**Notes on completion of the Full Submission documents**

**Before completing the Full Submission Pro-forma, please refer to the Gas Network Innovation Competition (NIC) Governance Document.**

**Please use the default font (Verdana size 10) when completing the Pro-forma. The order of the sections should not be altered. It is up to the Network Licensee to decide how much information to include under each section, but each section should not surpass the stated number of maximum pages. If the Network Licensee does not use the full amount of pages, then it should delete the blank pages. Each section should start on a new page. The Network** **Licensee must clearly identify which subsection it is answering and must leave spaces between the answers for each subsection.**

**The Network Licensee can include images and tables where appropriate, but must not change the format of the document. This includes altering the page margins, changing section titles and/or the positioning, numbering and size of text boxes. We will ask the Network Licensee to resubmit the Pro-forma if the format of the document has been altered.**

**The fully completed Pro-forma (without appendices) should not exceed 54 pages in total. The total submission of the Pro-forma and appendices (but excluding the Full Submission Spreadsheet) should not exceed 100 pages. We will publish the information contained within the Full Submission as described in the Governance Document.**

**Section 1: Project Summary**

**Project Code/Version no.**

The Network Licensee must enter a code for the Project in the box provided in the top right hand corner of the first page of the Pro-forma. This should be the acronym of the Network Licensee group followed by GN (denoting a Gas NIC Project) followed by a two digit number to denote the number of the submission. This numbering should follow on from previous years. As this will be the first Gas NIC competition, all Network Licensees should insert 01 for their first Project, and 02 for their second Project. The Network Licensee must also use the same box to enter the version number of the Pro-forma. We have produced an identical box at the top right hand corner of each subsequent page, these will be automatically filled in once the Network Licensee has filled in the first box on the front page.

* 1. **Project title**
  2. **The Funding Licensee** (the Network Licensee that will receive funding for the Project)
  3. **Project Summary**

The Network Licensee should provide a summary of the Project, including information on:

* The Problem(s) it is exploring;
* The Method that it will use to solve the Problem(s); and
* The Solution it is looking to reach by applying the Method.

These terms are defined in the Governance Document

* 1. **Funding**

**1.4.1 NIC Funding Request**

This is the amount being requested from the Gas NIC and should match the amount in **cell I85** of the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab of the Full Submission spreadsheet.

**1.4.2 Licensee Compulsory Contribution**

This is 10 per cent of the Initial Net Funding Required. It is the minimum contribution the Funding Licensee must make to the Total Project Cost and should match the amount in **cell I66** of the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab of the Full Submission spreadsheet.

**1.4.3 Licensee Extra Contribution**

This is the total amount that will be provided by the Network Licensee over and above the 10 per cent compulsory contribution specified in the Governance Document and should match the total amount in **cell I37** of the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab of the Full Submission spreadsheet.

**1.4.4 External Funding**

This is the amount that will be provided by External Funders and should match the total amount in **cell I25** of the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab of the Full Submission spreadsheet. For a bid forming part of a cross industry venture, this should not include any funding requested from other Innovation Competitions.

**1.4.5 Total Project cost**

This is the amount the Network Licensee expects to spend on the whole Project. It should match the number in **cell I13** in the ‘NIC Funding request tab of the Full Submission spreadsheet.

The Gas NIC spreadsheet calculates the NIC Funding Request in three steps.

Step one: **Initial Net Funding required**

= Total Project Cost - Licensee extra contribution - External funding

Step two: **Outstanding Funding Required**

= Initial Net Funding Required - Licensee compulsory contribution – Direct benefits

Step three: **Second Tier Funding Request**

= Outstanding Funding Required – interest

Note - The Licensee needs to work out the exact amount of extra contribution it wishes to make before it can calculate its compulsory contribution.

The Licensee compulsory contribution is 10 per cent of the Initial Net funding Required. The Licensee needs to know the amount of its extra contribution to work out the Initial Net Funding Required.

* 1. **Cross industry – funding requested from other competitions**

If the bid is part of a cross industry venture, the Network Licensee should include details of the other funding requested in this section. Specifically, the Network Licensee must state how much has been requested from the Electricity NIC or the Low Carbon Networks Fund. It should include the Project Code number of the other bid, and under which competition it is being submitted. Further information can be added under Project Description, as per this guidance, on an ad-hoc basis in the other Pro-forma sections, or in the appendices.

