

Feed-in Tariffs (FIT)

Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for FIT Generators

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Overview

This is an overview of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) scheme, its eligibility criteria, and the accreditation process. This document is intended for owners of both ROO-FIT and MCS-FIT installations.

It supersedes the 'Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for renewable installations (Version 17)'.

This is a guidance document only and is not a definitive technical or legal guide to the FIT scheme. It is the installation owners' responsibility to ensure that they are aware of the requirements of the FIT Order and legislation (see associated documents).

Throughout the document 'you' is used interchangeably with the term 'FIT Generator'.

Context

The FIT scheme was introduced by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in April 2010 and is administered by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority), whose day-to-day functions are performed by Ofgem.

The FIT scheme is closed to new applications. Installations already accredited under the scheme will continue to receive payments for generating and exporting renewable and low carbon electricity.

The FIT scheme encourages the uptake of small-scale renewable and low-carbon technologies up to a Total Installed Capacity (TIC) of 5MW in England, Wales and Scotland. The FIT scheme creates an obligation for certain licensed electricity suppliers to make tariff payments for generating and exporting renewable and low carbon electricity. Installations using solar photovoltaic (PV), wind, hydro and anaerobic digestion (AD) technologies up to 5MW and fossil fuel-derived Combined Heat and Power (CHP) up to 2kW or “microCHP”, (up to a maximum of 30,000 Eligible Installations) can receive FIT payments, providing all eligibility requirements are met.

The FIT scheme replaced the Renewables Obligation (RO) as the main support for PV, wind and hydro installations with a declared net capacity (DNC) of 50kW or less (“micro installations”).

A FIT scheme was not introduced in Northern Ireland. Instead, a change to the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO) Order put additional incentives into place for generating stations of certain technologies and installed capacities.

Associated Documents

The following documents support this publication:

Policy and legislation

[The Feed-in Tariffs \(Amendment\) Order 2017](#)

[Modifications to Conditions 33 and 34 of the Standard Conditions of Electricity Supply Licences](#)

[The Renewables Obligation Order 2015](#)

[The Renewables Obligation \(Scotland\) Order 2009](#)

Guidance

All documents are available on the [Ofgem Website](#).

- Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers
- Feed-in Tariffs: Guide to Commissioning
- Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance on sustainability criteria and feedstock restrictions
- Guidance for generators: Co-location of electricity storage and hydrogen production under the RO, FIT, REGO and SEG
- Feed-in Tariffs (FIT) Decision on replacement generating equipment (December 2021)

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Executive Summary

Purpose of this document

This document provides an overview of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) scheme, its eligibility criteria, and the accreditation process.

Due to the closure of the FIT scheme, applications for FIT accreditation must have been received by us on or before 31 March 2019. Installations whose applications are received after this date are not eligible for accreditation.

The Feed-in Tariff scheme

The Feed-in Tariff (FIT) scheme was designed by Government to promote the uptake of small-scale renewable and low carbon technologies up to a Total Installed Capacity (TIC) of 5MW in England, Wales and Scotland. The FIT scheme creates an obligation for certain licensed electricity suppliers to make tariff payments for generating and exporting renewable and low carbon electricity. Installations using solar photovoltaic (PV), wind, hydro and anaerobic digestion (AD) technologies up to 5MW and fossil fuel-derived Combined Heat and Power (CHP) up to 2kW or “microCHP” can receive FIT payments, providing all eligibility requirements are met. The FIT scheme policy and tariff rates are set by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (formally the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Department for Energy and Climate Change), but the scheme is administered by FIT licensees and Ofgem.

1. Introduction

Chapter Summary

In this chapter you can find out about the FIT scheme and Ofgem's role in the scheme.

The FIT Scheme

- 1.1. **The FIT scheme is closed to new applications.** The closure of the scheme does not affect installations which are already accredited.
- 1.2. The scheme closed to new applications on 1 April 2019, barring some exceptions in response to disruption caused by COVID-19.
- 1.3. The Feed-in Tariff (FIT) scheme was introduced on 1 April 2010 by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC), as it then was, and is designed to encourage the uptake of small-scale renewable and low-carbon technologies in England, Wales and Scotland. The scheme requires participating licensed electricity suppliers ("FIT licensees") to make payments to owners of installations accredited to the scheme ("FIT generators") for the electricity that their installations generate and export. The cost of the FIT scheme is spread across each of the FIT Licensees based on their share of domestic electricity supply customers, in a process known as levelisation.
- 1.4. Installations using solar photovoltaic (PV), wind, hydro and anaerobic digestion (AD) technologies with a Total Installed Capacity (TIC) up to 5MW and fossil fuel-derived combined heat and power (CHP) up to 2kW could have been accredited onto the scheme, subject to certain requirements. Accredited installations can receive FIT payments (for more information on FIT payments see Chapter 5. FIT Payments).
- 1.5. Installations are divided into two categories, MCS-FIT and ROO-FIT:
 - MCS-FIT - Solar PV or wind installations with a DNC of 50kW or less, or micro-CHP installations. Generators with these installations applied directly to a FIT licensee. After the installation had been accredited by Ofgem, the licensee registered them on the Central FIT Register (CFR) directly.
 - ROO-FIT - Solar PV or wind installations with a Declared Net Capacity (DNC) over 50kW up to a TIC of 5MW and AD or hydro installations of any

capacity up to 5MW. Generators of these installations must have applied to Ofgem for accreditation directly, and once accredited must continue to notify Ofgem and their FIT licensee of any changes that impact their accreditation.

- 1.6. **This document will be relevant to the owners of both ROO-FIT and MCS-FIT installations. However, as MCS-FIT installations applied directly to their FIT licensee, you should contact your FIT licensee if you require information on your accreditation, post-accreditation changes, receiving FIT payments etc. If you are the generator of an MCS-FIT installation, you only need to inform your FIT licensee about any changes to your installation, and you will not need to interact with the Register.**

Role of Ofgem in FIT

- 1.7. Ofgem is the administrator of a number of the government's environmental schemes, including the FIT scheme. We work closely with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) to implement changes to the legislation and ensure the scheme is being delivered efficiently and in accordance with government policy. Much of the day to day administration of the scheme, however, is carried out by FIT Licensees.
- 1.8. Ofgem have several functions in administering the FIT scheme. These include:
- establishing and maintaining the Central FIT Register
 - calculating, periodically and annually, the FIT contribution of each Licensee, receiving Levelisation Payments from all FIT Licensees, and making Levelisation Payments
 - monitoring licensed electricity suppliers' compliance with the requirements of Section C of the Electricity Supply Licence and the FIT Order 2012
 - publicly reporting on licensed energy suppliers' compliance with the requirements of Section C of the Electricity Supply Licence and the FIT Order 2012
 - publicly reporting the total number of FIT Generators registered on the Central FIT Register, and the number of MWh generated and FIT Payments made under the FIT
 - assessing and determining if sustainability and feedstock requirements are met by AD generators who made an application for preliminary or full

(other than during the period of validity of any preliminary accreditation)
accreditation on or after 1 May 2017.

About this guide

- 1.9. This guide covers:
- receiving FIT payments
 - post-accreditation changes
 - audit & compliance action
- 1.10. This is a guidance document only. At all times, the onus is on the owner of the installation to ensure that they are aware of the requirements of the FIT Order and related legislation. This document is not intended to provide comprehensive legal advice on how the FIT Order should be interpreted.
- 1.11. Generators whose installations have already been accredited should focus their attention on chapters 1-6, which discuss ongoing scheme requirements.
- 1.12. You can find additional information, including helpful FAQs and guidance on other aspects of the scheme, on our [website](#).

Updates to this document (06 September 2024)

- 1.13. This document replaces the 'Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Renewable Installations (version 17)'. It has been redesigned to improve readability and accessibility, and the title has been changed to better reflect its focus. Chapter summaries have also been added to make the document more accessible and easier to navigate.
- 1.14. Several chapters have been reduced by removing information no longer needed due to the closure of the FIT scheme. Several sections have been added or updated, including guidance on generator ownership checks, auditing, metering, and Ofgem's role in investigating fraud.
- 1.15. Clarification has been added on rules around reducing installation capacity, relocation and decommissioning, and the use of battery systems which includes a recommendation that battery systems up to 50 kW are in line with MCS battery standards.

- 1.16. Additional information has been added regarding the interaction between the FIT scheme and the Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) scheme, including guidelines on receiving both FIT and SEG export payments for different installations.
- 1.17. Chapter summaries have also been added to make the document more accessible and easier to navigate.

Queries

- 1.18. If you have any queries about this document or ROO-FIT accreditation, please see the contacts page of our website.¹
- 1.19. If you have a dispute with your licensee or another organization involved with the FIT scheme, or if you want to request information from Ofgem, please visit the dispute resolution page on our website.²
- 1.20. “Ofgem”, “us”, “our” and “we” are used interchangeably when referring to the Authority’s functions under the Orders.

Your data

- 1.21. All personal data collected from individuals will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018. For further information on how we process your data, see the Renewable Electricity Schemes Privacy Notice.

¹ [Scheme contacts: FIT | Ofgem](#)

² [Dispute Resolution Webpage](#)

Part 1: Generator obligations

2. Interacting with FIT Licensees

Chapter summary

Here you can find guidance on the types of interactions you may encounter with your FIT licensee, including switching, installation ownership changes, and dispute resolution.

Making changes

- 2.1. If you are the generator for a FIT accredited installation, you may wish or need to make a number of changes, such as:
- changing your FIT Licensee, either by choice or because your FIT licensee has left the FIT scheme
 - transferring ownership of the installation to another person³
 - appointing a nominated representative to receive FIT payments on your behalf
 - making modifications to your installation (covered in Chapter 3. Modifications to an installation)
 - withdrawing from the FIT scheme
 - This chapter deals with topics surrounding FIT Licensee changes, disputes and changes to the ownership of an installation.

Switching FIT Licensee

- 2.2. If, as a FIT Generator, you want to switch FIT Licensees, you should approach the new FIT Licensee with this request. The new FIT Licensee will note your request to switch, and the date on which the switch will take place, on the Central FIT Register (CFR).
- 2.3. The current licensee will then review and approve the switch, provided there are no objections. During the process the new FIT licensee will need to ensure that it

³ Or where it is transferred after the generator's death.

has received all the necessary information about you, the FIT generator, from the Central FIT Register (CFR) and the previous FIT licensee. They should also carry out checks to confirm the ownership of the installation and ensure that FIT payments are being made to the correct party.

- 2.4. The new licensee will then complete the switch and issue you with a new statement of FIT terms. All installations sharing the same meter must be switched to the same FIT Licensee.
- 2.5. The new FIT Licensee will be obliged to pay all FIT payments from the switch date, and the old FIT licensee will be obliged to pay all FIT payments due to you up to the switch date.
- 2.6. You should ensure that the closing generation meter read and export meter read with the existing FIT Licensee matches the opening meter read with the new FIT Licensee.
- 2.7. All statements of FIT Terms should include a description of the process of switching as well as stating the duty on the FIT Licensee to participate as required to facilitate your switch to a new licensee.

Statement of FIT terms

- 2.8. Once you have registered with a new FIT Licensee, a Statement of FIT Terms must be agreed before FIT payments can begin.
- 2.9. The Statement of FIT terms must be made in writing and include the terms listed in Appendix 8.
- 2.10. In the event the Central FIT Register is amended by Ofgem to correct an error or to reflect a change in circumstances, the FIT Licensee will revise the Statement of FIT Terms and an amended version will be supplied to you.
- 2.11. The FIT Licensee will take account of guidance issued by Ofgem over the content and the form of the Statement of FIT Terms but can choose to agree terms more favourable to you if they decide to.
- 2.12. In addition to what is stipulated in the Statement of FIT Terms, the FIT Licensee will have the following duties:
 - when providing information to you about the FIT Scheme, the FIT Licensee must ensure the information:

- is complete and accurate
 - can be easily understood by you, the FIT Generator
 - does not mislead you, the FIT Generator
 - is fair, transparent, appropriate and professional manner in its content and presentation (with the most important information prominent).
 - when making FIT Payments to you, the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient, the FIT Licensee must ensure that the Statement of FIT Terms does not materially discriminate without objective justification between one group of FIT Generators and any other such group.
 - if the FIT Licensee should fail (an Insolvency Event occurs), it must tell FIT Generators and Nominated Recipients it makes FIT Payments to as soon as reasonably possible.
- 2.13. As being a FIT Generator comes under the definition of a Customer, Domestic Customer or micro-business Consumer under the Electricity Supply Licence, your participation in the FIT scheme will not affect your consumer rights contained elsewhere in the Electricity Supply Licence.

Licensees leaving the FIT scheme

Voluntarily

- 2.14. When a Voluntary FIT Licensee notifies you, the FIT Generator, that they have decided to withdraw their participation from the FIT scheme, you should approach a new licensee and initiate the switching process as soon as possible in order to continue receiving FIT Payments.
- 2.15. Voluntary FIT Licensees are required to give you at least 6 weeks' notice of their intention to withdraw their participation in the FIT scheme and of the consequences for you. FIT Licensees are required to assist you in completing the switching process.

Upon failure

- 2.16. Where a FIT licensee has its supply licence revoked/becomes insolvent, it is the responsibility of you, the FIT generator, to seek a new FIT licensee. Unlike import customers, when your FIT licensee fails you are not automatically switched to a new FIT Licensee and you must choose and register with a new

one yourself. This is true even if your original FIT Licensee was also your electricity import supplier.

- 2.17. A Continuity of FIT Payments Direction (CoFPD) may be issued by Ofgem if a FIT licensee's electricity supply licence is revoked or if a FIT licensee becomes insolvent. It provides assurance that electricity generated by an accredited FIT installation between the date of the last meter reading, where FIT payments were made, and the date the accredited FIT installation moves to a new FIT licensee, will be paid.
- 2.18. The CoFPD is intended to ensure that payments due to FIT generators are not affected by the failure of your FIT licensee. This will usually include payments which were previously missed by the failed FIT licensee, never made or not made in full, provided you were entitled to receive those FIT payments immediately before the licence revocation or insolvency event.
- 2.19. A CoFPD states the matters to be taken into account by FIT licensees in determining the date on which affected FIT generators transfer to them. It is possible for the transfer date to be set to the date of the last FIT payment you actually received, so you could receive previously missed payments for which your failed licensee was responsible from your new FIT licensee, where appropriate and as set out by Ofgem in any CoFPD issued. Payment of interest due to delayed payments is not provided for under the FIT Order.
- 2.20. It is for the licensee to satisfy themselves that any missing payments are evidenced appropriately before payment is made. You will be expected to produce evidence of any missing payments to your new licensee before any payment is made in respect of this.
- 2.21. If you elect to switch to another FIT licensee before that FIT licensee's licence is revoked or they become insolvent, you will usually receive protection under the CoFPD, provided that you were immediately entitled to receive FIT payments from the failed licensee at the point of licence revocation or insolvency. However, you cannot receive those missed payments from your new licensee until your original licensee has their supply licence revoked/becomes insolvent and a CoFPD is actually issued.
- 2.22. Further information on the CoFPD process can be found in Appendix 13 of our [Feed-in Tariffs: guidance for licensed electricity suppliers.](#)

Changing FIT generator

- 2.23. MCS-FIT generators should inform their FIT licensee as soon as reasonably possible in the event there is a change in ownership of an accredited FIT Installation.
- 2.24. In order to change the FIT Generator of an accredited ROO-FIT installation, the generator should first get the change noted on the Register by emailing the Renewables Team inbox (renewable@ofgem.gov.uk) to request the change.
- 2.25. The team will then send you a transfer request form. Once received, complete the form and email it, along with the relevant supporting documentation, to the same email address: renewable@ofgem.gov.uk.
- 2.26. If the installation in question is a solar PV installation, the new generator will need to make a new multi-installation declaration (see Appendix 2 – Solar PV (declarations for installations and extensions)).
- 2.27. Once the change has been registered on the Register, the new FIT Generator must notify their FIT licensee, who will update the details of the FIT Generator on the CFR.
- 2.28. When taking ownership of an installation, it is the new generator's responsibility to obtain all appropriate records from the previous FIT Generator. If we audit an installation, the new generator is expected to supply documentation from the date the installation commissioned and thereafter in order to evidence the installation's eligibility on the scheme. For a list of the documents reviewed during the audit process see Chapter 4. Audit & Compliance Action. We also recommend that the previous FIT Generator directs the new generator to the latest version of this document, to ensure that they are aware of current scheme guidance.
- 2.29. If you are having difficulties getting your change of ownership request approved, you should follow the dispute resolution steps listed on our [website](#).

Designating a nominated recipient

- 2.30. In order to designate or change a nominated recipient of an accredited installation, you should contact your FIT Licensee, who will update the details on the CFR.

- 2.31. As with a change of generator, the new nominated recipient will need to make a multi-installation declaration.

Becoming the owner or nominated recipient for multiple installations

- 2.32. You must tell your FIT Licensee if you become the owner/nominated recipient or are a connected person of 25 or more FIT installations.
- 2.33. For more information, see the “Multi-installation tariffs” section of Chapter 5.

Disputes and information

- 2.34. A list of dispute resolution pathways for various types of disputes related to the FIT scheme can be found on our [website](#).
- 2.35. Where the dispute is with a FIT licensee, you should first follow the licensee’s own complaints process. If the complaint is still unresolved after 8 weeks, then you can escalate the complaint to the Energy Ombudsman. **Ofgem does not play a role in resolving these types of complaints.**⁴
- 2.36. In addition to providing guidance on dispute resolution, our website also contains details on how information can be requested from Ofgem. The types of data requests that can be made include:
- Subject Access Requests (SARs)
 - Freedom of Information (FOI) requests
 - Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) requests
 - Ownership Register Queries (ORQs) – to request information held on the Central FIT Register (CFR)
- 2.37. Persons making a SAR or ORQ will be required to provide documentary proof of identity or other appropriate documentation as requested by Ofgem before

⁴ Unless the dispute involves the accuracy of information on the Central FIT Register (CFR) – see our website for more information: [Dispute resolution | Ofgem](#)

information can be released. If the release of data is refused on data protection grounds, the matter can be escalated to the [Information Commissioner's Office](#).

