

Pre-Qualification Information and Questionnaire (PQQ)

For

Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters

Lot 2: Smart Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Head-End System (HES)

The questionnaire should be completed and returned in accordance with the attached information and instructions

Questionnaire No. :	CON 1162
Contracting Entity Reference:	D20/CON/1162
Date Issued:	As stated in eTenders
Return Completed Version by:	As stated in eTenders
For the attention of:	ESB Networks Procurement
PQQ Submission Method:	PQQ must be submitted via the eTenders system. No other method of submission will be accepted.

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SECTION A: INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE NOTES FOR APPLICANT

A.1 INTRODUCTION

Electricity Supply Board ('**ESB**'), the Contracting Entity¹, has created a Contract Notice on the eTenders website regarding the procurement of Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters and Lot 2: Smart Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), Head-End System (HES). This notice is automatically published to the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) via the Tenders Electronic Daily (TED) system.

ESB was established in 1927 as a statutory corporation in the Republic of Ireland under the Electricity (Supply) Act 1927. With a holding of approximately 97.1%, ESB is majority owned by the Irish Government. The remaining approximate 2.9% is held by the trustees of an Employee Share Ownership Plan.

As a strong, diversified, vertically integrated utility, ESB operates right across the electricity market: from generation, through transmission and distribution, to supply. In addition, ESB extracts further value at certain points along this chain: supplying gas, using our networks to carry fibre for telecommunications, developing electric vehicle public charging infrastructure and more.

ESB is a leading Irish utility focused on providing excellent customer service and maintaining our financial strength. We have a regulated asset base of approximately €12 billion with 30% of electricity generation capacity in the all-island market. We currently supply electricity to approximately 2 million customers throughout the island of Ireland. ESB Group employs approximately 8,000 people.

ESB's strategy, '*Driven to Make a Difference: Achieving Net Zero by 2040*' includes a clear direction to take action and exercise leadership in sustainability. Our strategy sets a clear pathway to achieve net zero emissions in a way that supports our customers and ensures ESB's continued growth. ESB are committed to leading the transition to a reliable and affordable net zero future.

ESB seeks to purchase supplies, services and works that are produced or delivered in a manner that has the most positive environmental, social and economic impacts possible over their entire lifecycle. ESB procurement processes will be aligned with the standards from ISO20400, Sustainable Procurement.

ESB have created a Sustainability Leadership Plan which sets out our ambitions and the actions we will take as they relate to the three pillars of sustainability - People, Planet and Place.

Full details of ESB's Sustainability Leadership Plan can be viewed here: [ESB Sustainable Leadership Plan](#). ESB requires that the successful Contractor emerging from the Procurement process be familiar with our Sustainable Leadership Plan.

ESB is a founding member of the Irish Supply Chain Sustainability School. The school's aim is to support and develop skills and knowledge in sustainability in the built environment.

Further details can be found here: [Supply Chain Sustainability School Ireland](#).

Further information about ESB can be accessed by clicking on the following link: <https://www.esb.ie/who-we-are/about-esb>

¹ Defined terms used in this PQO are set out in Section A.1.5 (*Definitions*).

A.1.1 General Description of the Proposed Scope of the Procurement

ESB Networks has been advancing its Smart Metering activities for several years. As part of the ongoing work to maintain and enhance the Smart Metering landscape, this procurement aims to implement a multi-vendor Head-End System (HES) together with Single-Phase/Three-Phase Whole Current and CT Smart Electricity Meters (SEMs), with full deployment and operational readiness required by the beginning of 2028. For the purposes of this procurement process and all associated documentation, this procurement of a Smart Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) HES and smart electricity meters will be referred to as Meter+.

The energy sector has experienced profound change in recent years, driven by rapid technological innovation, evolving regulatory frameworks, and shifting customer expectations. As a leading utility provider, ESB Networks remains committed to proactively adapting to these developments to ensure the continued delivery of reliable, efficient, and sustainable energy services. The procurement of the next-generation Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) is a critical enabler in achieving these objectives and represents a key milestone in ESB Networks' long-term strategy for a modern, flexible, and customer centric electricity network.

ESB anticipates procuring:

- Manufacture, supply, and delivery of up to 1.5 million Single-phase and Three-Phase Whole Current meters, as well as Single-Phase and Three-Phase CT meters, to be drawn down incrementally over the contract term, in line with ESB Networks' deployment requirements.
- Development (inclusive of Security Architecture), implementation, and integration of the required IT systems, including but not limited to the following:
 - A Head-End System (HES) capable of integrating with multiple SEM vendor's products concurrently, delivering high levels of interoperability across multiple devices, communications and system vendors within a complex AMI environment.
 - A Head-End System (HES) capable of meeting ESB Networks' functional, security, and performance requirement for 1.5 million SEMs initially and the capacity to scale up to potentially 3 million SEMs during the contract term.
 - The integration and development of an adaptor between the HES and the Siemens Energy IP Meter Data Management System (MDMS).
 - All associated integrations with existing ESB Networks systems and operational platforms.
 - Integration with Mobile Network Operator systems.
- Implementation of the AC Electricity Smart Meter Generic Companion Profile (ACE SM GCP) and local customisations to support the reliable and secure communication between the HES and SEMs across Wide Area Network (WAN) technologies.
- System implementation services, including configuration, testing, migration, and commissioning of the proposed IT systems.
- Ongoing support, maintenance, and management services to ensure continuity of operations, system performance, and long-term lifecycle management.

A.1.2 Duration

At the date of issuing this PQQ, it is envisaged that the Framework Agreements will be awarded in Q1 2027. This Procurement will consist of two (2) Lots, the high-level details of which are as follows:

Lot 1 – Manufacture, supply, delivery and support of up to 1,500,000 SEMs, which will comprise of a six-year term with the option, mutually agreed, to extend up to an additional nine (9) year term to cover ongoing IT and technology support and maintenance services for the SEMs asset lifecycle from installation to decommission and removal.

Lot 2 – Development (inclusive of Security Architecture), implementation, and integration of the required IT systems, including but not limited to the following:

A multi-vendor Head-End System (HES) delivering high levels of interoperability across multiple devices, communications and system vendors within a complex AML environment that is capable of meeting ESB Networks' functional, security, and performance requirements along with adaptor between the HES and the Siemens Energy IP Meter Data Management System (MDMS).

Lot 2 will comprise of a six-year term, with the option, mutually agreed, to extend up to a maximum of an additional nine (9) year term to the lifetime of the system up to decommission. Ongoing IT and technology support and maintenance services will be required for the IT systems asset lifecycle from installation to decommission.

Applicants can submit a response for one or both of the Lots. Where an Applicant applies for both Lots, each Lot will be evaluated independently and any pass/fail criteria or minimum score thresholds (where applicable) must be met separately for each Lot.

A per section B.9, **Applicants will only be eligible to submit a tender at ITT stage for the Lot(s) for which they submit a response at PQQ stage and for which they successfully progress from the PQQ stage to the Tender stage.** An Applicant that submits a PQQ response for one Lot only, will not be invited to tender for the other Lot.

The Contracting Entity makes no representation that it will procure any materials and/or services exclusively from the Frameworks or from any individual Contractor who is appointed to a Framework.

This procurement competition is intended to establish a multi-party Framework Agreement for Lot 1. It is envisaged that a framework agreement will be awarded to up to two Contractors. The framework will be awarded based on the most economically advantageous tenderers (MEAT) following completion of the procurement process.

As this is a framework agreement, orders may be issued to one or more Contractors at the discretion of the Contracting Entity. There is no guarantee of any order volume, and suppliers shall have no expectation, express or implied, of receiving orders following contract award.

For LOT 2 it is envisaged that the framework agreement will be awarded to a single Contractor. This framework will be awarded based on the most economically advantageous tenderer (MEAT) following completion of the procurement process. As this is a Framework Agreement, orders may be issued to the Contractor at the discretion of the Contracting Entity. There is no guarantee of any order volume, and the Contractor shall have no expectation, express or implied, of receiving orders following award of the Framework Agreement.

Award of any Framework Agreement remains subject to the Contracting Entity's formal approval process. No Framework Agreements will be entered into until all approvals are in place and the standstill period has concluded. All Tenderers will be notified of the award decision and the applicable standstill period prior to execution of the Framework Agreement.

In the event of poor performance by a framework member, the Contracting Entity will have the right to temporarily suspend the member from the framework (and therefore the member will not be eligible for any future call-off contracts awarded under the framework) until demonstration of improved performance to the satisfaction of the Contracting Entity, or, for serious non-performance, to remove the member from the framework.

A.1.3 Form of Contract

The Contracting Entity is preparing a draft Framework Agreement for each Lot that will be provided to the pre-qualified and short-listed Applicants at the next stage of the Procurement process i.e. the Request for Tender stage. The draft Framework Agreement will set out the terms and conditions pertaining to the technical, commercial, financial, safety and legal requirements for the manufacture, supply and delivery of Smart Electricity Meters and the development, implementation, integration and support of associated IT systems.

A.1.4 Important Note and Disclaimer

The description and information set out above in this section A.1. (*Introduction*) is for information only and your attention is drawn to the disclaimers in this regard set forth in section A.4 (*Procurement Rules – General*) hereof. The description and information is intended to give Applicants a high-level overview of the proposed scope of work, but it is preliminary and indicative only. It does not purport to contain all the information that an Applicant may require in connection with the Project. It will be superseded by the detailed specific information that will be set out in the Request for Tender documents that will be issued to the pre-qualified and short-listed Applicants arising out of this PQQ.

A.1.5. Definitions

For the purposes of this Pre-Qualification Questionnaire, the capitalised words and expressions that follow have the meanings hereby assigned to them unless the context specifically requires otherwise. It should also be noted that references to the singular include the plural and vice versa.

Where there is a reference to compliance with legislation, standards, rules, notices or authorities which apply in the Republic of Ireland, these shall be deemed to include references to the equivalent legislation, standards, rules, notices or authorities in the jurisdiction in which the Applicant or Applicant Member operates.

Applicant means the person or persons (including where the Applicant is a Consortium) that has or have applied to the Contracting Entity by submitting a PQQ Response. For clarity, the Applicant must be the same legal person or persons, firm or company that is intended to enter into the Framework Agreement in the event that the Applicant is successful in the Procurement process;

Applicant Member means, in the case of an Applicant which is a Consortium, each of those persons, firms or companies that are considered to form part of the Consortium (including Shareholders in the case of an incorporated Consortium) as set out in the Applicant's Response;

Call-off Contract means any contract to be entered into by the Contracting Entity and the Contractor for the provision of materials and/or services by the Contractor to the Contracting Entity under the terms and conditions stated in the applicable Framework Agreement.

Consortium means a consortium, joint venture or group of two or more legal persons, acting jointly and submitting a single application (and the term 'Consortia' shall be construed accordingly);

Contracting Entity means Electricity Supply Board ('ESB'), a statutory corporation having its principal place of business at 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower, Dublin 2, which expression shall include any of its assignees or transferees in the event that the Contracting Entity, at its discretion, assigns or transfers the Procurement to any of its affiliated companies;

Contract Notice means the contract notice published in the OJEU and on the eTenders website eTenders.gov.ie in respect of this Procurement;

Contractor(s) means the legal entities with which the Contracting Entity will ultimately enter into a Framework Agreement with for each Lot; In this Pre-Qualification Questionnaire the use of the word 'Contractor' should be interpreted as meaning supplier, service provider, consultant or contractor, as appropriate;

Data Protection Laws means all applicable national and EU data protection laws, regulations and guidelines including but not limited to the EU Data Act (Regulation 2023/2854), Data Protection Act 2018, Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (the "General Data Protection Regulation"), and any guidelines and codes of practice issued by the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner or other supervisory authority for data protection in Ireland from time to time;

Entity Being Relied Upon means any person or entity on whose resources the Applicant or any Applicant Member is or will be relying for the purpose of responding to this PQQ;

ESB means Electricity Supply Board, a statutory corporation, having its principal place of business at 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower, Dublin 2;

Framework means any framework that will be established by the Contracting Entity for the provision of any materials and/or services by a Contractor or Contractors

Framework Agreement means the framework agreement that will be executed between the Contracting Entity and the successful Contractor(s) that will govern the overall relationship of the parties in relation to the provision of materials and/or services by the Contractor(s) to the Contracting Entity.

"Insurer(s)" for the purpose of section B.3 means insurers or insurance brokers authorised by the relevant competent authority to underwrite that line of business in Ireland and which have a Standard & Poor's (or equivalent) credit rating of at least A- (or equivalent);

Lead Consortium Member means, where the Applicant is a Consortium, the Applicant Member nominated in section B.1.4 as Lead Consortium Member;

Meter Data Management System (MDMS) means an IT system comprising a suite of software applications primarily responsible for the receipt, processing and storage of electricity meter data, readings and associated events or alerts, which interfaces with enterprise back-office IT systems (e.g. SAP) and the HES.