If your Project forms part of a wider cross industry venture[[1]](#footnote-1)[1] you must state whether the Project proposed in the Full Submission is capable of proceeding in the absence of funding for the interlinked Project.  This is to understand your position in the case that your Project is successfully awarded funding, but the other interlinked Project is not. **Double click on the relevant box and under “default value” select “checked”.**

If you state in your Full Submission that you **would not** proceed in the absence of funding for the other project then, in the case that the interlinked Project is not funded, your Project will not be considered for funding (ie the two projects would both need to be successful in their respective competitions).

If you state in your Full Submission that you **would** proceed in the absence of funding for the other project then, in the case that the interlinked Project is not funded, your Project could still be awarded Funding irrespective of the outcome of the other competition.

Please note that under the second case, the Network Licensee may still choose to withdraw from the funding application prior to its acceptance of the Project Direction.

* 1. **List of Project Partners, External Funders and Project Supporters**

The Network Licensee should list the Project Partners, External Funders and Project Supporters that are involved in the project. If relevant, the Network Licensee should also list the value of the contribution each is providing to the Project.

* 1. **Project start and completion date**
  2. **Project manager contact details**

**Section 2: Project Description**

This section must not exceed 10 pages.

* 1. **Aims and objectives**

The Network Licensee must describe its Project in a manner that enables someone with limited experience of distribution and transmission networks to understand it. The Network Licensee should break down the Project into:

* The Problem(s) which needs to be resolved;
* The Method(s) being trialled to solve the Problem;
* The Trial(s) being undertaken to test that the Method(s) works; and
* The Solution(s) which will be enabled by solving the Problem.

If the Project forms part of a cross industry venture, the Network Licensee should include details of how this bid fits into the cross industry venture as a whole. The Network Licensee must also describe the overall high-level aims of the cross industry venture.

* 1. **Technical description of Project**

The Network Licensee must provide a technical overview of the Method(s) being deployed and outline why it is innovative. The Network Licensee can choose to supplement the information it provides in the appendices.

* 1. **Description of design of trials**

The Network Licensee must provide details on how the Project will be designed to ensure that the results are statistically sound and sufficiently robust to capture learning from Projects. For example, if the extrapolation of an outcome demonstrated in the Project is required to solve the Problem, the Network Licensee must clearly show that the approach it is taking to undertake such an extrapolation is statistically and technically sound, reliable and verifiable. The Network Licensee can supplement these details with further information in the appendices.

* 1. **Changes since Initial Screening Process (ISP)**

The Network Licensee must outline any changes it has made since its Screening Submission, particularly where they relate to:

* The scale of the Project, funding required, other partners or External Collaborators involved in the Project;
* The Project being part of a cross industry venture; and
* The IPR arrangements proposed for the Project.

**Section 3: Project business case**

This section must not exceed 6 pages.

The Network Licensee must present a clear business case justifying the merits of undertaking the Project and must set how the Project links to changes it wants to make to its business in the next 5-10 years. The Network Licensee is free to construct this case as it wishes. It can be supplemented with further details in the appendices.

If the Project relates to a cross industry venture, the Network Licensee should briefly state what the merits are of undertaking the cross industry venture as a whole and, where relevant, also present the merits of its specific bid. This can be supplemented with further details in the appendices.

**Section 4: Evaluation Criteria**

This section must not exceed 10 pages.

The Network Licensee must identify how their Project performs against each of the evaluation criteria described in the Governance Document. Other sections of the Pro-forma will cover those criteria or aspects of criteria not mentioned in Section 4.

1. Accelerates the development of a low carbon energy sector and/or delivers environmental benefits whilst having the potential to deliver net financial benefits to future and/or existing Customers

The Network Licensee will need to demonstrate that the proposed Project Solution has the potential to accelerate the development of the low carbon energy sector, or deliver other environmental benefits to Customers, or deliver a combination of both. In addition, the Network Licensee will need to demonstrate that the Project has the potential to deliver net financial benefits to existing and future Customers.

If a Project has potential carbon benefits, information under part (i) below will be considered and part (ii) below will be considered if applicable to the Project. A Project which has potential environmental benefits must provide the information under part (iii) below. All Projects must provide the information under part (iv) below.

