

Electricity System Restoration (ESR) Competitive Procurement Event

Wind Tender: Invitation to Tender (ITT) Part 2 (F2)

17 March 2023

National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO) has introduced a market mechanism for the procurement of Electricity System Restoration (ESR) contracts, in the form of a competitive tender process.

Background and instructions for completing ITT Part 2

Executive Summary

The Feasibility Study - FS1 and FS2 Scope submitted during ITT Part 1 has now been evaluated and the ESO invites parties to proceed to the F2 Submission period which commences on 17th March 2023.

By continuing to participate in the competitive procurement event and making a submission of ITT Part 2 documents by the deadline of 1st December 2023, you confirm that you have read and understood all tender documentation, agree to the contract terms and tender rules.

Please ensure you have read and understood all tender rules contained within this document.

Background

The ESO has an obligation to maintain the capability to restore the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) of Great Britain (GB) from a full or partial shutdown event. To do this, the ESO must demonstrate that the ESR capability procured maintains an acceptable level of provision, but at a cost which is economic and efficient.

Alongside region specific ESR tenders the ESO is also holding a one-off competitive procurement event for a nationwide wind tender. This is for services commencing by December 2026 for up to 6.5 years, or by December 2028 for 5 years, or earlier at the discretion of the ESO.

The primary driver for this initiative is the new Electricity System Restoration Standard coming into effect in 2026, which means the ESO will need to restore 60% of demand in 24 hours and 100% in five days. To meet this, the ESO will need to unlock new

Key dates for the wind tender

17 March 2023

ITT Part 2 launch

28 July 2023

Contract Deviation Table deadline

1 December 2023

ITT Part 2 deadline

March 2024

Contract awarded

By December 2026 or 2028

Service commencement

and existing restoration and resilience services across GB. This will be more possible by tapping into the 50GW of offshore wind generation forecast to connect by 2030.

Successful providers have been notified of the outcome from the last stage of the tender and this is the release of the final suite of documents which contains the information required to complete Feasibility Stage 2 (ITT Part 2) of the tender process.

Please ensure you read all the information enclosed for instructions on what sections need to be completed and submitted.

What's inside?

ITT Part 2 contains the final pieces of information required for the complete Feasibility Study, which proves that your solution offered is fully capable of providing the restoration requirements bid for. The Feasibility Study has been completed in two parts in line with the tender programme.

Please note that late submissions will not be considered.

ITT Part 2 Submissions require the following documents to be submitted:

- Appendix 4 – F2 Submission Template
- Appendix 5 – Contract Declaration Form
- Appendix 6 – Commercial Submission Template

Please make sure that you read this document and the ones below before you complete the templates above.

- Appendix 1 - Wind Tender Technical Requirements and Assessment Criteria
- Appendix 2 - Wind Tender Query Form
- Appendix 3 – Contract Deviation Table*
- Appendix 7 – Feasibility Assessment Process
- Appendix 8 – ESR Primary Service Contract Terms

All providers must make a submission for this stage.

Where a provider has an approved F2 already, they should submit the previously approved study, along with the technical and commercial submission templates provided in this ITT F2. It is the responsibility of the provider to ensure that previously approved studies meet all the requirements of the F2 outline and is reflective of their current offering.

***The deadline Appendix 3 – Contract deviation table is 28th July 2023 at 2300hrs. This deadline allows the team enough time to review any suggested changes before a final set of terms are issued.**

The deadline for submitting all remaining ITT Part 2 (F2) documents is 1st December 2023 at 2300hrs.

Submission of FAQ's and Queries

The ESO has designed a live FAQ document which is published on the website and will be updated throughout the tender process. This document contains FAQ's from previously ran tenders and the team will update the documents with any new questions that we receive which are deemed non confidential. This ensures all providers can access the same level of information.

Please ensure you check the FAQ document prior to submitting a tender query.

If you have been unable to find the information you require in the published FAQ documents or have a confidential query. Please submit this using **Appendix 2 – Wind Tender Query** form via email titled 'Tender Query' and send them to

manpreet.patel@nationalgrideso.com and CC roopkamal.phull@nationalgrideso.com

We expect to anonymise queries and circulate the responses as far as possible via the live FAQ document. If you believe your query is confidential, please state this on the query form along with your justification.

