

Network Innovation Competition Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code:	NGETEN01	Question Number	5
Question date	15/08/13	Answer date	19/08/13
Submission section question relates to	MSB - Full Submission Pro-forma – Section 4.4, Page 19		
Topic	Innovation and Risk		
Question	In section 4.4 it is stated that “In order to achieve the benefits of mobility, rapid deployment, and subsequent relocation, at transmission voltages, it will be necessary to make major changes to long established and internationally agreed performance criteria for transmission substation equipment”. How are you intending to get such changes agreed with external parties? And if so in what timeframe?		
Notes on question			
Answer	<p>The specifications and work practices employed by National Grid are underpinned by both EU and specific UK Health & Safety legislation.</p> <p>Innovation will invariably push the boundaries of existing standards, which intrinsically will result in a non standard solution or deviation from the traditional solutions.</p> <p>The performance criteria for mobile equipment may make it necessary to consider either new specifications or variations to existing practice. National Grid will need to discuss these implications with experts and members of international bodies such as CIGRE and the IEC who develop and manage the standards, to establish what changes may be required to the existing documentation suite to incorporate mobile and modular technology into the standards.</p> <p>A similar process will be required around the safety and work procedures to ensure that the new proposals remain ‘in the spirit of’ and within acceptably practicable limits. This is more of an interpretation and internal cultural issue which will probably be best managed at the National Grid level.</p> <p>National Grid is fully engaged with CIGRE and IEC, however experience</p>		

	suggests that if any changes are required to international standards, this will take time to manage the governance process associated with revising or preparing new documents.
Attachments	
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	