1. How the Project could make a contribution to the Government’s current strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as per the document entitled “the Carbon Plan” published by DECC, in particular:
   * What aspects of the Carbon Plan the Solution facilitates.
   * The contribution the roll-out of the Method across GB can play in facilitating these aspects of the Carbon plan.
   * How the roll-out of the proposed Method across GB will deliver the Solution more quickly than the current most efficient method in use in GB.
2. If applicable to the Project, the network capacity released by each separate Method:
   * The Network Licensee must outline how much quicker the Method(s) being trialled releases this capacity compared to the most efficient method currently in operation on the GB gas transportation system.
   * The Network Licensee must write about the potential for replication of the Method(s) across GB in terms of the number of sites, or the percentage of the GB transportation system where the Method could be rolled out.
   * The Network Licensee must use these to calculate the capacity the Method(s) will release across GB and how quickly this capacity could be released compared to the most efficient Method currently in operation on the GB transportation system.
   * In assessing the most efficient Method currently in use on the GB Transmission System, the Network Licensee should look at the minimum cost scheme under which it would deliver the Solution (at the scale being tested within the Project). We also expect that it takes into account lower cost methods which other Licensees have deployed successfully on their network which could deliver the Solution (at the scale being tested in the Project).
   * If the Network Licensee considers that the capacity calculation is not applicable to the Project, it must provide a qualitative explanation in place of the calculation, including a justification for why the calculation is not applicable.
3. The expected environmental benefits the Project can deliver to Customers:
   * The Network Licensee should justify and provide references for all assumptions used to calculate the expected environmental benefits of the Project.
   * If the Network Licensee considers that the calculation of environmental benefits is not applicable to the Project, it must provide a qualitative explanation in place of the calculation, including a justification for why the calculation is not applicable.
4. The expected financial benefit the Project could deliver to Customers:
   * The Network Licensee must detail the financial benefit by first estimating the costs of delivering the Solution(s) (at the scale being tested within the Project) through the most efficient method currently in use on the GB transportation system - the Base Case Costs. Network Licensees must then compare the Base Case Costs to the costs of replicating the Method, once it has been proven successful, at the scale being tested in the Project - the Method Costs. The difference between the Base Case Cost and the Method Costs is the financial benefit of the Project.
   * Where a Network Licensee is looking to test more than one Method it should outline the financial benefit of each separate Method.

For a cross sector Project the Licensee must focus on how the benefits to electricity transmission and/or distribution Customers are commensurate to the level of funding requested for that part of the cross sector Project.

The Network Licensee should summarise these benefits in the project benefit summary tables in the first appendix to the submission. We explain how to complete these tables below in the section on appendices.

1. Provides value for money to gas Customers

The Gas NIC will be focussed on Projects which can derive benefits and resulting learning that can be attributed to or are applicable to the transportation system versus elsewhere, taking into account the level of funding requested.

The Network Licensee should:

* Outline how the Project has a potential Direct Impact on the Licensee’s network or on the operations of the GB System Operator.
* Justify that the scale/cost of the Project is appropriate in relation to the learning that is expected to be captured.
* Explain how the processes being employed to ensure that the Project is delivered are at a competitive cost.
* Discuss the expected proportion of the potential benefits which will accrue to the gas network as opposed to other parts of the energy supply chain, and what assumptions have been used to derive the proportion of expected benefits.
* Explain how Project Partners have been identified and selected including details of the process that has been followed and the rationale for selecting Project Participants and ideas for the Projects.
* Outline the costs associated with protection from reliability or availability incentives and the proportion of these costs compared to the proposed benefits of the Project.
* The Network Licensee must also set out where it has or plans to undertake open competitive procurement processes for services or items required for the Project. The Network Licensee must also outline other steps it has taken to ensure that the NIC funding request represents the best value for money to gas transmission and gas distribution customers.
* Where a Network Licensee has not undertaken a competitive procurement process for services or items, it should explain why not and how they are ensuring best value for money in the provision of these services or items

The better the value for money of the components of the Project, the higher the Project will be ranked against this criterion. In addition, as part of the evaluation process, consideration will be given to the impact the proposed Project may have on other parties, including the Network Licensee’s Customers.