Where the ESO does not agree that a query should be confidential, they will present two options to the provider, either for the response to be shared, or for the provider to withdraw the question. We will aim to meet a turnaround time of 10 working days for all queries received.

The deadline for all queries raised in this stage, is 10 working days before the submission deadline.

Tender rules

1. By submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI), you confirm that you meet all the technical requirements and eligibility criteria listed within **Appendix 1 - Technical Requirements & Assessment Criteria Document**.
2. You are required to complete all the necessary tender documents at each stage using the templates provided. Even though you may have eligible documents from previous tenders that you can reuse, we still expect the information to be in the correct ESR tender documents for compliance purposes and to ensure all participants are fulfilling the same process requirements.
3. You are required to maintain the protocol of communication and/or queries to the ESO via the route specified in the tender documents. During a live tender, the ESO is not inclined to respond to potential providers outside the

formal query management process. The ESO will regularly share and update the Frequently Asked Questions, you are required to check these ahead of contacting the ESO.

4. A 'provider', meaning one legal entity, may submit EOIs and tenders for more than one site they own and across multiple categories which are: Full/Primary Service, Top-up Services for Primary Service, Anchor Generator and Top-up services (these last two are Distributed ReStart categories).
5. One 'solution' per EOI, could comprise of a single or more than one technology type provided it can meet the minimum technical requirements of that category. The solution needs to be on the same site and not co-located elsewhere. We expect the provider to perform their own options assessment, using the technical assessment criteria, and to submit the best value solution.
6. A provider must not submit multiple solutions for the same asset(s) within the same category. For example, if a site comprises of a windfarm, solar and battery assets, the provider can opt to submit a solution using their windfarm and battery for Primary Services but cannot also submit the windfarm and solar for Primary Services.
7. For Distributed ReStart categories, to enable a bottom-up restoration, a feasible Distribution Restoration Zone (DRZ) is required for providers to progress from an EOI Stage. The DRZ is a combination of one Anchor Plant and may include one or more Top-up Service ideally from different providers that are located in close proximity to a Grid Supply Point. The evaluation of a potential feasible DRZ is carried out by the relevant Distribution Network Owner in collaboration with the ESO, collectively a decision will be made on which DRZ combinations of Anchor Plant and Top-up service(s) will be shortlisted.
8. An Anchor Plant or a Top-up service on its own cannot form a DRZ.
9. As a provider, you will not be awarded multiple contracts using the same asset or solution on a single site. You will be eligible for a single contract per site in only one of the categories selected. For example, if a provider enters their wind farm for the provision of an Anchor Restoration Contract, they will only be successfully taken through one of those categories based on our final technical evaluations.
10. The ESO is the lead procurement agent in the ESR process and is responsible for conducting a fair, transparent, and competitive tender event in collaboration with the relevant regional DNO. No provider will be given any unfair advantage through one-to-one engagements. The ESO and DNOs will not consider any additional information shared by the provider outside of the formal tender process.
11. Following success at the EOI stage, you are expected to submit more information about your asset capability as part of the initial feasibility study (F1) stage. Those that have submitted F1 (and F2s) previously can repurpose and share the same information in the required Tender documents if nothing material has changed at the plant/site/asset. Submission of an Invitation to Tender (ITT) F1 is undertaken at the provider's expense entirely.
12. Following success at the ITT F1 stage, commercial bids and detailed feasibility studies are required as part of the next ITT F2 stage. The ESO provides a capped contribution against the different submission categories towards these reports. The provider is expected to cover the rest of the costs to meet the requirements of this final submission stage.
13. Final contract award is at the ESO's discretion and follows assessment of the F2 submissions. The ESO will collaborate with the relevant DNO for any Distributed ReStart project related decisions.
14. The providers who are awarded contracts are expected to deliver the service no later than the contract start date published within the invitation to tender document, maintain the Restoration capabilities and to deliver the service until the contract end date. This implies that any construction works and any relevant connection agreements, all need to be in place prior to the service go-live date.
15. Following successful completion of project build stage and commissioning tests, providers may be incentivised to start earlier at the ESO's discretion.
16. All providers are required to sign a non-disclosure agreement to be part of an ESR tender process and this applies from the EOI stage onwards.
17. By submitting an EOI and/or any subsequent tender responses in connection with a competitive procurement event, potential providers confirm that they will, and that they shall ensure that any consortium members and/or subcontractors will, comply with all applicable laws, the non-disclosure agreement, codes of practice and statutory guidance.

