

**B6 Constraint Management Pathfinder (2024/25) –
FAQs (Updated 28/03/2022)**

Introduction

This file contains questions submitted in relation to the B6 Constraint Management Pathfinder (CMP) 2024/25; as the project progresses, this file shall be updated with answers to common, non-confidential questions received.

Please submit any questions to box.cmp@nationalgrideso.com

Commercial/Tender

1. Please confirm how the B6 CMP tender assessment principles will be communicated with stakeholders and those providers seeking request for pre-qualification moving forward.

In running future expressions of interest and feasibility studies, the ESO shall communicate externally to ensure prospective participants and interested stakeholders are aware of the latest B6 CMP tender assessment principles.

2. Please confirm whether parties wishing to be connected to the intertrip scheme can submit an expression of interest? Or if it is limited to parties already connected to the intertrip scheme.

The expression of interest (EOI) is open to both parties that have existing connections to the intertrip scheme as well as parties wishing to be connected to the intertrip scheme. The purpose of the tender is to determine which parties are to be connected to the intertrip scheme and provide the service during the service term.

3. Please confirm whether there a defined geographical region or whether parties in both the Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission (SHET) and Scottish Power Transmission (SPT) areas participate.

The B6 CMP is open to parties in both the SHET region and the SPT region.

4. Please confirm how parties recover the costs of connecting to the intertrip scheme.

The cost of connecting to the intertrip scheme is recovered by the relevant TO through the regulatory funding mechanism. This is referenced in the B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification.

5. Please confirm whether the ownership, operations, and maintenance of the fibre link from the intertrip scheme to the relevant circuit breaker will form part of the TO's obligations.

Yes, this will form part of the TO's obligations.

Technical

1. Please confirm what will happen if the tripping timescales (150ms) are not met, as a result of a TO communication failure or transmission asset failure. Please confirm who is liable for this.

The double redundancy signalling system employed for the intertrip scheme is designed to ensure that the tripping timescales (150ms) can be reliably met. If the first intertrip signal fails to activate a response from the relevant circuit breaker then the secondary signal will still arrive within 150ms. It

is very unlikely that both of the intertrip channels will fail concurrently for a single generating unit, but in the event that the tripping scheme does not operate correctly, either at all or taking more than 150ms to trip a unit, there will be no penalty on the generator. The ESO shall investigate with the relevant TO as to the cause of any issue.

2. Please confirm whether the ESO expects to test the intertrip scheme at regular intervals. If so, please confirm how associated costs will be recovered.

There will be an outage as part of the intertrip commissioning process to test that the signalling functionality is working. This outage will be conducted following the standard process in co-ordination with the outage planning team and aligned with any existing generator outage where possible. The outage schedule will be prepared with prior engagement and agreement from the various parties involved, ensuring neither the system nor assets are put at unnecessary risk.

3. Please confirm whether the intertrip signal is sent to the generator circuit breaker or the metering circuit breaker owned by TO?

The intertrip signal will be sent to most feasible TO-owned circuit breaker. Please refer to the B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification for further information.

4. If existing contracts are extended rather than re-tendered, then are the assets with existing contracts required to re-undertake the feasibility study stage of the process, in order for the ESO to confirm that the service can still be delivered by the contracted assets?

Because of the dynamic nature of the electricity system, the ESO expects to undertake feasibility studies alongside the relevant TOs at regular intervals to determine if there have been any changes (i.e. an asset connecting downstream of a circuit breaker being used for the B6 CMP service) which might affect a contracted asset's ability to deliver the B6 CMP service.

Contracts

1. Please confirm the provision in place to allow a contracted company to provide in writing to NGENSO regarding potential disruptions to the service.

Please refer to clause 4.9.1 of the standard contract terms. If the service is unable to be provided by a unit then it shall notify the ESO using the form in Schedule 5. For the duration of the unavailability, the unit would not be able to be armed by the ESO.

2. Please confirm the length of the service term.

The length of the service term is 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025 but can be extended.

3. The service specification states that neither the arming fee nor the tripping fee can be increased during the service term, but the arming fee can be decreased. If the arming fee decreased, please confirm whether it can be increased in the following month.

The arming fee can only be decreased during the service term in relation to the cap submitted by the party during the tender stage of the B6 CMP 2024/25. The arming fee submitted by a party during the service term cannot exceed their cap. When a party decreases their arming fee during the service term, they can subsequently increase their arming fee, but it must not exceed the agreed cap.