ENA Network Innovation Competition (NIC) Call for Ideas 2021/2022

Link to the PDF copy of the full form to be made available on the Google Form. Scoring Criteria reminder:

Criteria	Weighting
Technical Fit	40%
Focus Area	10%
Problem Identification	10%
Outputs and deliverables	10%
Innovation Description	10%
Delivery & Benefits	50%
Methodology and Stages	15%
Value for money (CBA)	20%
Net Zero and Societal Benefit	10%
Knowledge Sharing	5%
Financial	10%
Funding & Resources	10%

Draft Google Form

Questions	Response	Weight
Contact Details		
1. Email Address 2. Name 3. Organisation 4. Phone Number	Short answer text	Info only
Innovation Focus Areas & Contributions		
The Networks are particularly interested in the areas identified in the Electricity Network Innovation Strategy that you believe fits your project		
5. What is the primary innovation theme of your project? • Consumer vulnerability • Net zero and the energy transition system • Optimised assets and practices • Flexibility and commercial evolution • Whole System	Single option	Screening only
6. Please describe how your project proposals helps electricity networks address challenges/exploit opportunities within the theme selected. Please refer to the specific focus areas in the summary document	200 words max	10%

7. Please could you indicate your willingness to collaborate with other projects going forward, if requested? Ofgem have previously directed Networks to combine some projects at Initial Screening Process stage which have a similar scope. • Yes • No	Single option	Screening only
8. If your answer to Q7 is no, please state why?	100 words max	Screening only
9. Please could you indicate your willingness to contribute some funding towards the costs associated to the project? • Yes • No • Unsure/Maybe	Single option	Screening only
Location		
10. What are the criteria of any required trial site? Do you have any specific location(s) in mind?	100 words max	Screening only
NIC Governance Compliance		
https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/system/files/docs/2017/07/electricity_network_innovation_competition_governance_document_version_3.0.pdf		
11. Please confirm that you have read and fully understood the relevant NIC Governance Document(s)? Tick to confirm	Tick box	Pass/fail
12. An NIC Project must have the potential to have a Direct Impact on a Network Licensee's network or on the operations of the GB System Operator and involve the development or demonstration of at least one of the following elements. Please select the one(s) that relate to your project idea: • A specific piece of new (i.e. unproven in GB) equipment (including control and/or communications systems and/or software); • A specific novel arrangement or application of existing gas and/or electricity transmission and/or distribution equipment (including control and communications systems software) • A specific novel operational practice directly related to the operation of the gas transportation and/or electricity Transmission System/Distribution System • A specific novel commercial arrangement.	Tick box	Pass/fail and screening
13. Please describe how your project meets the eligibility requirement selected above. Please note that proposals which do not comply with the NIC Governance will be dismissed.	200 words max	Pass/fail
14. Please confirm whether this project conforms to the default Intellectual Property arrangements set out in the NIC Governance Document. • Yes	Single option	Pass/fail and screening

• No • Don't know		
15. If your answer to Q14 is no or don't know, please state why.	100 words max	Screening only
16. Please confirm that you have reviewed existing and completed innovation projects to ensure that the scope of your project proposal is unique? All NIA and NIC projects can be found here: https://smarter.energynetworks.org/ • Tick to confirm	Tick box	Pass/fail
17. Please list any existing projects which are similar to this proposal, and describe how the project is distinct from these?	300 words max	Pass/fail
Your Project Proposal		
18. Proposal Title	Short answer text	Info only
19. Executive summary of your proposal: Assume a non-technical audience and include the problem/opportunity addressed and the solution proposed. This is not scored.	150 words max	Info only
20. Indicative cost of your project proposal (£ Millions, please note projects below £2m are not considered suitable for NIC) • < £2M • £2M - £5M • £5M - £10M • £10M - £15M • > £15M	Single option	Screening only
21. Estimated Duration (years, please note, projects of durations below 2 years are not generally considered suitable for NIC) • < 1 year • 1-2 years • 2-3 years • 3-4 years • > 4 years	Single option	Screening only
Please provide a problem statement that your project is looking to address. Please also provide three key questions your project proposal looks to answer: **22.** Problem Statement [100 words] **23.** Question 1 of 3 [25 words] **24.** Question 2 of 3 [25 words] **25.** Question 3 of 3 [25 words]	100 words max + 25 words max per question	10%
26. Describe the project outputs and deliverables.	300 words max	10%

Energy Networks Association 4 More London Riverside, London SE1 2AU
T +44 (0)20 7706 5100   E info@energynetworks.org   W www.energynetworks.org   Follow us on Twitter @EnergyNetworks
Energy Networks Association Ltd is a company registered in England & Wales. No. 04832301

27. Describe how the project is innovative and has an unproven business case, where the innovation risk is sufficiently high that it warrants a limited Demonstration Project to demonstrate its effectiveness. Please justify the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) at the start of the project, and what you expect it to be at the end of the project.	200 words max	10%
28. Detail the proposed methodology and project stages to design, build and test the solution.	400 words max	15%
29. Describe how the project delivers value for money for Electricity customers; both Network customers and the wider system. This section should include a cost-benefit analysis indicating the quantitative benefits that the project will deliver as well as what it could deliver if it was rolled out across GB.	400 words max	20%
30. Describe how the project accelerates the Networks' contribution towards net zero and any other wider societal benefits e.g. clean air, improved customer experience. Please quantify the carbon reduction and other benefits.	300 words max	10%
31. Describe how the project creates knowledge that can be shared across energy networks in Great Britain (GB) or creates opportunities for roll-out across a significant proportion of GB networks.	150 words max	5%
32. Describe how the project would be delivered from a resource perspective, including roles and responsibilities of any project partners, other sources of funding and external resources. This section should explicitly state your contribution to the project, both financially and from a resource perspective.	300 words max	10%
33. Any other comments or relevant information?	200 words max	N/A

Terms and Conditions

Please review the following Terms and Conditions and indicate that you have read and understood them: 34. I understand that ENA will share this proposal with all GB Electricity Networks, for the purposes of assessment and review; however, these proposals will not be shared with any other third party without seeking explicit written permission. • Tick to confirm	Tick box	Pass/fail
35. I understand that I am not guaranteed to receive any funding for the proposed project by participating in the Call for Ideas. • Tick to confirm	Tick box	Pass/fail
36. I understand that if this proposal is successful, I will be expected to work with the Network(s) to develop the Initial Screening Proforma (ISP) submission to Ofgem. • Tick to confirm	Tick box	Pass/fail

Energy Networks Association 4 More London Riverside, London SE1 2AU
T +44 (0)20 7706 5100   E info@energynetworks.org   W www.energynetworks.org   Follow us on Twitter @EnergyNetworks
Energy Networks Association Ltd is a company registered in England & Wales. No. 04832301

	Tick box	Pass/fail
37. I understand that all costs associated with the ENA NIC Call for Ideas and submission of the NIC bid to Ofgem will be borne by the individual parties responsible for generating those costs while preparing the bids. • Tick to confirm		