OJEU means the Official Journal of the European Union;

Pre-Qualification Questionnaire or **PQQ** means this pre-qualification questionnaire that is issued by the Contracting Entity to pre-qualify and short-list the Applicants who will then be issued with an Request for Tender (together with any written clarifications issued by the Contracting Entity in respect of the PQQ);

PQQ Response Deadline means 12.00 noon GMT as stated in eTenders being the deadline for the receipt by the Contracting Entity of PQQ Response;

Preferred Tenderer(s) means the tenderer(s) selected or provisionally selected from the Request for Tender process for each Lot;

Procurement means this procurement pursuant to the OJEU Contract Notice which includes the entire negotiated process;

Project means the Smart Meter Procurement and Smart AMI HES as described in Section A.1 (Introduction);

Request for Tender or RFT means the request that will be issued by the Contracting Entity for each Lot to the pre-qualified and short-listed Applicants following this pre-qualification stage of the Procurement process, to submit a detailed tender (together with any written clarifications and/or other information made available by or on behalf of the Contracting Entity in respect of the RFT);

Response or PQQ Response means an application for pre-qualification submitted in response to the Contract Notice and the PQQ including any clarifications requested from, and submitted by, the Applicant;

SH&W Legislation means the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005 as subsequently amended, modified or replaced and the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013 (S.I. No. 291 of 2013) as amended, modified or replaced, and all regulations issued under the 2005 Act or otherwise in connection with health and safety.

Shareholders means those persons or companies who are or will be shareholders in the Applicant, and for the avoidance of doubt, a Shareholder may also be an Applicant Member;

Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) means as follows:

- a small enterprise is as an enterprise that has fewer than 50 employees and has either an annual turnover and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding €10m,
- a medium enterprise is as an enterprise that has between 50 employees and 249 employees and has either an annual turnover not exceeding €50m or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding €43m;

Smart Electricity Meter or SEM means an electricity meter with a communications module and an imbedded service switch, supporting interval and register based consumption data recording, events and alerts, secure remote control of the service switch, and over-the-air (OTA) re-configuration and firmware upgrading.

Subcontractor means those sub-contractors and any successor or assignee thereof who is employed or will be employed by the Contractor pursuant to the relevant clauses in the Framework Agreement.

A.2 PURPOSE OF THE PQQ

This Pre-Qualification Questionnaire constitutes an integral part of the Contracting Entity's Procurement competition. The purpose of this PQQ is to assess the suitability of the Applicants, and to pre-qualify and establish a short-list of Applicants with the required capability to successfully deliver the Contracting Entity's requirements. The information provided in response to this PQQ by Applicants, will be evaluated by the Contracting Entity and its advisers in accordance with the criteria set out in the PQQ, and those Applicants who are pre-qualified and short-listed at this pre-qualification stage, will then be invited to participate in the competitive tendering stage.

The Contracting Entity will, in the Procurement process, be following the negotiated procedure as outlined in the OJEU Notice and the Framework Agreements(s) will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT). For clarity, the Contracting Entity is applying rules and criteria for selection as are set out in this PQQ and not the criteria set out in the EU (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016.

Applicants who fail any of the pass/fail criteria will not be eligible to be evaluated under the qualitative criteria, will not progress further in the Procurement process and will be eliminated.

A.3 SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND INDICATIVE TARGET DATES/TIMETABLE

Outlined below is the anticipated Procurement process and timeline ('**Timetable**'). Applicants should note that the timescales shown are indicative only and are subject to change at the Contracting Entity's sole discretion. A more detailed Timetable will be included in the Request for Tender. Without in any way limiting, or intending to limit, the Contracting Entity's discretion, it is currently intended that the Procurement process will proceed as follows:

Date/Calendar Quarter	Procurement Stage
As stated in eTenders	OJEU Contract Notice published and PQQ available for issue on request available for download from the Irish Government's eTenders website
As stated in eTenders (12.00 noon)	Final date for receipt of pre-submission queries from potential Applicants on the OJEU Notice and the PQQ (' Queries Deadline ')
As stated in eTenders (12.00 noon)	<u>Final date for the submission of the PQQ Response by Applicant ('PQQ Response Deadline')</u>
Q3 2026	Evaluation of PQQ Responses, final clarifications from Applicants (if required by Contracting Entity) and pre-qualification and shortlisting of Applicants
Q3 2026	Notification by Contracting Entity to pre-qualified and shortlisted and to non-pre-qualified non-shortlisted Applicants
Q4 2026	Request for Tender (RFT) documents issued to pre-qualified and shortlisted Applicants
	The RFT will set out the Timetable with respect to the: • Date for return of RFT responses by Tenderers, • Evaluation of RFT responses, selection of Preferred Tenderer(s) for contract negotiations, request for best and final offer (at Contracting Entity's discretion); and • Notification of intention to award Framework Agreement and standstill period.

A.4 PROCUREMENT RULES - GENERAL

In submitting a Response to this PQQ, it will be deemed by the Contracting Entity, that each Applicant fully understands and accepts all the provisions of this PQQ including these rules. It is each Applicant's responsibility to ensure that any Consortium Member, sub-contractor and respective adviser abides by these rules.

a) Full and True Disclosure of Information

Applicants who wish to be considered for inclusion on the Contracting Entity's tender list of pre-qualified and short-listed candidates are required to complete this PQQ in full, honestly disclosing all relevant and up to date information.

Please note that only the information requested and furnished in this PQQ (or in subsequent clarifications in accordance with section A.8 (*Post Submission Clarifications*)) will be evaluated. Responses should include sufficient detail to allow an objective and full evaluation of the application to be carried out and should be a full and true disclosure of relevant information. Failure to provide a sufficient level of detail or to explain adequately any relevant matters may result in such data or information not being taken into account in the evaluation process, or in a lower score as set out in the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table at Appendix 13. Applicants are permitted to add additional lines to the pro-forma tables and boxes set out within the PQQ if required but are not permitted to amend any other parts of the PQQ.

b) Language

The PQQ shall be completed in English.

c) Financial Information

All financial information shall be denominated in euro (€), except where financial information is being provided in a certified or audited supporting document, such as a set of financial statements, in which case it is sufficient for the information to remain in its original currency. In such cases the Applicant must also include a conversion of such figures into euro (€) using the exchange rate applicable at the deadline for PQQ submission. Applicants should determine the exchange rate to be used for currency conversion from www.oanda.com and should include a conversion print out for verification in their Response to the PQQ.

d) No Collusion

Any attempt by Applicants or their advisers to influence the award process in any way may result in the Applicant being disqualified. Specifically, Applicants shall not directly or indirectly at any time:

- Devise or amend the content of their Response in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person, other than in good faith with a person who is a proposed partner, supplier, or provider of finance;
- Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person as to the form or content of any other Response, or offer to pay any sum of money or valuable consideration to any person to effect changes to the form or content of any other Response;
- Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that has the effect of prohibiting or excluding that person from submitting a Response.

e) Confidentiality

This PQQ and all information provided by the Contracting Entity pursuant to this PQQ, is furnished for the purpose of responding to this PQQ. Applicants shall ensure that it shall not be used, communicated, reproduced or published for any other purpose or forwarded to any third party other than on a confidential and a strict need to know basis to those with whom the Applicant needs to consult for the purpose of preparing or submitting its Response. Applicants must procure that their personnel and all other of their employees and advisers having access to such information are subject to the same rules as set out in this paragraph and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that its personnel, employees and advisers are made aware of and comply with such rules.

Applicants should note the requirements of the Contracting Entity (or of its subsidiaries and affiliates) to be compliant with applicable transparency obligations and legal requirements (including but not limited to the EU (Award of Contracts by Utility Undertakings) Regulations 2016, EC (Award of Contracts by Utility Undertakings) (Review Procedures) Regulations 2010 to 2015, Freedom of Information Act 2014 ('FOI Act') or European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2011, to the extent each or any of these are applicable), whereby the Contracting Entity may be required to publish, give notice of, reveal or otherwise disclose all or any part of any information arising from this Procurement process, and the Contracting Entity's right to circulate additional information (whether in response to a query or otherwise) pursuant to section A.6 (*Pre-Submission Queries*) of this PQQ.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, please be aware that information submitted as part of this Procurement may, as appropriate, be shared with, or held by: (a) ESB Networks DAC in its capacity as the licensed distribution system operator ('DSO'); or (b) EirGrid plc in its capacity as the licensed transmission system operator ('TSO'). ESB Networks DAC is subject to the FOI Act insofar as records concern its functions under its DSO licence issued under section 14(1) (g) of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999. EirGrid plc is subject to the FOI Act insofar as records concern its functions under its TSO licence issued under section 14 (1)(e) of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999.

f) Applicable Law

Irish law is applicable to this PQQ. The Irish courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any disputes arising from the PQQ. Applicants must be prepared to contract under Irish law.

g) Costs

No liability will be accepted for an Applicant's costs in connection with this Procurement procedure, including (without limitation) the preparation of Responses to this PQQ, irrespective of the outcome, and whether or not the procedure is cancelled or postponed.

h) Disclaimer

The Contracting Entity does not warrant or represent that this PQQ document, or any other information given to an Applicant, is accurate or complete. No liability is accepted for any error, misstatement, or omission (negligent or otherwise) in this document, or in any other information given to Applicants. Applicants are responsible for obtaining their own taxation, legal, technical and other appropriate advice, and undertaking their own due diligence in relation to this Procurement, at their own cost and expense.

i) No Contract

No information contained in this document or in any communication made between the Contracting Entity and any Applicant in connection with this PQQ shall be relied upon as constituting a contract, or part of a contract, or an offer to make a contract. There will be no contract between the Contracting Entity and any Applicant (save for in respect of the Applicant's confidentiality obligations pursuant to section A.4(e) (*Confidentiality*) or A.4(q) (*Publicity*) of this PQQ) unless and until a contract is finally and formally concluded at the end of the Procurement process for the specified supplies, services and/or works and any conditions precedent to such contract's effectiveness have been fulfilled. The Contracting Entity has no obligation to enter into a contract with any Applicant or tenderer.

j) The Contracting Entity's Rights

Without limiting its discretion to take any step permitted by law, the Contracting Entity reserves the right (but is not obliged) to: (i) change without notice the basis of, or the procedures (including the indicative target dates or Timetable) for, the selection process or Procurement process; (ii) seek clarification or documents in respect of a PQQ Response; (iii) disqualify any, or all, of the applications; (iv) amend the PQQ, its requirements and any information contained herein at any time by notice, in writing, to the Applicants, (v) not invite an Applicant to proceed further in the Procurement process; (vi) disqualify any Applicant that is guilty of serious misrepresentation in relation to its PQQ Response, (vii) withdraw the PQQ at any time, or to re-invite Responses on the same or any alternative basis, (viii) re-start any stage of the Procurement process, (ix) to terminate

the Procurement process at any time (or, for the avoidance of doubt, cancel any individual Lot(s)),
(x) choose not to award any contract as a result of the Procurement process.

k) Changes

Following the submission of its PQQ Response, an Applicant may not make any changes to its information set out in the Response without the consent of the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity may decide, at its discretion, whether to accept or reject the change.

If, as a result of a change in circumstances or otherwise, any information given by an Applicant to the Contracting Entity, including in its PQQ Response, was (when submitted) or has become (by reference to the facts as they then stand) untrue, incomplete or misleading, the Applicant must so inform the Contracting Entity as soon as it becomes aware of this. If appropriate, the Applicant may make a request to change information in its Response. The Contracting Entity may at its discretion decide whether to accept or reject the change.

If at any time it comes to the Contracting Entity's attention that:

- there has been a change in circumstances concerning an Applicant that could affect the Contracting Entity's evaluation of that Applicant's Response or the Contracting Entity's decision to pre-qualify the Applicant; or
- information submitted by an Applicant was (when submitted) or has become (by reference to the facts as they then stand) untrue, incomplete or misleading,

the Contracting Entity may (but is not required to) revise its evaluation of the Applicant's Response on the basis of the information then available to the Contracting Entity.

l) Safety, Environment & Quality Applicants should note that a Contract specific evaluation of the Applicant's health and safety, environmental and quality management systems for the execution of the works and services which are the subject of this Procurement process will follow as part of the contract award criteria in the competitive tendering stage.

m) Canvassing

Any attempt by an Applicant or its adviser to inappropriately influence the selection process in any way will result in the Applicant's Response being disqualified. Any direct or indirect canvassing by Applicants or their advisers in relation to this Procurement or any attempt to obtain information from any of the employees or agents of the Contracting Entity concerning another Applicant may result in disqualification at the discretion of the Contracting Entity.

n) Verification

Responses are submitted on the basis that each Applicant consents to the Contracting Entity carrying out any necessary actions to verify the information that the Applicant has provided. The Contracting Entity may (but is not obliged to), in order to verify information provided in a PQQ Response, contact and visit Applicants and any of or all of their Applicant Members, and/or any Entity Being Relied Upon and/or referees which might be provided in the Response and may conduct any investigations (either itself or through such third parties as it may, at its discretion, consider appropriate) it considers necessary in connection with PQQ Responses, including by reference to information independently sourced from the market or otherwise. The Applicants, Applicant Members and Entities Being Relied Upon, must facilitate same, upon request.

o) Conflict of Interest

Any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest relating to the Applicant, any Applicant Member, any Entity Being Relied Upon or any of the advisers of such persons must be fully disclosed to the Contracting Entity as soon as such conflict or potential conflict becomes apparent. In the event of

any conflict or potential conflict of interest, the Contracting Entity shall, at its discretion, decide on the appropriate course of action.

p) Applicant Eligibility

Applicants should note that the Pre-qualification Questionnaire eligibility and other requirements set out herein apply to the Procurement at all times (including the Contract award stage and during Contract performance). The Contracting Entity reserves the right, at its discretion, to re-assess the eligibility, financial standing, experience and technical capability of any Applicant (or Applicant Member) and other requirements, at any stage(s) throughout this Procurement and Contract performance, to ensure that the Applicant continues to remain eligible and have the requisite requirements for the Contract.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, if the Applicant (or parent company guarantor) becomes bankrupt or insolvent, goes into liquidation, has a receiving or administration order made against it, has an examiner appointed, compounds with its creditors or carries on business under a receiver, trustee or manager for the benefit of its creditors, or if any act is done or event occurs which under applicable laws has a similar effect to any of these events or acts, it may result in the Applicant being disqualified from any further participation in the Procurement process irrespective of the progress of the Procurement process.