1. **Generates knowledge that can be shared amongst all relevant Network Licensee**

The Network Licensee must outline the level of incremental learning expected to be provided by the Project and the applicability of the new learning to the other Network Licensees. The Network Licensee should note that the dissemination aspects of criteria (c) should be covered in Section 5.

1. **Is innovative (ie not business as usual) and has an unproven business case where the innovation risk warrants a limited Development or Demonstration Project to demonstrate its effectiveness**

The NIC is specifically targeted at innovative Projects that a Network Licensee would not undertake in its normal course of business because the specific commercial, technical, operational or regulatory risks associated with the Project are so large that shareholders will not speculatively fund them.

The Network Licensee must demonstrate that the Project it would like to fund is innovative, untested at the scale and circumstance in which the Network Licensee wishes it to be deployed and that new learning will result from the Project.

The Network Licensee must justify why:

* The Project is innovative and provide evidence it has not been tried before;
* The Network Licensee will not fund such a Project under its price control allowance; and
* The Project can only be undertaken with the support of the NIC, including reference to the specific risks (eg commercial, technical, operational or regulatory) associated with the Project.

**(e) Involvement of other partners and external funding**

The Network Licensee must outline the Project Partners and External Funders it has attracted to the Project and outline why they are appropriate to the Project. The Network Licensee must outline how secure the funding is. Any evidence can be provided in the appendices. The Network Licensee can also outline the reasonable endeavours it has deployed to attract External Funding. The Network Licensee can also use this section to highlight any extra contribution it has made to the Project. The Network Licensee must also outline the systems or processes it has used to identify potential Project Partners including:

* + How the Network Licensee has made interested parties aware of the NIC and the collaboration portal;
  + How the Network Licensee has actively sought out ideas for Projects; and
  + The processes the Network Licensee goes through to decide which of the available ideas it takes forward as Gas NIC Projects.

Where a Project Partner is involved in identifying other Project Partners, we would expect the Network Licensee to outline the steps it has taken to ensure that the Project Partner has put in place systems or processes as described above.

The Network Licensee must list the external funding that each Project Partner is providing, what element of the Project they are funding and whether the funding is a financial or in-kind contribution.

1. **Relevance and timing**

The Network Licensee must outline how the Project aims to investigate or solve environmental challenges the gas sector faces, and/or address those developments associated with a move to a low carbon economy which are more likely to happen. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not mean we will necessary favour the Method that is most likely to be successful, as we recognise that there will be benefits associated with a variety of Methods. The Network Licensee should also outline how, if the Method proves successful, it would use it as part of its future business planning and how it would impact on its business plan submissions in future price controls.

**Section 5: Knowledge dissemination**

This section must not exceed 5 pages.

**This is a continuation of criterion (c). The Network Licensee should put a cross in the box on page 29 of the Pro-forma if it does not intend to conform to the default Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) arrangements.**

* 1. **Learning dissemination**

The Network Licensee must outline its plans for learning dissemination, both to other Network Licensees and to other interested parties.

* 1. **IPR**

The Network Licensee must set how it intends to conform to the default IPR arrangements. The Network Licensee must also explain its approach to agree fair and reasonable terms for the future use of any Background IPR and Commercial Products needed for other Licensees to reproduce the Project outcomes.

If a Network Licensee wishes to deviate from the default requirement for IPR, it must demonstrate how the learning from the Project can be meaningfully disseminated to other Licensees and other interested parties. This must take into account any potential constraints or costs caused, or resulting from, the proposed IPR arrangements. The Network Licensee must justify why any non default IPR arrangements provide value for money for consumers.

**Section 6: Project Readiness**

This section must not exceed 8 pages.

**NOTE: The Network** **Licensee should include a detailed Project plan, risk register, risk management and mitigation plans, and contingency plans as part of the appendices.**

The Network Licensee must complete the boxes at the top of page 34 of the Pro-forma to detail the level of protection it requires against cost over-runs and unrealised Direct Benefits. The default level of protection is 5 per cent of the Gas NIC Funding Request for cost overruns and 50 per cent of any shortfall in Direct Benefits. Where a Network Licensee wishes to apply for a level of protection beyond this default level then it must provide justification.

