



B6 Constraint Management Pathfinder (2024-25) – Expression of Interest

Invitation for Expressions of Interest Presentation

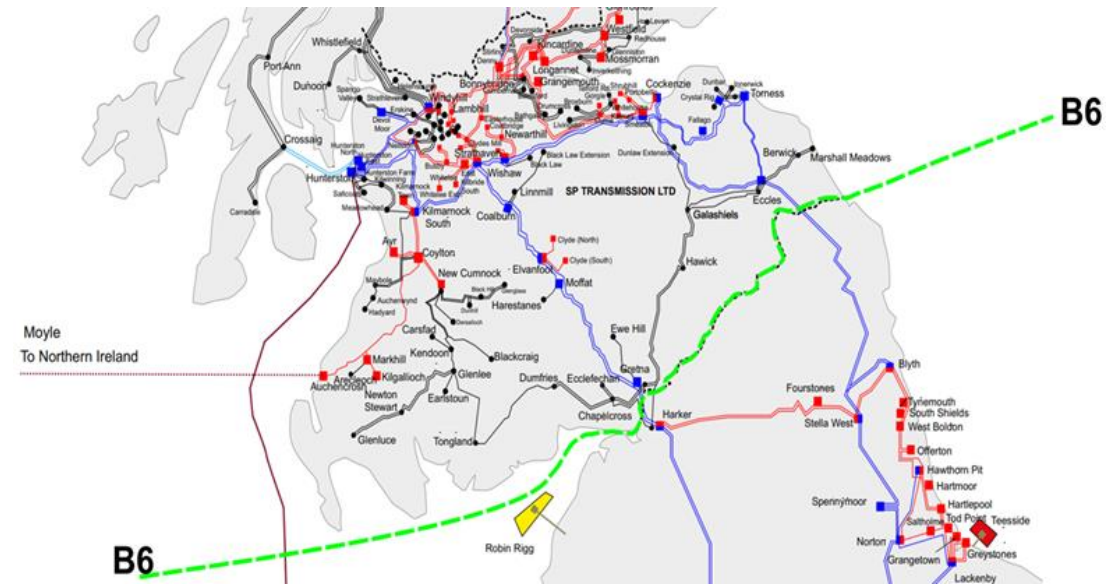
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Introduction

The ESO is seeking to reduce network congestion costs and create an electricity system that can operate carbon-free. To support this aim, the B6 Constraint Management Pathfinder (known as the “B6 CMP”) is seeking to connect Generators (which are already connected to or contracted to connect to the transmission network in Scotland before October 2024) to the Anglo-Scottish Commercial Intertrip Scheme (known as the “B6 CIS”). This scheme seeks to disconnect connected generators from the network within 150 milliseconds (ms) should a network fault occur. This will enable the ESO to operate the system at a higher capability, thus maximising the use of existing assets and reducing potential curtailment on renewable generation.

The ESO is requesting Generators in Scotland (north of the B6 boundary) to express an interest in the B6 CMP 2024/25. The information provided by the Generators at this stage shall be subject to technical assessments conducted by the ESO and the Scottish Transmission Owners (TOs) to understand if the Generators fulfil the technical requirements of the service. Further information in relation to the above can be found in the Final B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification.



Context for the B6 Constraint

Management Pathfinder

In 2021 the ESO tendered for an intertrip service aimed at expanding the B6 CIS, thus expanding the market to new entrants. The original approach referenced an annual tender process, the first of which concluded in November 2021.

Since the inaugural tender process, the ESO has sought to develop its approach based on feedback received and lessons learnt. A consultation was launched in February 2022 to understand feedback from interested parties on the B6 CMP 2024/25 draft service specification, draft framework agreement and draft standard contract terms. Following this consultation, the ESO took feedback onboard and amended its documentation accordingly and is launching an Expression of Interest (EOI) to determine the assets which are technically able to provide the service, as outlined in the Final B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification.

Context for Pathfinders

The Pathfinder programme is adopting a “learning by doing” approach to resolve network problems. This means:

1. The ESO are developing Pathfinders within the existing industry framework. If the ESO recognise areas which could be improved in the framework, these will be flagged. This approach enables the ESO to continue moving forward, but recommendations may not be implemented before the Pathfinder is completed given the timescales to make changes to the framework.
2. The ESO are developing the tender processes run for subsequent Pathfinder tenders from lessons learnt on previous Pathfinders.
3. The ESO are adopting an ambitious timeline for the work, which may need to be altered as more information becomes available and the scale of participation is understood.

The ESO understand that this approach can cause uncertainty for all parties during Pathfinder tenders, but moving forward, an imperfect but flexible approach allows the ESO to progress with new, innovative solutions.

Submitting an Expression of Interest

This EOI invites prospective participants to declare an interest in tendering into the B6 CMP 2024/25 but does not commit parties to progress to the next stage of the tender process. However, parties looking to participate in the next stage of the tender process must populate and return an EOI submission proforma, including all relevant assets, before the EOI submission deadline of **17:00 on Friday 22nd April 2022**.

Following submission of the EOI proforma, the ESO and Scottish TOs shall conduct assessments against the criteria outlined in Final B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification to understand if the interested assets fulfil the service requirements. Once these assessments have been conducted, the ESO shall bilaterally communicate a pass/fail outcome to all parties in relation to their interested asset(s). If the result of the assessment is a pass, the successful assets shall be invited to the next stage of the B6 CMP 2024/25 tender process, as outlined in the Final B6 CMP 2024/25 Service Specification.

Please note that the ESO reserves the right to publish an anonymised summary of the EOI outcome but at this stage, no commercially sensitive information shall be published.

The deadline for EOI submissions is **17:00 on Friday 22nd April 2022**. Please populate the B6 CMP 2024/24 Expression of Interest Submission Proforma (available on the [website](#)) and return to box.cmp@nationalgrideso.com

Indicative Timeline

Stage:	Indicative Start Date:	Indicative End Date:
Consultation on Draft Contract Terms and Service Specification	Mon 07/02/2022	Fri 25/02/2022
Expression of Interest Period	Mon 28/03/2022	Fri 22/04/2022
Publication of Final Contract Terms	Mon 28/03/2022	Fri 01/04/2022
TO Feasibility Studies	Mon 25/04/2022	Fri 10/06/2022
ESO Review of TO Feasibility Studies	Mon 13/06/2022	Fri 01/07/2022
Generators Notified of TO Feasibility Studies Outcome	Mon 04/07/2022	Fri 08/07/2022
Technically Feasible Generators Sign the B6 CMIS* Framework Agreement	Mon 11/07/2022	Fri 05/08/2022
Tender Preparation by ESO	Mon 11/07/2022	Fri 15/07/2022
Tender Period for Generators (for Price Submissions)	Mon 18/07/2022	Fri 05/08/2022
Tender Evaluation by ESO	c. August 2022	
Generators Notified of Tender Outcome (for Price Submissions)	c. September 2022	

* Constraint Management Intertrip Service (CMIS)