18. All Information that is supplied to potential providers as part of a competitive procurement event is supplied in good faith. The information contained in the EOI, and any supporting or subsequent documents and in any related written or oral communication is believed to be correct at the time of issue. The ESO will not accept any liability for its accuracy, adequacy or completeness and no warranty is given as such.
19. Potential providers are responsible for analysing and reviewing all information provided as part of a competitive procurement event and for forming your own opinions and seeking advice as you consider appropriate.
20. You should notify ESO promptly of any perceived ambiguity, inconsistency, or omission in the EOI and ITT stages, including any associated/subsequent documents, or communications provided to you as part of a competitive procurement event through the query process.
21. The ESO retains the right to amend the ITT requirements, or timescales at any time prior to a tender submission deadline. Prior notice will be issued to all potential providers to ensure they have reasonable time in which to take such amendments into account and if required, the tender submission deadline can be extended at the discretion of the ESO. Your tender response must comply with the amendments, or it may be rejected.
22. A tender response or any other document submitted as part of the tender exercise may be rejected if it:
 - contains gaps, omissions, misrepresentations, errors, or uncompleted sections
 - contains handwritten amendments which have not been initialled by the authorised signatory
 - does not reflect and confirm full and unconditional compliance with all the documents issued by ESO forming part of the ITT stage
 - contains any caveats, or any other statements, or assumptions, qualifying the tender response, that are not compliant for evaluation in accordance with any documents issued by ESO in any way
 - is not submitted in a manner consistent with the provisions set out in the request for EOI, ITT stages, or any subsequent or supporting documents
 - is received after the tender submission deadline.
23. The ESO reserves the right to disqualify from the tender process, any provider if they breach these tender rules, if there are any errors, omissions, or material adverse changes relating to any information supplied by you at any stage in this competitive procurement event, and/or if your staff, partner companies, sub-contractors, and advisor attempts:
 - to inappropriately influence this competitive procurement event
 - to fix or set the price for the ESR service
 - to enter any arrangement with any other party that such party shall refrain from submitting a tender response
 - to enter any arrangement with any other party (other than another party that forms part of your consortium bid or is your proposed sub-contractor) as to the prices submitted
 - to collude in any other way
 - to engage in direct or indirect bribery or canvassing by you or your appointed advisers in relation to this competitive procurement event.
24. By participating in a tender, you consent to your detailed feasibility studies (F2) submission being shared with a third party for verification during tender evaluation.
25. Providers are responsible for obtaining all information necessary for preparation of tender responses and for all costs and expenses incurred in preparation of the tender response (save for those explicitly agreed to by the ESO as part of the ITT F2 process). You accept through participation in this procurement event, including without limitation the submission of a tender response, that you will not be entitled to claim from the ESO any costs, expenses, or liabilities that you may incur in tendering for this procurement irrespective of whether your tender response is successful.

26. The ESO reserves the right to terminate, suspend, amend, or vary (to include, without limitation, in relation to any timescales or deadlines) any competitive procurement event by notice to all potential providers in writing (if cancelled post the ITT stage), and through our website (if cancelled before the ITT stage).
27. Only the costs detailed in the commercial submission spreadsheet that form part of the commercial submission will be recoverable. The ESO will not under any circumstances reimburse any costs which are not included within the spreadsheet but are brought to light after contract award.
28. Regardless of the tender outcome, the ESO is not bound in any way to enter any contractual or other arrangement with you or any other potential provider. We will only do so once the contract award decision is internally sanctioned and legally approved. It is the responsibility of the provider to review and consult on the final contract terms as submitted at the ITT F2 stage prior to contract award. Any changes to the contract terms required post award may not be accepted as these will need to be standardised in the contract template for all other providers too.
29. Tenderers will have a maximum of 15 business days to sign contracts after ESO issue formal contracts for signature. When communicating the results of the tender, the ESO will make clear if any contract award is linked to another party also signing their contract. The ESO expect that all solutions that are successful in the tender will progress to a signed contract if selected as part of the optimal portfolio of solutions, as this is a condition of the Tenderer Declaration that all Tenderers must return at Tender submission.