Withdrawing from the scheme

- 2.38. If you wish to withdraw your installation from the FIT scheme, you can do so by contacting your FIT licensee, who will then notify Ofgem. The statement of FIT terms will include details on the process to follow and any evidence or formalities required.
- 2.39. Once Ofgem has received notice from a FIT licensee that you intend to terminate your participation in the FIT scheme, we will contact you by post that we have received the request and give you one month to change your mind.
- 2.40. If we do not hear from you within that month, we will then proceed to remove your installation(s) from the CFR and will send you a second letter confirming this. Once we have removed the installation(s) from the CFR, you will be unable to re-join the FIT scheme at a later date due to scheme closure.
- 2.41. If you do not hear from Ofgem after a reasonable waiting period following your request to withdraw, you should first chase up with your FIT licensee. If you still do not hear from Ofgem that we have received a notification from your FIT licensee, you can then contact the CFR team directly at FITRegister@ofgem.gov.uk.

3. Modifications to an installation

Chapter summary

This chapter explains the process a generator must follow when making modifications to an accredited installation.

Overview

- 3.1. You may want or need to make changes to your installation post-accreditation. Modifications may include:
- removing generating equipment, or adding additional capacity where the new generating equipment forms part of the same "Site"⁵
 - replacing existing equipment
 - changing the metering setup, including replacing or changing the meters used
 - adding battery storage or an electric vehicle (EV) charging station
- 3.2. This chapter discusses the effects of various possible modifications as well as their notification requirements.

Generating equipment

- 3.3. Generating equipment for each technology type is the following:
- Anaerobic digestion:
 - all equipment required to convert gas formed by the anaerobic digestion of material (which is neither sewage nor material in a landfill) into electricity
 - Hydro:

⁵ See the section on defining "Site" in Chapter 8 for more information. In most cases, additional capacity will be considered to form part of the same "site" if the equipment uses the same grid connection as the existing installation (if grid-connected).

- any turbine runners, turbine blades, propellers, hydrodynamic screws (including Archimedes' screw), water wheels and/or all prime movers
 - all the inlet guide vanes or all the inlet guide nozzles
 - any generators/alternators (or any part thereof)
 - Micro-CHP:
 - the prime mover (either gas engine, small gas turbine, or fuel cell)
 - the generator and heat recovery equipment
 - all the associated pipework, valves, controls etc within the unit
 - Solar PV
 - the solar panels and inverters
 - Wind installations
 - the turbine blades
 - the tower (or equivalent supporting structure excluding the foundation pad)
 - hub, brakes, nacelle including gear-trains
 - generator/alternator and any other contents therein
- 3.4. You may repair or replace all or some generating equipment without affecting the compliance of an accredited installation, provided that the installation continues to meet the scheme rules. These include that the:
- maximum capacity of 5MW (or 2kW for micro-CHP) is not exceeded
 - accredited installation continues to generate electricity from the same eligible technology
 - accredited installation is not decommissioned or relocated
- 3.5. You may be able to temporarily remove an accredited installation from site without affecting its compliance (for example, during roof repairs), but this would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- 3.6. You may replace generating equipment with equipment that has formed part of an installation previously accredited under the FIT or Renewable Obligation schemes.

Notification of changes

- 3.7. You must contact your FIT Licensee if you extend or reduce the TIC of the accredited installation. The information process for notification may be listed on the Licensee's website or in your statement of FIT terms.
- 3.8. In addition, if the installation was accredited under ROO-FIT, you must also notify Ofgem of the modification by updating the installation's accreditation application on the Register. Ofgem will then review any submitted changes on the Register before they are applied.
- 3.9. Where a site is subject to an open audit, we request you to refrain from making any changes to the Register until the audit is complete. Changes to the site should be updated on the Register as and when these are made to avoid retrospective updates if a site is selected for an audit.

Extending an installation

- 3.10. An "extension" to an accredited FIT installation is a modification which increases its TIC from the same eligible low-carbon technology. This can include adding generating equipment or replacing generating equipment.
- 3.11. Installations may be extended through repowering, or the removal of de-rating mechanisms. Where an accredited FIT installation is extended through either of these methods, the below rules on extensions would also apply.
 - Repowering can be defined as the process of replacing older generating equipment with newer equipment which either has a greater capacity or more efficiency, which results in a net increase of power generated.
 - De-rating is the practice of using mechanisms to reduce the capacity of an installation. Removing previously applied de-rating mechanisms would therefore increase the TIC of an installation.
- 3.12. Where capacity has been added to a site using a different eligible low-carbon technology, this is not considered an extension. The capacity is considered as a separate installation with its own site.
- 3.13. In that case, the accreditation of the existing installation may not be affected, but this will depend on the specific set-up of the installation and how it interacts with the original FIT installation, so this would be determined on a case-by-case

basis. Additionally, as the FIT scheme is now closed to new applications, no FIT payments can be received in respect of any electricity the extra capacity generates.

Extensions to accredited installations commissioned before 15 January 2016

- 3.14. If a FIT installation was extended using the same technology type and the extension was commissioned before 15 January 2016, the extension was assessed as a separate Eligible Installation. If successfully accredited, the extension was assigned a tariff rate based on the aggregate TIC of both the extension and existing FIT installation.⁶ The eligibility date and the eligibility period of the extension are based on the commissioning date of the extension.
- 3.15. The original installation's eligibility date, tariff, and eligibility period are not affected. Both installations will, however, share the same FIT ID⁷ on the Central FIT Register (CFR), where all installation details are stored.

Extensions to accredited installations commissioned on or after 15 January 2016

- 3.16. Any extension to an accredited FIT installation that is commissioned on or after 15 January 2016 is not eligible to receive FIT support. This applies to both generation and export payments.
- 3.17. If the extension and original installation share a meter, it may be possible to prorate the meter readings – for more details see Chapter 6. Metering, storage and sustainability.
- 3.18. If an extension does not have a separate generation or export meter, readings must be prorated according to TIC, to ensure you are paid correctly. For example, if a 40kW installation has been extended by 10kW:
- and the extension is accredited, the generator is entitled to payment for 80% of the electricity at the tariff rate(s) of the original installation and 20% at the tariff rate(s) of the extension

⁶ Article 18(2)(c) - FIT Order

⁷ The unique identifier on the Central FIT Register

- and the extension is not accredited, the generator is only entitled to payment for 80% of the electricity they generate and export
- 3.19. The original installation tariff will not be affected but the actual payments could be affected where separate metering is not possible.
- 3.20. Meter readings should be taken on the date of the extension or reduction.

Exceeding the specified maximum capacity

- 3.21. If the combined TIC of a single technology on a Site exceeds 5MW TIC (or 2kW for CHP installations), the total installation (the original installation plus any extensions) will become ineligible to receive FIT payments.⁸

Reducing capacity, relocation and decommissioning

Reduction

- 3.22. "Reduction" is a modification to an accredited FIT installation to decrease its TIC from the same eligible low-carbon energy source.
- 3.23. Where the reduced TIC is above zero, the installation's accreditation continues and its eligibility date, tariff rate and eligibility period are not affected.

Relocation

- 3.24. Accreditation of installations are tied to a specific geographical "site". If an installation is moved from its site, for example where its owner takes it to a new property, it will no longer be eligible for the FIT scheme.

Adding storage or an electric vehicle (EV) charging station

- 3.25. Battery storage or an EV charging station may be added to an installation without affecting its accreditation. However, the installation must continue to comply with the metering criteria in order to continue receiving FIT payments – for more details see Chapter 6. Metering, storage and sustainability.

⁸ Article 16(3) - FIT Order 2010

- 3.26. If FIT generators are installing energy storage or battery systems up to 50kW, we recommend that an MCS installer is used, and the system is installed in line with the MCS Battery Standard.⁹
- 3.27. As with other changes to a FIT installation, co-locating storage with the FIT installation should be reported to your FIT Licensee, in accordance with the requirement within the Statement of FIT Terms, and additionally Ofgem¹⁰ if you are ROO-FIT accredited.
- 3.28. When notifying the change, you will need to provide your FIT Licensee (and additionally Ofgem for ROO-FIT generators) with the following information:
- an updated single line or schematic diagram identifying how the electricity from the installation is provided to the storage facility and the metering arrangements in place
 - details of the meter readings used to claim the FIT payments
 - details of the storage facility installed, including confirmation of the date the storage facility was installed and commissioned together with supporting evidence
- 3.29. MCS-FIT generators installing battery storage should also submit declaration forms to their FIT licensee. These can be found in Appendix 1 of our [co-location guidance](#).
- 3.30. In the case a bi-directional meter is installed, you will need to provide the following information to your FIT Licensee, and additionally Ofgem if you are ROO-FIT accredited:
- details of the meter, including meter make, model and operators manual
 - confirmation of how the meter operates
 - confirmation, including photographic evidence, that the meter displays the net renewable generation without the need to manually subtract the imported/ exported energy
 - copy of MID compliance certification

⁹ [MCS Certified | Giving you confidence in home-grown energy](#)

¹⁰ [Guidance for generators: Co-location of electricity storage and hydrogen production under the RO, FIT, REGO and SEG \(Version 6.1\) | Ofgem](#)

- confirmation of whether the bi-directional functionality is set by the manufacturer or if the meter requires reprogramming by the installer
- confirmation of whether the storage device can be charged by electricity supplied from the grid
- confirmation of whether the meter currently installed can be reprogrammed to measure the net generation output, which corresponds to the amount of electricity generated by the FIT installation only.

Decommissioning

- 3.31. An accredited FIT installation is any plant on site which wholly or mainly relies on an Eligible Low-carbon Energy Source (eg solar PV or wind) when generating electricity.
- 3.32. If all of those plant are permanently removed up to the point of grid connection, the accredited installation has been decommissioned and accreditation ends.
- 3.33. You must inform your FIT licensee if you decommission an accredited installation. If your installation was accredited under ROO-FIT, you must also inform Ofgem.
- 3.34. The replacement or temporary removal of generating equipment (for example, during roof repairs) does not in itself affect the compliance of an installation. You may repair or replace all or some generating equipment and retain the installation's accreditation, provided that the installation continues to meet the scheme rules.

4. Audit & Compliance Action

Chapter summary

Here you can find out about the roles of Ofgem and FIT licensees in scheme participant compliance, and the types of audit & compliance action that could be expected in the event of a breach of FIT scheme rules.

Audit & Compliance action overview

- 4.1. The Feed-in Tariffs Order 2012 and the Standard Conditions of Electricity Supply Licence give certain audit and compliance powers to Ofgem and FIT Licensees respectively to deal with breaches to the scheme rules.
- 4.2. Ofgem also runs an audit programme designed to detect fraud and other breaches of the scheme rules. This complements other checks that are carried out by FIT Licensees.
- 4.3. Ofgem takes all allegations of fraud seriously. Our Counter Fraud team undertakes activities to detect, prevent and deter fraudulent activity across the scheme. Where we find evidence of suspected fraud, for example, falsified meter readings or forged documents provided at application, Ofgem will take the appropriate compliance and report this to the relevant law enforcement agency, such as Police Scotland or Action Fraud.
- 4.4. You can report suspected fraud, or learn more about our role in preventing fraud, by contacting our counter fraud team at emailing counterfraud@ofgem.gov.uk or by calling 0207 901 7373.

Ofgem powers

- 4.5. Under powers granted by the Feed-in Tariffs Order 2012, Ofgem may, in certain specified situations:
 - withdraw accreditation
 - suspend accreditation
 - change the tariff rate an installation receives
 - attach conditions to the accreditation

- amend conditions of accreditation.
- 4.6. Those specified situations are:
- if the decision to grant accreditation or preliminary accreditation was based on incorrect information
 - if any condition attached to an accreditation has not been complied with
 - if an installation has been extended or modified in a way that would not have been entitled to accreditation
 - where Ofgem is told by a public authority that constructing or operating an installation breaches legislation, a licence or a consent (eg a planning authority notifies Ofgem that an installation has not been granted planning permission).
- 4.7. If Ofgem does any of the above, we will amend the Central FIT Register to record the action and will notify the FIT Generator and Licensee involved, explaining why we have taken the action in question and giving the date on which the action takes effect.
- 4.8. We may also revoke or vary any action taken under the above power at a later date. If we do, we will also undertake the actions specified in the above paragraph.

Reducing, recouping and withholding FIT Payments

- 4.9. Under the Standard Conditions of Supply Licence, FIT Licensees have the power to reduce, recoup or withhold FIT payments if:
- an error has been made by the FIT Licensee, Ofgem or the FIT Generator, and a FIT Generator or nominated recipient has received a payment to which it is not entitled as a result
 - Ofgem notifies the relevant FIT Licensee that it has good reason to believe that a FIT Payment should not have been made.
- 4.10. If Ofgem determines that a FIT Payment could result in improperly administering the FIT scheme, it may suspend the Eligible Installation(s) from the Central FIT Register and instruct the FIT Licensee to reduce, withhold or recoup payments.
- 4.11. FIT Licensees are required to ensure that all FIT Payments they make are those that the FIT Generator or nominated recipient is entitled to. If a FIT Licensee

believes that in making a FIT Payment to a FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient it would contravene their obligations, it must notify Ofgem immediately.

- 4.12. Whilst Licensees will usually confirm the decision with Ofgem before taking action, they may take independent action if necessary.
- 4.13. If instructed to withhold payments, the FIT Licensee will continue to do so until notified by Ofgem that the suspension has been rescinded, or if Ofgem instructs them to recover or reduce FIT Payments

Audits

- 4.14. We routinely carry out audit checks on accredited installations to ensure that FIT Generators are complying with the scheme rules. Auditing can help identify and protect against errors and fraud. These checks also ensure that an installation remains eligible, that we hold the most up-to-date information and that the installation is receiving the correct FIT payments. Conducting audits also allows us to ensure FIT installations are adhering to the agreements in their accreditation.
- 4.15. We undertake a targeted audit program intended to address known or potential areas of risk. We select targeted audits based on various factors including, for example, thematic risks (e.g. installations commissioned close to the closure of the scheme to new applicants), material risk through data analysis and from internal/external referrals.
- 4.16. We also undertake random sampling of the scheme's population under our statistical audit programme. This helps increase our understanding of the level and types of non-compliances across the scheme.

What is reviewed during audit?

- 4.17. Audits are carried out by an external contractor on Ofgem's behalf. They involve a site visit to the installation and a review of associated documentation and evidence. The auditors make contact with the FIT Generator to arrange the site visit, which should take place within 3 weeks of receipt of the audit notification letter.

- 4.18. Our auditors review, among other things, commissioning evidence, site set-up, capacity, metering arrangements, the data that has been submitted for FIT payments and evidence of FIT claims. FIT Generators of installations should keep all of the appropriate records, such as test documents and meter recordings, from the time the installation commissioned and thereafter so that the installation can provide a full audit trail at the time of audit. FIT Generators should not rely on third parties (including Ofgem) holding documentation for them. All documentation requested by the auditor should be available on the date of the audit site visit.
- 4.19. FIT Generators should also ensure that the Register is kept up to date with accurate contact details for the account superuser and named users, and ensure all changes are reflected in the application, such that when an audit takes place, the application reflects the current arrangements. FIT Generators should provide the auditors with all information requested during the audit process within the timescales requested. This could include commissioning evidence, FIT invoices, metering details, single line diagrams (SLD), procedural manuals, and any other documents relevant to the audit scope. Any information that remains outstanding will be listed in the audit report and could affect the assurance rating of the audit report.

What happens following an audit?

- 4.20. Following an audit site visit, the auditor will pass the findings of the audit on to Ofgem. These will then be reviewed and either accepted by Ofgem or queried. The process of finalising the audit following the site visit and sending the audit findings usually takes approximately 2 months, but it can sometimes take longer due to complexities.
- 4.21. Once the audit is complete, the findings will be sent to the FIT Generator via email. Audits will receive a rating based on the findings for example:
- 'Unsatisfactory' audits identified major issues of non-compliance with a significant financial impact or identified stations ineligible for support under the scheme
 - 'Weak' audits found moderate issues of non-compliance, problems with a financial impact or eligibility
 - 'Satisfactory' audits showed minor issues of non-compliance, low financial impacts or found areas of poor practice
 - 'Good' audits identified no issues impacting on scheme participation

- 4.22. If the audit is rated as Good or Satisfactory, the findings are sent to the operator and the audit is closed. Findings should be addressed, and the Register updated accordingly. The station may be audited again in the future and the findings in the initial audit are expected to have been addressed.
- 4.23. If the audit is rated Weak or Unsatisfactory due to moderate or major financial non-compliances, the audit will be passed onto the Renewable Energy Participant Compliance team who will investigate potential non-compliances identified in the audit. The FIT Generator is expected to address these findings by reporting back to Ofgem and providing all of the relevant evidence to resolve any issues that have been highlighted. The compliance investigation will be closed once all findings have been satisfactorily answered.
- 4.24. Once the compliance case has been closed, the operator is expected to address any findings and update the Register. The station may be audited again in the future and the findings in the initial audit are expected to have been satisfactorily addressed.
- 4.25. In certain circumstances, we can suspend accreditation until the audit findings have been addressed. As explained above, we also have the power to withdraw accreditation in certain circumstances and reduce, recoup and withhold FIT payments as appropriate.
- 4.26. Delays in resolving audit findings can occur when FIT Generators do not provide comprehensive responses and/or the relevant third-party evidence to support their responses. To avoid any delays, FIT Generators should aim to provide a full response with all third-party supporting evidence by the response deadline set out within the audit findings letter.
- 4.27. FIT licensed suppliers are regularly audited to ensure compliance with the FIT Order 2012 and are following the processes set out in the [Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers](#).
- 4.28. For more information on why we audit and how to prepare, please visit our webpage: [Feed-in Tariffs \(FIT\) - Feed-In Tariff Participant Audit Programme | Ofgem](#)

Suspension and removal from the Central FIT Register

FIT Generators and Accredited Installations may be suspended from the Central FIT Register in the following circumstances:

- a change is made to an Installation which makes it ineligible
- we suspect fraud or abuse of the FIT scheme
- conditions in a Statement of FIT Terms have been breached
- Ofgem has good reason to believe that a FIT Payment should not have been made

4.29. In addition, should we discover an error in the Central FIT Register we will:

- correct it
- if the correction affects the entitlement to FIT payments, we will notify the FIT Licensee responsible for making the payments.