The Network Licensee must provide the following in the Pro-forma:

* Evidence of why the Project can start in a timely manner.
* Evidence of how the costs and benefits have been estimated (this can be supplemented in the appendices).
* Evidence of the measures a Network Licensee will employ to minimise the possibility of cost overruns or shortfalls in Direct Benefits.
* A verification of all information included in the proposal (the processes a Network Licensee has in place to ensure the accuracy of information can be detailed in the appendices).
* How the Project plan would still deliver learning in the event that the take up of low carbon technologies and renewable energy in the Trial area is lower than anticipated in the Full Submission.
* The processes in place to identify circumstances where the most appropriate course of action will be to suspend the Project, pending permission from Ofgem that it can be halted.

If the Project is part of a cross industry venture, the Network Licensee should link, where appropriate, the information above to the overall cross industry venture.

**Section 7: Regulatory issues**

This section must not exceed 3 pages.

The Network Licensee must cross the box at the top of page 42 of the Pro-forma if it might require a derogation, licence consent, licence exemption or a change to the current regulatory arrangements in order to implement the Project.

If a Network Licensee may require a derogation, licence consent, licence exemption or changes to the regulatory arrangements, either as a requirement of the Project, or as contingency in the event that the Project is not successful, then it must provide details of the derogation, licence consent, licence exemption or change to the regulatory arrangements it may require. This must be of sufficient detail to enable Ofgem to judge whether the request can be granted.

**Section 8: Customer Impact**

This section must not exceed 4 pages.

The Network Licensee must outline any interaction or engagement with a Customer or Customer's premises as part of the Project, or any direct impact the Project may have on Customers (eg through charging or contractual arrangements or supply interruptions).

If Project implementation requires planned interruptions, the Network Licensee must detail the expected number and duration of any interruptions or power quality issues to Customers' supply that will be required and the reason for these. It should also indicate if there is any risk of the Project causing unplanned interruptions, the potential number and duration, and the potential cause of these interruptions.

The Network Licensee must set out the steps it has undertaken to investigate alternative ways to implement the Project which could reduce or avoid the need for Customer interruptions. A Network Licensee must describe the alternatives it has investigated and provide a summary of why these alternatives were rejected.

Where a Network Licensee wishes to request protection from any incentive penalties associated with the planned interruptions it has identified, it must include the value of the penalties in its Gas NIC Funding Request.

If a Project involves significant interruptions to Customers’ supply, then we would expect further details to be provided in the appendices.

**Section 9: Successful Delivery Reward Criteria**

This section must not exceed 5 pages*.*

The Network Licensee must set out its proposed Successful Delivery Reward Criteria (SDRC). The Network Licensee should mention up to 8 separate criteria, each under a subsection labelled 9.1 to 9.8.

SDRC are important to all Projects. We expect as a minimum that the SDRC are genuine actions linked to outputs of the Project with a realistic and challenging deadline. The Network Licensee must set out the criterion and then **clearly state the evidence it proposes Ofgem should use to assess performance against the criterion**. The criteria must be linked to meeting the outputs of the Projects identified in the Full Submission and **linked to the Project plan.** For example, they could include meeting identified Project milestones, or achieving the proposals it puts forward for generation of new knowledge to be shared amongst network operators. The criteria must be SMART – specific, measureable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

**Section 10: List of Appendices**

The Network Licensee must provide a list of the appendices which it has submitted alongside the Pro-forma. This must list the name of each appendix and give a short summary of its contents.

**Appendices**

The fully completed Pro-forma (without appendices) should not exceed 54 pages in total. The total length of the submission including the Pro-forma and appendices (but excluding the Full Submission Spreadsheet) should not exceed 100 pages.

The Network Licensee is free to include any further supplementary information it wishes in the appendices. The relevant sections of the Pro-forma should clearly sign-post where in the appendices the reader should turn to.

**Appendix 1: Benefits Tables**

The Network Licensee must complete two summary tables of the benefits the Licensee expects the project to deliver; one for the anticipated financial benefits and one for the anticipated carbon benefits. The information contained in these tables should be consistent with the information captured in the Net Benefit tab of the Full Submission Spreadsheet. The tables should be included as the first appendix of the submission.

The tables require the Licensee to indicate the anticipated benefits of each Method being trialled at three time points - 2020, 2030 and 2050.

