

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/009035-2026>

Tender

## **Innovation Academic Framework**

NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-009035

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-061465 ([view related notices](#))

Published 2 February 2026, 2:49pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

WS4997397443

### **Description**

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) is seeking collaboration with universities to support delivery of its innovation strategy over the next five years

(April 2026 - Mar 2031). The primary objectives during this period include facilitating the energy system transition (including Clean Power 2030 and net zero

2050) and providing support for vulnerable consumers.

University partners will be expected to contribute both resources and technical expertise to the development and execution of Research & Development (R&D)

projects. We expect universities to run projects within Technology Readiness Levels 2 to 8 which includes research, development and demonstration projects.

These initiatives will enable NGET to ensure a safe and reliable electricity network, enhance consumer value, achieve decarbonisation of future networks, and create a positive impact on society.

NGET will invite universities to propose new projects that address specific needs, while also encouraging the generation of innovative project ideas. In addition to individual innovation projects, partners will play a crucial role in fostering innovation through strategic development, knowledge sharing and promoting an innovation-driven culture. Knowledge sharing may include supporting NGET in running dissemination events across the energy sector and other industries to

communicate the outputs, learnings and benefits from projects, as well as using these events to learn from others.

## **Commercial tool**

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

## **Total value (estimated)**

- £70,000,000 excluding VAT
- £84,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

## **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031
- Possible extension to 31 March 2033
- 7 years

Description of possible extension:

Up to 2 years of extensions if required.

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 73111000 - Research laboratory services
- 73120000 - Experimental development services
- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services
- 73300000 - Design and execution of research and development

## **Contract locations**

- UK - United Kingdom

---

## **Framework**

### **Open framework scheme end date (estimated)**

31 March 2033

### **Maximum number of suppliers**

Unlimited

**Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers**

0%

**Framework operation description**

Schedule of rates to be provided. Direct allocation or direct competition, dependant on the project.

**Award method when using the framework**

Either with or without competition

**Contracting authorities that may use the framework**

Establishing party only

---

**Submission**

**Submission type**

Requests to participate

**Tender submission deadline**

12 February 2026, 11:59pm

## Submission address and any special instructions

Via National Grid's internal Ariba system.

[www.ariba.com](http://www.ariba.com)

## Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

## Languages that may be used for submission

English

## Award decision date (estimated)

16 February 2026

---

## Award criteria

| Name      | Type    | Weighting |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Technical | Quality | 70%       |
| Price     | Price   | 30%       |

---

## Other information

### Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

---

## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Competitive flexible procedure

### **Dynamic market being used**

[Innovation Qualified Utilities Dynamic Market](#)

### **Special regime**

Utilities

### **Competitive flexible procedure description**

Evaluation Stage No

Evaluation Stage Description of Evaluation Methodology

Shortlisting Strategy

1 ITT Stage 1

Desktop Evaluation and Moderations

- Commercial Price & Non-Commercial

Shortlisting may occur at this stage.

2

Negotiation

(Optional Stage at NG

discretion)

Price Negotiation and potential negotiation in respect of proposed deviations to the Framework T& C's.

Shortlisting may occur

at this stage.

3 Final ITT Moderation

Moderation of Commercial and Non-Commercial Submissions. Confirm winning

### **Reduced tendering period**

Yes

Using dynamic market - minimum 10 days

---

### **Contracting authority**

#### **NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC**

- Companies House: 02366977
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHHJ-6513-BWZT

1 - 3 Strand

London

WC2N 5EH

United Kingdom

Email: [box.GP.UKBuyerNGET@nationalgrid.com](mailto:box.GP.UKBuyerNGET@nationalgrid.com)

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Private utility