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	6
Question date	7 August 2018	Answer date	9 August 2018
Submission section question relates to	n/a		
Topic	b)Value for Money		
Question	Please explain why the project costs are focussed on procedural and commercial arrangements as well as desktop exercising rather than testing the demonstrating (or not) the feasibility of DER to provide black start services. Is there the potential that this investment could be wasted if it is not technically feasible to use DER to black start some of the system.		
Notes on question			
Answer	Our proposed approach tackles 3 challenges with Black Start from DER: 1. Technical – how can different types of DER combine and coordinate to provide Black Start services in different network scenarios 2. Organisational – how do roles, responsibilities, processes and systems of each of the key organisations (ESO, DNO, DER) need to adapt and evolve. This work stream also includes assessment and testing of a telecoms solution 3. Procurement and Regulatory – how do these frameworks need to change to enable the technical and organisational solutions to be implemented, ensuring best value to consumers We will be demonstrating the technical feasibility of DER to provide these services. But we understand that this is far from just a technical problem – the key challenge is how everything is brought together in a coherent, robust and reliable service. It is fair to say that if our proposed approach turns out to be technically infeasible, then some investment will be at risk. All innovation projects bear a certain amount of technical risk. However, we feel that we have mitigated for this risk by careful project scoping and management. Our case study approach will methodically work through different scenarios, starting with		

	analysis of how it will (or will not) physically work before designing appropriate procedural and commercial arrangements to suit. We will only demonstrate (through desktop exercises or live trials) those scenarios that have been shown to be viable in our network studies.
Attachments	