* The **financial benefits** table should include the estimated net financial benefit of the project. The financial benefits should be stated in £million. The Licensee should calculate the benefits using the method set out in paragraph 5.47 of the Gas NIC governance document. Benefits should be stated in today’s money, with no assumptions about inflation. Carbon benefits should not be monetised in this table – carbon benefits should be captured separately in the carbon benefits table.
* The **carbon benefits** table should summarise the total carbon benefit the project is expected to deliver and should be stated in CO2 equivalent. The carbon benefits table includes additional space to summarise any additional environmental benefits which cannot be expressed as CO2 equivalent.

Each table should summarise the benefits that the Licensee describes and explains in the Pro-forma. The Licensee should use the ‘Cross-references’ column to indicate where the calculations and assumptions underlying the benefits are explained in detail. The Licensee should include page references.

The Licensee should use the ‘Notes’ column to indicate the circumstances where the benefits may be greater or less than those indicated – this should include higher and lower limits. The Licensee should use this section to reference other relevant information contained elsewhere in the submission.

These tables provide a common format for the Licensees to clearly present project benefits in way that is easily accessible for the Expert Panel. The Licensee **should not** amend the row and column headings. However, the Licensee may add/ remove rows to reflect the number of Methods being trialled.

We recognise that innovation projects, by their nature, are different from one another. We note that this can make it difficult to present the benefits they deliver in a completely consistent way. The Licensee should complete the summary tables as fully as possible in a way that sensibly captures the benefits of its project. The Pro-forma should be used to explain and provide further detail about the benefits captured in the tables.

We are not specifying what assumptions the Licensee should use. The Licensee should clearly explain and justify the assumptions it uses to estimate the benefits of a project. We will assess the robustness of these assumptions during the Full Submission evaluation process.

The summary tables **do not** change or replace the requirements set out in the Gas NIC Governance Document. The nature of our and the Expert Panel’s assessment of the Full Submission will not change.

**Other Appendix requirements**

Below are the minimum requirements we would expect to see in the appendices:

* Maps and network diagrams to help explain the technical detail of the Project.
* A detailed Project plan, risk register, contingency plan and organogram.
* Further detail on Project Partners including what they add to the Project, how much they are contributing financially to the Project, the status of any contractual relationship, the role of the Project Partner in the Project and how their funding relates to the benefits from the Project.
* Further detail on the estimates a Network Licensee has used to calculate the Base Case costs. This should include a brief description of the Base Case method and an explanation of why that is the most efficient method in use on the GB Distribution and Transmission Systems of delivering the Solution (at the scale being tested in the trial). A Network Licensee can expand on the description of costs detailed in the Full Submission Spreadsheet or provided in Section 4 of the Pro-forma and provide a qualitative account of how the Method Costs differ from the Project costs and why.

**Full Submission Spreadsheet**

The Network Licensee must ensure that the completed Full Submission spreadsheet is in a printer friendly format and does not need to be re-sized in order to be read when printed.

**Front Sheet**

A Network Licensee must enter its name and the date on which the Full Submission Spreadsheet is submitted. The tab also describes the colour coding of cells that is used throughout the Full Submission spreadsheet.

**NIC Funding Request**

This tab summarises the Project costs by linking through to other cells in the workbook. The only entry cell is D85 where a Network Licensee must insert the current Bank of England Base rate. Cells C89 to J89 contain the RPI forecast which a Network Licensee must use to forecast costs in future years.

The macro button will calculate the NIC Funding Request.

**Direct Benefits**

A Network Licensee must provide a description of Direct Benefits in column B and enter the value of that benefit in columns C-H (depending upon the year in which the Direct Benefit is anticipated to be realised). No Direct Benefits can be claimed outside of RIIO-X1 price control period. Rows can be added where there are multiple sources of direct benefit.

**Project Cost Summary**

All tables in this tab should link through to the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab. All tables in this tab should link through to the ‘NIC Funding Request’ tab. A Network Licensee must add a new row for each additional project partner in each year and ensure these cells link to the tabs for 2014-15 to 2018-19. There are no input cells in this tab.

**2014/5 – 2019/20**

There is a tab for each regulatory year from 2014-15 through to 2019-20.