4.30. FIT Licensees must not make any FIT Payments to a FIT Installation or Nominated Recipient if Ofgem informs the FIT Licensee that payments are to be suspended, or that a FIT Generator or Eligible Installation has been suspended or removed from the Central FIT Register. Suspending an Eligible Installation should not affect FIT Payments for the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for other Eligible Installations.

4.31. If Ofgem suspends or removes a FIT Generator or Eligible Installation from the Central FIT Register, we will write to the FIT Licensee and FIT Generator and explain what we are doing and why. If the suspension is lifted, Ofgem will again write to the FIT Licensee and FIT Generator confirming this.

4.32. FIT Licensees must promptly inform Ofgem's Central FIT Register and the Counter Fraud team (CounterFraud@ofgem.gov.uk) if they believe an error has occurred in relation to a FIT Generator or FIT Installation's eligibility, or that there is the possibility of fraud or abuse of the FIT scheme. This should be done before the next FIT Payment is due. FIT Licensees should try to correct errors before the next FIT Payment is due. If appropriate, Ofgem may suspend the entry on the Central FIT Register until the error is corrected or any investigation into suspected fraud or abuse has concluded.

Part 2: FIT Payments

5. FIT Payments

Chapter summary

Here you can find information concerning FIT payments, this includes tariff periods, multi-installation tariffs, and deployment caps.

Payments Breakdown

5.1. FIT payments can be broken down into two components:

- FIT Generation Payment – a fixed payment made by the FIT Licensee to the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for every kWh generated by the Eligible Installation.
- FIT Export Payment – a fixed payment made by the FIT Licensee to the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for every kWh exported to the National Grid.

5.2. Generation tariff rates vary based on:

- eligibility date
- technology type
- TIC, and
- if a solar PV installation, whether:
 - the installation is standalone or wired to provide electricity to a building
 - if so, whether the building meets the energy efficiency requirement (EER)
 - the generator or nominated recipient is a generator, nominated recipient or 'connected person'¹¹ in respect of 25 or more other accredited installations

5.3. Export tariff rates vary based on:

- eligibility date, and

¹¹ As defined under section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010

- whether the installation uses solar PV technology or not
- 5.4. Generation and export tariffs are also adjusted by the percentage increase or decrease in the Retail Price Index (RPI) over the 12-month period ending on 31 December of the previous year every April, in accordance with FIT legislation. The updated tariff tables are published on our [website](#).
- 5.5. In order to receive FIT payments, generators of accredited installations must also comply with the scheme metering requirements (and, if an AD installation, sustainability criteria) in order to receive (full) FIT generation payments. You can find more details on these in Chapter 6: Metering, storage and sustainability
- 5.6. Generators who opt in to receive export payments from their FIT licensee will be unable to opt out and sell exported electricity on the open market, and vice versa, until at least the first anniversary of their participation in the scheme. After that date, FIT generators shall be permitted to change their selection to opt in or out, but no more than once every 12 months.

The “Eligibility Date”

- 5.7. FIT support is payable from the “Eligibility Date”.¹²
- 5.8. If you are a generator who received full accreditation without first seeking FIT preliminary accreditation the “Eligibility Date” is **the later of:**
- the date a full accreditation application was received by us – i.e. the date that the application was submitted via the Register¹³, and
 - the start date of the tariff period that the installation falls into
- 5.9. If you are a generator that was granted preliminary accreditation and then applied for full accreditation, the “Eligibility Date” is **the later of:**
- The date the application was submitted to Ofgem converting preliminary accreditation to full accreditation, and
 - The date the installation commissioned.

¹² Article 2(1) FIT Order and Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Electricity Supply Licence

¹³ Either the Renewables & CHP Register or the Renewable Electricity Register, depending on which was active at the time of application

- 5.10. Applicants should have taken meter readings on the date that the application is submitted to Ofgem.
- 5.11. FIT payments cannot be issued before the Eligibility Date, nor can we backdate accreditation to before an application was first submitted.

Eligibility date of extensions

- 5.12. If a FIT accredited installation is extended using the same technology, the eligibility date of the extension is the date the extension was commissioned. Extensions with a commissioning date on or after 15 January 2016 are not eligible for FIT accreditation.

Tariff period

- 5.13. The generation rate an installation receives depends on which “tariff period” the installation falls into. All installations that were accredited on to the scheme after 8 February 2016¹⁴ were assigned to a specific 3-month tariff period¹⁵, which was determined by the “tariff date”.
- 5.14. Each tariff period has a specific set of tariff rates assigned for the various categories of installations (based on the factors listed in para 5.2 above). An installation receives the generation tariff rate that corresponds to the applicable rate for the tariff period it falls into.
- 5.15. The export tariff an installation receives does not depend on its tariff period.

Determining the tariff date

- 5.16. An installation’s “tariff date” (and thus the tariff period it falls into) is determined as being **one of the following:**
- 5.17. If the installation has an “eligibility date” before 15 January 2016, its tariff date is the same as its eligibility date. See the “Eligibility Date” section of Chapter 5 above for more information on eligibility dates.

¹⁴ Or 1 April 2017 in respect of CHP installations.

¹⁵ Except for CHP installations, which have 6 month long tariff periods.

- 5.18. If the installation has an eligibility date after 15 January 2016 and converted its preliminary accreditation into full accreditation, then its tariff date will be the date that the application for preliminary accreditation was submitted to Ofgem¹⁶, unless the relevant “deployment cap” was full at the time, in which case its tariff date will be the first day of the first tariff period in which there is sufficient space in the relevant deployment cap. See the “Deployment caps” section below for more information on deployment caps.
- 5.19. If the installation has an eligibility date after 15 January 2016 and applied for full accreditation directly, then its tariff date will be the date that the application for full accreditation was submitted to Ofgem, unless the relevant “deployment cap” was full at the time, in which case its tariff date will be the first day of the first tariff period in which there is sufficient space in the relevant deployment cap. See the “deployment caps” section below for more information on deployment caps.

Transitional ROO-FIT installations

- 5.20. Applications for full accreditation received before 15 January 2016 where the installation commissioned before 8 February 2016 were not subject to deployment caps. For these installations the eligibility date will be the same as the commissioning date.
- 5.21. The installations will receive the tariff rate which applied on 14 January 2016.

Transitional MCS installations

- 5.22. MCS installations which have MCS issue dates and commissioning dates before 15 January 2016, but which applied to their FIT licensee on or after this date were not subject to deployment caps. These installations must have applied to their licensee before 1 April 2016 to be eligible to receive FIT payments.
- 5.23. The Eligibility Date and Tariff Date of these transitional MCS installations will be 8 February 2016.

¹⁶ An application is deemed submitted to Ofgem on the date and time the applicant completed all of the questions in the ROO-FIT application form on the Register and clicks the ‘send’ button at the end of the application. The applicant must then go on to complete the relevant declarations.

Solar PV tariffs overview

- 5.24. In addition to capacity and tariff period, the tariff rate that a solar PV installation receives is also dependent on where it stands in relation to a number of criteria specific to solar PV installations.
- 5.25. The first distinction is whether the installation classes as “standard” or “standalone”, with standalone installations receiving a lower tariff rate. See sections 5.29 to 5.31 below for the definitions of “standard” and “standalone”.
- 5.26. Installations that are classed as “standard” are then additionally subdivided into three tariff bands: a higher rate, a middle rate, and a lower rate. These rates depend on whether:
- the installation meets the energy efficiency requirement (if subject), and
 - whether the multi-installation tariff applies.
 - Table 1 shows the tariff outcomes based on these factors at accreditation for a new solar PV installation.

Table 1: New “standard” solar PV installations with an Eligibility Date on or after 1 April 2012

	Multi-installation tariff applies	Multi-installation tariff does NOT apply
Energy efficiency requirement met by installation	Middle rate	Higher rate
Energy efficiency requirement NOT met by installation	Lower rate*	Lower rate*
Energy efficiency requirement not applicable for installation	Middle rate	Higher rate

- 5.27. *Installations will receive the lower tariff rate when an installation has not met the energy efficiency requirement, regardless of whether the multi-installation tariff should apply.

- 5.28. The following sections discuss each of the factors (other than capacity) that influence the tariff rate that solar PV installations receive.

Stand-alone and standard PV installations

- 5.29. For FIT tariff purposes, PV installations fall into one of two categories, "stand-alone" or "standard", with different tariff rates apply to each.
- 5.30. Annex 3 of Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Electricity Supply Licence defines "standalone" installations as any installation "not attached to a building and not wired to provide electricity to an occupied building". All other installations are classified as "other than stand-alone" - however, for simplicity and ease of reference, the application and our guidance uses the term "standard".
- 5.31. The approach we take in applying these criteria varies depending on the capacity of the solar PV installation involved:

Solar PV installations with a TIC of 250kW or less

- 5.32. A solar PV installation with a TIC of 250kW or less will be classified as stand-alone if it is not wired to provide electricity to a building. If it is wired to provide electricity to a building, it will be classified as standard.

Solar PV installations with a TIC greater than 250kW

- 5.33. A solar PV installation with a TIC of greater than 250kW will be classed as standard unless either of the following applies, in which case it will be classed as stand-alone:
- A - it is not wired to provide electricity to a building; or
 - B - it is wired to provide electricity to a building or buildings where:
 - the maximum amount of electricity that the site can consume is less than 10% of the DNC of the installation, or
 - the maximum amount of electricity that can be imported from the network via the import connection(s) of the site is less than 10% of the DNC of the installation.
- 5.34. The DNC of a solar installation is normally assessed as either the maximum AC output (kW) of the inverters, or the maximum DC (kW) output of the panels, whichever is lower.

- 5.35. To demonstrate that an installation greater than 250kW that is wired to a building should be classed as standard, we ask for documentary evidence in support of both A and B above at the time of application.
- 5.36. Extensions to an installation that were accredited (when this was permissible) have the same classification as the original installation¹⁷.

Multi-installation tariffs (PV only)

- 5.37. Multi-installation tariffs apply to any solar PV installation with a TIC up to and including 250kW where the FIT Generator or nominated recipient already owns or gets FIT payments for 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations.
- 5.38. The multi-installation tariff is a reduced, middle tariff rate that applies to an installation. Where the energy efficiency requirement (EER) is also applicable and not met, the lower tariff rate will instead apply.

Determining when multi-installation tariffs apply

- 5.39. A multi-installation tariffs applies to an installation if the FIT generator or nominated recipient, together with any “connected persons”, are or have applied to be, the FIT Generator or nominated recipient for 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations on different sites.
- 5.40. A “connected person” means anyone in the context of a FIT Generator or nominated recipient connected to that person within the meaning of section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.¹⁸
- 5.41. Participants or prospective participants should note that the FIT legislation requires that a FIT Generator or nominated recipient and (in each case) connected people are assessed collectively when assessing whether the multi-installation rate applies.
- 5.42. Below are some common examples of how a person (person A) may be a connected person relative to someone else (person B):

¹⁷ Paragraph 1C, Annex 3 of Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Standard Conditions of Electricity Supply License

¹⁸ Corporation Tax Act 2010, section 1122 - www.legislation.gov.uk

- Person A and person B are both companies: and the same person (person C) has control over both
 - Person A and person B are both companies; person C has control over person A; and persons connected with person C have control over person B
 - Person A is person B's spouse or civil partner
 - Person A is person B's relative
 - Person A is a relative of person B's spouse or civil partner
 - Person A is a spouse or civil partner of a relative of person B
- 5.43. All existing accredited solar PV installations, including those with an Eligibility Date before 1 April 2012, were included when we assessed whether the multi-installation tariff applied. Extensions to accredited solar PV installations were not be treated as separate installations when assessing whether the multi-installation tariff applied. FIT installations using technologies other than solar PV were not included when we assessed whether the multi-installation tariff applies.
- 5.44. Tariff rates awarded to the first 25 installations did not change as a consequence of the multi-installation tariff applying to any further installations. The multi-installation tariff applied to the 26th installation and each subsequent installation was subject to the multi-installation tariff, depending on whether the energy efficiency requirement applied and was met.

Determining when multi-installation tariffs apply when the FIT Generator or nominated recipient changes after accreditation

- 5.45. When a FIT Generator or nominated recipient changes in relation to an accredited installation, the multi-installation assessment should be made again with reference to the following criterion:
- 5.46. If (on the date the notice is received) the new FIT Generator or new nominated recipient for the installation identified in the notice and anyone who is a connected person (see paragraphs above) are the FIT Generator or nominated recipient for 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations on different sites, the multi-installation rate will apply to the installation that the notice relates to.

Continued application of the multi-installation tariff

- 5.47. Once the multi-installation tariff has been applied to an installation, the installation will continue to be subject to the tariff, even if changes in FIT

Generator or nominated recipient mean the criteria for the multi-installation are no longer met. Therefore:

- 5.48. If, before a change in FIT Generator or nominated recipient, an installation receives the higher tariff but after the change the multi-installation tariff applies, the tariff level will be lowered to the middle tariff.
- 5.49. If, before a change in FIT Generator or nominated recipient, an installation receives the middle tariff but following the change the criteria for the multi-installation tariff no longer apply, the installation will still continue to receive the multi-installation tariff.

Declarations

- 5.50. Notices of changes of FIT Generators or nominated recipients must include a declaration about the multi-installation tariffs. The owner or nominated recipient must sign a declaration (see appendix 3) to confirm that they are or are not the owner or nominated recipient for 25 or more other solar PV installations.
- 5.51. Find the historic declaration for applicants in Appendix 2.

Energy efficiency requirements (PV only)

- 5.52. Unless exempt, solar PV installations are subject to the energy efficiency requirement (EER) and received either a higher or lower tariff rate depending on whether the EER is met.
- 5.53. Where the energy efficiency requirement applied, applicants were required to demonstrate that the building that the solar PV is wired to provide electricity to had, at the time of the commissioning date, been issued with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) with a rating of level D or higher to receive the higher tariff rate (or the middle tariff if the multi-installation tariffs are applicable)¹⁹. Otherwise, the lower rate applied.

¹⁹ See the 'Multi-installation tariff' section for more information on the multi-installation tariff, and the "Solar PV tariffs overview" section for more information on how the EER and multi-installation tariffs interact.

5.54. Applications for accreditation were required to include a signed declaration relating to the energy efficiency requirement (see Appendix 2).

Meeting the requirement

5.55. If the energy efficiency requirement applied, we asked the FIT Generator to provide a copy of a valid EPC of level D or above. The EPC should have confirmed:

- whether an EPC level D or above was achieved (or level G for community energy and school installations), and
- the date the EPC was issued.

5.56. If an installation is wired to provide electricity to a number of “relevant buildings” (see definition below), only one of those buildings needed to satisfy the energy efficiency requirement. These examples describe different scenarios and explain what evidence is needed, where an installation is wired to provide electricity to:

- **one “relevant building”**: needed to provide an EPC for that building
- **one non “relevant building”**: needed to prove that the building is not a “relevant building” and that they therefore do not need to meet the energy efficiency requirement (see the “Defining “relevant building”” section below)
- **multiple “relevant buildings”**: needed to provide one EPC for any one of the buildings
- **multiple non-relevant buildings**: needed to prove that all the buildings are not “relevant buildings”
- a combination of “relevant” and non “relevant buildings”: needed to provide one EPC for any of the relevant buildings.

5.57. An EPC is “valid” if it was issued before, but not more than 10 years before, the commissioned date of the PV installation *and* was, on the commissioned date, the most recent EPC that had been issued for the relevant building. For more information on EPCs, see the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) website²⁰ and the Scottish Government website.²¹

²⁰ MHCLG information on Energy Performance Certificates can be found at [Energy Performance Certificates guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/energy-performance-certificates-guidance)

²¹ [Energy Performance Certificates: guide - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/government/guidance/energy-performance-certificates-guide)

5.58. A Display Energy Certificate (DEC) will not be accepted as proof of meeting the energy efficiency requirement.

Exemptions to the Energy Efficiency Requirement

5.59. The energy efficiency requirement did not apply to:

- “Stand-alone” installations (see “stand-alone and standard PV installations” section above for more details)
- “Standard” PV installations with a TIC greater than 250kW
- “Standard” PV installations which are not connected to a “relevant building” (see definition below)
- Solar PV installations accredited before 1 April 2012

5.60. In addition, non-domestic solar PV community energy and school installations with a capacity not exceeding 250kW may still have been permitted to receive the higher tariff with a lower EPC rating if certain conditions are met - see Chapter 11 for more information.

Defining “relevant building”

5.61. A “relevant building” is a roofed construction which has walls and where energy is used to condition the indoor climate, whether in heating or cooling systems. Every criteria must be met for the building to be a relevant building.

5.62. A relevant building must also be a building for which an EPC could have been issued before the PV installation was commissioned. If an EPC could not be issued at this point then the building was not a relevant building and the energy efficiency requirement did not apply.