However, there may be circumstances in which this is breached, and an accepted solution does not sign the contract as expected. If within this 15 business day period, an unlinked contract breaches the Tenderer Declaration and declines to sign, the ESO reserve the right to re-evaluate that party's solution(s) and procure the most economic replacement(s). If within this 15 business day period, any of the linked contracts breaches the Tenderer Declaration and declines to sign, the ESO reserve the right to reconsider all the linked contract awards in this period and procure the most economic replacement(s). For the avoidance of doubt, if in this period all the linked contracts are signed within the 15 business day period, this will not be required.

If upon the 15 business day signature deadline a Tenderer has failed to sign and not provided reason for not signing, NGESO reserve the right to re-evaluate that Tenderer's solution(s) and procure the most economic replacement(s) for said solution(s) only. The replacement(s) could be chosen from the previously unsuccessful tendered options.

30. Providers will be required to provide operational metering if successful and offered a restoration contract. This is a new requirement which is due to be implemented following consultation with the industry and will form part of the contract terms. As a minimum the ESO Control Room will require a live feed showing both voltage, frequency, and number of ESR units available from all providers.
31. All providers who are awarded a tender through this competitive procurement event are responsible for ensuring that the ESR telephone/comms line is always working effectively during the contract. It is the providers responsibility to test this at regular intervals in line with the tender terms.
32. Providers who are awarded a contract, must make necessary arrangements for a Commissioning Assessment test before the service can go-live. Requirements for this test are stated within the published tender documents.

Systems and communications

For ITT Part 2, all the tender documentation will be made available through the ESO website

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/balancing-services/system-security-services/restoration-services>

Eligible parties will receive an email notifying them of when the documents have gone live.

Next Steps

To participate in the ITT Part 2 please download and complete the following documents and submit them via email back to the ESO by 2300hrs on 1st December 2023 to manpreet.patel@nationalgrideso.com and CC roopkamal.phull@nationalgrideso.com

- Appendix 4 – F2 Submission Template
- Appendix 5 – Contract Declaration
- Appendix 6 – Commercial Submission Template

Please note all tender submissions must be made using the templates provided else they will be deemed non-compliant.

Purpose of the ITT tender documents

Document	Purpose of Document	Action
Appendix 1 – Technical requirements and assessment criteria.	<p>Use this document for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the technical requirements and related parameters, why they are important to the service and why they are set at the agreed limits Understanding the assessment criteria, a high-level summary of the proposed feasibility assessment process and some of the contract principles The information contained in this document is still a work in progress and will be updated following feedback. 	Read ahead of filling in any information
Appendix 2- Wind Tender Query form	<p>Use this document for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any provider queries during the event. We expect to anonymise queries and share the responses on our website as far as possible unless deemed confidential 	Can be completed and sent to the ESO at any point during the tender process
Appendix 3 – Contract Deviation Table	<p>Use this document for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing feedback on the contract terms by describing the issue and proposed alternative drafting along with justification for the deviation. This document needs to be submitted on 28 July 2023 by 2300hrs to allow the team enough time to review any of the suggested changes. Any changes made will be at the discretion of the ESO. 	Only complete if required - deadline of 28 July 2023
Appendix 4 – F2 Submission Template	<p>This is a guidance document which provides the structure for the report which is required to be complete and submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure all appendices are clearly labelled and referenced within the documents. 	For mandatory completion and to be submitted back to the ESO
Appendix 5 – Contract Declaration form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A final set of terms will be issued on or before 11 September 2023 Please sign and return this document once you have completed a final review of the contract terms 	For mandatory completion and to be submitted back to the ESO
Appendix 6 – Commercial Submission Spreadsheet	<p>This document is required to be submitted to the ESO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please complete all sections relevant to your submission. Please include ALL COSTS – any costs which are not included but notified to the ESO after contract award will not be recoverable <p>Please ensure you read and understand the information provided on the guidance page</p>	For mandatory completion and to be submitted back to the ESO
Appendix 7 – Feasibility Assessment Process	<p>Use this document for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the assessment process and what is required at each stage 	Read ahead of filling in any information

