

Black Start Competitive Procurement Event Summary of Feedback

Executive summary

On the 6 December 2018, we announced our proposal for a competitive procurement event for Black Start services and asked for industry feedback concerning various aspects of the proposal.

Within this document, we have summarised the feedback we received, and outlined how we will amend the process in response. The changes outlined here will be implemented to all material being released as part of the Expression of Interest (EOI) period opening on **4 February 2019**.

If you have any questions concerning these changes, please email them to commercial.operation@nationalgrid.com.

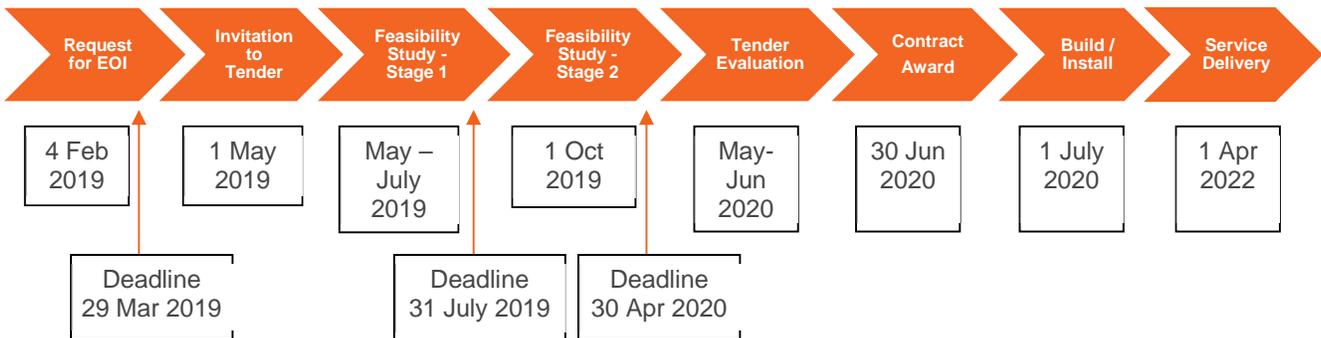
To ensure you keep up to date with the Black Start Competitive Procurement Event, sign up for the Future of Balancing Services distribution list at the link below: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/insights/future-balancing-services>.

Timeline and Process

The feedback highlighted that it would be of benefit to extend the periods during which the potential new provider would be working to produce and submit information.

In response, we will maintain the contract start dates of April 2022, but we will extend the EOI, F1 and F2 study periods by one month each. In order to accommodate this, we will reduce the Build/Install phase to 21 months. The new tender timeline can be seen below.

Feedback also highlighted that it could be difficult to put together joint proposals in the previous timescales. We hope that this extended timeline allows for easier coordination between parties that wish to offer joint proposals.



Appendix 1 – Technical Requirements and Assessment Criteria

We have included a mechanism for scoring a provider's contribution to stability, which is included in the updated documents which will be available shortly on the website. We also asked for opinions on use of our Restoration Model in our assessment, and received balanced views.

We do note several queries relating to specific technology types, suggesting that we amend the criteria to support these. The Technical Requirements are formed around our top down restoration strategy and are technology neutral.

Appendix 2 – Feasibility Study Process

We typically received queries and clarification requests in this section of the feedback form, which we have responded to in the FAQ document on the [Black Start website](#).

We also note comments around the requisition of planning permission ahead of the contract being awarded for a new build. We will include measures in both the F1 and F2 study templates, where we ask the tenderer to provide evidence of engagement with relevant parties, and applications being made for planning permission.

Appendix 3 – F2 Letter and Terms

We received very few comments in this area and aren't proposing to make any subsequent amendments, a finalised version will be available on the [Black Start website](#) ahead of EOI.

Appendix 4 – Black Start Service Contract

We typically received queries and clarification requests in this section of the feedback form, most of which concerned the wording of specific clauses. We have assessed these and will be making amendments where appropriate. Please view the amended Black Start Service Contract which will be available on the [Black Start website](#) ahead of EOI.

General Feedback

We noted that suggestions were made for amendments to the tender documentation, to explicitly capture specific technology types. We remain technology neutral as best as our minimum technical requirements allow.