5.63. Under the EPB Regulations, some properties are exempt from the requirement for an EPC. However, if it is possible for a building to be assessed and receive an EPC then the energy efficiency requirement applied under the FIT legislation, regardless of whether an EPB exemption applies.

5.64. Where it was claimed that the energy efficiency requirement did not apply because the installation is not wired to provide electricity to any relevant buildings, a self-declaration completed by both the FIT Generator and an accredited EPC assessor or other suitably qualified person needed to be provided (see template declaration is provided in Appendix 6).

- 5.65. In all cases, failure to demonstrate that the energy efficiency requirement did not apply resulted in the lower tariff being allocated to the installation.

Deployment caps

- 5.66. Generators could only receive the tariff rates available for a particular tariff period if there was enough space in the relevant “deployment cap” to accommodate the capacity of the installation.
- 5.67. A deployment cap is a limit on the capacity that could receive a particular FIT tariff in a particular tariff period. There were separate deployment caps that existed for different technologies and tariff bands.²²
- 5.68. Once a deployment cap was reached, no further installations could receive the tariff rate applicable for that band in that tariff period.
- 5.69. The final tariff period began on 1 January 2019. After the deployment cap for this final period was full, neither that installation nor any subsequent installations of that type could be accredited as part of the FIT scheme.

Allotment

- 5.70. For ROO-FIT installations, applications were allocated to a deployment cap by the date and time that the application was submitted to Ofgem. Installations converting to full accreditation from preliminary accreditation we assigned to a deployment cap based on the date the application for preliminary accreditation was submitted.
- 5.71. If an application was submitted during a tariff period and the relevant deployment cap was open with space available to accommodate the full Total Installed Capacity (TIC) of the installation, the installation fell into the tariff period open when the application was received by Ofgem and received the tariff available for that tariff period.

²² The deployment cap limits are available in Tables 3A – 3C of the SLCs. For the latest version of the Licence Conditions, follow this link: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/licences-codes-and-standards/licences/licence-conditions>, and under the ‘Electricity’ heading, click ‘Electricity Supply Standard Licence Conditions’.

- 5.72. If an application was submitted during a tariff period and the relevant deployment cap was already full, the installation queued for entry into the next cap. This means it had a position in the queue (based on the date and time of the application). The installation fell into the tariff period open the first day that a deployment cap opens with capacity available to accommodate the installation and it received the applicable tariff rate.
- 5.73. Applications for full accreditation received before 15 January 2016 where the installation was commissioned after 15 January 2016 were not subject to deployment caps. They did not queue for entry into a cap and their capacity did not count towards the deployment caps. These installations were eligible to receive FIT support from the date the installation was commissioned at the FIT tariff rates available on the date the installation was commissioned.

Degression

- 5.74. The FIT scheme degression mechanisms we also partially implemented through deployment caps.
- 5.75. FIT tariff rates²³ have been outlined for each tariff period, up to and including the final tariff period that ended on the 31st March 2019. These tariffs automatically reduced each tariff period. This is known as default degression.
- 5.76. Additionally, if a deployment cap was reached within a tariff period, the tariff in the next and all subsequent tariff periods degressed by a further 10%, in addition to the default degression. This is known as contingent degression.
- 5.77. Further information, including the default degression rates, is provided in Appendix 4.

²³ The FIT tariff tables are available in the Licence Conditions. For the latest version of the Licence Conditions, follow this link: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/licences-codes-and-standards/licences/licence-conditions>, and under the 'Electricity' heading, click 'Electricity Supply Standard Licence Conditions'.

6. Metering, storage and sustainability

Chapter summary

Here you can find out about metering requirements that apply under various scenarios, co-locating storage, and additional scheme requirements for AD installations.

Payment requirements

- 6.1. You, the FIT generator, can receive payments for the electricity your installation both generates and (optionally) exports (see Chapter 5 for a detailed breakdown of FIT payments). In order to receive these payments, certain criteria must be met:
- it must be possible to accurately measure the amount of electricity generated/exported
 - the meters used must be in accordance with the scheme metering legislation
 - if an anaerobic digestion (AD) installation, the scheme sustainability criteria must be met, subject to certain exceptions (see the “additional requirements for AD installations” section below)

Interactions with the Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) scheme

- 6.2. If you intend to claim SEG payments, you must not be in receipt of an export tariff under the FIT scheme for the same installation and generation capacity, regardless of whether FIT export payments are made based on metered export or deemed export. You must first opt out of FIT export payments. This can be done by contacting your FIT Licensee. You do not have to opt out of FIT generation payments.²⁴ You are then able to approach your existing licensee or a

²⁴ Under the FIT, generators can receive payment for both electricity generation and electricity export. Under the SEG, generators can receive payment for electricity exports only. Generators can be in receipt of **FIT generation** payments and **SEG export** payments at the same time, for the same generating capacity.

different energy supplier regarding their SEG tariff. You do not have to receive SEG export payments from your current FIT licensee.²⁵

- 6.3. If additional capacity is installed which is not FIT-accredited and which shares an import and/or export meter with an existing FIT-accredited installation, then generators wishing to receive payments could consider the following options:
- Opt-out of FIT export payments and apply for a SEG-export tariff across the entire TIC.
 - Not claim SEG export for the additional capacity, and pro-rate FIT export payments across the entire TIC. For more information on pro-rating please refer to Chapter 3: Modifications to an installation.
- 6.4. You are able to receive SEG payments for an installation when you already receive FIT export payments for a different installation, as long as the installations are completely separate with distinct import and export meters and different import and export MPANs. This is so that the licensee can identify the electricity export they are purchasing. Information about the SEG scheme is available [here](#).
- 6.5. Collecting SEG and FIT export payments at the same time for the same generating capacity knowingly could constitute fraud.

Metering requirements

- 6.6. FIT payments are based on generation and (if applicable) export meter readings. In order for a meter reading to be valid, you must be able to measure the electricity generated or exported from the installation separately from any other electricity source. Estimates cannot be used.
- 6.7. There are two special cases where the above rule is modified:

Deemed export

- 6.8. Generators of installations with a TIC of 30kW or less are eligible to receive “deemed” export payments where it is not possible or practical to measure the export by way of export meter readings.

²⁵ See our website for a list of licensees that offer a SEG tariff: [SEG Supplier List | Ofgem](#)

- 6.9. For example, this may not be possible because:
- an export meter (including a smart meter) is not installed, or
 - the electricity exported from the accredited installation cannot be separated from electricity being exported from other sources.
- 6.10. In these cases, you can receive export payments based on a “deemed” export amount, which is calculated as a percentage of the electricity the installation generates. The exact percentage deemed for each technology type is set each year by the Secretary of State for DESNZ in their annual determinations.
- 6.11. As a generator in receipt of deemed export payments, you may receive them without having to provide an export meter reading. However, you must still provide a valid generation meter reading in order to receive deemed export payments (as well as generation payments).
- 6.12. Where an installation is ineligible to receive deemed export payments, an approved export meter is needed to receive FIT export payments.

Multiple installations connected to the same meter

- 6.13. Where an accredited installation shares a generation or export meter with other eligible installations²⁶, whether accredited under the FIT scheme or not, it is possible to produce an acceptable meter reading by pro-rating the readings of the shared meter based on the TICs of the connected installations. This is true even if electrical storage is installed, providing the condition in the following paragraph is also satisfied.
- 6.14. Pro-rating is not available where the relevant meter could also be measuring electricity imported from the grid, unless it is a bi-directional meter which is capable of measuring input and output and calculating a net value, which can then be pro-rated²⁷. Pro-rating is also unavailable where the meter is shared with a non-eligible installation, such as a diesel generator.

²⁶ Including extensions to an existing installation of a different technology type (see Chapter 3 for more information). See Chapter 8 for the definition of eligible installation.

²⁷ For information on what constitutes an acceptable bi-directional meter for the purposes of the FIT scheme, see our [Guidance for generators: Co-location of electricity storage and hydrogen production under the RO, FIT, REGO and SEG \(Version 6.1\) | Ofgem](#).

- 6.15. If pro-rating is available, and the shared meter is an export meter, then the electricity exported can be accurately measured for the purposes of the FIT scheme and so deemed export payments are not available.

Metering scenarios

- 6.16. FIT generation payments are made based on the total generation produced by an installation. A generation meter is normally located close to the point of generation. It must be able to calculate the electricity generated by the installation separate from any other energy source (unless pro-rating is available).
- 6.17. FIT export payments are made based on electricity exported onto the distribution or transmission network. An export meter is always located at the point where the installation connects into the distribution or transmission network. It must be able to calculate the electricity exported by the generation separate from any other energy source (unless pro-rating is available).
- 6.18. A generation meter (located as set out in paragraph 6.16) cannot be used to claim FIT export payments. This is because an “export meter” is defined in the FIT legislation as a meter which measures the quantity of export, and export is defined as the flow of electricity from an eligible installation onto a distribution or transmission network. The generation reading could be used to claim deemed export payments, however, if eligible.
- 6.19. In respect of FIT export payments, where several installations share a grid connection, one of three scenarios will apply:
- If the TIC of the accredited installation is 30kW or less and no export meter is installed (or a meter is installed but the electricity exported cannot be accurately measured, even by pro-rating), FIT export payments can be deemed and no export meter readings will be needed.
 - If the TIC of the accredited installation is greater than 30kW, or if an export meter is installed, export meter readings should be provided. If it is not possible to separately meter the renewable electricity exported onto the distribution or transmission network from that individual installation, the export may be calculated by pro-rating the export meter readings.
 - If the TIC of an Eligible Installation on a Site is greater than 30kW and it is not possible to separately meter the renewable electricity exported onto the distribution or transmission network from that individual Site, the export

may be calculated by pro-rating the export meter readings. It may alternatively be possible to independently negotiate a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with an energy company outside the FIT.

Co-locating storage or an electric vehicle (EV) charging station with a FIT installation

- 6.20. Though metering situations may become more complex where electricity storage or an EV charging station is installed alongside an accredited installation, the same basic rule applies: for a meter reading to be acceptable, the meter must be able to measure the amount of electricity generated/exported from the installation separately from any other source (unless pro-rating is allowable).
- 6.21. Where storage is installed in such a way that it can also be charged from electricity imported from the grid, the above rule can be satisfied by installing a bi-directional meter which is capable of measuring input and output electricity and calculating and displaying a net value. More information about which bi-directional meters are allowable under the FIT scheme and examples of acceptable co-located metering setups can be found in our [Guidance for generators: Co-location of electricity storage and hydrogen production under the RO, FIT, REGO and SEG \(Version 6.1\) | Ofgem](#).
- 6.22. In cases where an export meter is not capable of separately measuring the electricity generated/exported, and pro-rating is not available, you may instead be eligible for deemed export, for which only a valid generation meter reading is required. See the “deemed export” section above for more details.
- 6.23. If you are a ROO-FIT generator, you must notify both Ofgem and their FIT Licensee when battery storage or an electric vehicle (EV) charging station is installed alongside your installation. See Chapter 3 for information on how to do this and a list of what data must be provided.

Meter standards

- 6.24. In addition to the above requirements, the meters used must comply with the relevant metering legislation²⁸ in order for meter readings to be valid.

²⁸ The relevant metering legislation is listed under “DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION” in Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the [Electricity Supply Standard Consolidated Licence Conditions - Current.pdf \(ofgem.gov.uk\)](#)

- 6.25. This includes a requirement that the meter be of an approved pattern and construction. Except for cases where the meter should instead be approved by the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS), complicity with the rules must be certified by an organization which has been designated as an approved body under the Measuring Instruments Regulations 2016 (the MI Regulations).
- 6.26. The OPSS approves meters on Ofgem's behalf where the meter both provides half-hourly measurements and its maximum demand exceeds 100kW, as well as modifications to existing meters that were originally approved before the MI Regulations were implemented. A complete list of meters approved by the OPSS, as well as meters approved before the MI Regulations came into force, can be found in Schedule 4 of the Meters (Certification) Regulations 1998.
- 6.27. Meters approved before the MI Regulations came into force, as well as those which both take half-hourly measurements and have a maximum demand in excess of 100kW, must also be replaced or recertified once their certification expires, in accordance with the Meters (Certification) Regulations 1998, in order for their meter readings to be acceptable for the purposes of the FIT scheme. The certification periods for different meter types can be found in Schedule 4 of the 1998 act.
- 6.28. If you want to use a meter approved by another jurisdiction, you should direct Ofgem to the applicable laws and a list of meters, with a copy of the certification for the meter.
- 6.29. As part of the accreditation process, we review all installed metering which will be used for FIT payment purposes. To be accredited, an installation must use approved metering.
- 6.30. If you are a ROO-FIT generator, and your installations meter changes after accreditation, you must notify both your FIT Licensee and Ofgem of the change. See the Chapter 3 for information on how to report this.

Biennial meter verification

- 6.31. At least once every two years, FIT Licensees must verify the generation and/or export meter readings submitted by generators²⁹. This verification is usually done using generator-submitted photographic evidence, or by the Licensee or their agent physically reading the meters.
- 6.32. It is the responsibility of FIT Licensees to carry out this verification and you will be contacted when the time comes. You should not be charged for the FIT Licensee to carry out these checks. However, should you unreasonably prevent a FIT Licensee from completing the verification process, your FIT payments may be suspended until it is completed.
- 6.33. If an automatic meter reader (AMR) is installed, it may be possible to verify the meter readings remotely, subject to certain criteria. If you want to verify using AMR data, you should contact your FIT Licensee to discuss the options. Further information is available in our [Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for Licensed Electricity Suppliers](#).

Additional requirements for AD installations

- 6.34. If you are an AD generator that made a new application for preliminary accreditation or full accreditation on or after 1 May 2017, you have to comply with sustainability criteria, comprising of:
- feedstock restrictions, and
 - reporting requirements
- 6.35. If you are a generator who made an application for preliminary accreditation or full accreditation before 1 May 2017, but fall into a tariff period that started on or after 1 May 2017, you are not required to comply with the sustainability criteria and feedstock restrictions. Find more information in our [Guidance on sustainability criteria and feedstock restrictions](#).

²⁹ Schedule A to Part 33 of the Standard conditions of electricity supply licence, Paragraph 3.2.6

Part 3: Applications

7. Closure of the FIT Scheme

Chapter summary

This chapter outlines the closure of the FIT scheme, including details about grace periods.

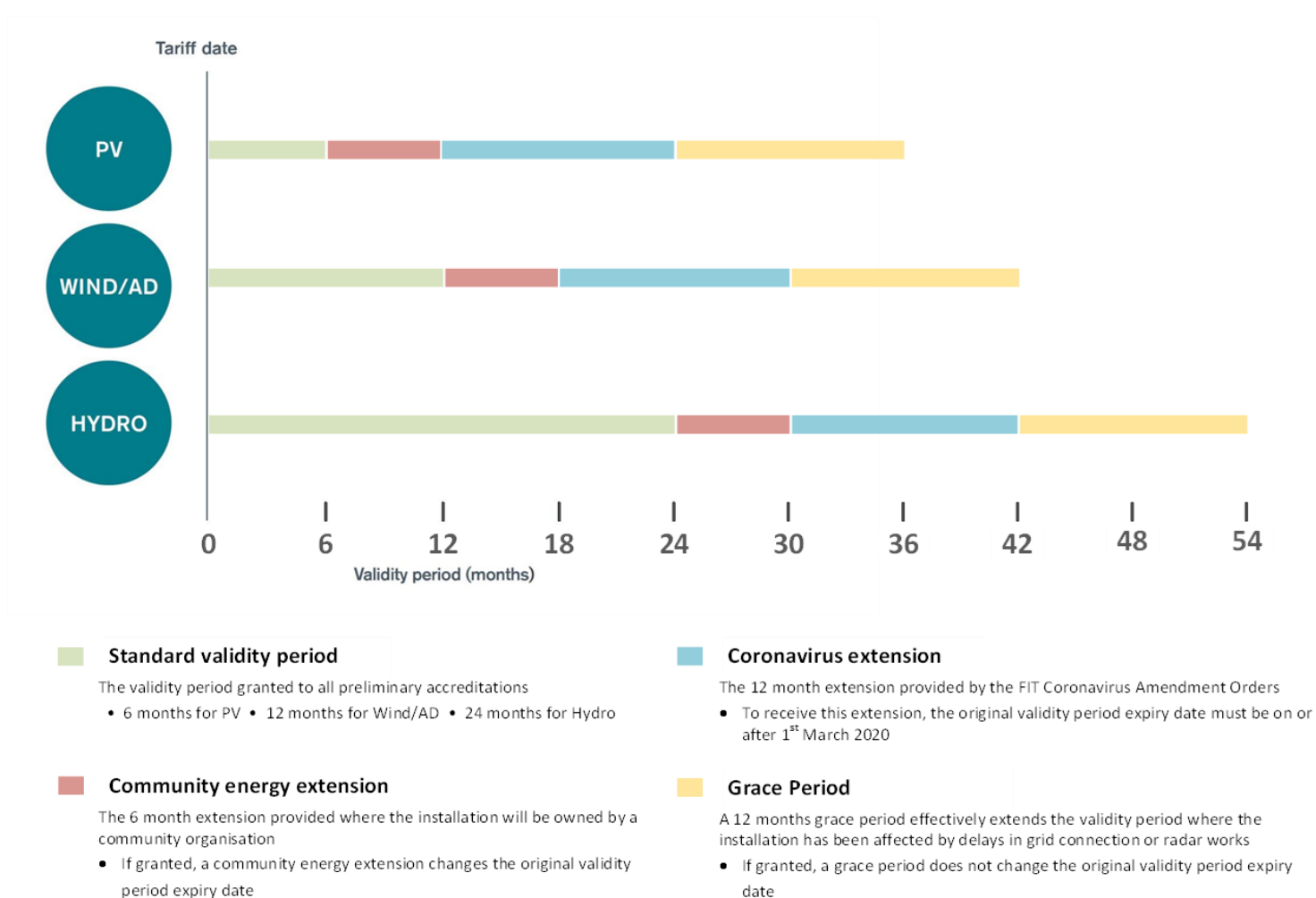
Scheme closure

- 7.1. The FIT scheme is now closed to new applications.
- 7.2. Generators who wished to apply for accreditation of their ROO-FIT installation after 1 April 2019 must already have been granted preliminary accreditation – ROO-FIT installations which had not already received preliminary accreditation prior to scheme closure can not join the FIT scheme under any circumstances.
- 7.3. In order to be accredited, generators of ROO-FIT installations with preliminary accreditation must have commissioned and applied for full accreditation within the 'validity period' of the preliminary accreditation. See Chapter 9 for more information on preliminary accreditation and validity periods.
- 7.4. In addition to the standard validity period granted by their preliminary accreditation, ROO-FIT installations may have been able to benefit from a number of validity period extensions. These can stack, and installations can make use of all of them for which they are eligible. The final validity period was thus made up of the following:
 - ROO-FIT installations possessing preliminary accreditation had a base validity period in which to apply for full accreditation. This was 6 months for solar PV installations, 12 months for wind and AD installations and 24 months for hydro installations.
 - If the installation was also classified as a community installation, it gained a standard additional 6-month period on top of its base validity period (subject to meeting all other eligibility criteria).