The Contracting Entity reserves the right to seek additional contractual and commercial safeguards in the event that the financial position of the Applicant deteriorates. The Contracting Entity also reserves the right not to award the Contract to a tenderer in such circumstances.

q) Publicity

No publicity in relation to the proposed Contract or the Procurement in general is permitted unless and until the Contracting Entity has given express prior written consent to the relevant communication. In particular, no statement should be made to the press or other similar organisations regarding the nature of any Response without the express written consent of the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity retains the right to publicise or otherwise disclose to any third party information in relation to the proposed Contract, the identity of Applicants or Applicant Members or the Procurement in general.

r) No Prior Knowledge

Applicants must not make assumptions that the Contracting Entity or any of its advisers has prior knowledge of their organisation or their service provision. Applicants will only be evaluated on the information provided in their PQQ Response (as may be clarified in accordance with the provisions of this PQQ).

s) Multiple Participation

Where any Applicant or Applicant Member wishes to participate in more than one PQQ Response for this Procurement, it must contact the Contracting Entity promptly to seek the Contracting Entity's consent. No Applicant may be involved with (including acting as adviser to an Applicant) more than one PQQ Response without the prior approval of the Contracting Entity. Applicants who wish to be involved with more than one application must notify the Contracting Entity at least 2 weeks prior to the PQQ Response Deadline and the Contracting Entity will take such steps as it considers appropriate, which may include prohibiting the Applicant from being involved with more than one application or making such involvement conditional on certain requirements being met.

t) Use of Standards

If reference is made in any of the Procurement documentation to a particular standard, make, source, process, trademark, type or patent, this is not to be regarded as a de facto requirement. In all cases it should be understood that the reference in question is accompanied by the words "or equivalent".

u) Retention of Documents

After the Procurement process is completed, the Contracting Entity will retain copies of all PQQ Responses and documentation received for such period as required in accordance with applicable laws.

v) Precedence of information in PQQ documents

If there is any discrepancy between information provided in the PQQ documentation and the information provided in the eTenders system (including any emails sent by the eTenders system), then the information provided in the PQQ documentation, including any clarifications subsequently issued by the Contracting Entity, shall have precedence. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, in particular, all references to 'Contracting Authority' in the eTenders system and in any emails sent from the eTenders system should be replaced by 'Contracting Entity'.

A.5 APPLICANT COMPOSITION

A.5.1 Financial and Technical Resources and Security

By submitting a Response, the Applicant warrants, represents, confirms and agrees that it considers it has the necessary financial and technical resources to complete the scope of the Project based on the information made available by the Contracting Entity at this pre-qualification stage.

The Contracting Entity will require the successful Preferred Tenderer(s) to procure the provision of a performance bond in an amount, format and from a financial institution acceptable to the Contracting Entity. Details of this requirement are set out in Section B.2.4 and will be further detailed in the RFT documents.

In the event that the Applicant or the Applicant Member cannot procure a performance bond from a financial institution which meets the requirements of a financial institution under Section B.2.4, then the Applicant or Applicant Member may request, by way of clarification **on eTenders** to the Contracting Entity, on or before the 24th June 2026 that the Contracting Entity accept a financial institution with a lower rating than that specified in B.2.4. The Contracting Entity will consider this request and may at its discretion clarify if a lower rating might be acceptable, however it shall have no obligation whatsoever to do so.

Without prejudice to the above, the Contracting Entity reserves the right at its discretion to require the successful Preferred Tenderer(s) to procure the provision to the Contracting Entity in respect of delivery of the Contract of:

- (i) a parent company guarantee or other form of financial security from a parent company or other Applicant Member, including any Entity Being Relied Upon (if applicable);
- (ii) a resource availability agreement in respect of resources being provided by any Entity Being Relied Upon;
- (iii) collateral warranties from any or all of its Subcontractors, or Applicant Members; and/or
- (iv) other suitable security arrangements;

to the satisfaction of the Contracting Entity.

The Contracting Entity will set out its requirements in this regard in the RFT documents. By submitting a Response to the PQQ, each Applicant warrants, represents and undertakes to the Contract Entity that they can comply, or procure compliance as the case may be, with the requirements above upon request by the Contracting Entity.

Subject to the limitations set out in the PQQ with regard to certain criteria, the Applicant, and where a response is required from an Applicant Member, any Applicant Member may rely on the resources of an entity or entities in order to be admitted to participate in the tendering procedure (including, for

the avoidance of doubt, with regard to demonstrating turnover and previous experience, but excluding relying on another entity for the purposes of compliance with the Health and Safety requirements Section B.6, Environmental Management Section B.7 or Quality Assurance Section B.8.). For clarity, an Applicant or Applicant Member shall not be entitled to rely on another entity for the purposes of meeting its Health and Safety, Environmental Management or Quality Assurance requirements when responding to this PQQ.

Where an Applicant (or any Applicant Member) relies on the resources of entities or undertakings with which it is directly or indirectly linked, whatever the legal nature of those links may be (including, for example, but not limited to, reliance on a parent company's resources), it must establish to the Contracting Entity's satisfaction that it has available to it the resources of that Entity(ies) Being Relied Upon (for example, by providing a letter from each such Entity Being Relied Upon confirming that it will provide the necessary support). Such letter of support must confirm that the Entity Being Relied Upon for the purposes of qualification will provide such support including for example the appropriate guarantee or other security providing evidence of their support at contract award stage, in form and substance acceptable to the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity reserves the right to require any form(s) of support including financial guarantee, etc. to be procured by the Applicant/ Applicant Member.

A.5.2 Consortium Applicants

Applicants for qualification may include individuals, partnerships, companies, groupings or any combination of the foregoing. If an Applicant completing this PQQ is doing so on behalf of a Consortium, full details of the Consortium must be provided.

The Applicant must also specify: (i) the nominated lead Applicant Member for the Consortium ('**Lead Consortium Member**'); and (ii) the role of each Applicant Member. The Applicant must specify in its PQQ Response the commercial and legal relationship amongst its members and any agreements giving effect to same.

While an Applicant is not required to take a particular legal form for the purpose of participating in this Procurement process, the Contracting Entity may, at its discretion and in particular, require the Applicant to contract:

- on the basis of joint and several liability amongst each of the Applicant Members;
- or
- with a particular single Applicant Member of the Applicant as the prime contractor (with some or all of the Applicant Members providing collateral warranties and/or guarantees);
- or
- as an incorporated or unincorporated special purpose vehicle (with guarantees from the other Applicant Members and/or collateral warranties from the other Applicant Members);

and in any event in a manner and on terms satisfactory to the Contracting Entity.

Lead Consortium Member: The nominated lead Consortium Member shall be authorised by all Applicant Members to act as the Applicant lead and primary contact point for the purposes of the Procurement.

A.6 PRE-SUBMISSION QUERIES

Applicants may not address queries to, or communicate with, the Contracting Entity or the Contracting Entity's consultants or contractors in relation to the Contract Notice or the PQQ other than in the manner provided in this section.

Each Applicant must fully satisfy itself as to the nature and requirements of the PQQ. If an Applicant considers that any aspect of the Contract Notice or the PQQ is not clear or is ambiguous, contains errors, or the Applicant has any queries regarding the scope of the proposed Contract, the manner

in which the evaluation will be undertaken or how any of the selection criteria or other requirements will be applied, this must be raised with the Contracting Entity in accordance with this section A.6 (*Pre-Submission Queries*).

Except in the case of a clarification request with respect to bonds and sureties under A.5.1, all final queries and questions should be **submitted via the eTenders website**, to be received no later than the Queries Deadline (specified in section A.3). Replies provided by the Contracting Entity will be made available to **Applicants (via eTenders website)** as soon as possible. The Contracting Entity will use reasonable endeavours to respond to queries received before the deadline above. The Contracting Entity may, at its discretion (but shall not be obliged to) respond to queries received after this date and time.

In order to avoid the duplication of queries, Applicants should ensure that all queries are submitted by a single Applicant Member (i.e. the Lead Consortium Member).

Confidential Queries

If an Applicant believes a query and/or the response relates to a confidential aspect of its PQQ Response, it must mark the query as 'confidential'. If the Contracting Entity, at its discretion, is satisfied that the query and/or its response should be properly regarded as confidential, the nature of the query and its response shall, subject to the following provisions, be kept confidential.

If the Contracting Entity is of the opinion that it would be inappropriate to answer the query/request on a confidential basis it will notify the Applicant and require the Applicant to either withdraw or reformulate the query or to raise any objection within two (2) days of such notification and state the grounds for its objection. If the Applicant does not withdraw or reformulate the query/request or raise any objection within the specified period, or the Contracting Entity is of the opinion that, notwithstanding the objection of the Applicant, the query/request is not confidential, the Contracting Entity may issue the query and its response to all of the Applicants.

Notwithstanding anything else in this PQQ, the Contracting Entity may, at its discretion, issue supplemental information to all Applicants at any time and for any reason (including in light of queries received, confidential or otherwise).

A.7 SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES

The Questionnaire is attached in Section B hereto.

The PQQ sets out, in respect of each question, whether such question must be answered by:

- a) the Applicant as a whole;
- b) each Applicant Member; and/or
- c) any Entity Being Relied Upon.

Where a question is required to be answered by each Applicant Member and/or each Entity Being Relied Upon, the PQQ should be completed separately for each such Applicant Member and/or for each Entity Being Relied Upon, and submitted together with the other completed questionnaires as a single application. The PQQ Responses from each Applicant Member and each Entity Being Relied Upon will be evaluated as a single application (save where otherwise expressly provided).

For the pass/fail criteria, where a response is required to be completed separately by each Applicant Member and/or each Entity Being Relied Upon, such response shall be evaluated separately and each Applicant Member and/or Entity Being Relied Upon must pass the relevant pass/fail criterion for the Applicant to pass.

The Response should be clearly marked **"PQQ Submission for CON 1162 Lot 1: Smart Meter Procurement; Lot 2: Smart AMI HES."**

Completed PQQ Responses must be submitted in PDF format and in the English language, preferably in Arial Font size 11, via the Government eTenders website only (www.eTenders.gov.ie), not later than **the PQQ Response Deadline (specified in section A.3)**, except as may be otherwise notified by the Contracting Entity. PQQ Responses submitted by any other means will not be accepted and will be returned. However, in the event that an Applicant experiences genuine technical difficulties with the eTenders website then the Contracting Entity reserves the right to accept applications submitted by other means. Completed tenders preferably should be uploaded as a zip file to protect the integrity of the file names.

The Applicant is fully responsible for the safe and timely submission of the PQQ Response.

In the case of an application by a Consortium, the Contracting Entity will be entitled, for the purposes of the Procurement process, to communicate with the Applicant by communicating only with the Lead Consortium Member and each Applicant Member shall thereby be deemed to have been communicated with.

A.8 POST-SUBMISSION CLARIFICATIONS

The Contracting Entity reserves the right to require any of the Applicants to attend meetings and/or interviews in Dublin or by video conference or telephone. In such event, the Applicant will bear all its own costs and expenses in attending any such meeting.

Applicants should note that the Contracting Entity may elect to hold such meetings and/or interviews with only those Applicants which the Contracting Entity considers, at its discretion, it necessary to do so.

If a Response fails to comply in any respect with any requirements of the PQQ (whether or not stated to be mandatory or similar) or the Contracting Entity considers it to be ambiguous or require clarification or amplification in any respect, the Contracting Entity may (but it is not obliged to) and, subject to applicable law, take such action as it considers appropriate in a given case, including (but not limited to):

- (1) disqualify the relevant Response as non-compliant;
- (2) without prejudice to the Contracting Entity's right to disqualify the Response:
 - (i) query and/or seek clarification from the Applicant in respect of the relevant Response; and/or
 - (ii) request the Applicant to provide the Contracting Entity with information or items which have not been provided or have been provided in an incorrect form; and/or
 - (iii) waive a requirement or a failure within the Response which, in the opinion of the Contracting Entity, is not material; and/or
 - (iv) amend a requirement and request all Applicants to submit revised or additional Responses on the basis of the amended requirements.

The Contracting Entity's decision as to whether a Response is compliant is final.

