Network Innovation Competition Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code:	SSEEN01	Question Number	25
Question date	3 September 2013	Answer date	5 September 2013
Submission section question relates to	Section 6		
Topic	Project Readiness		
Question	Can you provide a commentary that sets out the step-by-step process by which you will enter contractual arrangements with the equipment suppliers both for the MTTE project and also for any system reinforcement projects. This commentary should explain how this process will: ensure the success of the MTTE project; and enhance the competitiveness of the HVDC equipment supply chain.		
Notes on question			
Answer	We expect that the MTTE will enter into collaboration agreements with each of the vendors to cover IP protection and their involvement in the MTTE. As identified previously, it is the intention of the MTTE project to pay for the first set of replica control panels from an early HVDC project (possibly Caithness-Moray or the Eastern HVDC Link) and, having established the MTTE concept, we expect future replica panels will be provided by individual HVDC projects. The provision, installation and maintenance of future replica panels would be through the individual HVDC project contracts, and would form part of the project requirements and go through the project's procurement process (in-line with the procurement strategy for each project). The MTTE provides HVDC projects with a cost effective method of ensuring their selected protection and control systems are compatible with the requirements of the GB network. We anticipate that the provision of replica panels and the use of the MTTE would be identified within the procurement strategy for these projects, and the decision to proceed with procuring replicas would be subject to approval by the appropriate funding party.		

	Furthermore, the MTTE is expected to be used throughout the project development lifecycle of each HVDC project, including: • Evaluating development options; • Specification of HVDC schemes; • Validating solutions as part of the tender process; • Facilitating multi-terminal solutions; • De-risking control interactions between multi-terminal and electrically connected converters, and with other active controlled equipment; • Facilitating competition and multi-vendor HVDC schemes; and • Undertaking post-commissioning scenario planning and operational optimisation. The MTTE will enhance the competitiveness of the HVDC supply chain through: • Its use as part of HVDC tender processes (dependant on individual projects' procurement strategies); • Enabling multi-vendor HVDC schemes, which will ensure that transmission developers are not limited to single vendor solutions; • Providing a facility where new entrants to the market can test and demonstrate their systems; and • Undertaking Acceptance Testing of multi-vendor HVDC systems and/or electrically connected systems (e.g. co-located/in-proximity).
Attachments	N/A
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	N/A