- Installations with a preliminary accreditation expiring on or after 1 March 2020 (including the community extension, if applicable) then also received a 12 month extension to their original validity period.

7.5. Figure 1 below illustrates how the above extensions, as well as the grace period exemption discussed in the following section, stacked:

Figure 1: Stacking of validity period extensions and grace



Grace Period

7.6. In addition to the above extensions, if you would have been able to commission your installation and apply within your validity period, but could not due to grid or radar works delays beyond your control, you could still apply up to 12 months

after the end of your validity period (as extended) by making a grace period application.

- 7.7. Grid delay evidence required is explained in Table 1; radar delay evidence required is explained in Table 2.

Table 1: Evidence for the grid delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
Grid works agreement	Evidence of an agreement with a transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder (“the relevant network operator”) for the making of a grid connection in respect of the eligible installation (“the relevant grid works”).	<p>A copy of the grid connection agreement³⁰ from a network operator that clearly states the location of the grid connection and the connection capacity. We would expect the offer to cover the non-contestable aspects of any grid works required as a minimum.</p> <p>AND one of the following:</p> <p>a. A letter signed by an appropriate person from the network operator confirming that the operator of the installation accepted the grid works offer,</p> <p>or</p> <p>b. an acceptance form, signed by the operator of the installation.</p>
Estimated date of completion for grid works	A copy of a document written by, or on behalf of, the relevant network operator which estimated or set a date for completion of the relevant grid works (“the planned grid works completion date”) no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity.	If the planned grid works completion date is not evident from the grid connection agreement (above), or the confirmation of delay of grid works (below), we would need to see a document, for example a letter or email from the relevant network operator, which estimates or sets a “planned grid works completion date” (the estimated or set date for the completion of grid works) which is no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity. The location of the grid works and connection capacity should have been clearly stated. If a document refers to a grid connection needing to be completed within a specific number of months, it needed to be clear when this period of time starts.

Table 1: Evidence for the grid delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
<p>Confirmation of delay of grid works</p>	<p>A letter or email written by, or on behalf of, the relevant network operator confirming (whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms) that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the relevant grid works were completed after the planned grid works completion date; and (ii) in the relevant network operator’s opinion, the failure to complete the relevant grid works on or before the planned grid works completion date was not due to any breach by the installation developer of any agreement with the relevant network operator. 	<p>A letter or email from the network operator to the operator of the installation explicitly confirming points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.</p>

³⁰ ‘Grid connection agreement’ in relation to an installation is defined in the Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 as “an agreement in writing with a transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder for the making of a grid connection; and “transmission licence holder or distribution licence holder” means the holder of a licence under section 6(1)(b) or 6(1)(c) of the 1989 [Electricity] Act”.

Table 1: Evidence for the grid delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
Operator declaration on delayed grid works	A declaration by the FIT generator that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the eligible installation would have been commissioned on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity if the relevant grid works had been completed on or before the planned grid works completion date.	A declaration signed by the FIT generator (the owner of the installation) that follows the template in Appendix 7.

Table 2: Evidence for radar delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
Radar works agreement	Evidence of an agreement between the installation developer and a person who is not the installation developer ("the radar works agreement") for radar works ("the relevant radar works").	A copy of a document that shows an agreement between an installation developer and a person

Table 2: Evidence for radar delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
		<p>who is not an installation developer for radar works³¹ to be carried out.</p> <p>We would have expected to clearly see that this agreement was for radar works required for the installation the grace period application is for. For example, you could have demonstrated this by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. evidence of an offer to carry out the radar works that clearly states the location of the radar works and the type of radar works to be carried out, <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. a letter from a person who is not an installation developer confirming that the operator of the installation accepted the radar works offer.
Estimated date of completion for radar works	A copy of a document written by, or on behalf of, a party to the radar works agreement (other than the installation developer) which estimated or set a date for completion of the relevant radar works ("the planned radar works completion date") no later	If the planned radar works completion date is not evident from the radar works agreement (above), or the confirmation of delay of radar works (below), we would have needed to see a document, such as a letter or email, from a party to the radar works agreement (other than an installation developer) which estimates or sets a "planned radar works completion date" (see left-hand column) which is no later than the last day of the relevant period of validity.

³¹ Radar works' is defined in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018 as "(a) the construction of a radar station, (b) the installation of radar equipment, (c) the carrying out of modifications to a radar station or radar equipment, or (d) the testing of a radar station or radar equipment".

Table 2: Evidence for radar delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
	than the last day of the relevant period of validity.	The document should have clearly identified the location of the radar works and the type of radar works to be carried out. If a document refers to radar works needing to be completed within a specific number of months it must be clear when this period of time starts.
Confirmation of delay of radar works	a letter or email written by, or on behalf of, a party to the radar works agreement (other than the installation developer) confirming, whether or not such confirmation is subject to any conditions or other terms, that— (i) the relevant radar works were completed after the planned radar works completion date; and (ii) in that party’s opinion, the failure to complete the relevant radar works on or before the planned radar works completion date was not due to any breach of the radar works agreement by the installation developer	A letter or email from a party to the radar works agreement (other than an installation developer) to the operator of the installation which explicitly confirms points (i) and (ii), see left-hand column.

Table 2: Evidence for radar delay grace period

Type of evidence	Legislative requirement (as appears in The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018)	What evidence could you provide?
Operator declaration on delayed radar works	A declaration by the FIT generator that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the eligible installation would have been commissioned on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity if the relevant radar works had been completed on or before the planned radar works completion date	A declaration signed by the FIT generator (the owner of the installation) that follows the template in Appendix 7.

Third party grid or radar delay evidence

7.8. We accepted confirmation of delay of grid works from an independent connection provider (ICP) if the evidence demonstrated that they were the party responsible for completing the grid connection works.

Variations on the required evidence

7.9. Grid connection/radar works offers and agreements may have varied as a project progressed. In these cases, we did not take these changes into account for our grace period assessment, as the legislation does not ask for the latest offer or agreement. Our assessment was based on the original offer and agreement.

7.10. We would expect any new connection offer to refer to the original “planned grid/radar works completion date” as being on or before the last day of the relevant period of validity.

7.11. The party to which the grid connection/radar works offer was made did not form part of our grace period assessment.

8. Eligibility criteria

Chapter Summary

Here you can find out about the eligibility requirements of the FIT Order and Schedule A to Standard Licence Condition 33, and the definition of various FIT scheme terms.

Eligibility Requirements

8.1. To be eligible for the scheme, installations must:

- Generate electricity wholly or mainly using either:
 - solar photovoltaics (solar PV)
 - wind
 - hydro
 - anaerobic digestion (AD)
 - combined heat and power (CHP)
- be located in Great Britain
- have a capacity no greater than 5MW (or 2kW in the case of CHP)

8.2. The following requirements must also be met:

- with some exceptions, the application must have been made on or before the applications closure date of March 31st 2019, and the installation must have been commissioned before the application for full accreditation is submitted (see the 'Definition of "commissioned"' section below)
- the installation must not have been funded from a non-permitted grant from public funds (unless that grant has been paid back)
- the installation must not have, at the time of accreditation, included equipment previously used in an installation accredited under either the FIT or the Renewables Obligation (RO)
- electricity from the installation must not have been previously sold under a Non Fossil Fuel Obligation (NFFO) or Scottish Renewables Order (SRO) arrangement
- for hydro installations, the hydrostatic head of the water must not have been increased by pumping

- where applying after 15 January 2016, the application must not be in respect of an extension to an already accredited installation

Defined terms

When making decisions about the factors above, we use a number of terms which have special or defined meanings under the FIT scheme. These are found in the FIT Order and Supply Licence Conditions.

Defining “Eligible Installation”

8.3. “Eligible Installation”³² is defined as:

“any Plant on a Site which is capable of Small-scale Low-carbon Generation; and except as provided otherwise in the FIT Order all such Plant on the same Site which is capable of generating electricity from the same type of Eligible Low-carbon Energy Source is to be treated as a single Eligible Installation.”

Defining “Plant”

8.4. “Plant” is defined as being:

“any equipment, apparatus or appliance.”

This is a broad designation that encompasses a wide variety of items.

Defining “Site”

8.5. At the application stage for accreditation or preliminary accreditation, we assessed the “Site”³³ of the installation. Any plant on the same site that is capable of generating electricity from the same eligible low-carbon energy source (eg solar PV) was treated as a single eligible installation. This determined its total installed capacity (TIC) and the generation and export tariff we awarded. We assessed site on a case-by-case basis.

8.6. We used a set of criteria when determining the site:

³² Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Electricity Supply Licence

³³ Article 15 – FIT Order

- the meter point administration number (“MPAN”) of the meter measuring the supply of electricity to the premises at which the installation was, or was going to be, located;
 - the address of the premises at which the installation was, or was going to be, located;
 - the Ordnance Survey grid reference at which the installation was, or was going to be, located; and
 - any other factors which we considered relevant.
- 8.7. Where an installation was grid connected, we usually gave greater consideration to the following criteria when determining the Site:
- the meter point administration number (MPAN) of the meter measuring the supply of electricity to the premises at which the installation was, or was going to be, located;
 - the electrical or mechanical interactions (eg shared inverters, generators, turbines, gas blowers or control systems).
- 8.8. Apart from the prescribed cases listed below where MPAN was not taken into account, all installations powered by the same eligible low-carbon energy source that connect to the grid with the same import/export MPAN(s) were normally be considered to be on a single Site.
- 8.9. Where installations powered by the same low carbon energy source connect to the grid via separate MPANs and share no electrical, mechanical or civil works or structures, they would normally be considered to be on separate Sites.
- 8.10. Where an installation was not grid connected, we usually gave greater consideration to:
- the electrical or mechanical interactions (eg shared inverters, generators, turbines, gas blowers or control systems)
 - the address
 - the Ordnance Survey grid reference of the installation
- 8.11. For hydro generating stations that did not share a grid connection, civil works were not taken into account when assessing the Site of the installation.
- 8.12. For hydro generating stations that shared a grid connection, all turbines that were supplied with water by or from the same “civil works” were almost always,

except in the prescribed cases below where MPAN won't be taken into account, considered to be a single Site.

When MPAN isn't used to define "Site"

8.13. There are four scenarios where the supply MPAN wasn't taken into account when doing the Site assessment:

- Where two or more installations of the same eligible low carbon energy source were attached to separate self-contained private residential dwellings, e.g. park homes³⁴.
- Where two or more hydro installations were supplied with water by or from different civil works³⁵.
- Where two or more hydro installations were supplied with water by or from the same civil works and one or more of those installations were driven by a statutory compensation flow³⁶.
- Where no more than two installations shared a grid connection and at least one of them was owned, or will be owned, by a "community organisation"³⁷.

8.14. This means certain installations sharing a grid connection but which are not otherwise electrically or mechanically connected will usually be considered located on separate Sites.

Defining capacity

8.15. Capacity is defined in two different ways: given as either Total Installed Capacity (TIC) or Declared Net Capacity (DNC).

8.16. TIC is defined as:

"the maximum capacity at which an Eligible Installation could be operated for a sustained period without causing damage to it (assuming the Eligible Low-carbon Energy

³⁴ Article 15(4)(a) - FIT Order

³⁵ Article 15(4)(b) - FIT Order

³⁶ Article 15(4)(c) - FIT Order

³⁷ Article 15(4)(d) - FIT Order

Source was available to it without interruption), a declaration of which is submitted as part of the processes of ROO-FIT Accreditation and MCS certified Registration.”

8.17. Declared net capacity (DNC) is defined as:

“the maximum capacity at which the installation can be operated for a sustained period without causing damage to it (assuming the source of power used by it to generate electricity was available to it without interruption) less the amount of electricity that is consumed by the plant.”

8.18. DNC is used to determine:

- whether a solar PV or wind installation is classed as either MCS-FIT or ROO-FIT
- tariff degression

8.19. TIC is used in all other cases, such as:

- determining compliance with the maximum capacity restriction
- calculating the applicable tariff rate

8.20. An application for accreditation or preliminary accreditation submitted on or after 15 January 2016 needed to state the total installed capacity (TIC) of the installation and do so accurately. If the TIC was incorrectly stated when the application was submitted, the application may have been refused.

8.21. When assessing an application, we considered the definitions of TIC and DNC. We usually considered the capacity rating of the generating equipment to indicate the TIC of the installation, with any other restrictions, such as the capacity of parasitic loads, being factored into the DNC.

8.22. Given the importance of TIC when determining tariffs for an Eligible Installation, we would have asked a third party to verify it during the accreditation process. This could have been a declaration made by the installer or manufacturer of the generating equipment. If, for any reason, we remained unclear as to the TIC of an Eligible Installation, we asked the applicant to get an independent audit report. This report attested to the TIC of the Eligible Installation, with reference to the legislative definition.

De-rating or altering an installation to cap its generating capacity

8.23. If an applicant wanted to declare a TIC which deviates from the capacity rating of the generating equipment, it was the FIT Generator’s responsibility to give us

evidence which establishes the TIC of the installation. If a FIT Generator wished to apply for accreditation of an installation using de-rated generating equipment, they needed to satisfy Ofgem that the TIC is in accordance with the FIT Order. For more information, email renewable.accreditations@ofgem.gov.uk.

Determining when an installation “Commissioned”

8.24. An eligible installation has been “Commissioned” when:

“(a) such procedures and tests have been completed as constitute, at the time they are undertaken, the usual industry standards and practices for commissioning that type of installation such that it is capable of operating at its Declared Net Capacity (assuming that the relevant Eligible Low-Carbon Energy Source was available to it without interruption or limitation); and

(b) the installation is connected to Plant such that the whole of its maximum output could be used in a permitted way;

For this purpose:

(1) the maximum output of an installation is the amount of electricity that it would generate if operated at its Declared Net Capacity; and

(2) electricity is used in a permitted way if it is:

(i) consumed by the FIT Generator or (if different) the operator of the installation, or by persons to whom it is supplied by the FIT Generator; or

(ii) exported.”

8.25. This means that both a) all the usual commissioning tests must have been completed and b) the installation could operate at its maximum output (DNC) without limitation which could be consumed either onsite or exported. The date on which both these criteria are met is the commissioned date of the installation.

8.26. When applying for the FIT scheme, evidence must have been produced to confirm the date the installation was commissioned. We encouraged applicants to provide as much detail as possible to evidence their installations have commissioned.

8.27. The relevant procedures, tests and supporting documents for each installation will vary depending on the renewable technology used and whether the installation was grid connected or not, but should have included:

- **Confirmation of the commissioned date** - This should have taken the form of a commissioning certificate or letter signed by the installer or engineer who carried out the tests and procedures for commissioning. It should have confirmed the location of the installation and the date the installation was commissioned.
- **G59/G99 Requirement (for grid connected installations only)** - If the grid connection tests occurred prior to 27 April 2019, either a G59 or a G99 test certificate could have been provided. If the grid connection tests were completed on or after 27 April 2019, only a G99 test certificate was accepted, unless otherwise indicated to us by the relevant DNO.
- One of the following should have been provided (this document must be dated and refer to the installation name or address):
 - the G59/G99 witness test certificate signed and dated by the relevant distribution network operator (DNO) (this should be signed by the testing engineer) or
 - the G59/G99 test certificate which the DNO had not witnessed along with correspondence from the DNO stating that they did not wish to witness the test.
- **Evidence that the installation can operate at its maximum output** – The applicant must also have demonstrated that the installation was capable of operating at its DNC on the commissioned date by showing that all electricity could be consumed either onsite (directly or through a private wire network) or exported. On request, they must provide evidence to confirm the grid connection capacity and the scale of any onsite loads.
- Where the grid connection capacity is less than the DNC of the installation, this may have affected the applicant’s ability to demonstrate that their installation was “commissioned”, or it may have resulted in permanently limiting the capacity of the installation if it was to be accredited under the FIT scheme.
- **Timeline and explanation of procedures completed** - A timeline of all the tests and procedures that were completed as part of commissioning. It should have also included an explanation to why the applicant believed the commissioned date was as stated.

- It is important that all tests that relate to the commissioning of the site were included in the timeline. This will mitigate the risk that the commissioned date, and therefore tariffs, may be adjusted in the future if further information comes to light. Copies of all testing documents should be kept to provide supporting evidence should the installation be audited.