In each year tab, a Network Licensee must add an additional row for each line item of expenditure. The Licensee should ensure that the “description”, “task” and “workstream” columns are identical for all regulatory years and the Whole Project tabs even if there is no expenditure in those areas in a given regulatory year. This will ensure the Whole Project tab sums correctly. All expenditures should be included so that the Total Cost in column Q is equal to the Total Project Cost in that year. It must describe the line item in column B, explain the task it is related to in column C, and the workstream it is related to in column D. These line items should be the same and in the same order in each year tab and in the ‘Whole Project’ tab.

Network Licensees must then outline the cost of this line item in columns G-P according to the categories of expenditure which the line items falls into. We have set guidance on cost categories towards the end of this document. Network Licensees must allocate each line item of expenditure to one of the columns marked G - P.

Columns R - X outline the different sources through which Project expenditure can be financed. For each line item, Network Licensees must outline the percentage of expenditure which each of these sources will finance.

The total cost of each line item (columns G - P) must be multiplied by the percentage of expenditure from each source (columns R - X) to complete columns Z - CL. Network Licensees can refer to the Full Submission spreadsheet example circulated by Ofgem to see how this works. We have included these links for the rows shown. Where new rows are added, Network Licensees must ensure that the formulae are copied down.

A Network Licensee must replace the ‘Project Partner 1’, ‘Project Partner 2’ and ‘Project Partner 3’ with the names of their Project Partners or External Funders. A Network Licensee may need to add new columns if it has more than three Project Partners or External Funders who are providing funding. These additional Project Partners or External Funders must also be named and a Network Licensee must add a new row in the ‘Project Cost Summary’ tab for each additional Project Partners or External Funders.

A Network Licensee must ensure that once it has completed these tabs for each line item of expenditure, the Total row is linked through to the relevant year table in the ‘Project Cost Summary’ tab. The Total row in each year tab is set to sum all the cells above it.

**Whole Project**

A Network Licensee should link each yearly tab to the ‘Whole Project’ tab so that the Total Cost columns (G - P) in the Whole Cost Project are the sum of the yearly costs of each line item. A Network Licensee will also need to calculate the funding sources in columns R to W using the data in the yearly tabs and the Total Cost in columns G - P.

A Network Licensee must complete this tab in the same way as the ‘2014-15’ to ‘2019-20’ tabs. This tab should include each line item of expenditure for the Project. This tab also contains two extra columns hidden in the ‘2014-15’ to ‘2019-20’ tabs. These are in columns E and F. In column E, a Network Licensee must enter the unit cost of any item described as ‘Equipment’; the number of person days of any costs described as ‘Labour’; the payment per user\* of any costs described as ‘Payments to users’; and the expected length of any contract and contractor days required for costs described as ‘Contractor’.

In column F, Network Licensees must provide a brief description of the role of that line item in the Project. This could take the form of the function of a piece of equipment, the staff type of labour costs, or the tasks or role to be performed by Contractors.

There is a check in columns CN-CW to ensure that the total amount allocated to each funding source is equal to the total cost of each line item. A Network Licensee must copy the formula in columns CN-CW to ensure that such a check is undertaken for each line where they have entered data.

\* There should be an individual line item for each type of payment to users.

**Project Direction costs**

A Network Licensee must complete this tab to produce a list under each cost category of the line items and the total costs which would be funded by the NIC, the Network Licensee Compulsory Contribution, any Network Licensee Extra Contribution and any Direct Benefits. This tab forms the basis of the Project Budget that will be included in the Project Direction in the event that the Project is awarded funding. This list must be linked directly to the relevant cells of the ‘Whole Project’ sheet – the cost data will be in columns CA-CF of this sheet (under Outstanding Funding Required) whilst the line item description will be in column D. Network Licensees will need to insert rows to add line items under each cost category. The table should include every line item in the whole project which is being funded by the NIC, the Network Licensee Compulsory Contribution, any Network Licensee Extra Contribution and any Direct Benefits.

If awarded funding, a Network Licensee will be required to report where the costs identified in this tab have changed by 5 per cent or more. When drafting the Project Direction, Ofgem will take into account any lower level costs contained in this tab and may decide to merge them into one line item against which Network Licensees will report.

**Net Benefits**

The ‘Net Benefits’ tab has six tables (a) to (f). These reflect the requirements of Evaluation Criterion a).

