

Network Innovation Competition 2020 Supplementary Answer form

Project Name	HyNTS FutureGrid Phase 1		
Question number	#6	Pro forma section	9
Question date	10/09/2020	Answer date	14/09/2020
Question summary	The timelines for the deliverables on the project are limited. How are you assuring a high degree of confidence in achieving against those timelines, as well as identifying and mitigating issues that may delay the project?		

Answer (please retain document formatting and do not exceed 2 pages unless otherwise agreed with Ofgem)

The level 1 project plan shared within the final submission utilises timeline data from previous projects for large scale testing at DNV GL Spadeadam. For example, the H21 project and comparative projects for other clients of DNV GL are developed on a similar basis. There is a design, build and testing phase to the project set across 18 – 24 months, providing confidence that the 24 month programme for the FutureGrid facility construction and testing is appropriate. A more detailed level 2 plan is being constructed as part of the Roadmap to FutureGrid project and will enable us to more closely track each activity on the critical path and ensure the success of the project. The FutureGrid project team has developed a risk management log which is live and currently being tracked on a monthly basis both via the Roadmap to FutureGrid NIA project reviews and the NGGT weekly project reviews to ensure

that our mitigations activities are progressing. This will provide an early warning if any of the key deliverables are slipping to ensure we do not see delays in the project timeline. A key activity and the highest scoring risks at this time, are around the asset condition and availability ready for the beginning of the project. This is being addressed with site visits and assessments, that have already commenced, to support the final project submission.

As stated in the final submission the FutureGrid project team will conduct monthly project reviews throughout the NIC project, with quarterly stakeholder and steering meetings to ensure alignment with stakeholders and maintain delivery to plan. In line with previous NIA and NIC projects, we will use the NGGT project management systems to deliver the FutureGrid project. We have used the ND500 framework for capital delivery to identify the key activities in the build and commissioning of a new site, which we have built into the level 1 and 2 plans. These will be monitored by our capital delivery project lead within the project and supported by our relevant business units throughout the project.

The Roadmap to FutureGrid NIA project will be completed with the same project team including project engineers and subject matter technical experts prior to the HyNTS FutureGrid-Phase 1 commencing in April 2021. This planning phase will ensure the design of the build as well as the master testing plan is tailored to suit timescales available for build and operation using available decommissioned assets. DNV GL Spadeadam constructs and undertakes large scale testing projects regularly and fully understands the challenges and complexities. By building on the DNV GL site, there will be no potential surprises in terms of permissions or environmental impacts which might normally delay a project of this size. Regular project meetings and the steering board will be part of the project schedule and will continuously review the project plan and project risk register.