

Standardised Major Project Connections

The following problem statement has been developed by the innovation teams within the UK's Gas and Electricity Networks for the 2024 Energy Innovation Basecamp.

Theme: Building Better and Faster

Network Areas: Electricity Distribution

What is the problem?

Historically, electricity networks have been designed and constructed as bespoke projects, each optimised for the requirements at a given location. When customers wish to connect to the network, and significant reinforcement or new assets are required, the range of options available is not easily understood and customers are required to wait for designs to be produced by network design engineers. In addition, customers may wish to opt for various levels of service and connection security.

What are we looking for?

We are looking for a way to streamline our range of products into standardised major project connection products, which customers can view and select online, integrated with BAU self-serve capabilities.

What are the constraints?

- The solution must allow a variety of OEMs to supply equipment to maintain diversity of plant.
- The new solutions must ensure DNOs can comply with applicable legislation, licence conditions, and network standards to ensure the safety to the public and network assets.
- The solution must integrate with existing self-serve tools and capabilities.

Who are the key players?

The key stakeholders are:

- Large connection developers
- DNOs and IDNOs
- Independent Connection Providers (ICPs)
- Transformer and switchgear manufacturers and innovators
- Local authorities and councils
- Website developers

Does this problem statement build on existing or anticipated infrastructure, policy decisions, or previous innovation projects?

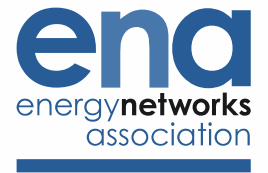
The project builds on Northern Powergrid's Strategic Innovation Funded project 'Inform' which is developing HV self-serve capabilities for larger sites and non-domestic properties. We would like to standardise the solutions selected by the tool into distinct products with the aim of improving clarity and lowering costs to customers.

What else do you need to know?

Innovators should be aware of DNO obligations to facilitate Competition in Connections when evaluating the business model for commercialisation of any eventual solution.

Innovator submissions to this problem statement will be open [here](#) during March and April, but we encourage you to submit your response as early as possible, as networks will be able to review submissions as soon as they come in.

Energy Innovation Basecamp 2024 Problem Statement EIP105



You can also use the virtual Q&A on the Smarter Networks Portal to ask for more information about this problem statement. Questions may be answered online or at the ENA Problem Statement Launch in March 2024. More information on last year's Basecamp programme can be found [here](#).