8.28. When we assessed accreditation applications, we asked for independent verification that the Eligible Installation in question had been commissioned. We assessed this information against the definition in the FIT Order.

Combining FIT and grants

8.29. The FIT scheme aimed to replace publicly funded grants as a way to encourage the growth of small-scale renewable generation. As such, it was not generally possible for an installation which had received a grant from public funds to be eligible for the FIT scheme.

8.30. The FIT Order prohibited accrediting an installation where a grant has been made from public funds towards any costs of purchasing and/or installing it³⁸. There were some grant exemptions – please see paragraph 8.37 for further information.

8.31. The term “grant from public funds” is defined in the FIT Order as:

“a grant made by a public authority or by any person distributing funds on behalf of a public authority.”³⁹

These authorities or people could include:

- UK Government departments such as Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
- Local and regional councils

³⁸ Article 7(3) of the FIT Order

³⁹ Article 2(1) of the FIT Order

- Organisations distributing money on behalf of the Government, such as Energy Saving Trust
- International governments
- The National Lottery

What costs are associated with purchasing or installing an installation?

8.32. These costs include all costs associated with the Eligible Installation, including all electrical components, civil works for hydro installations and the costs associated with installing a grid connection. This does not include grid reinforcement costs associated with the DNOs’ wider network.

What costs are not associated with purchasing or installing an installation?

8.33. Grant(s) received for costs other than the purchase or installation of the Eligible Installation didn’t need to be declared as part of an application for FIT accreditation. Table 1 below shows some examples.

Table 1: Examples of costs not associated with an installation

Technology	Example of costs that are not part of the installation for the purposes of FIT
PV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-design feasibility studies • Local electricity grid reinforcement/upgrades
Wind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-design feasibility studies • Local electricity grid reinforcement/upgrades
CHP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-design feasibility studies • Local electricity grid reinforcement/upgrades
AD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-design feasibility studies • Infrastructure for transmitting electricity/heat generated by AD plant, e.g. to neighbouring buildings • Local electricity grid reinforcement/upgrades • Transforming digestate into different products, e.g. dewatering to create dry compost as opposed to a low dry matter liquid. • Secondary gas treatment/use • Educational facilities associated with the AD plant, e.g. visitor centre. <p>Large scale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary feedstock pre-treatment

	Small scale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slurry/maize storage
Hydro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-design feasibility studies • Local electricity grid reinforcement/upgrades

Assessing a grant

8.34. If an applicant declared that they had received a grant from public funds, we found out:

- Whether the grant was from public funds⁴⁰
- Whether the grant was made for the purposes of purchasing and/or installing the installation

8.35. As part of assessing the grant, we needed to see several documents, including:

- A copy of the grant application form submitted to the grant issuing body to ask for the grant funding
- A copy of the grant offer letter including the full terms and conditions
- A breakdown of what the grant was actually and/or will be used for, including project costs and paid invoices

8.36. We also considered any additional supporting information provided by the FIT Generator as part of the grant assessment.

Grants exemptions

8.37. There are a limited number of circumstances when an installation owner may have been eligible to receive FIT payments despite having received a grant from public funds. These circumstances fall into two categories:

- reasonable additional costs exemption, or
- where the grant was allowable under the FIT Order 2010

⁴⁰ The 2012 FIT Order defines a “grant from public funds” as a grant made by a public authority or by any person distributing funds on behalf of a public authority. In assessing whether a grant making body is a public authority some of the criteria we will take into account are the nature of its functions, the degree of control exercised by the state in the performance by it of its functions and the extent to which it is funded by public funds.

Reasonable additional costs exemption

- 8.38. Installations that had applied for accreditation after 1 December 2012 may have been accredited and received FIT payments even if a grant had been received, provided that the grant was made for reasonable additional costs to avoid or mitigate environmental harm.
- 8.39. This may have included measures to protect fish and other wildlife in small hydro schemes. The grant must not have exceeded the total reasonable additional costs. When assessing whether the costs were reasonable additional costs, we did so within the meaning of Article 7(3) of the FIT Order 2012 and the definition of an eligible installation. The assessment was completed on a case-by-case basis.
- 8.40. Costs associated with purchasing land or inefficient or poorly located installations were not considered reasonable additional costs.
- 8.41. The costs and returns associated with solar PV, wind and CHP are relatively standard. We do not expect installations using these technologies to have reasonable costs associated with avoiding or mitigating environmental harm.
- 8.42. It was for the FIT Generator to give us supporting documentary evidence that:
- the installation had incurred reasonable costs, additional to the standard costs of purchasing or installing an installation of that technology and size
 - those costs had been incurred through avoiding or mitigating environmental harm
 - any grant(s) received for the installation had been made to cover all or some of the cost of those measure(s) and no other costs of the installation
- 8.43. As with any eligibility matter, Ofgem could not have confirmed whether a grant met the reasonable additional costs exemption before receiving an application for accreditation. It was for the FIT Generator to prove to us that their installation met the requirements of this exemption at the point of application.

Grants allowable under the FIT Order 2010

- 8.44. The FIT Order 2010 included provisions allowing Eligible Installations to combine a public grant and FIT payments in three cases:
- where a grant was made before 1st April 2010 in respect of costs of an eligible installation which was commissioned before 15th July 2009;

- where a grant was made before 1st April 2010 in respect of costs of an eligible installation on a residential property which was commissioned between 15th July 2009 and 31st March 2010, or
 - where the combined support complied with the European Commission's rules on de minimis aid.
- 8.45. These exemptions were only available where the FIT Order 2010 was applicable to the installation and didn't apply to installations commissioned after that time. The Eligible Installation must have had, at a minimum, both:
- received a grant before 1 July 2011, and
 - been commissioned before 1 October 2011.
- 8.46. If an installation failed to meet either of these criteria, the grant must have fallen under the reasonable additional costs exemption above, or have been repaid, in order for the installation to have been accredited.

Declaring a grant during the accreditation process

- 8.47. During the accreditation process, all generators were asked if they had received a grant or the offer of a grant from public funds for the purposes of purchasing and/or installing the installation. If you declared that a grant had been or would be received, we assessed whether the grant affected whether the installation was eligible to receive FIT accreditation.
- 8.48. If you had received a grant but it had been repaid to the grant issuing body before you applied for accreditation, you must have declared 'yes' when asked if you had received a grant or the offer of a grant from public funds. You would have been asked for documentary evidence of the grant being repaid as part of your application.
- 8.49. Following accreditation, if we become aware that the grant information was inaccurate, we will consider suspending the accreditation.

Hydro installations and pumped storage

- 8.50. "Hydro Generating Station" is defined in the FIT Order as:
- "a generating installation driven by water, except for such an installation—*
- (a) driven by waves, ocean currents or geothermal sources;*

(b) driven by tidal flows, unless also driven partly by non-tidal flows from a water course; or

(c) where the hydrostatic head of the water has been increased by pumping.”

- 8.51. The definition of “Hydro Generating Station” must be read alongside the FIT “Site” requirements (see the ‘Defining “Site”’ section).
- 8.52. A Hydro Generating Station which generates electricity from water where the hydrostatic head of the water has been increased by pumping will not be eligible to receive FIT accreditation.
- 8.53. If it is unclear to us whether water that feeds an Eligible Installation has been pumped or not, we may request that the applicant arranges for an independent audit report to be submitted to us.

9. Preliminary Accreditation

Chapter summary

This chapter provides details about the preliminary accreditation process which was used when the FIT scheme was open to applications.

What was preliminary accreditation?

- 9.1. Preliminary accreditation under the FIT scheme was a way to assure prospective generators that they would be accredited, and of the tariff rate they would receive, before they commissioned their Eligible Installation. This assurance had a set validity period depending on the technology.
- 9.2. Preliminary accreditation was available to all installations that, once commissioned, would use the ROO-FIT route of accreditation (solar PV and wind installations with a DNC over 50kW and all AD and hydro installations).

The guaranteed tariff

- 9.3. For installations granted preliminary accreditation which successfully went on to receive full accreditation, the FIT generation tariff was guaranteed based on the tariff period that the date of the application for preliminary accreditation falls into.
- 9.4. The “eligibility period” – i.e. the duration of FIT support – and the “eligibility date” – i.e. the date from which FIT support is payable – was the later of the date we received the application converting the preliminary accreditation to full accreditation or the commissioned date.
- 9.5. The tariff guarantee was valid provided:
 - an application was submitted converting the preliminary accreditation to full accreditation, and the installation was commissioned, within the validity period (see paragraph 9.6).
 - all eligibility requirements were met (see Chapter 8), and
 - the installation was not materially different to the one that received preliminary accreditation (see paragraph 9.29 onwards).

- 9.6. The 'validity period' of the preliminary accreditation tariff guarantee lasted for a fixed period⁴¹. The duration depended on technology⁴²:
- PV – six months
 - AD and Wind – one year
 - Hydro – two years
- 9.7. The 'validity period' started on the later of:
- the date the application for FIT preliminary accreditation was submitted to Ofgem, and
 - the first day of the relevant tariff period the application for preliminary accreditation fell into.
- 9.8. Installations owned by a community organisation also got a six-month extension to their validity period (see Chapter 11.22-11.24 for more information on this).

How one applied for preliminary accreditation

- 9.9. An application must have been accompanied by all the documents listed in paragraph 9.11. Documents must have been issued on or before the date that the application for preliminary accreditation was submitted to Ofgem.⁴³
- 9.10. An application for preliminary accreditation submitted on or after 15 January 2016 must have accurately stated the technology and TIC of the installation. For PV installations it must also have accurately stated whether the installation was categorised as standard or stand-alone (see Chapter 5.29-5.31).

⁴¹ Preliminary accreditations due to expire after 1 March 2020 received a 12-month extension to their original validity period

⁴² Article 9(8) - FIT Order

⁴³ An application was submitted to Ofgem and took its place in the deployment caps queue on the date and time the applicant completed all of the questions in the application form on the Register and clicked the 'send' button at the end of the application. The applicant must then have gone on to complete the relevant declarations.

Prerequisite documentation

- 9.11. An application for preliminary accreditation must have been accompanied by documentary evidence addressing:⁴⁴
- planning permission
 - grid connection agreement
 - licences and consents (hydro only)
- 9.12. The documentary evidence should satisfy us that you have got planning permission, you have entered into a grid connection agreement, and, for hydro installations, that all relevant licences and consents have been granted for the installation. Alternatively, if any of the above are not required for the installation, the documentary evidence to show that this is the case.
- 9.13. In all cases, the documentary evidence must have been issued on or before the date the application for preliminary accreditation was submitted to Ofgem.

Planning permission

- 9.14. An application for preliminary accreditation must be accompanied by a copy of the planning permission issued under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 ("TCPA") in relation to installations in England and Wales, or the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 ("TCPSA") in relation to installations in Scotland. The planning permission must be specific to the installation for which an application for preliminary accreditation was submitted.

Permitted development in Wales and Scotland

- 9.15. Where it was claimed that planning permission was granted as permitted development under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (as amended) in Wales, or the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development (Scotland) Order 1992 (as amended) in Scotland, a Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Use or Development (CLOPUD) issued under section 192 of the TCPA or section 151 of the TCPSA should have been provided as evidence of that grant of planning permission.

⁴⁴ Article 9(3)(3) The FIT Order 2012

9.16. Where presented, a CLOPUD must be specific to the installation for which an application for preliminary accreditation was submitted. It must also contain the planning authority's reasons for having issued the CLOPUD. A copy of the application for the CLOPUD should also have accompanied the application.

Permitted development in England

9.17. On 15 April 2015 changes were made to permitted development in England⁴⁵. One of the changes that may have affected FIT preliminary accreditation applicants is that non-domestic roof-mounted PV installations up to 1MW and located in England may now be considered permitted development.

9.18. Where it is claimed that planning permission was granted as permitted development under any part of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 2015 in England, a CLOPUD issued under section 192 of the TCPA (see paragraph 9.15 which explains what must be included in the CLOPUD) may have been provided as evidence of that grant of planning permission.

9.19. Alternatively, where it was claimed that planning permission was granted as permitted development under schedule 2, part 14, class J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 2015, the following may have been provided as evidence of that grant of planning permission:

Either copies of

- the completed application for 'prior approval' as submitted to the relevant planning authority;⁴⁶ and,
- the relevant planning authority's decision, giving prior approval or confirming that prior approval is not required.⁴⁷

Or:

- a self-declaration

⁴⁵ Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

⁴⁶ Required under Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J Condition J.4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

⁴⁷ Required under Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J Condition J.4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

- confirming that planning permission is granted under schedule 2, part 14, class J in respect of the installation; and,
 - describing the installation by reference to the relevant requirements of schedule 2, part 14, class J.
- 9.20. Where a self-declaration was provided, we included a condition on the grant of preliminary accreditation. That condition required the applicant to provide evidence of the application for prior approval from the planning authority⁴⁸ and the result of that application. That evidence must have been provided upon converting the preliminary accreditation to full accreditation.
- 9.21. We did not accept a self-declaration for any other class of permitted development under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 2015.

Planning permission was not required

- 9.22. Where it was claimed that a proposed installation did not require planning permission, satisfactory supporting evidence must have been provided. Such evidence must have been issued on or before the date the application for preliminary accreditation was submitted to Ofgem.

Grid connection agreements

Grid connected installations

- 9.23. For installations which are grid connected, one of the following two scenarios will apply:
- A) If the installation needed a new connection: documentary evidence demonstrating that an agreement for the making of a grid connection was in place with a transmission or distribution network operator (TNO/DNO) must have been provided.
- B) If the installation used an existing connection: documentary evidence demonstrating that the TNO/DNO was content for the installation to connect to its

⁴⁸ Required under Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J Condition J.4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

network without requiring further upgrade works to the existing connection must have been provided.

9.24. In both scenarios, documentary evidence must have been issued on or before the date of application is submitted to Ofgem.

New Connections

9.25. If scenario "A" applies, the evidence should have included, at minimum:

- a copy of the grid connection offer
- evidence of valid acceptance of that offer

9.26. A grid connection offer will usually specify the steps needed for it to be accepted. Examples of evidence of valid acceptance include (but are not limited to):

- evidence that a signed and dated acceptance of a connection offer was received by the DNO/TNO
- evidence that any payment required to accept a connection offer was received by the DNO/TNO
- a letter from the DNO/TNO confirming an agreement for the making of the connection.

9.27. The grid connection offer must cover the non-contestable works relating to the installation at a minimum. Any contestable works did not need to be covered in the offer.

Existing connections

Where scenario "B" applies (see "Grid connected installations" section above), supporting evidence must have been provided. For example, a letter from the TNO/DNO confirming that no new works or upgrades to existing connections were necessary for connecting the new installation. This is often referred to as a "no works connection offer".

Off-grid installations

9.28. Off-grid installations did not have to provide any documents to meet this requirement. However please note paragraphs 9.29 – 9.31, and which are concerned with 'Invalidating preliminary accreditation'.

Invalidating preliminary accreditation

- 9.29. Preliminary accreditation could not be cancelled or withdrawn, other than in the circumstances provided for in Article 17A of the FIT Order.
- 9.30. The preliminary accreditation and tariff guarantee was void if:
- the installation was materially different from the installation which was granted preliminary accreditation (see below)
 - any condition attached to the preliminary accreditation was not complied with
 - the information on which the preliminary accreditation was granted was incorrect in such a way that, had the Authority known the true position, preliminary accreditation would have been refused.
- 9.31. An installation would be considered materially different from the installation which was granted preliminary accreditation if:⁴⁹
- its site was different to that stated in the preliminary accreditation
 - it used a different eligible low carbon energy source to that stated in the preliminary accreditation
 - the installation's grid connection status was different from what was in the preliminary accreditation e.g. the installation was off-grid while the preliminary accreditation stated grid connected
 - its TIC was greater than that stated in the preliminary accreditation
 - its TIC was less than that stated in the preliminary accreditation such that the installation was subject to a different tariff band
 - for solar PV installations, the installation's connection status was different from what was in the preliminary accreditation e.g. the installation was stand-alone and the preliminary accreditation said standard⁵⁰
 - the installation was not owned by a community organisation⁵¹ and the preliminary accreditation said it would be

⁴⁹ Article 10(4) - FIT Order

⁵⁰ Standard Condition 33 of Electricity Supply Licence and the FIT tariff tables refer to "other than stand-alone". However, for simplicity and ease of reference, the application form and our guidance uses the term "standard".

⁵¹ Article 11 – FIT Order

10. Full Accreditation

Chapter summary

Here you can find information relating to full FIT accreditation for ROO-FIT installations.

Types of accreditation

- 10.1. There were two routes to accreditation under the FIT scheme:
 - MCS-FIT – Generators of installations using solar PV or wind with a DNC of 50kW or less, or CHP up to a TIC of 2kW approached a FIT Licensee for accreditation.
 - ROO-FIT – Generators of installations using a FIT-eligible technology with a DNC over 50kW up to a TIC of 5MW, and AD and hydro installations of all capacities, applied to Ofgem for accreditation.
- 10.2. The following guidance covers the ROO-FIT accreditation process only.

Converting preliminary accreditation to full accreditation

- 10.3. Where an eligible installation possessed preliminary accreditation (see Chapter 9), you needed to convert the preliminary accreditation into full accreditation. This was done through your account on the Register. We then assessed the installation against all eligibility requirements of the FIT scheme.
- 10.4. AD installations were required to also submit a completed Fuel Measurement and Sampling (FMS) questionnaire. The FMS questionnaire required you to detail the procedures for the measurement and sampling of your fuels. For more information on the sustainability criteria and who must comply, see the “Additional requirements for AD installations” section in Chapter 6.

Applying for accreditation

- 10.5. An application for accreditation submitted on or after 15 January 2016 must have accurately stated the technology and TIC of the installation. For PV installations it must also have accurately stated whether the installation was categorised as standard or stand-alone (see ‘Stand-alone and standard PV installations’ section in Chapter 5.29-5.31).

