV Refurbishment	AR1002	South-East	Conceptual	2030	On Track	
Ballylumford 110 kV Switchboard Replacement	AR1001	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	On Track	
Belfast Power Flow Control	CP1631	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2033	On Track	Progressed to System Planning (Part 1). An ECD of 2033 is now included. This project is to be progressed in conjunction with the Energising Belfast project. Target TNPP submission Q3 2026.
Cam 110/33 kV Cluster & Substation Extension	CP1433	North & West	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	Under Review	Submission of Planning Application delayed due to ongoing Pre-Application Discussions (PAD) with Causeway Coast and Glens Council.
Cam Cluster Second 110/33 kV Transformer		North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2030	On Track	
Carnmoney – Eden Reinforcement	CP1187	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2031	Under Review	Under Review due to identification of delivery challenges with cable routing into Carnmoney station, triggering a review of project scope. As mitigation, a timebound working group has been set up to determine the optimal delivery strategy.
Castlereagh – Rosebank Towerline Removal	AR1003	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2027	On Track	
Castlereagh 110 kV Switchgear Replacement		South-East	Delivery	2031	On Track	
Castlereagh 275 kV Redevelopment	CP1502	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2034–2038	On Track	

Project title	ID	Planning area	Project stage	ECD	Status Update	Comment
Coleraine Transformer Replacement	CP1445	North & West	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2028	On Track	Project Stage has been updated to reflect progression from System Planning to Pre-Construction stage.
Connect West	CP1472	North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2037	On Track	SONI submitted TNPP allowance request to Utility Regulator in March 2026.
Coolkeeragh – Strabane 110 kV Upgrade	CP1604	North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2036	On Track	
Coolkeeragh 110 kV Extension	CP1278	North & West	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	Under Review	Derry City and Strabane District Council has determined an Environmental Statement is required for this project. As a mitigation SONI continue to engage the council to ensure a robust planning submission is made and project programme will be updated in due course.
Coolkeeragh 275 kV Redevelopment	CP1504	North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2034-2038	On Track	
Coolkeeragh 275/110 kV Transformer 1 Cabling Uprate	CP1445	North & West	Conceptual	TBC	-	
CVT Upgrade for Harmonic Measurement		Both	Delivery	2026	On Track	
Drumnakelly – Tamnamore 110 kV Uprate	CP1463	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2031	On Track	
Drumnakelly – Tandragee Uprate		South-East	Conceptual	TBC	-	
East Tyrone Reinforcement	CP1489	North & West	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	On Track	

Project title	ID	Planning area	Project stage	ECD	Status Update	Comment
Energising Belfast	CP1178	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2033	Revised	<p>ECD is revised from 2032 to 2033 following joint review by SONI and NIE Networks. The main drivers for the ECD revision are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional time required for NIE Networks to complete its Substation Turnkey Framework procurement. • Additional time required for SONI to progress compulsory land acquisition(s). <p>Further mitigations including paralleling and accelerating of future activities have been proposed to offset the impact, but realisation of the benefit cannot be determined until the next project stage.</p>
Fermanagh and West Tyrone Transmission Cluster	CP1630	North & West	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Fermanagh Upgrade		North & West	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Hannahstown – Castlereagh 275 kV Refurbishment	AR1004	South-East	Conceptual	2031	On Track	
Kells 110/33 kV Cluster		South-East	Delivery	2026	On Track	
Kells 275 kV Redevelopment	CP1501	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2034–2038	On Track	Target TNPP submission date Q3 2026.
Kells Cluster Second 110/33 kV Transformer		South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2029	On Track	
Kilroot Transmission Substation	CP1182	South-East	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Larne Transformer Replacement		South-East	Delivery	2026	On Track	
Limavady Transformer Replacement	CP1599	North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2029	On Track	

Project title	ID	Planning area	Project stage	ECD	Status Update	Comment
Lisburn Upgrade	CP1629	South-East	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Magherafelt 275 kV Redevelopment	CP1503	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2034–2038	On Track	
Mid-Antrim Upgrade	CP1006	North & West	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	On Track	
Moyle Interconnector Capacity Increase	CP1443	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2030	On Track	
Newry Reinforcement	CP1617	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2038	On Track	
North South 400 kV Interconnection Development	CP0884	South-East	Delivery	2031	On Track	
North Sperrin Transmission Cluster	CP1603	North & West	Conceptual	TBC	-	Target TNPP submission date Q3 2026.
North West of NI 110 kV Reinforcement	CP1602	North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2037	On Track	
Rasharkin Cluster Second 110/33 kV Transformer		North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	2028	On Track	NIE Networks submitted Construction allowance request to Utility Regulator in February 2026.
Shunt Reactors – Castlerea, Tandragee and Tamnamore		South-East	Delivery	2031	On Track	Project Title updated removing reference to Tandragee to reflect correct scope of project.
Strabane – Omagh 110 kV Uprate		North & West	Conceptual	TBC	-	
Strabane – Omagh Fibre Replacement	AR1005	North & West	Conceptual	2028	On Track	
Tamnamore Land Purchase	CP1446	South-East	Pre-Construction (Part 2)	2027	Under Review	Under Review due to landowner negotiations extending beyond schedule. Alternatives to voluntary agreement are under consideration.
Tandragee 110 kV Switchgear Replacement		South-East	Delivery	2029	On Track	
Tandragee 275 kV Redevelopment	CP1505	South-East	System Planning (Part 1)	2034–2038	On Track	
Tremoge Cluster Second 110/33 kV Transformer		North & West	System Planning (Part 1)	TBC	-	

¹ Due to its cross-jurisdictional nature, the North South Interconnector project is governed under a standalone North South Interconnector Joint Project Board of which SONI and NIE Networks are members, along with EirGrid and ESB Networks. Accordingly, JPMO will only communicate North South Interconnector Joint Project Board approved updates to its ECD.

Disclaimer

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