A.9 EVALUATION OF PQQ RESPONSES FOR LOT 1 AND LOT 2

For the avoidance of doubt, it is emphasised that the information requested in this PQQ is aimed at pre-qualifying and shortlisting Applicants for entry to the competitive tendering stage, i.e. RFT stage. Only at the said subsequent tendering stage will the pre-qualified and short-listed Applicants be invited to tender in response to the specific requirements of the proposed Contract in accordance with the award criteria specified in the tender documents. Each Lot will be evaluated separately.

Evaluation Stages

Without prejudice to the Contracting Entity's rights within this PQQ, Applicants' PQQ Responses shall be evaluated and short-listed as follows:

1. **Completeness:** Each Applicant's Response will be checked for completeness to ensure that each Applicant (including, if applicable, each Applicant Member and/or each Entity Being Relied Upon) has provided a complete Response to all questions and requirements contained in the PQQ and has submitted all necessary supporting documentation where required. Following any clarifications as described in paragraph A.8 (*Post-Submission Clarifications*) above, and at the Contracting Entity's discretion, the Contracting Entity may decide not to give further consideration to an incomplete Response, which will then be excluded from this Procurement process and the Applicant will be notified accordingly;

2. **Compliance:** Responses which are not excluded from this Procurement process for incompleteness will be checked for compliance with the Contracting Entity's requirements. Non-compliant Responses will be dealt with in accordance with paragraph A.8 (*Post-Submission Clarifications*);

3. **Pass/Fail:** Responses which are not eliminated will be evaluated in accordance with the pass/fail requirements set out below. Applicants should note that, subject to A.8 (*Post-submission Clarifications*), a failure to meet any of the "pass/fail" requirements, will eliminate an Applicant from any further consideration for this Procurement process.

4. Applicants who pass the pass/fail requirements will have their PQQ Response evaluated and scored in accordance with the evaluation criteria set out in Section B.9 (*Experience and Technical Capability*).

5. **Minimum Thresholds:** Responses which fail to achieve any of the minimum thresholds set out in B.9 will not be given further consideration. The Response will be excluded from this Procurement process and the Applicant will be notified accordingly;

6. **Short-Listing:** Provided that a sufficient number of Applicants are qualified to be considered for shortlisting, following application of the procedures set out in this section A.9 (*Evaluation of PQQ Responses*), it is anticipated that the five (5) highest-scored Applicants will be short-listed and invited to proceed to the next stage of the Procurement process for Lot 1 and Lot 2. The Contracting Entity however reserves the right (but has no obligation) to short-list and invite more or less than five (5) of the highest-scored Applicants for each Lot.

For the avoidance of doubt, any one or more of the stages above may happen in sequence or concurrently.

Clarification

In accordance with section A.8 (*Post-Submission Clarifications*), the Contracting Entity may seek clarification or further information or both from one or more Applicants on their Response.

Applicant withdraws or is excluded

If an Applicant who has prequalified and been short-listed in accordance with this section A.9 above, subsequently either withdraws or is excluded from the Procurement process, the Contracting Entity may, at its discretion and without any obligation whatsoever, invite the next highest scored Applicant, to enter into the Procurement process and to receive the RFT. In such circumstances the Contracting Entity will notify the affected Applicants accordingly and may amend the indicative Procurement Timetable.

A.10 PRE-QUALIFICATION EVALUATION TYPE TABLE

Below is the summary of the PQQ evaluation criteria and type.

Section	QUESTION/CRITERIA	Evaluation Type
B.1	Applicant Details, Employees/Resources, Group Company Details, Contact Details and Contracting Model	Information Only
B.2	Financial	Pass/Fail
B.3	Insurance	Pass/Fail
B.4	Requirements for Third Parties	Pass/Fail
B.5	Tax Clearance	Pass/Fail
B.6	Health & Safety	Pass/Fail
B.7	Environmental Management	Pass/Fail
B.8	Quality Assurance	Pass/Fail
B.9	Experience & Technical Capability	Qualitative (Scored)
B.10	Eligibility	Pass/Fail
B.11	Data Protection	Pass/Fail
B.12	SEM Production Output – LOT 1 ONLY	Pass/Fail
B.13	Head-End System Operational Scale and Growth – LOT 2 ONLY	Pass/Fail

- *Information Only* - the information is required but will not be used for evaluation purposes;
- *Pass/Fail* – the information provided will be evaluated as pass/fail;
- *Qualitative* – the information will be evaluated and scored.

SECTION B - PRE-QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT/ APPLICANT MEMBER/ ANY ENTITY BEING RELIED UPON

Contracting Entity Reference:	D20/CON/1162
Date Issued:	As stated in eTenders
Return Completed Version by:	As stated in eTenders
For the attention of:	ESB Networks Procurement
PQQ Submission Method:	PQQ must be submitted via the eTenders system. No other method of submission will be accepted.

The PQQ sets out, in respect of each question, whether such question must be answered by:

- a) the Applicant as a whole;
- b) each Applicant Member;
- c) any Entity Being Relied Upon.

(Before completing please see: (i) definition of 'Applicant Member' and of "Entity Being Relied Upon" in section A.1.5 (*Definitions*), (ii) section A.5 (*Applicant Composition*) and section A.7 (*Submission of Completed Questionnaires*)).

B.1. APPLICANT / APPLICANT MEMBER DETAILS

B.1.1 Applicant/ Applicant Member information - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant and, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member, save for questions 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17 and 18, which should be completed by the Lead Consortium Member only on behalf of the Applicant. The Applicant should answer yes to one of questions 8 or 9 or 10 or 11.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response Tick box or specify as appropriate
1	Name/Registered Name:	
2	Address/Registered Address:	
3	Registered Number:	
4	Year of Registration:	
5	Country of Registration:	
6	Website:	
7	Type of Organisation/Trading Status (tick box)	Incorporated ☐ Type of incorporated company: (please specify) Partnership ☐ Sole Trader ☐ Other (please specify):
8	Single Applicant <u>not</u> relying on the resources of any other entity (e.g. a parent company)	Yes: ☐ No: ☐
9	Single Applicant relying on the resources of any other entity (e.g. a parent company)	Yes: ☐ No: ☐

10	Applicant with Applicant Members <u>not</u> relying on the resources of other entity (other than of Applicant Members) (e.g. a parent company)	Yes: ☐ No: ☐
11	Applicant with Applicant Members relying on the resources of other entity (other than of Applicant Members) (e.g. a parent company)	Yes: ☐ No: ☐
12	Year Applicant formed/incorporated: Applicant is a SME	Date:..... Yes: ☐ No: ☐
13	Please provide a chart for the Applicant (and in the case of a Consortium a separate chart for each of the Applicant Members) showing the management personnel hierarchy and the group ownership structure for the Applicant and for each of the Applicant Members.	Is Chart(s) enclosed: Yes: ☐ No: ☐
14.	If the answer is yes to 9 or 11 above please provide the name, address and contact details of the Entity Being Relied Upon (or entities if more than one) and the exact resources of that entity that will be relied upon noting that an entity cannot be relied upon for Health and Safety compliance, Environmental Management and Quality Assurance	Details attached: Yes: ☐ No: ☐ (Applicants are also referred to Section A.5.1 of the PQQ which requires Applicant to provide Letter of Support)

15	Please attach a brief trading history of the Applicant (and in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member) limited to 500 words per applicant / applicant member. Please ensure that you also include with your trading history any company name changes, mergers, take-overs etc. in the past five years and any that are imminent.	Details enclosed: Yes ☐ No ☐
16	Please indicate which Lots you have submitted a PQQ for	Lot 1 Only ☐ Lot 2 only ☐ Lot 1 and Lot 2 ☐
17	In the case of a Consortium please indicate which Applicant Member will have primary environmental management responsibilities arising under the Contract.	Name:
18	In the case of a Consortium please indicate which Applicant Member will have primary quality assurance responsibilities arising under the Contract.	Name:

B.1.2 Employees/Resources of the Applicant/ Applicant Member/Entity Being Relied Upon - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant and, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member and by any Entity Being Relied Upon (in respect of the exact resources under the relevant heading 1-5 below that they are being relied upon for).

Ref No.	Number of Employee/Resources	2023	2024	2025
1	Management			
2	Financial			
3	Technical			
4	Health & Safety			
5	Other			

B.1.3. Group Company Details (where applicable) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant, and in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, and by any Entity Being Relied Upon

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
1	Name of parent company of Applicant and each Applicant Member and of any Entity Being Relied Upon and its registered address:	Name: Registered Address:
2	Name of ultimate parent company of Applicant and each Applicant Member and of any Entity Being Relied Upon and its registered address:	Name: Registered Address:

B.1.4 Applicant's contact details (or in the case of a Consortium, the contact details of the Lead Consortium Member) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by the Applicant only

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
1	Name of Contact Person:	
2	Position/ Role:	
3	Telephone No.	
4	E-mail address.	

B.1.5. Contracting model - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by the Applicant only (or in the case of a Consortium, the Lead Consortium Member)

The purpose of this section is for Applicant only (or, in the case of a Consortium, the Lead Consortium Member) to provide details of their proposed contracting model/structure to carry out the Project. Please identify which of the following statements reflect the proposed contracting model: -

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response Tick box or specify as appropriate
1	Bidding as a prime contractor and will deliver 100% of the Contract deliverables/works yourself	Yes ☐
2	Bidding as a prime contractor and will use third parties to deliver <u>some</u> of the Contract deliverables/works If yes, please provide details of your proposed contracting model that includes which deliverables/ works that you intend to sub-contract.	Yes ☐ Details Attached? Yes ☐
3	Bidding as prime contractor but will operate as a managing agent and will use third parties to deliver <u>all</u> of the Contract deliverables/works. If yes, please provide details of your proposed contracting model that includes which deliverables/ works that you intend to sub-contract.	Yes ☐ Details Attached? Yes ☐
4	Bidding as a Consortium but not proposing to create a new legal entity If yes, please include details of your Consortium (including full details of the Consortium, including details required in Section B.1 (<i>Applicant Details</i>) in respect of <u>each</u> of the Applicant Members). See Section A.5.2. on Consortium Applicants.	Yes ☐ Details Attached? Yes ☐

5	Bidding as a Consortium and intend to create a new legal entity. If yes, please include details of your Consortium (including full details of the Consortium, including details required in Section B.1 (<i>Applicant Details</i>) in respect of each of the Applicant Members), and intended legal entity. Explain the basis on which the Consortium will be established including legal form, percentage shareholding of Applicant Members and Consortium structure chart and the form of share ownership. See Section A.5.2. on Consortium Applicants.	Yes ☐ Details Attached? Yes ☐
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B.2. FINANCIAL STANDING

B.2.1 Minimum Turnover (Pass/Fail) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member, and any Entity Being Relied Upon for **financial** resources.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.2.1	Based on the evidence provided in response to Section B.2.3 below, please confirm that you comply with (a) or (b) or (c) or (d): (a) in the case of a single Applicant <u>with no Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources</u>, that the average turnover is a minimum of €85 Million for LOT 1 and is a minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2, excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years the aggregate turnover for the two years is divided by two); or (b) in the case of a single Applicant <u>with an Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources</u>, that the combined or consolidated average turnover of the Applicant and of the Entity Being Relied Upon is a minimum of €85 Million for LOT 1 and is a minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2, excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years (i.e. the aggregate turnover for the two years divided by two); or (c) in the case of a Consortium where <u>no Applicant Member is relying for financial resources on an Entity Being Relied Upon</u>, that the average turnover for each Applicant Member, is a minimum of €85 Million for LOT 1 and is a minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2, excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years (i.e. the aggregate turnover for the two years divided by two) and that the Consortium has a combined average turnover of a minimum of €85 Million for LOT 1 and is a minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2 excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years (i.e. the aggregate turnover for the two years divided by two); or (d) in the case of a Consortium where an Applicant Member <u>is relying for financial resources on an Entity Being Relied Upon</u> that the average turnover for each Applicant Member (consolidated with their Entity Being Relied Upon) is a minimum €85 Million for LOT 1 and is a minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2, excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years (i.e. the aggregate turnover for the two years divided by two) and that the combined or consolidated average turnover of the Consortium (including of the Entity Being Relied Upon) is a minimum of €85 Million for LOT 1 and minimum of €5 Million for LOT 2, excluding VAT, over the two previous financial years (i.e. the aggregate turnover for the two years divided by two).	Confirmed? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

B.2.2 Statement of Going Concern (Pass/Fail) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member, and any Entity Being Relied Upon

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.2.2	Please enclose a statement from a Director of the Applicant, of each Applicant Member, and of each Entity Being Relied Upon, based on the current financial evidence available, certifying that the entity in question: (a) is a going concern, (b) that its average turnover as specified in section B.2.1, based on available forecasts, remains valid into the future, <u>and</u> (c) that it has the financial and operational capacity to: (i) trade successfully for the next 12 months, and (ii) deliver such of the Project requirements as are proposed to be delivered by such entity from the date of Response to this PPQ, (a "Going Concern Statement"). Notwithstanding the above, the Contracting Entity reserves the right to raise further queries in relation to this Going Concern Statement with the Applicant, and to seek explanation(s) where the Applicant's past financial results, in any of the financial statements submitted, show financial issues which could give rise to uncertainty regarding the validity of the Going Concern Statement, such as, for example, post-tax losses, or an adverse capital and reserves position, or other material issues. In this case, the onus shall be on the Applicant to demonstrate and explain to the reasonable satisfaction of the Contracting Entity that any concerns or financial issues will not have an adverse bearing on the ability of the Applicant to perform the Contract, before the Applicant can achieve a Pass.	Going Concern Statement meeting the requirements enclosed? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

