

PRIOR INFORMATION NOTICE OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY CONNECTION

Manx Utilities are investigating opportunities to access renewable electrical energy sources which may operate in local/adjacent marine spaces.

The optimised level of renewable generation which can operate within the Isle of Man's power system has been evaluated to be 40MW which is equivalent to average Island electrical demand. This demand varies on Island between c.20MW in summer nights, to c.75MW over the winter evening peak. Plans are being developed to achieve the 40MW renewable threshold by 2026 through Manx Utilities' own wind and solar generation assets, which will be complemented by private generation which will be installed 'behind-the-meter'.

To increase the level of renewable generation connected to the Island's power system beyond the 40MW threshold, any excess generation capacity must ideally have access to another energy market because that capacity cannot be consumed within the local electricity system.

Manx Utilities are seeking to identify offshore energy developers with active Great Britain or Ireland grid connection agreements who would be willing to connect to the Island's power system via a sub-sea cable. It is believed that offshore wind developments may offer the most viable development opportunity, however; consideration will be given to any deliverable marine based renewable solution.

To be considered for participation in this initial phase of the process, individuals or organisations must (or should be able to detail how they intend):

- Either be able to demonstrate an existing current grid connection offer to Great Britain or Ireland, or be in the process of obtaining a grid connection offer for their offshore energy development;
 - Be able to demonstrate previous experience in the successful development of zero-emission generation installations in the British Isles, from concept, through a tender process to the delivery of an operational site;
 - Be able to demonstrate how the offshore renewable energy development could be connected into the Isle of Man power system without compromising security of supply;
 - Have an understanding of the current market and legal constraints of a development which exist between the Isle of Man and neighbouring jurisdictions and how this may impact a potential connection;
 - Show consideration for the appropriateness of combining offshore generation with electricity storage (if this forms part of your proposal);
 - Describe the proposed route to market for electricity sales, including sales to Manx Utilities if appropriate, and show experience of network nomination and balancing requirements;
 - Demonstrate experience of delivering a successful Environmental Impact Assessment process for offshore renewable developments including any subsequent mitigation;
 - Have the capabilities, capacity and resources to complete the construction of such an installation within the next fifteen years;
 - Have the necessary consents/leases/licenses from the Crown Estate, Isle of Man Government or other appropriate jurisdiction(s) to construct the proposed project.
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Responding to this Prior Information Notice

Interested parties will be requested to submit a brief response clearly stating how you or your organisation satisfy the requirements set out above that will allow the Manx Utilities Transition Programme Board to evaluate the options available on the market.

Should you feel that your organisation can fulfil these requirements and you wish to participate in this exercise please Express an Interest on the Isle of Man Government Procurement Portal at the following website <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/iomg.aspx/Home>. Please select 'Register' from the menu on the left side of the Home Page.

Once you have registered your organisation you should select this project from the list of 'Current Tenders' and 'View Details' then click 'Express an Interest' at the bottom of the page. Once you have expressed an interest, the 'Form of Acknowledgement' document will become available to complete. In order to progress to the next stage you will need to complete the 'Form of Acknowledgement' document before the Expression of Interest deadline detailed below.

Should you have any difficulty in using the website or registering your interest in this way, please e-mail procurement@gov.im.

By responding to this request it must be understood that, at this stage, we are only exploring options, no commitment is intended or implied and this request may or may not progress through to a competitive tender exercise. An invitation to tender may follow but we are not under any obligation to issue invitations to responders to this stage.

Expressions of interest and your response must be submitted through the above Portal by **12 noon on Friday, 2nd February 2024.**
