

# National Grid System Operator

Network Innovation Competition (NIC) call for proposals 2018

» Up to £70m funding available

» Submission deadline 30 November 2017

A proposal leading to a successful bid in 2018 would join our cutting edge NIC innovation portfolio alongside projects EFCC and Power Potential:

## EFCC

Enhanced Frequency Control Capability

[Find out more](#)

Project value: £9.3m

## Power Potential

Maximising the use of distributed energy resources

[Find out more](#)

Project value: £9.6m

For further information please contact the SO Innovation team

[Box.SO.Innovation@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Box.SO.Innovation@nationalgrid.com)

## We want your ideas for a 2018 System Operator NIC programme

We're calling for proposals to develop substantial innovations for the System Operator of GB. To help focus your ideas we have mapped out some key themes and ideas where we would welcome proposals. Read on to learn what our challenge areas are and the process for submitting your ideas.

### The 2018 Themes

#### System Operability

We are always looking for ways to improve how we operate the system. Can you help us operate the current system more affordably or more flexibly? Can you provide us with new tools to operate the future energy system?

#### Whole System

We are seeing a change in how networks behave due to increasing distributed energy resource and consumers more actively managing demand. To meet these challenges we need to develop joined up approaches across transmission and distribution. How can you help us facilitate the development of whole system thinking?

#### New Markets

We need new, more open marketplaces to facilitate new technology and innovation. Can you think of a novel commercial arrangement or service that will help operate the system?

#### Big Data

A more complex energy system is causing a huge increase in data that we require enhanced capabilities to process and analyse. What new solutions do you have that will enable us to make use of all this data?

We are calling for proposals to develop substantial innovations for the System Operator. To help focus your ideas we have mapped out some key themes and challenges where we would welcome proposals. Read on to learn what our challenge areas are and the process for submitting your ideas.

## Challenge Theme

	System Operability	Whole System	New Markets	Big Data
DSOs, Whole System Operability and Markets	✓	✓		✓
Less Inertia	✓		✓	✓
Data / Analytics	✓	✓	✓	✓
Harder to Forecast Demand	✓			✓
Integrating More Inverter-Connected Generation	✓			✓
Supporting Voltage and Reactive Power on the Network	✓			✓
Constraint Management	✓			✓
Novel Black Start Techniques	✓		✓	✓
Forecasting Embedded Generation	✓			✓
New Commercial Mechanisms		✓	✓	✓
Uncertain Long-term Demand Profiles	✓			✓
Monitoring & Settlement			✓	✓

NOTES ON NIC There is a fund of £70m available each year to Electricity networks. Projects must be innovative, save network customers money and have a carbon or environmental benefit. Proposed projects are subject to an Initial Screening Proposal (ISP) stage in April 2018 in which Ofgem will give a go/no go decision to proceed to full project submission. Costs for development of the project are not recoverable. To find out more please visit our website [www.nationalgrid.com/innovation](http://www.nationalgrid.com/innovation)

# The process

In the event that your proposal shows merit but is not progressed via NIC, we will look at whether it can still be funded as an NIA project from our allowance.



## Next steps

A proposal submission and guidance document form can be downloaded here <https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/investment-and-innovation/innovation/systemoperator-innovation/network-innovation-competition>

If you have any questions, require subject matter expert (SME) advice on completing a proposal, or to submit your proposal please contact us at [Box.SO.Innovation@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Box.SO.Innovation@nationalgrid.com)

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