-
- Please complete the sections and detail within this document to inform the structure of your submission

Appendix 8 – Contract Terms (Draft)

This document is to be reviewed by all parties. All parties will have an opportunity to feedback any suggested changes using the contract deviation table. This will then be reviewed by the team.

A final version of the terms will be shared no later than 11 September 2023 in line with the contract declaration form.

The contract declaration form will need to be signed and returned following a full review of the terms for your bid to be compliant.

Read ahead of filling in any information

Appendix 9 – Wind Tender FAQ's

Use this document for:

Collating all questions & Answers during each stage of the event. This will be a live document so please keep up to date with it and ensure you review this prior to submitting a query.

Read ahead of filling in any information

Wind tender procurement timelines



Stage	Date	Detail
ITT Part 2 - F2 and commercial bid submission period	17 March 2023 to 1 December 2023	<p>The F2 report will be accompanied by a technical and commercial bid submission which combined will form the tender submission.</p> <p>The F2 report itself should sufficiently prove that the provider's plant does have Restoration capability or will have Restoration capability subject to proposed changes detailed in the report. As with the F1, if confirmed in their EOI acceptance that a previous study is satisfactory, there will be no need to duplicate this work.</p> <p>The ESO can make a capped contribution of up to £150,000 towards the F2 studies, which will be contractually agreed with a side letter.</p> <p>Providers are expected to minimise these costs to reduce the impact on the end consumer and will only be reimbursed for costs once invoices and supporting evidence of costs incurred are received and validated by the ESO.</p> <p>Costs will be reimbursable following closure of the F2 assessment period and following satisfactory responses to all clarifications being issued by the ESO during the assessment period.</p>
Contract Deviation Table deadline	28 July 2023	ESO will review any suggested changes and any changes made will be for all providers and will be at the discretion of the ESO.
ITT Part 2 - F2 and commercial bid deadline	1 December 2023	All documents must be submitted by 2300hrs, submissions made after this may not be considered.
ITT Part 2 - Tender evaluation and clarifications	December 2023 to February 2024	<p>Following tender submission, all tenders will be reviewed, and technical clarifications specific to tendered information will be issued to individual providers.</p> <p>These clarifications will be documented as each submission is reviewed, but issued to all tenderers at the same time, to ensure no advantage is gained. All tenderers will be given the same amount of time to respond to clarifications on their tenders.</p> <p>During this period, feedback will also be given on the commercial submissions, and tenderers will be given the opportunity to provide clarification and refine their submission. All tenderers will be given equal opportunity and time to do so.</p>
Contract award	March 2024	Contract/s will be awarded, and decision will be communicated to tenderers. Post-award, the ESO expects to publish elements of the outcome of the tender, potentially including MW volume, technology type and price, in line

Stage	Date	Detail
		with security requirements, the owners of the awarded contracts will not be revealed.
Build/Install	April 2024 to December 2026 or 2028 depending on service commencement option selected	At the discretion of the ESO, additional time for construction of assets can be agreed prior to service commencement. Where a provider can deliver a service ahead of the planned deadline without incurring excessive cost, they should notify us within their submission, and where possible and economic, the ESO may be able to agree an earlier target commencement date.
Service commencement	By December 2026 or 2028	Once construction has completed, the ESR contract will commence following successful completion of a commissioning test.
Assurance activities	Ongoing	Based on contract terms, providers will be subject to routine ESR tests which are scheduled normally every three years.
Service expiry	December 2031 or 2033	Providers will be contacted before the final date.