B.2.3 Financial Statements (Pass/Fail) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member, and each Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.2.3	One copy in respect of each of: a) the Applicant; b) each Applicant Member; and c) each Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources; of full audited financial statements in English, including all notes to the financial statements, for each of the last three most recent financial years for which audited financial statements are available, or for the period that statements are available if trading for less than three years, which disclose: (i) annual turnover in each year, and (ii) an audit report in each year. Financial statements must include an income statement	Information meeting the requirements enclosed? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

	and detailed balance sheet and, where included in the financial statements, a cash flow statement. Where the audit report disclosed is modified, or an emphasis of a matter or other matter is included in the audit report ('Modification(s) to Audit Report'), a Director (or if not a company, a representative) of the Applicant, Applicant Member or Entity Being Relied Upon must provide in writing a reason(s) for the Modification(s) to Audit Report, explaining why the matter(s) disclosed in the Modification(s) to Audit Report will not have a bearing on its ability to perform the Contract. Where the Applicant, each Applicant Member and each Entity Being Relied Upon is not legally required to prepare full audited financial statements, the following, for the three most recent years (or if trading for less than three years, for the period trading), must be submitted by the Applicant, each Applicant Member and each Entity Being Relied Upon: (i) a statement of turnover, (ii) full profit & loss accounts, (iii) cash flow statements, and (iv) end period balance sheets. These documents should be signed by an authorised signatory e.g. Director of the Applicant, of each Applicant Member or of each Entity Being Relied Upon. The minimum requirements for the purpose of passing this section B.2.3 is the provision of the information required and, where Modification(s) to Audit Report has been submitted, the Contracting Entity being satisfied that the reason(s) for such Modification(s) to Audit Report will not have an adverse bearing on the ability of the Applicant to perform the Contract.	
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B.2.4 Performance Bond (Pass/Fail) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by the Applicant, or, in the case of a Consortium, any Applicant Member, or any Entity Being Relied Upon

Note: Section B.2.4 applies only to Applicants submitting a PQQ response for **LOT 1**.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.2.4	As outlined in section A.5.1 above the Contracting Entity will require the successful tenderer(s) to procure the provision of a performance bond, in an amount, format and from a financial institution acceptable to the Contracting Entity. In order to demonstrate that the Applicant, (or in the case of a Consortium, any one of the Applicant Members, or, where there is an Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources, then any such entity) has an ability to procure a performance bond of a certain quantum, a letter must be provided from a bank or other surety or bondsman acceptable to the Contracting Entity, being:	Letter meeting the requirements of B.2.4 enclosed: Yes: ☐ No: ☐

	(a) a bank, surety or bondsman which maintains a long-term credit rating of not less than A- (Standard & Poor's) or A3 (Moody's Investor Services), A- (Fitch) or equivalent*, or (b) one of the following ESB relationship banks: Barclays Bank plc, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A. (BBVA), BNP Paribas SA, Danske Bank A/S, Royal Bank of Canada, Royal Bank of Scotland plc, JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., HSBC Bank plc, Societe Générale, Allied Irish Banks plc, Bank of Ireland, MUFG Bank Limited, Intesa San Paolo SpA. and SMBC; in the letter format set out in Appendix 2, demonstrating its ability to procure a bond for a minimum amount of € 2.5 Million Further details of the bond that will be required, including bond format, will be issued at the next stage of this Procurement process.	
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*In the event that the Applicant, or the Applicant Member, or Entity Being Relied Upon for financial resources, cannot procure a performance bond from a financial institution which meets the requirements of Section B.2.4, then the Applicant or Applicant Member may request, by way of clarification to the Contracting Entity, on or before the 24th June 2026, that the Contracting Entity accept a financial institution with a lower rating than that specified in B.2.4. The Contracting Entity will consider this request and may at its discretion clarify if a lower rating might be acceptable, however it shall have no obligation whatsoever to do so.

B.2.5 Guarantee (e.g. Parent Guarantee) (Pass/Fail) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed only by an Applicant who will be relying on the financial resources of another entity.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.2.5	Where the Applicant (or in the case of a Consortium, an Applicant Member) has confirmed in this PQQ that they will be relying on the financial resources of another entity (e.g. ultimate holding company/ parent company), then the Applicant must provide a confirmation from such other entity that it is aware it is being relied upon in this PQQ and that it will, if requested, provide a guarantee or bond or other similar security to the satisfaction of the Contracting Entity for the completion of the obligations under the Contract.	Confirmation meeting the requirements of B.2.5 enclosed? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

This section B.2.5 is without prejudice to the provisions of section A.5.1 above.

B.2 Financial Standing

Each of the criteria above is passed by a response which in the opinion of the Contracting Entity satisfies the requirements for a “yes” response (i.e., the documentation provided meets the requirements of the relevant criterion), and is failed by responding “no” (or by a response which fails to meet the requirements for a yes response).

Applicants should note that the Contracting Entity reserves the right to request further financial information if required, at its discretion, however it is under no obligation to do so.

B.3 INSURANCE (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 1 AND LOT 2

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member.

Each Applicant (or each Applicant Member) must provide a statement from their Insurer (as defined in section A.1.5) confirming that the Applicant /Applicant Member currently has in place the below stated minimum levels of insurances.

OR

If the Applicant (or each Applicant Member) currently has lower levels of insurance cover in place, provide a statement from their Insurer(s) (as defined in section A.1.5) : (i) outlining their current levels of insurance, and (ii) confirming that, in the event the Applicant is successful in this Procurement process, it is willing to provide the Applicant/Applicant Member with the required levels of insurance prior to the award of Contract.

Ref No.	Question		Applicant's Response
1	Attach statement from Insurer(s) that the required minimum levels of insurance cover are in place OR	Public/Products Liability Insurance with a minimum indemnity limit of €10 million euro, in respect of each and every claim, and €30m in the aggregate in respect of Products Liability, with an Irish or worldwide (excluding USA/Canada) jurisdiction clause.	Statement meeting the requirements of this section B.3 provided? Yes: ☐ No: ☐
2	Attach statement from Insurer(s) of current levels of insurance and confirmation of willingness to provide the higher required levels if the	Employer's Liability Insurance With a minimum indemnity limit of €13 million euro, in respect of each and every claim, with an Irish or worldwide (excluding USA/Canada) jurisdiction clause.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐

4	Contract is awarded.	Cyber Liability Insurance with a minimum indemnity limit of €5 million euro, in respect of each and every claim and in the annual aggregate with an Irish or worldwide (excluding USA/Canada) jurisdiction clause.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐
5		Professional Indemnity Insurance with a minimum indemnity limit of €5 million euro in respect of each and every claim and €10m in the annual aggregate with an Irish or worldwide (excluding USA/Canada) jurisdiction clause.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐

B.3 Insurance

To achieve a pass, the Applicant or each Applicant Member (in the case of a Consortium) must provide a statement from their Insurer(s) (as defined in section A.1.5) meeting the requirements of this Section B.3 above.

Note: Applicants and each Applicant Member (in the case of a Consortium) should note that the Contracting Entity will specify in the RFT documents full details of the minimum insurances requirements to be met by the Contractor. The pre-qualified Applicants may be required to provide evidence to the Contracting Entity on request that they are able to meet these minimum insurance requirements.

B.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR THIRD PARTIES (PASS/ FAIL) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by each Applicant Member.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response Tick box or specify as appropriate
B.4.1	Each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member is required to confirm that they will comply with all the requirements in the attached document, ESB Requirements for Third Parties Document – see Appendix 4.	Confirmed? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

B.4 Requirements for Third Parties

To achieve a pass, the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member must provide the information requested above in B.4.1

B.5 TAX CLEARANCE (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 1 AND LOT 2

To be completed by each Applicant or in the case of a Consortium by each Applicant Member.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.5.1	a. Each Applicant or each Applicant Member shall provide a current valid tax clearance certificate issued from the Irish Revenue Commissioners OR b. Alternatively, each Applicant or each Applicant Member shall grant the Contracting Entity permission to access and verify its tax clearance position on-line by specifying here their Tax Clearance Access Number and their PPSN/ Reference Number OR c. In the event that each Applicant or each Applicant Member do not have a current tax clearance certificate from Irish Revenue, they shall attach a statement undertaking to furnish a valid tax clearance certificate or tax clearance access number and PPSN/Reference Number from Irish Revenue should the Applicant be awarded a Framework Agreement	Certificate meeting the requirements of B.5.1 attached? Yes: ☐ OR Tax Clearance Access No. _____ and PPSN/Reference No. _____ OR Statement meeting the requirements of B.5.1 attached? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

B.5 Tax Clearance

To achieve a pass, the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member must comply with any of B.5.1 a. or b. or c. above.

B.6 HEALTH & SAFETY (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 1 AND LOT 2

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium by each Applicant Member. Please note that another entity cannot be relied upon for the Health and Safety requirements of this PQQ.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response	Pass / Fail or Score
B.6.1	Does your organisation operate a safety management system certified by an accredited independent third party as complying with ISO 45001, Safe T Cert or an equivalent safety management system. If yes, please provide a copy of the up-to-date certificate. If you answered "Yes" and provided the relevant information, please do <u>not</u> respond to B.6.1.1 to 6.1.4. If you answered "No" to B.6.1 please outline the key elements of the safety management system in your organisation. In responding to this question please provide the following information:	Yes: ☐ No: ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must demonstrate that it operates either: (i) a certified safety management system, or (ii) a safety management system that effectively provides the key requirements of safety management as outlined in B.6.1.1. to B.6.1.4
B.6.1.1	A current signed and dated Safety Statement or equivalent that complies with current legislative requirements (<i>Please see below in this section B.6 for the definition and contents of a Safety Statement or its equivalent</i>);	Document / Details / Responses attached ☐	
B.6.1.2	Outline details as to how your organisation ensures legal compliance with regards to health and safety laws;		
B.6.1.3	Outline how safety performance is measured and monitored within your organisation; and		
B.6.1.4	Outline the process in your organisation for auditing and reviewing safety performance.		
B.6.2	Has your organisation (or any subsidiaries / sub-contractors whilst carrying out work on behalf of your organisation) or any of its directors or executive officers been served an improvement notice, a prohibition notice or been convicted for offences under SH&W Legislation (or equivalent, outside Ireland) in the previous 3 years to the date of this application?	Yes: ☐ No: ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must

B.6.2.1	If you answered “No” to section B.6.2 please do <u>not</u> respond to B.6.2.1. If you answered “Yes” to section B.6.2 then please provide details of improvement notice, prohibition notice or any conviction for offences under SH&W Legislation (or equivalent, outside of Ireland) served on the organisation in the previous 3 years to the date of this application in any jurisdiction. In responding to this question, please provide the following information: (i) Jurisdiction; (ii) Date of issue; (iii) Reason / root cause of occurrence; (iv) Resulting improvement /remedial action or changes your organisation has made; (v) Evidence that the improvement notice or prohibition notice has been lifted to the satisfaction of the relevant health and safety regulator for that jurisdiction or that appropriate and detailed proposals that have been prepared for submission to the relevant health and safety regulator to the satisfaction of the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity reserves the right to raise further queries and / or seek further information during the PQQ clarification stage of the competition in order to validate compliance with its requirements.	Document / Details/ Response attached? ☐	either: (i) answer ‘No’ to question B.6.2, or (ii) confirm to ESB’s satisfaction through the details provided in answering B.6.2.1 that effective improvements or changes have been/are being implemented to allow the lifting of any improvement or prohibition notice by the relevant health and safety regulator.
B.6.3	Does your organisation use subcontractors for any of the activities pertaining to this Contract? If you answered “No” to the above question then please ignore section B.6.3.1. If you answered “Yes” please answer B.6.3.1.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must answer (i) “No” to question B.6.3 or (ii) confirm to ESB’s satisfaction through the details provided in answering B.6.3.1 that it
B.6.3.1	If your organisation uses subcontractors, does it have a process in place to manage its subcontractor compliance with your safety management system? Please provide a documented process / procedure / form on how the organisation evaluates, monitors and reviews health and	Yes: ☐ No: ☐ Details attached? ☐	

	safety compliance by the subcontractors that work for the organisation		has a process in place for the effective evaluation, monitoring and performance review of subcontractors' health and safety compliance.
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The Contracting Entity reserves the right to further review the Health and Safety information provided by Applicants or seek further information from Applicants during the PQQ clarification stage of the competition in order to validate compliance with its requirements.

Definitions applicable to this section B.6:

Safety Statement: means a written document which specifies how health and safety is managed within the business. The Safety Statement will also contain your safety policy, risk assessments and the controls required to minimise the risks from the hazards in the workplace, as well as detailing the names of those responsible for putting them into practice.