Accreditation number

- 10.6. When an installation was granted accreditation, we issued a unique accreditation number. For example, for a wind installation in England, we would allocate a number such as FWD00006EN.
- 10.7. In this example:
- F signifies a FIT code
 - WD is the ROO-FIT technology code for wind
 - 00006 is the sequential installation number (in other words, this might be 00001 for the first installation of that technology type to be accredited, 00002 for the second installation of that technology type to be accredited etc.), and
 - EN is the code for England, the country where the installation is (SC would indicate that the installation is in Scotland, and WA in Wales).

Technology codes

- 10.8. Here is a list of technology codes for all installation types accredited under the ROO-FIT:
- PV – Photovoltaics
 - WD – Wind
 - HD – Hydro
 - AD – Anaerobic digestion.
- 10.9. Preliminary accreditation codes followed the same structure as above but began with a P rather than an F.
- 10.10. Once the preliminary accreditation was converted to full accreditation, the accreditation number will have a prefix of the letter P, followed by five digits, two letters denoting the technology and two letters denoting the country, e.g. P12345PVEN.

Registering with a FIT Licensee

- 10.11. Once successfully accredited, you were required to approach a FIT Licensee to register to receive FIT payments. The FIT Licensee will need the accreditation number to register the installation on the CFR.
- 10.12. FIT Licensees are classified as either Mandatory or Voluntary depending on their obligations under the FIT scheme.
- 10.13. A Mandatory FIT Licensee is obliged to register and make FIT payments in respect of any accredited FIT installation that applies.
- 10.14. In contrast, a Voluntary FIT Licensee is only obliged to register and make FIT payments when requested by one of its own customers who own an installation with a DNC of 50kW or below, though it is also free to register and make FIT payments to any FIT Generator or nominated recipient it chooses to offer FIT services.
- 10.15. A list of FIT Licensees, including whether they are Mandatory or Voluntary licensees, is available on our website. You can also find more information on the roles and responsibilities of FIT Licensees in our [Feed-in Tariffs: Guidance for licensed electricity suppliers](#).

11. Community energy and school installations

Chapter summary

This chapter outlines the FIT scheme rules and benefits for community energy and school installations.

Overview

- 11.1. The FIT scheme accreditation rules were relaxed for installations which are owned by entities classed as 'community organisations' (called 'community energy installations') or qualifying educational institutions ('school installations').
- 11.2. These special rules included:
 - Relaxation of the energy efficiency requirement (EER) in respect of certain community energy solar PV installations (see Chapter 5 for more details on the EER)
 - Special rules about the determination of the "site"
 - A 6-month extension to the validity period of a preliminary accreditation
- 11.3. Some of these rules only applied to community energy installations and each rule has its own eligibility requirements in addition to the condition that an installation is a community energy or school installation as relevant
- 11.4. This chapter only discusses those rules applicable to ROO-FIT installations. Owners of MCS-FIT installations should contact their FIT Licensee for further information.

What is a community energy installation?

11.5. A community energy installation is defined in the FIT Order as:

"an eligible installation – which is wired to provide electricity to a building which is not a dwelling; and in relation to which the FIT generator is a community organisation"⁵².

11.6. From 1 April 2015, a community organisation is defined in the FIT Order as:

"any of the following which has 50 or fewer employees: a charity; a subsidiary wholly owned by a charity; a community benefit or co-operative society; or a community interest company."⁵³

11.7. The community organisation must have had a community certificate issued before the date of application for pre-registration to the FIT Community team, or before the date the application for ROO-FIT accreditation was made.

Community organisations: employees

11.8. In order to meet the definition of a "community organisation", the CIC, society, or charity must employ no more than 50 employees. Volunteers are not regarded as employees for the purposes of the FIT Order. For a company that is a "subsidiary" that is wholly owned by a charity to be a "community organisation", both the subsidiary company and the charity which wholly owns it must **each** have fewer than 50 employees.

What is a school installation?

11.9. An installation is a "school installation" if it is wired to provide electricity to a building which is used as the premises of a "qualifying educational institution".

11.10. The generator must also be an "education provider", who owns or is responsible for the management of that qualifying educational institution.⁵⁴ This is:

"The owner of a building used as the premises of a qualifying educational institution; or the person or body responsible for the management of such an institution"

⁵² Article 11 (6) FIT Order

⁵³ Article 11 (6) FIT Order

⁵⁴ The definition of a school installation can be found in Article 12(6) of the FIT Order.

11.11. Stand-alone installations (see 5.29-5.31 for a definition) and extensions to existing installations do not fall within the definition of a school installation.

11.12. An installation must use solar PV technology to qualify as a school installation.

What is a qualifying education institution?

11.13. A school had to meet the definition of “qualifying educational institution” for its installation to benefit from the relaxation of the energy efficiency requirement mentioned above. As such, a qualifying educational institution captures the following categories of schools and further education establishments within England, Wales and Scotland:

- In England and Wales, there are three categories of institutions, which are captured by the definition: schools, further education colleges and academies:
 - **Schools:** an institution which is concerned principally with the delivery of primary and secondary education.
 - **Academies:** institutions with an academy funding agreement with the Secretary of State.
 - **Further education:** this captures the various further education colleges and sixth form colleges which exist as corporations designated by an order of the Secretary of State.
- In Scotland, there are two categories of institutions included in the definition:
 - **Schools:** an institution which is concerned principally with the delivery of primary and secondary education.
 - **Further education:** this sector captures those institutions which are concerned with the delivery of a programme of further education as designated by legislation.

Table 1: Qualifying Educational Institutions

England and Wales	Scotland
Primary, secondary and middle schools maintained by local authorities	Primary schools (public or grant aided)
Primary, secondary and middle schools directly funded by the Secretary of State, including academies and university technical colleges	Secondary schools (public or grant aided)
Independent schools	Independent schools
Special schools for children with special educational needs, whether maintained or independent	Special schools
Pupil referral units and alternative provision academies	N/A
Nursery schools	Nursery schools
Further education corporations	Colleges of further education
Sixth form colleges	N/A

11.14. Universities, specialist institutes, conservatoires, and other higher education colleges do not fall within the definition of a qualifying educational institution. As such, installations owned by these bodies cannot be classed as school installations.

11.15. The categories of qualifying educational institutions noted in Table 1 are provided by way of example only and are not definitive.

Benefits for ROO-FIT installations

Relaxation of the energy efficiency requirement

11.16. If an installation was confirmed as a community energy installation or a school installation and was a **non-domestic solar PV with a TIC not exceeding 250kW**, it could benefit from a relaxation of the minimum energy efficiency requirement (EER) which applied to non-standalone solar PV installations⁵⁵.

11.17. Where the energy efficiency requirement applied, applicants must usually have demonstrated that the building that the solar PV is wired to provide electricity to had achieved an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of level D or above to receive the higher tariff rate (see Chapter 5 for more details).

11.18. In contrast, qualifying community energy and school installations only needed to provide a valid non-domestic EPC of any level (G or better) in order to receive the higher tariff rate (presuming that the multi-installation tariff did not apply). See Chapter 5 for more information on the EER and multi-installation tariff.

11.19. The relaxation of the energy efficiency requirement applied only to installations with an Eligibility Date⁵⁶ on or after 1 December 2012. Extensions to existing community energy installations must have met the existing requirement of EPC level D or better for the extension to be given the higher generation tariff rate. Extensions with a commissioning date of on or after 15 January 2016 are not eligible for FIT payments.

Modification regarding the determination of "Site" (community energy installations only)

11.20. Qualifying community-owned installations were entitled to have MPAN disregarded when their "sites" were assessed for the purposes of the FIT scheme, allowing a new installation to be accredited as a separate installation on

⁵⁵ See Chapter 5 for more on how installations are classified.

⁵⁶ See Chapter 5 for more information on eligibility dates.

a separate “site” despite sharing a grid connection (and thus MPAN) with an existing installation of the same technology type⁵⁷, as long as they were not otherwise electrically or mechanically connected. Detailed information on the importance of an installation’s “site” and how it is determined is available in Chapter 8.

- 11.21. For this rule to apply, the installation must only share an MPAN with one other installation. The two installations may share a single grid connection but must not be otherwise electrically or mechanically connected. Both installations sharing the MPAN must have Tariff Dates or Eligibility Dates on or after 1 April 2015. This rule applied to all PV and non-PV FIT technologies of any capacity not exceeding 5MW each. Preliminary accreditation validity period extension (community energy installations only)
- 11.22. ROO-FIT community installations of any technology had their preliminary accreditation validity period extended by six months. The validity periods as extended were as follows:
- PV – 12 months
 - AD and wind – 18 months
 - Hydro – 30 months
- 11.23. This extension was in addition to any other extensions to the validity period that an installation may have been eligible for (see Chapter 7 for further details).
- 11.24. This benefit only applied to ROO-FIT installations verified to be owned by a community organisation.

⁵⁷ Whether the existing installation is accredited under the FIT scheme or not.

Appendices

Appendix	Name of Appendix
1	Glossary
2	Solar PV declarations - installations and extensions
3	Solar PV declarations – change to the FIT Generator or nominated recipient
4	Degression
5	Feed-in Tariff self-declaration under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015
6	Feed-in Tariff: Exemption from the Energy Efficiency Requirement (EER) - self-declaration form
7	Grace period declaration template
8	Statement of FIT Terms

Appendix 1 – Glossary

A

AD

Anaerobic Digestion

AEEM

Active Electrical Energy Meters

B

BEIS

Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy

C

CEN

The European Committee for Standardization

CFR

Central FIT Register

CHP

Combined Heat and Power

CoFPD

Continuity of FIT Payments Directive

Community Organisation

A community interest company; a community benefit society or co-operative society; a registered charity or a subsidiary, wholly owned by a registered charity which has 50 or fewer employees

Community energy installation

An Eligible Installation which is wired to provide electricity to a building which is not a dwelling; and in relation to which the FIT Generator is a community

Contingent depression

A 10% reduction in the tariff rate for all subsequent tariff periods following a cap being reached in addition to the pre-determined default depression rates.

D

DEC

Display Energy Certificate

DECC

Department of Energy and Climate Change

Deemed Export

Export payments which are made based on an estimate of electricity export rather than meter readings.

Default depression

An automatic reduction in tariff rates that is set for all tariff periods from February 2016 until March 2019.

Deployment cap

A limit on the capacity that can receive a particular FIT tariff in a particular tariff period.

Deployment period

Has the same meaning as 'tariff period'.

DESNZ

DNC

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

Declared Net Capacity

E

Education Provider

The owner of a building used as the premises of a qualifying educational institution; or a person or body responsible for the management of such an institution

EER

Energy Efficiency Requirement

Eligibility Date

For applications for full accreditation (without first seeking FIT preliminary accreditation), the eligibility date is the date from which FIT payments commence and the FIT generation tariff is assigned. The “eligibility date” is the later of:

- the date that the application is submitted⁵⁸ via the Register, and
- the start date of the tariff period that the installation falls into.

For installations granted preliminary accreditation which successfully go on to receive full accreditation, the eligibility date is the date from which FIT payments commence. The “eligibility date” is the later of:

- the date we received the application converting the preliminary accreditation to full accreditation, and
- the commissioned date.

Eligibility period

The maximum period during which a FIT Generator can receive FIT Payments for a particular Eligible Installation, as set out in the table at Annex 1 of Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Electricity Supply Licence.

Eligible Installation

On a Site, any Installation owned by a FIT Generator capable of producing Small-scale Low-carbon Generation from the same type of Eligible Low-carbon Energy Source, the Total Installed Capacity of which does not exceed the specified maximum Declared Net Capacity

⁵⁸ An application is considered submitted once the application has been completed and submitted to Ofgem. The applicant must then go on and agree the declarations associated with the application.

EPBD

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

EPC

Energy Performance Certificate

F

FIT

Feed-in Tariffs

FIT Generator

means:

(a) in relation to an Accredited FIT Installation, the person identified as the Owner in the Central FIT Register; and

(b) in relation to any other Eligible Installation, the Owner, whether or not that person is also operating or intending to operate the Eligible Installation;

FIT Installation

Small-scale Low-carbon generation capacity which is accredited under the FIT scheme.

FIT Order

An order made in accordance with sections 43(3) and 41(1) EA08

FIT Year

A period from 1 April to 31 March. FIT Years count upwards from FIT Year 1 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011).

FMS

Fuel Measurement and Sampling

G

Grace period application

The means by which installations that have been affected by delays in grid connection or radar works but would otherwise have commissioned before the end of their relevant period of validity, can apply for full accreditation after their validity period has expired

M

MCS

Microgeneration Certification Scheme operated by Gemserv

MHCLG

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Micro-business customer

An organisation that has a turnover of less than €2 million and less than 10 employees or an annual electricity consumption of less than 100,000 kWh

Micro installation

Term for an installation with a declared net capacity of 50kW or less

MPAN

Meter Point Administration Number

Multi-site generator

A person or organisation who, either by themselves or together with other 'connected persons', is the generator or nominated recipient for 25 or more eligible solar PV installations

N

NFFO

Non-Fossil Fuel Obligation

O

OPSS

Office for Product Safety and Standards

OS grid reference

Ordnance survey grid reference

P

PPA

Power Purchase Agreement

Preliminary accreditation

Mechanism for prospective FIT Generators, giving increased security with regard to tariff rates and eligibility prior to commissioning

R

RER

Renewable Electricity Register

RO

Renewables Obligation

ROO

Renewables Obligation Order

RPI

Retail Price Index

S

School installation

An Eligible Installation which is wired to provide electricity to a building which is used as the premises of a qualifying educational institution; and in relation to which the FIT Generator is the Education Provider which owns that building or is responsible for the management of that institution

Small installations

Term for an installation with a capacity over 50kW up to the Specified Maximum Capacity of 5MW TIC

SLC

Supplier Licence Conditions

SRO

Scottish Renewables Obligation

T

Tariff Date

In relation to (a) an Eligible Installation for which the method of determining the Tariff Date is specified in the FIT Order, means the date as determined in the FIT Order;

(b) an Eligible Installation whose Eligibility Date is before 15 January 2016 means the Eligibility Date; or (c) an Eligible Installation whose Eligibility Date is on or after 8 February 2016, means the first day of the first Tariff Period within which the installation Qualifies for Accreditation.

Tariff Period

The Register

For micro CHP, means one of the following periods - (a) the period beginning on 1 April 2017 and ending on 30 September 2017; or (b) any subsequent period of 6 months beginning on 1 October or 1 April.

For all other technologies, means one of the following periods - (a) the period beginning on 8 February 2016 and ending on 31 March 2016; (b) the period of 3 months beginning

on 1 April 2016; or (c) any subsequent period of 3 months beginning on 1 July, 1 October, 1 January or 1 April.

This term refers to the Renewables and CHP (R&CHP) Register until it is replaced by the Renewable Electricity Register (RER), after which point 'the Register' will refer to the RER. The CFR will continue to be used after the RER is launched.

TIC

Total Installed Capacity

V

Voluntary FIT Licensee

Means a licensee which is not a Mandatory FIT Licensee but which voluntarily elects to participate in making FIT Payments under the FIT Scheme.

Appendix 2 – Solar PV (declarations for installations and extensions)

Feed-in Tariffs (FIT) solar PV declarations (installations and extensions)

All applications for accreditation of solar PV installations with a TIC up to and including 250kW (including extensions to existing installations), with an Eligibility Date on or after 1 April 2012, needed to be accompanied by a copy of this document with the relevant section signed and dated. This was then be used by FITs licensees/Ofgem as appropriate to determine whether or not (i) the energy efficiency requirement applies and, if so, has been met; and (ii) the multi-installation tariff rates should apply.

If your application is for a PV installation with an Eligibility Date on or after 1 April 2012, you must sign two of the enclosed declarations; one declaration from the energy efficiency section and one declaration from the multi-installation section. Tick one of the boxes in relation to the energy efficiency declarations and one of the boxes in relation to the multi-installation declarations. Then go on to sign the two relevant declarations. (This includes community energy or school installations)

However, if your application is for an extension to an existing PV installation that commissioned before 15 January 2016, you must sign one declaration from the energy efficiency section only. Tick one of the boxes in relation to the energy efficiency declarations then go on to sign the relevant declaration.

Please read the following information to understand which of the declarations are relevant to you.

Energy Efficiency declaration

Tick **one** of the following boxes in relation to the energy efficiency requirement and sign the relevant declaration overleaf:

- The energy efficiency requirement does apply and an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of level D or above *has* been achieved (complete declaration 1)
- The energy efficiency requirement does apply and an EPC rating of level D or above *has not* been achieved (complete declaration 2)
- The energy efficiency requirement does apply and an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of level G or above *has* been achieved (complete declaration 3) **Community energy and school installations ONLY**

Note - If you intend to seek an exemption under the energy efficiency requirement please do not complete declarations 1-3. Instead, complete declarations 4 or 5 and complete the self-declaration form which can be found in appendix 7.

Multi-installation declaration

Tick **one** of the following boxes in relation to the multi-installation requirement and sign the relevant declaration overleaf:

- The "FIT Generator"⁵⁹ or "nominated recipient"⁶⁰ owns or will receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations (complete declaration 4)
- Neither the FIT Generator or nominated recipient owns or will receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations (complete declaration 5)

⁵⁹ "FIT Generator" means in relation to an Accredited FIT Installation, the person identified as the Owner in the Central FIT Register; and in relation to any other Eligible Installation, the Owner, Whether or not that person is also operating or intending to operate the Eligible Installation

⁶⁰ "nominated recipient" means a person appointed by a FIT Generator to receive FIT Payments in respect of an Accredited FIT Installation owned by that FIT Generator and recorded as such on the Central FIT Register.

