Electricity Network Innovation Competition Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Project: Black Start from Distributed Energy Resources

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code	ESOEN01	Question Number	43
Question date	30 Aug 2018	Answer date	03 Sep 2018
Submission section question relates to	2		
Topic	Robust Methodology		
Question	Please explain how many generators will require physical trials within the project to demonstrate to provide meaningful learning regarding the ability of the SO to procure Black Start services from DER? How will you ensure that sufficient DERs are recruited to participate in the project?		
Notes on question			
Answer	The need for physical trials will be determined during the project once the capabilities and requirements for Black Start from DER have been more thoroughly reviewed and the key challenges identified. We propose 2 live trials, each involving a number of DER facilities, as a sensible estimate at this time. Detailed proposals for testing will be drawn up towards the end of Phase 1 for review and approval by the project Steering Committee. It is possible that those proposals will include fewer or more than 2 trials, subject to what is deemed useful, cost effective and deliverable within the project timescale. In defining the trials we aim to cover a range of DER technology types and this may influence the number of different tests if there are issues specific to particular technologies. We expect the other stages of the Technical workstream, including power system studies and offline testing, to produce significant and meaningful learning. Likewise, the Organisational and Procurement & Regulation workstreams, including the proposed desktop exercises and extensive industry consultation, will deliver learning essential to facilitating future procurement of Black Start services from DER. The three workstreams will inform each other and it is the combination of testing across all three that will ensure meaningful learning for the whole industry.		

	We have addressed the recruitment of DERs in our answers to other questions, particularly Q25, Q26, Q35, Q37, Q38 and Q40. We have already engaged with a significant number of DER owners/operators and have plans for further engagement between now and project start in January. We have budgeted to compensate DER on a cost neutral basis to take part in a trial, so that there is no commercial barrier to participating, as explained in our response to Q35. The level of interest in the project and stated willingness to participate has been high, evidenced in part by the letters of support we have received.
Attachments	