The Safety Statement should be based on the identification of the hazards which are risk assessed and the necessary control measures that must consequently follow.

It must:

- specify how the safety and health of all employees is secured and managed;
- specify the hazards identified and risks assessed;
- give details of how the employer manages its safety and health responsibilities, including a commitment to comply with legal obligations, the protective and preventive measures taken, the resources provided for safety and health at the workplace and the arrangements used to fulfil these responsibilities;
- include the plans and procedures to be used in the event of an emergency or serious danger;
- specify the duties of employees, including the co-operation required from them on safety and health matters;
- include the names and job titles of people appointed with responsibility for safety and health or for performing the tasks set out in the statement;
- be written in a form, manner and language that will be understood by all;
- include a review mechanism;
- have regard to the relevant SH&W Legislation;

The Safety Statement or its equivalent can refer to specific procedures contained in other documents.

B.7 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (PASS/FAIL) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant, or, in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member who will have primary environmental management obligations arising under the Contract, as identified in section B.1.1 Item 17. Please note that another entity cannot be relied upon for the Environmental Management requirements of this PQQ.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.7.1	Does your organisation have a documented policy statement on the protection of the environment and the application of good environmental practices. If yes, please include a copy.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐ Copy attached _____
B.7.2	Not used	
B.7.3	Has your organisation been convicted or served with a notice under environmental legislation by any environmental regulator or authority (including local authority) in the last 3 years prior to date of this application If yes, please provide details of the conviction or notice and details of any remedial actions or changes your organisation has made or proposes to make as a result of these convictions or notices served.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐ Details attached? ☐
B.7.4A	Does your organisation use subcontractors for carrying out any of the activities pertaining to this Contract? If you answered "No" to the above question, then please ignore questions B.7.4B (a), (b) and (c). If you have answered "Yes" please answer questions B.7.4B (a), (b) and (c).	Yes: ☐ No: ☐
B.7.4B	In respect of subcontractors does your organisation have processes in place to: (a) Ensure that all subcontractors apply environmental protection measures that are appropriate	Yes: ☐ No: ☐

	to the activity for which they are being engaged?	Is a description of the relevant process & controls attached? ☐
	(b) Monitor subcontractor compliance with your environmental policy?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Is a description of relevant process & controls attached? ☐
	(c) Monitor whether subcontractors have been convicted or served with a notice for infringement of environmental legislation?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Is a description of relevant process & controls attached? ☐

B.7. Environmental Management

To achieve a pass for B.7.1, the Applicant or in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member, having primary environmental management obligations arising under the Contract, must answer Yes to Question B.7.1 and provide a valid environmental policy statement.

To achieve a pass for B.7.3, the Applicant, or in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member having primary environmental obligations, must either answer 'No' to Question B.7.3 or if answering 'Yes', will pass if they submit details to reasonably satisfy the Contracting Entity that appropriate remedial action has been taken in order to satisfy the relevant authority in relation to any convictions or notices served under environmental legislation.

To achieve a pass for B.7.4, the Applicant or in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member, having primary environmental management obligations, must answer 'No' to Question B.7.4A or if answering 'Yes' to Question B.7.4A then it must answer 'Yes' to the three questions in B.7.4B (a) and (b) and (c) and confirm in the details provided that it has the key processes to monitor subcontractors environmental compliance.

B.8 QUALITY ASSURANCE (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 1 AND LOT 2

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by the Applicant Member who will have primary quality assurance responsibilities arising under the Contract. See section B.1.1 Item 18 Quality Assurance question. Please note that another entity cannot be relied upon for the Quality Assurance requirements of this PQQ.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.8.1	Does your organisation have a documented Quality Assurance System?	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.8.2	Does your organisation operate a Quality Assurance System certified by an accredited, independent third party as complying with EN ISO 9001 or equivalent? If yes, please attach copies of your current certificates.	Yes ☐ No ☐ Details attached? ☐
B.8.3A	Does your organisation use subcontractors for carrying out any of the activities pertaining to this Contract? If you answered "No" to the above question, then please ignore question B.8.3B. If you have answered "Yes" please answer question B.8.3B	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.8.3B	If you use subcontractors, do you have processes for ensuring that sub-contractors apply quality management measures that are appropriate to the work for which they are being engaged? Please provide details of processes.	Yes ☐ No ☐ Details attached? ☐

B.8 Quality Assurance

To achieve a pass for B.8.1 the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member who will have primary quality assurance responsibilities arising under the Contract, must answer Yes to this question.

To achieve a pass for B.8.2 the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member who will have primary quality assurance responsibilities arising under the Contract, must answer Yes to this question and provide copies of current valid certificates.

To achieve a pass for B.8.3 the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, the Applicant Member who will have primary quality assurance responsibilities arising under the Contract, must answer No to question B.8.3A or if answering Yes to question B.8.3A then it must answer Yes to question B.8.3B and confirm in the details provided that it has the processes to manage subcontractors quality management compliance.

B.9 EXPERIENCE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY (QUALITATIVE (SCORED))

The purpose of this **Section B.9** is to assess the experience and technical capability of the Applicant.

Where a Response is not eliminated for failure to meet the pass/fail criteria set out in this document, the experience and technical capability demonstrated in response to section B.9 will be evaluated on a qualitative basis.

Applicants will only be eligible to submit a tender at ITT stage for the Lot(s) for which they submit a response at PQQ stage. An Applicant that submits a PQQ response for one Lot only, will not be invited to tender for the other Lot. Where an Applicant applies for both Lots, each Lot will be evaluated independently and minimum score thresholds (where applicable) must be met separately for each Lot.

The Applicant should note that there is a requirement to achieve a minimum score of 60% of the score available (i.e. a minimum score of 480 out of 800). This is detailed in Appendix 13: Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring table.

An Applicant who fails to achieve these minimum scoring requirements will not be eligible for further consideration and the Applicant will not pre-qualify to the next stage of the Procurement process.

B.9.1 Qualitative Evaluation of Experience and Technical Capability

The Response will be evaluated under each of the following criteria:

- **B.9.2.A Lot 1** Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon: Supply of SEMs – (Qualitative scored).
- **B.9.2.B Lot 2** Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon: Supply of Head-End Systems and associated IT Systems including integration to an MDMS (Qualitative scored).
- **B.9.3.A Lot 1** Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions (Qualitative scored)
- **B.9.3.B Lot 2** Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions (Qualitative scored)

Maximum limits for the number of reference projects are set out in sections B.9.2.A, B.9.2.B, B.9.3.A, B.9.3.B. If a greater number of reference projects than the stipulated maximum is submitted by any Applicant, only the number of reference projects up to the stipulated maximum will be assessed in the order presented within the Applicants submission. For example, where a section requires 2 reference projects to be submitted and an Applicant submits 4 reference projects for assessment, only the 1st and 2nd reference projects, as presented in that order will be assessed. Reference projects presented in 3rd and 4th place will not be considered or evaluated.

The same reference projects can be submitted to demonstrate experience in response to Lot sections as above. There is no scoring advantage for the submission of different Reference Projects in response to different sections.

A breakdown of the evaluation criteria and maximum sub-criteria scores available is provided in the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13.

B.9.2. Relevant Project/Contract Experience of the Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Response Format

B.9.2.A Lot 1 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon: Supply of SEMs – (Qualitative scored)

This criterion requires the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate their experience and capability to supply SEMs, as noted in sections B.9.2.A.1 below on projects with similar characteristics to those noted in B.9.2.A.2. Each reference project must have had meters supplied and installed at relevant volumes for a period greater than 12 months within the last 7 years.

The Contracting Entity requires Applicants and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate experience in the supply of SEMs, to smart metering projects with similar characteristics to those described as set out in B.9.2.A.2. Therefore, a proportion of the score attributed to the response to this criterion will be awarded based on the degree of similarity between the reference projects and the scope of this procurement, summarised below in Section B.9.2.A.2.

B.9.2.A.1 Smart Electricity Meter (SEM):

The characteristics that will be considered here are; single phase and three phase whole current SEM containing a supply control switch which can be securely operated locally and remotely and single/three phase CT SEMs; measurement and processing of interval and register data; remote configuration and firmware upgrades; remote communications over a wide area network; ability to manage communications and provide consumption-related data; integration and support for HHT used for local management of the Devices and transmission of data to the HES. Evidence of multi-vendor interoperability (e.g. protocol conformity, field interoperability testing) is beneficial but not mandatory. Where applicable, describe cybersecurity controls embedded in the device and supply chain.

B.9.2.A.2 Project Characteristics

As Applicants will see from the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13, the degree of similarity of the reference projects submitted to the project characteristics listed below forms part of the assessment under this Criteria.

B.9.2.A.2.1 Scope

The characteristics which will be considered here are projects:

- Reference projects that demonstrate supply of comparable SEMs at scale, including functional and nonfunctional attributes; interoperability; cybersecurity controls and relevant accreditations/approvals (e.g. ISO, national certifications). Provide: client, jurisdiction, dates, volumes delivered/commissioned, firmware release cadence/upgrade success, field performance (e.g. early life failure rates), WAN/local communications used, and HHT support used.
- References demonstrating integration with CSP (Communication Service Provider) platforms (e.g. SIM/Device configuration management, provision of SIMs, Collaboration with MNOs).
- Delivered to utilities or energy supply companies in the EU/EEA, US, Canada, Japan, Australia or South Korea and doing so in compliance with local regulations and standards. Where applicable, indicate any independent certifications or regulatory approvals obtained

B.9.2.A.2.2 Complexity

The characteristics that will be considered here are Security architecture; WAN communications; integration to client AMI landscape as relevant to SEM's (e.g. HHT/HES touchpoints).

B.9.2.A.2.3 Size and Scale

The characteristics that will be considered here are:

- Supply and delivery of large volumes of SEMs.
 - Volumes supplied.
 - Deployment rate (meters per week/month at peak).
 - Measured operational KPIs.

B.9.2.A.2.4 Implementation focus

The reference project demonstrates the Applicant's capability to manage complex smart metering deployments through a secure-by-design SEM solution integrated into a utility AMI environment. The SEMs operated with DLMS/COSEM security architecture, and controlled supply-chain processes, aligned with recognised international security standards. The solution supported large-scale WAN communications via public cellular networks, enabling secure and reliable remote data collection, configuration, firmware upgrades, and operational commands, with full integration to CSP platforms for SIM provisioning and device management in collaboration with mobile network operators. The SEMs were successfully integrated with the client's AMI landscape, including Multi-vendor HES and HHT systems, supporting secure commissioning, field operations, diagnostics, and data exchange. The solution has operated in production, demonstrating stable, scalable, and secure performance within a complex, SEM multi-vendor utility environment.

B.9.2.A.3 Applicant Response

Please provide a description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects that have reached go-live and operated in production for ≥12 months within the last 7 years carried out by the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon for B.9.2.A.1. Demonstrating experience of supplying a comparable SEM which includes a description of the material functional and non-functional attributes of the products and services which were supplied and any relevant accreditations (e.g. ISO certification).

1. The form provided in Appendix 7 should be used to provide the following information:
2. The characteristics and details of each reference project including relevant dates (including overall duration, contract award date, programme milestones), contract value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in Sections B.9.2.B.4 above.
3. A description of the products and services supplied by each Applicant in relation to the reference projects.

B.9.2.B Lot 2 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon Supply of Head-end systems and associated IT Systems including integration to an MDMS – (Qualitative scored)

This criterion requires the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate their experience and capability to supply products and services; associated IT Systems and support, as noted in sections B.9.2.B.1 to B.9.2.B.4 below on projects with similar characteristics to those noted in B.9.2.B.4. Each reference must have reached go-live and operated in production for ≥12 months within the last 7 years.

The Contracting Entity requires Applicants and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate experience in the supply, configuration, commissioning and support of multi-vendor Head-End Systems including the integration to an MDMS and other systems to smart metering projects with similar characteristics to those described as set out in B.9.2.B.4. Therefore, a proportion of the score attributed to the response to this criterion will be awarded based on the degree of similarity between the reference projects and the scope of this procurement, summarised below in Section B.9.2.B.4.

B.9.2.B.1 Head-End System (HES):

The characteristics that will be considered here are: (a) management and reporting of communications with the installed smart meter population, including addressing and routing; (b) creation, secure transport and execution of meter protocol commands; (c) multi-vendor capability to onboard and operate heterogeneous meter models and firmware; (d) integration with MDMS (e.g. Siemens Energy IP, or equivalent); (e) secure pairing and support of customer devices; (f) credential lifecycle management and role-based access control; (g) event/alert management and notification to external systems; (h) firmware lifecycle management for meters and other devices; (i) device configuration management; (j) integration with Communications Service Providers (CSP) for SIM management; and (k) integration and support for handheld tools (HHT) for local device operations.

B.9.2.B.2 Integration with a Meter Data Management System (MDMS):

The characteristics that will be considered here are the integration between the HES and MDMS to support; meter to cash and power quality use cases typical for an energy utility; event and alert management to be used within the support of consumption data processes i.e. VEE; SEM event and alert reporting with the capability to raise or alert notifications to other systems; firmware information for meter devices; Device Configuration management to be used to support the Time of Use Tariffs of the Devices.