Energy Efficiency declarations

(sign one declaration only from declarations 1-3)

Declaration 1

I _____ certify in respect of this application for accreditation that all of the following are applicable:

- a. the eligible PV installation is wired to provide electricity to one or more relevant buildings;
- b. a valid energy performance certificate is enclosed in respect of the building (or one of the buildings) to which the PV installation is wired to provide electricity;
- c. the enclosed energy performance certificate is the most recently issued energy performance certificate in respect of that building;
- d. the enclosed energy performance certificate certifies that the relevant building to which it relates has been assessed as being level D or above;

Signed _____

Dated _____

Declaration 2

I _____ certify that declaration 1 above does not relate to my eligible solar PV installation. An EPC level D or above *is required AND has not* been achieved.

I understand that this means I will receive the lower FIT generation tariff.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Declaration 3

I _____ certify in respect of this application for accreditation of a community energy/school installation⁶¹ on behalf of (name of community organisation or education provider) _____

_____ that all of the following are applicable:

the eligible PV community energy/school installation is wired to provide electricity to one or more relevant buildings at the address below;

Address of the building to which the installation is wired: _____

a valid energy performance certificate is enclosed in respect of the building (or one of the buildings, which is not a dwelling) to which the PV installation is wired to provide electricity;

the enclosed energy performance certificate is the most recently issued energy performance certificate in respect of that building;

the enclosed energy performance certificate certifies that the relevant building to which it relates has been assessed as being level G or above;

Signed _____

Dated _____

⁶¹ As defined in the FIT Order

Multi-installation declarations

(sign one declaration only from declarations 4-5, unless your application is for the accreditation of an extension to an existing PV installation in which case you do not need to sign either of these declarations)

Declaration 4

I _____ (“the FIT Generator”) (and⁶² I _____ (“the Nominated Recipient”*)) certify in respect of this application for accreditation that either the FIT Generator or the Nominated Recipient (if there is one) are, or have applied to be, the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for 25 or more other eligible PV installations located on different Sites.

In this certification, references to the “FIT Generator” and “Nominated Recipient” include all persons who are “connected persons”⁶³ in relation to them.

Signed FIT Generator: _____

Signed Nominated recipient*: _____

Dated: _____

Please tick the relevant box or boxes to confirm whether the FIT Generator and/or the nominated recipient owns or will receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations:

- FIT Generator
- Nominated recipient*

*where applicable

⁶² Only to be completed where there is a nominated recipient.

⁶³ A “connected person” in relation to a FIT Generator or a nominated recipient, means any person connected to that person within the meaning of section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Declaration 5

I _____ (“the FIT Generator”) (and⁶⁴ I _____ (“the Nominated Recipient”*)) certify in respect of this application for accreditation that neither the FIT Generator nor the Nominated Recipient (if there is one) are, or have applied to be, the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for 25 or more other eligible PV installations located on different Sites.

In this certification, references to the “FIT Generator” and “Nominated Recipient” include all persons who are “connected persons” in relation to them.

Signed FIT Generator: _____

Signed Nominated recipient*: _____

Dated: _____

*where applicable

⁶⁴ Only to be completed where there is a nominated recipient.

Appendix 3 – Solar PV declaration (change to the FIT generator or nominated recipient)

Feed-in Tariffs (FIT) solar PV declaration – change to the FIT Generator or nominated recipient

You must sign one of the enclosed declarations where the FIT Generator or nominated recipient changes.

Please read the following information to understand which of the declarations are relevant to you.

Tick one of the following boxes then go on to sign the relevant declaration:

- The new “FIT Generator”⁶⁵ or “nominated recipient”⁶⁶ owns or will receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations (complete declaration “1”)
- The new FIT Generator and or the new nominated recipient does not own or will not receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations (complete declaration “2”)

⁶⁵ “FIT Generator” means (a) in relation to an Accredited FIT Installation, the person identified as the Owner in the Central FIT Register; and (b) in relation to any other Eligible Installation, the Owner, whether or not that person is also operating or intending to operate the Eligible Installation;

⁶⁶ “nominated recipient” means a person appointed by a FIT Generator to receive FIT Payments in respect of an accredited FIT Installation owned by that FIT Generator.

NOTE: Sign one declaration only

Declaration 1

I _____ (“the new FIT Generator”) (and⁶⁷/or I _____ (“the new Nominated Recipient”*)) certify in respect of this notice of change of identity that the new FIT Generator or the new Nominated Recipient (as applicable) is, or has applied to be, the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for 25 or more other PV Eligible Installations located on different Sites.

In this certification, references to the “FIT Generator” and “Nominated Recipient” include all persons who are “connected persons”⁶⁸ in relation to them.

Signed FIT Generator: _____

Signed Nominated recipient*: _____

Dated: _____

Please tick the relevant box or boxes to confirm whether the FIT Generator and/or the nominated recipient owns or will receive FIT payments from 25 or more other eligible solar PV installations:

FIT Generator

Nominated recipient*

*where applicable

⁶⁷ Only to be completed where there is a nominated recipient.

⁶⁸ A “connected person” in relation to a FIT Generator or a nominated recipient, means any person connected to that person within the meaning of section 1122 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Declaration 2

I _____ (“the new FIT Generator”) (and⁶⁹/or I _____ (“the new Nominated Recipient”*)) certify in respect of this notice of change of identity that the new FIT Generator or the new Nominated Recipient (as applicable) is not, or has not applied to be, the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient for 25 or more other PV Eligible Installations located on different Sites.

In this certification, references to the “FIT Generator” and “Nominated Recipient” include all persons who are “connected persons”⁷⁰ in relation to them.

Signed FIT Generator: _____

Signed Nominated recipient*: _____

Dated: _____

*where applicable

⁶⁹ Only to be completed where there is a nominated recipient.

Appendix 4 – Degression

This appendix summarises the FIT scheme degression mechanisms, which adjusted the tariff rates available for all eligible technologies based on the deployment levels of new installation generating capacity.

All installations accredited after 8 February 2016 (or 1 April 2017 for CHP installations) were assigned to a “tariff period”, the last one of which ran from 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019. Deployment caps are associated with each Tariff Period and limit how much capacity of a specific technology can be accredited during that time period. For more information on Tariff Periods and Deployment Caps, see the “Deployment caps” section of Chapter 5.

Default Degression Mechanism

- The default degression mechanism, as described in the Standard Conditions of Supply Licence, ran between 8 February 2016 and 31 March 2019 for PV, wind and hydro installations and between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2019 for AD installations.
- Under the mechanism, generation tariffs are pre-set for each Tariff Period and gradually decrease over time. A full list of these pre-set tariff rates, as they were published on 8 February 2016, are available in the Standard Conditions of Electricity Supply License⁷¹.
- These tariffs are also adjusted at the end of each FIT year to reflect changes in RPI.

If, in any tariff period, a deployment cap is reached for a particular technology type or capacity, then contingent degression is also applied on top of default degression.

Contingent Degression Mechanism

- Contingent degression occurs if a deployment cap is reached. It results in an additional 10% degression of the tariff rate that applies to the next tariff period, and all subsequent tariff periods, for that specific cap.

⁷¹ For the latest version of the Licence Conditions, follow this link: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/licences-codes-and-standards/licences/licence-conditions>, and under the ‘Electricity’ heading, click ‘Electricity Supply Standard Licence Conditions’.

- As an example, if the <10kW band is reached in tariff period 1 (2016), then:
 - In tariff period 2 (2016), the tariff will degress by 10% from 4.32 to 3.89,
 - In tariff period 3 (2016), the tariff will degress by 10% from 4.25 to 3.82,
 - This will continue until the final tariff period.

Appendix 5 – Feed-in Tariffs self-declaration under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

Feed-in Tariff self-declaration under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015

I declare that the proposed installation that is the subject of FIT preliminary accreditation application (ENTER GENERATING STATION NAME)

_____ meets the requirements of Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 for this installation to be considered permitted development.

Provide a brief description of the installation making reference to the relevant requirements of Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (continue on a separate sheet as necessary):

Should this application for FIT preliminary accreditation be successful, I confirm that I will provide evidence to the Authority of the application for prior approval from the planning authority (as required under Schedule 2 Part 14 Class J Condition J.4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015) and the result of that application.

I am aware that, should this declaration be incorrect, any or all of the entitlement to receive or retain full FIT accreditation for the installation, the tariff date allocated to the installation, and the entitlement to FIT payments in respect of electricity generated by the installation, may be affected.

I understand that the Authority⁷² is not a planning authority; and that any decision to grant FIT preliminary accreditation following the submission of this completed declaration does not affect my rights and responsibilities in relation to planning permission.

I consent to the release to the Authority of information relating to this declaration by planning authorities. I understand that the Authority will request and use such information only for the purpose of carrying out its legal functions in connection with the FIT scheme.

Name: _____

Dated: _____

Signed: _____

⁷² The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

Appendix 6 – Feed-in Tariffs: Exemption from the Energy Efficiency Requirement (EER) – self-declaration form

1. When should this form be used?

- This form should only be completed where all of the following criteria apply:
- The 'installation type' is Solar PV;
- The total installed capacity (TIC) is 250kW or less;
- The installation is wired to provide electricity to a building(s);
- None of the buildings to which the installation is wired to provide electricity is a "relevant building"⁷³;
- You believe that the "higher" PV tariff should be awarded (or the middle PV tariff in instances where the multi installation criteria apply).

Note: Under the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPB) Regulations⁷⁴ some properties are exempt from the requirement for an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC), however, if a building can be assessed and receive an EPC, then the EER will apply (irrespective of whether an EPB exemption applies or not).

2. Who should complete this form?

Part 1: Should be completed by the owner of the PV installation where an application is being submitted for full ROO-FIT accreditation.

Part 2: Should be completed by an accredited EPC assessor or other suitably qualified person.

⁷³ "Relevant building" is defined in Annex 5 of Schedule A to Standard Condition 33 of the Electricity Supply Licence

⁷⁴ EPB Regulations (England and Wales) 2012; EPB Regulations (Scotland) 2008

3. Is this form an application for FIT accreditation?

- This form does not constitute an application for FIT accreditation.
- This form should be completed alongside an application for FIT accreditation.

PART 1: To be completed by the owner of the ROO-FIT installation

Declaration in respect of the installation⁷⁵ (ENTER GENERATING STATION NAME): _____

1. I declare that the installation named above is wired to provide electricity to one or more buildings;
2. None of those buildings is a “relevant building” or were not relevant buildings on the installation’s commissioned date.

Please explain why you believe that none of the buildings is a “relevant building”, or were not relevant buildings on the installation’s commissioned date

In support of this declaration I have provided:

1. The following declaration (see Part 2) from an accredited EPC assessor or other suitably qualified person. The EPC assessor (or other suitably qualified person) undertook an assessment of all the buildings to which the installation is wired to provide electricity and concluded that none of the buildings assessed was a “relevant building” on the installation’s commissioned date.
2. Photographs of all the buildings to which the installation is wired to provide electricity.
3. A copy of the single line or schematic diagram showing all the buildings to which the installation is wired to provide electricity.

⁷⁵ The installation name must be an exact match with the name given to the installation on the Register.

I confirm that this evidence has not been used in support of any other FIT applications.

I understand that, should this declaration be incorrect, any or all of the entitlement to receive or retain full FIT accreditation for the installation, the tariff date allocated to the installation, and the entitlement to FIT payments in respect of electricity generated by the installation, may be affected.

Owner of Installation Name: _____

Owner of Installation Signature: _____

Dated: _____

PART 2: To be completed by an accredited EPC assessor or other suitably qualified person

I declare that I attended the following address _____ on the (Enter date)_____ and assessed whether any of the buildings to which the installation is wired to provide electricity is a “relevant building” within the meaning of Annex 5 of Schedule A to Standard Licence Condition 33.⁷⁶

I understand that under the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPB) Regulations, some properties are exempt from the requirement for an EPC. I also understand that, under FIT scheme, if a building can be assessed and receive an EPC at the time the installation commissioned, then the Energy Efficiency Requirement will apply (irrespective of whether an EPB exemption applies).

Please explain why you believe that none of the buildings is a “relevant building”, or were not relevant buildings on the installation’s commissioned date

I confirm that I am an accredited EPC assessor (or other suitably qualified person) and provide my credentials:

Accreditation Number: _____

⁷⁶ Under Annex 5 of Schedule A to Standard Licence Condition 33 “relevant building” means a roofed construction having walls, for which energy is used to condition the indoor climate, other than such a building for which an energy performance certificate cannot be issued; and a reference to a relevant building includes a reference to part of such a building which has been designed or altered to be used separately.

Accreditation Scheme: _____

Other relevant credentials: _____

EPC Assessor (or other suitably qualified person)

Name: _____

EPC Assessor (or other suitably qualified person)

Signature: _____

Dated: _____

Appendix 7 – Grace period declaration template

This is a template declaration confirming that the installation would have been commissioned on or before the final day of the installation’s preliminary accreditation validity period, had the grid connection or radar works delay not occurred, as required by article 7 of The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018. It must be submitted within 12 months of the end of the validity period with the relevant supporting documentation, for an installation to be assessed as meeting the grid or radar delay condition. This declaration form should be printed, signed by the operator of the installation and sent to Ofgem.

Declaration of grid or radar delay (example)

Installation name:

.....

I confirm that,

- to the best of my knowledge and belief, the installation named above would have been commissioned on or before (the final day of the installation’s preliminary accreditation validity period) if the relevant grid/radar [*delete as appropriate*] works had been completed on or before the planned grid/radar [*delete as appropriate*] works completion date, and
- I am the owner of the installation stated in this declaration.

Signed

Full name

Position/Job title

Date

This declaration is to be submitted once you have submitted your application for accreditation with the other documents set out in article 7 of The Feed-in Tariffs (Closure, etc) Order 2018.

Before making this declaration you should read and understand the relevant legislation and, if necessary, take your own independent legal advice to ensure that the proposed installation which is subject to this declaration qualifies.

Appendix 8 – Statement of FIT Terms

- A8.1 The Statement of FIT terms must be made in writing and include certain terms set out in the Standard Conditions of Electricity Supply Licence.
- A8.2 The required terms can be divided into three groups: the Principal Generator Terms, the Principal Licensee Terms, and miscellaneous terms.
- A8.3 The Principal Generator Terms⁷⁷ include terms that discuss:
- obligations relevant to FIT Payments, including:
 - a. Tariff Code
 - b. Confirmation Date
 - c. Eligibility Date and Eligibility Period
 - d. Tariff Date
 - e. the Generation Tariff applying at the Confirmation Date
 - f. the Export Tariff applying at the Confirmation Date (where applicable) and how to choose to receive Export Payments
 - g. frequency of FIT Payment
 - h. data that FIT Payments calculations are based on and how it is provided
 - i. the consequences of ceasing to be eligible for FIT Payments
 - j. and any other term that may significantly affect the evaluation by the FIT Generator of the arrangement under which FIT Payments are made by the Mandatory FIT Licensee, and
 - obligations around protecting the FIT Generator that the Mandatory FIT Licensee must adhere to, including:

⁷⁷ Schedule A to Standard Licence Condition 33, Section B (6)

- a. a description of the Complaints Procedure and a stated duty to participate in the Complaints Procedure on disputes over compliance with obligations under the FIT Scheme
- b. a duty to not discriminate without objective justification in changing Relevant Electricity Supplier, or the prices for supply and other charges between FIT Generators and anyone else that the Mandatory FIT Licensee supplies electricity to
- c. a description of the process of Switching and a stated duty to facilitate the Switching of a FIT Generator
- d. a duty to not impose any obligations on a FIT Generator which are additional to, or more onerous than those necessary to allow the Mandatory FIT Licensee to meet its obligations under the FIT Scheme
- e. a duty to fulfil obligations under the FIT Scheme efficiently and quickly
- f. a term setting out the termination rights which permit the FIT Generator to withdraw from the FIT Scheme or Switch
- g. a term identifying the risks to a FIT Generator of failing to adhere to the Statement of FIT Terms, for example following failure to promptly provide the required data and about suspension and recoupment of FIT Payments.

A8.4 The Principal FIT Licensee Terms include terms that discuss:

- a term explaining that FIT Payments shall be made by reference to data in the Central FIT Register
- a term identifying the FIT Generator's obligations to provide information, declarations and evidence to the FIT Licensee and the Authority (as well as any consents for data protection) for administering the FIT Scheme
- a term requiring the FIT Generator to inform the Mandatory FIT Licensee as soon as possible of a change in ownership of an Accredited FIT Installation

- a term requiring the FIT Generator to inform the Mandatory FIT Licensee as soon as possible of Extensions or Reductions to an Accredited FIT Installation
- a term setting out the circumstances and procedures for changing the Nominated Recipient on the Central FIT Register
- a term explaining meter ownership and responsibilities, including access to the property of the FIT Generator for inspection, testing and (in the case of the Export Meter) maintenance and replacement.

A8.5 In addition, the Statement of FIT Terms must include a term:

- to say that the information provided by the FIT Generator or Nominated Recipient can be used for administering, reporting and auditing FITs by the FIT Licensee and Ofgem
- which, specifically for Eligible Installations installed off-grid, requires them to declare that they intend to use any and all electricity generated by the FIT Installation
- which requires FIT Generators to notify the FIT Licensee of any installations, including any extensions, which may affect the eligibility and capacity of an Eligible Installation
- which requires FIT Generators to notify the FIT Licensee if they become the owner/nominated recipient or a connected person of 25 or more FIT installations.
- requiring the FIT Generator to declare that the information they provide is complete and accurate
- requiring generation and export meters to be in an accessible location, and able to be accessed by the FIT Licensee or its contractor for generation and export meter readings
- requiring a declaration to be made by the FIT Generator to confirm that they do not receive any grants which may make their installation ineligible for the FIT scheme.

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