Costs

Evaluation Criterion a) requires Network Licensees to detail the financial benefit by estimating the costs of delivering the Solution(s) (at the scale being tested within the Project) through the most efficient method currently in use in GB’s gas transportation system - the Base Case Costs. Network Licensees must compare the Base Case Costs to the costs of replicating the Method, once it has been proven successful, at the scale being tested in the Project - the Method Costs. The difference between the Base Case Cost and the Method Costs is the financial benefit of the Project.

A Network Licensee must complete table (a) to provide a clear breakdown of the Base Case Costs. For instance, if it is a reinforcement scheme, Network Licensees must include each item of capital and operational expenditure in column B and in column C provide a description of what that expenditure was for e.g. a transformer. Network Licensees will need to add rows for each method in order to detail each item of expenditure. We would expect Network Licensees to provide a description and justification of the Base Case Costs in the Pro-forma (Section 4(b)) and in the Appendices if necessary.

A Network Licensee must complete table (b) to provide a clear breakdown of the Method Costs. This is not the costs of the Trial but the costs of replicating the Method on the same scale as business as usual. A Network Licensee will need to add rows to the Project Method Cost table to detail each item of capital and operational expenditure. We would expect a Network Licensee to outline a qualitative case of how the Project Method Costs differed from the Project costs in the Pro-forma (section 4(b)) and in the appendices if necessary.

Network Capacity

Evaluation Criterion a) also requires Network Licensees to outline the network capacity released by each separate Method(s) being trialled in the Project.

A Network Licensee must complete table (c) to set out the capacity made available on the transmission system by the Method in kilowatts. This should represent the additional headroom released on the transmission system following implementation of the Method.

Delivery Time

Evaluation Criterion a) requires Network Licensees to outline how much quicker the Method(s) being trialled releases this capacity compared to the most efficient method currently in operation on the gas transportation system.

A Network Licensee must complete table (d) to set out the time it would take in months to deliver the capacity as per table (c) under the Base Case. A Network Licensee must also complete table (e) to set out the time it would take in months to replicate the Method on the same scale as part of a roll out.

Roll Out

Evaluation Criterion a) requires Network Licensees to describe the potential for replication of the Method(s) across GB in terms of the number of sites, or the percentage of the gas transportation system where the Method could be rolled out.

A Network Licensee must complete table (f) to set out the estimated number of sites, or percentage of the gas transportation system, where the Method could be rolled out over the years to 2040.

A Network Licensee must complete tables (a) to (f) for each Method it is trialling. Where necessary, a Network Licensee should create new tables for each Method it is trialling.

**Cost Categories**

The following guidelines should be followed when considering the category under which Project costs should be described. A Network Licensee must not include any costs which have been funded as part of any previous price control.

**Labour**

The costs of Network Licensee staff working on the Project.

**Equipment**

The equipment, materials and consumables that will be purchased for the sole purpose of carrying out the Project.

**Contractor**

The costs of any non Network Licensee staff who are employed to work on the Project.

**IT/Communications**

The purchase, development, installation and maintenance of computer and telecommunications systems and applications for the purposes of the Project. Includes:

* IT/Telecoms Network and/or Services Provision
* IT/Telecoms Network and/or Services Maintenance
* Telecoms Voice and Data Network Usage
* Telecoms Telecontrol Network
* IT Servers Support Services
* IT Environmental Control Systems
* IT Clients Support/services
* Telecoms Management
* IT Management
* IT Applications maintenance and running costs
* IT New Application software and upgrade costs

**IPR Costs**

Costs of assessing, evaluating and licensing intellectual property which is anticipated to be produced as part of the Project.

**Travel & Expenses**

Any travel and expenses costs which are not business as usual. For instance, if the Project was in a remote location and required extensive travel for contractors or Network Licensees’ employees. It would also cover any long distance (overseas) trips planned as part of the Project or required for contractors or staff to undertake work in the Project.

**Payments to users**

Any monetary payment or discount which is provided to a Customer or user of the GB transportation system in return for a predetermined action which the Network Licensee has requested.

**Contingency**

Costs which a Network Licensee has included in the Project budget to cater for any cost over-runs.

**Decommissioning**

Costs of removing or decommissioning any part of the Project, eg equipment or IT infrastructure

**Other**

Project costs which do not fit with any of the categories above.

1. [1] A cross industry venture consists of two or more Projects which are interlinked with one Project requesting funding from the Gas NIC and the other(s) from the Electricity NIC or LCN Fund. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)