B.9.2.B.3 Integration with a Communications Service Provider (CSP):

The characteristics that will be considered here are the integration between the HES and CSP to support; event and alert management to be used within the support of service status; SIM event and alert reporting with the capability to raise or alert notifications to other systems; SIM/Device Configuration management to be used to support the Tariff and status of the SIM/Devices.

B.9.2.B.4 Multi-vendor Head-End System with high levels of Interoperability

The characteristics that will be considered here are experience and capability in the supply and implementation of a multi-vendor Head-End System (HES) delivering high levels of interoperability across multiple devices, communications and system vendors within a complex AMI environment. Demonstrating onboarding, operation and lifecycle management of meters and devices from multiple meter vendors, support for heterogeneous firmware lines, device variants and protocol implementations, interoperable execution of meter commands, events and data flows, Secure, standards-based interoperability (DLMS/COSEM), vendor-agnostic operation without dependency on proprietary or single-supplier constraints.

B.9.2.B.5 Project Characteristics

As Applicants and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon will see from the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13, the degree of similarity of the reference projects submitted to the project characteristics listed below forms part of the assessment under this criterion.

B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope

The characteristics which will be considered here are Projects including:

- Supply and implementation of comparable multi-vendor HES.
- Incorporating (including Security Architecture), build, test, manufacture, and implementation (including project management and system/service integration) of multi-vendor Head-End System with integrations to MDMS and CSP.
- Delivered to utilities or energy supply companies in the EU/EEA, US, Canada, Japan, Australia or South Korea and doing so in compliance with local regulations and standards. Where applicable, indicate any independent certifications or regulatory approvals obtained.
- Relevant certifications and system scale (endpoints, read volumes, throughput).
- Service level agreements (SLAs) covering the Head-End System (HES), meter supplier(s), and the Contracting Entity, including clear allocation of roles, responsibilities, interfaces, and accountabilities across the service delivery model.

B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity

The characteristics that will be considered here are the system and service integration between HES, MDMS, SEM, the overriding Security Architecture, the communications infrastructure and the client's IT systems as appropriate.

B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale

The characteristics that will be considered here are:

- Supply and implementation of the HES and associated IT Systems capable of scaling to support large volumes of data and SEM devices with adequate capacity to continue to function effectively over its expected lifetime (e.g. in terms of processing and storage capacity).

B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus

Implementation focus will consider the Applicant's and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon proven capability to deliver and stabilise a complex, multi-vendor Head-End System within a live AMI environment and supporting environments, including structured onboarding and lifecycle management of meters and devices from multiple vendors, support for heterogeneous firmware lines and secure credential management, and the repeatable introduction of new vendors post-go-live without service disruption. Assessment will include the implementation of robust, scalable HES-to-MDMS data flows supporting meter-to-cash and power quality processes, high-volume ingestion, reconciliation, exception handling and data quality management, together with effective monitoring, recovery and ownership models across HES, MDMS, CSP and utility operations. The Contracting Entity will also consider governance and execution of IoT/device-level testing, system Integration Testing (SIT) and business-led User Acceptance Testing (UAT), including defect management and formal exit criteria, as well as experience supporting security accreditation and assurance activities in line with a defined security architecture. Finally, evidence of controlled cutover, go-live, hypercare and stabilisation, operational readiness, knowledge transfer and transition to long-term BAU operations will be evaluated, with particular emphasis on minimising early-life incidents and avoiding vendor dependency.

B.9.2.B.6 Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon Response

Please provide a description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects carried out by the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon for B.9.2.B.1 which demonstrate experience of supplying a comparable HES and which includes a description of the material functional and non-functional attributes of the products and services which were supplied and any relevant compliance (e.g. NIS) and accreditations (e.g. ISO).

Please provide a description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects carried out by the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon for B.9.2.B.2 which demonstrate experience of supplying integration services to a comparable MDMS (e.g. Siemens Energy IP) and which includes a description of the material functional and non-functional attributes of the integration, products and services which were supplied and any relevant accreditations (e.g. ISO, SAP certification).

Please provide a description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects carried out by the Applicant for B.9.2.B.3 which demonstrate experience of supplying integration services to a comparable CSP, and

which includes a description of the material functional and non-functional attributes of the products and services which were supplied and any relevant accreditations (e.g. ISO certification).

Please provide a description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects carried out by the Applicant for B.9.2.B.4 which demonstrate experience of supply and implementation of a multi-vendor Head-End System (HES) delivering high levels of interoperability across multiple device, communications and system vendors within a complex AMI environment and any relevant accreditations (e.g. ISO certification).

The same two reference projects can be submitted to demonstrate experience across sections B.9.2.B.1, B.9.2.B.2, B.9.2.B.3 and B.9.2.B.4. There is no scoring advantage for the submission of different reference projects in response to different sections.

The form provided in Appendix 8 should be used to provide the following information:

- I. The characteristics and details of each reference project including relevant dates (including overall duration, contract award date, programme milestones), contract value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in Sections B.9.2.B.4 above.
- II. A description of the products and services supplied by each Applicant in relation to the reference projects.

B.9.3.A Lot 1 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions (Qualitative scored)

This criterion requires the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or any Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate a track record of successful collaboration with other key stakeholders in the delivery of smart metering solutions on projects with similar characteristics to those noted in B.9.4.A.1. Each reference project must have reached go-live and operated in production for ≥12 months within the last 7 years.

B.9.3.A.1 Project Characteristics

As Applicants will see from the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13, the degree of similarity of the reference projects submitted to the project characteristics listed below forms part of the assessment under this criterion.

B.9.3.A.1.1 Scope

The characteristics which will be considered here are Projects:

- SEM Supplier collaborating with a third-party multi-vendor Head-End System.
- Demonstrate supply of comparable SEMs at scale, including functional and nonfunctional attributes; interoperability; cybersecurity controls; and relevant accreditations/approvals (e.g. ISO, national certifications). Provide: client, jurisdiction, dates, volumes delivered/commissioned, firmware release cadence/upgrade success, field performance (e.g. early life failure rates), WAN/local communications used, and HHT support used.
- Delivered to utilities or energy supply companies in the EU/EEA, US, Canada, Japan, Australia or South Korea – and doing so in compliance with local regulations and standards.

B.9.3.A.1.2 Complexity

The characteristics that will be considered here are Integration between SEMs and HES from separate parties; interoperability; field tools; CSP systems; security architecture; communications infrastructure; and the governance/coordination/issue resolution processes required when deliverables are provided by different organisations.

B.9.3.A.1.3 Size and Scale

The characteristics that will be considered here are:

- Large volume of SEMs successfully onboarding to a multi-vendor HES.

B.9.3.A.1.4 Working together with key stakeholders

The characteristic that will be considered here is a track record of joint planning/design governance; interoperability/integration testing; cross boundary defect/issue management; shared milestones; coordinated rollout and operational support with the other key stakeholders on the project.

B.9.3.A.2 Applicant Response

Please provide:

i) A description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects, carried out by the Applicant, and/or Applicant Member(s) and/or any Entities Being Relied Upon, where they have worked on the supply, rollout and ongoing support of integrated smart metering solutions for clients.

Where an applicant has answered 'Yes' to B.1.5 Ref No.1 they should describe a maximum of two (2) reference projects on which they delivered 100% (or lower if this is not possible) of the contract deliverables themselves.

A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in Sections B.9.4.A.1 above.

ii) A description of the role(s) of the Applicant Member, Applicant Member(s) and any Entities Being Relied On in relation to the reference projects to demonstrate their roles in collaborating with the key stakeholders in delivering each of the reference projects.

iii) A description of SLAs (service level agreements) put in place to ensure successful collaboration between the HES and SEM vendor(s),

The information required should be submitted using the form provided in Appendix 9.

B.9.3.B Lot 2 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions (Qualitative scored)

This criterion requires the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or any Entities Being Relied Upon to demonstrate a track record of successful collaboration with other key stakeholders in the delivery of smart metering solutions on projects with similar characteristics to those noted in B.9.4.B.1.

B.9.3.B.1 Project Characteristics

As Applicants will see from the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13, the degree of similarity of the reference projects submitted to the project characteristics listed below forms part of the assessment under this criterion.

B.9.3.B.1.1 Scope

The characteristics which will be considered here are Projects:

- Multi-vendor head-end Supplier collaborating with a third-party SEM supplier.
- Incorporating (including Security Architecture), build, test, manufacture, and implementation (including project management and system/service integration) of multi-vendor Head-End System with integrations to MDMS (e.g. Siemens Energy IP MDM) and CSP.
- Delivered to utilities or energy supply companies in the EU/EEA, US, Canada, Japan, Australia or South Korea – and doing so in compliance with local regulations and standards.

B.9.3.B.1.2 Complexity

The characteristics that will be considered here are the system and service integration between HES supplier and the SEM supplier, along with the overriding Security Architecture, the communications infrastructure and the client's IT systems as appropriate.

B.9.3.B.1.3 Size and Scale

The characteristics that will be considered here are:

- Supply and implementation of IT Systems capable of scaling to support large volumes of data and SEM devices with adequate capacity to continue to function effectively over its expected lifetime (e.g. in terms of processing and storage capacity). Applicants should state the number of devices under management or delivered, peak daily read volumes, typical command volumes, and measured system performance (e.g. throughput/latency) where available.

B.9.3.B.1.4 Working together with key stakeholders

The characteristic that will be considered here is a track record of Joint planning/design governance; interoperability/integration testing; cross boundary defect/issue management; shared milestones; coordinated rollout and operational support with the other key stakeholders on the project.

B.9.3.B.2 Applicant Response

Please provide:

i) A description of a maximum of two (2) reference projects, carried out by the Applicant, and/or Applicant Member(s) and/or any Entities Being Relied Upon, where they have worked on the supply, rollout and ongoing support of integrated smart metering solutions for clients.

Where an applicant has answered 'Yes' to B.1.5 Ref No.1 they should describe a maximum of two (2) reference projects on which they delivered 100% (or lower if this is not possible) of the contract deliverables themselves.

A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in Sections B.9.4.1 above.

ii) A description of the role(s) of the Applicant Member, and/or Applicant Member(s) and/or any Entities Being Relied On in relation to the reference projects to demonstrate their roles in collaborating with the key stakeholders in delivering each of the reference projects.

iii) A description of Service Level Agreements (SLA's) put in place to ensure successful collaboration between the HES and SEM vendor(s).

The information required should be submitted using the form provided in Appendix 10.

B.9.5 Qualitative Evaluation Guidance Notes (For information - no response required):

For the purposes of the evaluation of responses to Section B.9:

1. In relation to the evaluation of reference projects, the Contracting Entity will evaluate completed reference projects.
2. “Completed” means a concluded contract or one where takeover has been achieved and the project is no longer under execution.
3. Failure to supply information on the required number of reference projects specified in response to criteria will achieve a lower score. Refer to the Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table in Appendix 13 for details of scoring/ weighting.
4. In relation to sections B.9.3 and B.9.4, where an applicant has answered ‘Yes’ to B1.5 Ref No.1 the reference projects must be those on which they delivered 100% of the contract deliverables themselves in order to obtain 100% of the score available. Where this is not possible or only partially possible lower marks will be awarded accordingly.

B.10 ELIGIBILITY (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 1 AND LOT 2

Each Applicant and, in the case of a Consortium, each Applicant Member must respond to the following:

Ref No.	Question	Response Tick box or specify as appropriate
B.10.1	The Applicant or Applicant Member is bankrupt or is being wound up or its affairs are being administered by the court or it has entered into an arrangement with creditors or has suspended business activities or is in any similar situation arising from any similar procedure under any applicable laws and regulations.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.2	The Applicant or Applicant Member is the subject of proceedings for a declaration of bankruptcy, for an order for compulsory winding up or administration by the court or for an arrangement with creditors or of any other similar proceedings under any applicable laws and regulations.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.3	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of professional misconduct by a judgement of a competent authority that is authorised by law to hear and determine allegations of professional misconduct against persons, including the Applicant or the Applicant Member, or been guilty of grave professional misconduct in the course of their business.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.4	The Applicant or Applicant Member has not fulfilled its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in Ireland or any other country in which the Applicant or the Applicant Member is located.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.5	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of fraud as defined in S.I. 284 of 2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.6	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of money laundering as defined in S.I. 284 of 2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.7	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of corruption as defined in S.I. 284 of 2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.8	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been convicted of being a member of a criminal organisation as defined in S.I. 284/2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.9	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of terrorist offences as defined in S.I. 284 of 2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐

B.10.10	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found guilty of child labour or other forms of trafficking in human beings as defined in S.I. 284 of 2016.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.11	The Applicant or Applicant Member has been found by the relevant authority to have breached any of: I. the Competition Acts 2002-2014 (as amended) or their predecessors, the Competition Acts 1991 and 1996; II. Article 81 of the Treaty of Rome or Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU"); III. Article 82 of the Treaty of Rome or Article 102 of the TFEU; or IV. any competition law of any jurisdiction.	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.12	The Applicant or Applicant Member or any entity or person that controls (whether by way of a shareholding or otherwise) the Applicant or Applicant Member is subject to any Sanctions ² .	Yes ☐ No ☐
B.10.13	The Applicant or Applicant Member has, within the past three years, in any jurisdiction, shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior contract with ESB or any ESB group entity, a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions	Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide details. The Contracting Entity reserves the right to raise further queries and request further details. Please note that the Contracting Entity reserves the right, but has no obligation, to exclude Applicants from the Procurement process who have answered yes to any of the questions in Section B.10

² Sanctions in B.10.12 means the economic sanctions laws, regulations, embargoes or restrictive measures administered, enacted or enforced by any of the Sanctions Authorities (being the US government, the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, the United Kingdom or the respective Governmental Authorities of any of the foregoing including without limitation, OFAC, the US Department of State and Her Majesty's Treasury.

