

National Grid ESO
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Date: 07/02/2022

Reference: Results of NOA Pennines High Voltage Pathfinder

Dear Industry Colleagues,

On 26 March 2021 National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) published its Invitation to Tender for the NOA Pennines High Voltage Pathfinder to manage voltage levels in the Pennines region for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2034 which was based on the below key parameters.

Service description:	Voltage Only
Service Type:	24/7 availability, utilisation upon instruction
Service Term:	From: 01/04/2024 (23:00) To: 01/04/2034 (07:00)
Service Period:	24/7 year-round
Payment Rate:	£/SP Availability only
Maximum Notice:	30 minutes (2 minutes to acknowledge instruction)
Additional notes:	Maximum utilisation of 11,000 settlement periods (5,500hrs) per contract year Overnight and weekends primarily but could be called at other times.

This letter seeks to update the industry on the outcome of the Pennine High Voltage Pathfinder. For a full description of the requirement and service, please refer to the [Invitation to Tender letter](#) published on 26th March 2021.

Pathfinder Outcome

We would like to thank those who have taken the time to participate in this tender round. We received 31 different offers from tender participants and 5 from the counterfactual. These are summarised in the Results Table published alongside this letter.

In the North East of England, Dogger Bank C wind farm's onshore transmission asset will help stabilise voltage on the grid after the expected closure of Hartlepool nuclear power station in March 2024. In the West Yorkshire area, the NOA Pathfinder process found that the counterfactual information submitted by NGET was the most economic option for the ESO to manage voltage in the best interests of consumers.

We remain committed to holding lessons learnt sessions with all parties following the publication of results so that NOA Pathfinders can continue to evolve and foster greater competition as NGESO strive to become a better buyer of these new markets.

Further Information

For further information please contact box.pennine.tender@nationalgrideso.com
 Thank you again for your continued participation in the pathfinder events.

Yours sincerely,

David Wildash

Market Services Senior Manager