

Notes on Completion: Please refer to the appropriate NIA Governance Document to assist in the completion of this form. The full completed submission should not exceed 6 pages in total.

## **NIA Project Registration and PEA Document**

### **Date of Submission**

Mar 2013

### **Project Reference Number**

## **Project Registration**

### **Project Title**

Alternative Bus Bar Protection Solution

### **Project Reference Number**

### **Project Licensee(s)**

National Grid Electricity Transmission

### **Project Start**

March 2011

### **Project Duration**

4 years and 1 month

### **Nominated Project Contact(s)**

National Grid TO Innovation Team

### **Project Budget**

£99,000.00

## **Summary**

A policy for single digital bus bar protection has been employed on the National Grid Transmission network since 2002 either as a replacement system (for duplicated high impedance schemes) and for all new build double bus bar substations. These systems have a distributed architecture with remote bay units (interfacing to the plant) for each protected circuit with ruggedized cross site fibre connections to a central processing unit. Where a substation has a centralised relay room (e.g. GIS) layout, the bay units are co-located in a suite of cubicles and connected with a network of fibre patch cords.

A number of systems and versions have been installed from National Grid's preferred protection suppliers and Alliances over the past 20 years and these have required additional support through contracted Post Delivery Support Agreements (PDSA) to provide field staff with the resources to manage faults and defects. A recent protection policy change also requires a second (hot standby) central processing unit to be deployed (with its own dedicated fibre connections) to better manage contingency issues for central processing unit failures.

The systems installed to date have proven to be generally reliable; however each system is bespoke to each supplier with a limited technical life, leading to issues with future substation extensions and potentially the need to consider equipment upgrades and early asset replacement of the complete system. This will have major issues on future system access to carry out this work across a complete substation.

Through work with CIGRE, contacts with other utilities and National Grid, United States, it has been found that an alternative centralised bus bar protection system may offer greater asset management benefits in the longer term, especially when managed and supported by well trained internal staff. This project is desk top evaluation of an alternative bus bar protection design and the interface and application on the UK Transmission system.

### **Nominated Contact Email Address(es)**

box.NG.ETInnovation@nationalgrid.com

**Problem Being Solved****Method(s)****Scope****Objective(s)**

This project aims to deliver an evaluation and desk top design solution of an alternative digital bus bar solution architecture. This will help formulate a future technical and procurement strategy for bus bar protection, potentially leading to a pilot installation, evaluation and deployment as a replacement (or new) bus bar protection system.

**Consumer Vulnerability Impact Assessment (RIIO-2 Projects Only)**

n/a

**Success Criteria**

n/a

**Project Partners and External Funding**

n/a

**Potential for New Learning**

n/a

**Scale of Project**

n/a

**Geographical Area****Revenue Allowed for the RIIO Settlement****Indicative Total NIA Project Expenditure**

## Project Eligibility Assessment Part 1

There are slightly differing requirements for RIIO-1 and RIIO-2 NIA projects. This is noted in each case, with the requirement numbers listed for both where they differ (shown as RIIO-2 / RIIO-1).

### Requirement 1

Facilitate the energy system transition and/or benefit consumers in vulnerable situations (Please complete sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 for RIIO-2 projects only)

Please answer **at least one** of the following:

#### How the Project has the potential to facilitate the energy system transition:

n/a

#### How the Project has potential to benefit consumer in vulnerable situations:

n/a

### Requirement 2 / 2b

Has the potential to deliver net benefits to consumers

Project must have the potential to deliver a Solution that delivers a net benefit to consumers of the Gas Transporter and/or Electricity Transmission or Electricity Distribution licensee, as the context requires. This could include delivering a Solution at a lower cost than the most efficient Method currently in use on the GB Gas Transportation System, the Gas Transporter's and/or Electricity Transmission or Electricity Distribution licensee's network, or wider benefits, such as social or environmental.

#### Please provide an estimate of the saving if the Problem is solved (RIIO-1 projects only)

n/a

#### Please provide a calculation of the expected benefits the Solution

n/a

#### Please provide an estimate of how replicable the Method is across GB

n/a

#### Please provide an outline of the costs of rolling out the Method across GB.

n/a

### Requirement 3 / 1

Involve Research, Development or Demonstration

A RIIO-1 NIA Project must have the potential to have a Direct Impact on a Network Licensee's network or the operations of the System Operator and involve the Research, Development, or Demonstration of at least one of the following (please tick which applies):

- A specific piece of new (i.e. unproven in GB, or where a method has been trialled outside GB the Network Licensee must justify repeating it as part of a project) equipment (including control and communications system software).
- A specific novel arrangement or application of existing licensee equipment (including control and/or communications systems and/or software)
- A specific novel operational practice directly related to the operation of the Network Licensees system
- A specific novel commercial arrangement

RIIO-2 Projects

- A specific piece of new equipment (including monitoring, control and communications systems and software)
- A specific piece of new technology (including analysis and modelling systems or software), in relation to which the Method is

unproven

- A new methodology (including the identification of specific new procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyse information)
- A specific novel arrangement or application of existing gas transportation, electricity transmission or electricity distribution equipment, technology or methodology
- A specific novel operational practice directly related to the operation of the GB Gas Transportation System, electricity transmission or electricity distribution
- A specific novel commercial arrangement

## Specific Requirements 4 / 2a

**Please explain how the learning that will be generated could be used by the relevant Network Licensees**

n/a

**Or, please describe what specific challenge identified in the Network Licensee's innovation strategy that is being addressed by the project (RIIO-1 only)**

n/a

- Has the Potential to Develop Learning That Can be Applied by all Relevant Network Licensees

**Is the default IPR position being applied?**

- Yes

**Please demonstrate how the learning from the project can be successfully disseminated to Network Licensees and other interested parties.**

**Please describe how many potential constraints or costs caused, or resulting from the imposed IPR arrangements.<**

**Please justify why the proposed IPR arrangements provide value for money for customers.**

## Project Eligibility Assessment Part 2

**Not lead to unnecessary duplication**

A Project must not lead to unnecessary duplication of any other Project, including but not limited to IFI, LCNF, NIA, NIC or SIF projects already registered, being carried out or completed.

**Please demonstrate below that no unnecessary duplication will occur as a result of the Project.**

n/a

**If applicable, justify why you are undertaking a Project similar to those being carried out by any other Network Licensees.**

n/a

## Additional Governance And Document Upload

**Please identify why the project is innovative and has not been tried before**

n/a

**Relevant Foreground IPR**

n/a

**Data Access Details**

n/a

**Please identify why the Network Licensees will not fund the project as apart of it's business and usual activities**

n/a

**Please identify why the project can only be undertaken with the support of the NIA, including reference to the specific risks(e.g. commercial, technical, operational or regulatory) associated with the project**

n/a

**This project has been approved by a senior member of staff**

Yes