B.11 DATA PROTECTION (PASS/FAIL) - Lot 1 and Lot 2

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium by each Applicant Member. Please note that another entity cannot be relied upon for the Data Protection requirements of this PQQ.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response	Pass / Fail or Score
B.11.1	Does your organisation have a documented policy and processes in place to comply with Data Protection Laws which covers how the below aspects are managed? • Principles of Data Protection Laws • Data Subject Rights • Transfers to Third Parties • Breaches of Data Protection Laws • Governance	Yes: ☐ No: ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must confirm that they have documented policy and processes in place
B.11.2.1	Does your organisation operate to a recognised information security standard such as ISO27001 or equivalent? If yes, please provide a copy of the up-to-date Certification.	Yes: ☐ No: ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must demonstrate that it operates either: (i) a certified information security standard, or (ii) a management system that effectively provides the key requirements of information security as outlined in B.11.2.2
B.11.2.2	If you answered “Yes” and provided the relevant information, please do <u>not</u> respond to B.11.2.2 If you answered ‘No’, please outline the key elements of the information security standard in operation in your organisation including: • Organisation of Information Security • Outlines if any audits are conducted • Physical security and access • Anti-virus protection • Data transfer security/encryption • Access controls • Incident Management process • Data back-up and storage • Network Security • Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity	Document / Details / Responses attached ☐	

B.11.3.1	Has your organisation (or any subsidiaries / sub-contractors you propose to use pertaining to this Contract) been investigated, fined, penalised or subject to an enforcement action by a data protection authority whilst carrying out work on behalf of your organisation in the last 3 years prior to date of this application?	Yes: ☐ No: ☐ Document / Details/ Response attached? ☐	Pass / Fail To achieve a pass the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium each Applicant Member, must either: (i) answer 'No' to question B.11.3.1, or (ii) confirm to ESB's satisfaction through the details provided in answering B.11.3.2 that any non-compliance with Data Protection Laws has been addressed
B.11.3.2	If you answered "Yes" to section B.11.3.1 then please provide details including: (i) Jurisdiction; (ii) Date of issue; (iii) Reason / root cause of occurrence; (iv) Resulting improvement /remedial action or changes your organisation has made; (v) Evidence that the fine/penalty or order has been complied with or discharged and/or that the investigation has been closed. The Contracting Entity reserves the right to raise further queries and / or seek further information during the PQQ clarification stage of the competition in order to validate compliance with its requirements.		

Important Note to Applicants: -

- (i) Where the Contract involves the processing of personal data by the Contractor on behalf of the Contracting Entity, it shall be a condition of Contract award, that the Contractor permits ESB (and/or its nominee) to conduct audits and or inspections of the Contractor's facilities, systems and processes in order to ensure compliance with Data Protection Laws and specific data protection requirements in the Contract. Further details will be provided to the pre-qualified Applicants at the RFT stage of this Procurement;
- (ii) Applicants should note that a Contract specific evaluation of the Applicant's intended data protection systems and processes for the execution of the Services which are the subject of this Procurement process will follow as part of the contract award criteria in the competitive tendering stage.

B.12 SEM PRODUCTION OUTPUT (PASS/FAIL) – LOT 1 ONLY

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by the Main Applicant Member, as identified in B.1.1.

Note: Section B.12 (Production Output) applies only to applicants submitting a PQQ response for Lot 1.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.12.1	Based on evidence provided by the OEM (as identified in B.1.1 Item 16) as part of this PQQ, please confirm an historic average production output in excess of 750,000 whole current SEM units manufactured, tested and shipped over the three years set out below (i.e. the aggregate production output for the three years as set out below divided by three). Nov 2022 to Nov 2023 production output Nov 2023 to Nov 2024 production output Nov 2024 Nov 2025 production output Average Production output ((a) + (b) + (c))/3 For avoidance of doubt smart Gas or Water meters must not be included in the unit numbers inserted above.	Yes ☐ No ☐ (a) _____ Units (b) _____ Units (c) _____ Units _____ Units
B.12.2	Please provide evidence of the above volumes with relevant extracts from annual reports, internal management reports, or similar.	Yes ☐ No ☐ Details attached? ☐

B12 SEM Production Output:

To achieve a pass for B12, the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by the Main Applicant Member, must provide sufficient evidence to confirm an historic average production output in excess of 750,000 whole current SEM units manufactured, tested and shipped over the specified three-year period.

B.13 HEAD-END SYSTEM OPERATIONAL SCALE AND GROWTH (PASS/FAIL) - LOT 2 ONLY

To be completed by each Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by the Main Applicant Member, as identified in B.1.1.

Note: Section B.13 applies only to Applicants submitting a PQQ response for lot 2.

Ref No.	Question	Applicant's Response
B.13.1	Based on evidence provided by the Applicant as part of this PQQ, please confirm that, across its operational Head-End Systems, the Applicant has greater than 1,000,000 smart electricity meter endpoints managed by, or contracted to be managed by, its Head-End System. Total number of smart electricity meter endpoints currently managed by, or contracted to be managed by, the Applicant's Head-End System Based on evidence provided by the Applicant as part of this PQQ, please confirm that the Applicant has achieved an average annual net increase of at least 250,000 smart electricity meter endpoints managed by, or contracted to be managed by, its Head-End System over the three-year period set out below. Nov 2022 to Nov 2023 net additional smart electricity meter endpoints added to the HES Nov 2023 to Nov 2024 net additional smart electricity meter endpoints added to the HES Nov 2024 Nov 2025 net additional smart electricity meter endpoints added to the HES Average annual net increase in smart electricity meter endpoints added to the HES ((a)+ (b) + (c))/3 For avoidance of doubt smart Gas or Water meters must not be included in the unit numbers inserted above.	Yes ☐ No ☐ _____Units Yes ☐ No ☐ (a)_____Units (b)_____Units (c)_____Units _____Units

B.13.2	Please provide evidence to support the endpoint figures provided above. Evidence may include relevant extracts from annual reports, customer references, contract award notices, client certificates, internal management reports, audited operational reports, or other equivalent documentation.	Yes ☐ No ☐ Details attached? ☐
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B13 Head-End System Operational Scale and Growth

To achieve a pass for B13, the Applicant or, in the case of a Consortium, by the Main Applicant Member, must provide sufficient evidence to confirm across its operational Head-End Systems greater than 1,000,000 smart electricity meter endpoints managed by, or contracted to be managed by, its Head-End System. over the specified three-year period.

APPENDIX 1 FORM OF PQQ RESPONSE DECLARATION LOT 1

To be printed, completed, signed and returned via eTenders, original hard copy is not required. This Declaration must be completed and signed by a duly authorised officer of the Applicant, or where Applicant is a Consortium, by a duly authorised officer for and on behalf of the Lead Consortium Member

PQQ FOR Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters Procurement, .

Name of Applicant:.....

Address of Applicant:

.....

I certify that the information provided in this PQQ Response is accurate and complete and not misleading to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that the provision of inaccurate or misleading information in this Declaration may lead to the Applicant and/or Applicant Member being excluded from participation in this and/or future tenders.

I understand that the information provided in our PQQ Response will be used in the Procurement process to assess the Applicant's and/or the Applicant Members suitability to be shortlisted and to be invited to tender. I understand that the Contracting Entity may reject this Response if there is a failure to answer all questions fully or if false, misleading or incomplete information is provided in the PQQ Response.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX 1 FORM OF PQQ RESPONSE DECLARATION LOT 2

To be printed, completed, signed and returned via eTenders, original hard copy is not required. This Declaration must be completed and signed by a duly authorised officer of the Applicant, or where Applicant is a Consortium, by a duly authorised officer for and on behalf of the Lead Consortium Member

PQQ FOR Lot 2: Smart AMI HES

Name of Applicant:.....

Address of Applicant:

.....

I certify that the information provided in this PQQ Response is accurate and complete and not misleading to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that the provision of inaccurate or misleading information in this Declaration may lead to the Applicant and/or Applicant Member being excluded from participation in this and/or future tenders.

I understand that the information provided in our PQQ Response will be used in the Procurement process to assess the Applicant's and/or the Applicant Members suitability to be shortlisted and to be invited to tender. I understand that the Contracting Entity may reject this Response if there is a failure to answer all questions fully or if false, misleading or incomplete information is provided in the PQQ Response.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX 2 FORM OF PERFORMANCE BOND DECLARATION LOT 1

To be printed, completed, signed and returned via eTenders, original hard copy is not required. This Performance Bond Declaration must be completed and signed by a duly authorised officer of the surety on the headed paper of the surety.

To: ESB
27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower
Dublin 2
D02 KT92
Ireland.

Date: []

Re: Performance Bond - Pre-qualification for Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters Procurement

Dear ESB,

[NAME OF SURETY] hereby confirm:

1. We are aware of [insert the Applicant's name] participation in the pre-qualification for Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters Procurement.
2. That if [insert the Applicant's name] is successful in being appointed as a Contractor for **Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters Procurement** we [INSERT NAME OF SURETY] will provide a performance bond in the sum of €2.5 Million on behalf of [Insert Applicants Name] subject to our normal due diligence in respect of the Project.
3. This declaration terminates as soon as you receive a performance bond guarantee in the case where you award the Contract to [insert the Applicant's name] or terminates if the Contract is not awarded to [insert the Applicant's name].

Signature, name and title of signatory

Duly authorised
For and on behalf of
[]

**APPENDIX 4 REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENTS, SUPPLIERS, CONTRACTORS, ADVISORS AND
OTHER THIRD PARTIES ARISING IN CONNECTION WITH ESB POLICIES**

Click on link below or download the document from eTenders website for this PQQ.

[**ESB Requirements for Third Parties**](#)

APPENDIX 5 SOLUTION OVERVIEW

*Please see accompanying document **Solution Overview***

Please note Appendix 6 contains a summary of anticipated project mandatory requirements.

APPENDIX 6 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

The following Mandatory Requirements will be stipulated as mandatory requirements in the ITT when it is issued and will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

The Contracting Entity reserves the right to stipulate additional mandatory requirements in the ITT.

LOT 1		
1	Smart Electricity Meter (SEM)	All SEMs must be capable of: - Interval and register data collection and processing. - Event collection, Alarm notification (including last gasp), and PQ Data collection. - Remote configuration and firmware upgrades. - Load control switching. - DLMS/COSEM protocol including Suite 2 with push and pull. - Use cases as per DLMS ACE SM GCP. - Communications function capable of communicating over NB-IoT and LTE-M. In addition, the Single/Three Phase Whole Current SEMs must include: - A physical supply control switch within the Single-Phase SEM (operated by Command from the Head End System) and separately at a minimum 2A Aux Switch for night storage heating circuit control or other loads. - Three supply control switches within the Three-Phase SEM (operated by Command from the Head End System) and separately at a minimum 2A Aux Switch for night storage heating circuit control or other loads.
2	Delivery Timescales	Vendor(s) must be capable of delivering up to 1,500,000 SEMs, to enable them to be deployed by Q2 2028 onwards.
3	Security	The Vendor will be required to provide a security model which allows the SEM to confirm that critical commands it receives, such as switch operation or firmware update activation, can only have been issued by the Contracting Entity which ensures the confidentiality, privacy, integrity and availability of all data in the AML.
LOT 2		
1	Head End System (HES)	Scalability: HES product must be technically capable of supporting the entire Smart Meter estate including SEMs procured from other vendors. Initially 1.5 million SEMs and the capacity to scale up to potentially 3 million SEMs during the contract term. Functionality: HES product must be technically capable of supporting the scope as defined within Appendix 5
2	“Energy IP” Meter Data Management System (MDMS) Adaptor for HES	Scalability: The Applicant’s Adaptor for the Energy IP MDMS product must be technically capable of supporting the entire Smart Meter estate including those SEMs and meters procured from other vendors. Functionality: The Applicant’s Adaptor for the Energy IP MDMS product must be technically capable of supporting the scope as defined within Appendix 5.

		Integration: The Applicant's Adaptor(s) for the Energy IP MDMS, will be a fully integrated solution incorporating any modifications to the HES and to the Energy IP MDMS to achieve this.
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**APPENDIX 6.1 - DECLARATION OF AWARENESS OF PROJECT MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS
LOT 1**

To be printed, completed, signed and submitted with the PQQ response via eTenders. This Declaration must be completed and signed by a duly authorised officer of the Applicant, or where Applicant is a consortium, by a duly authorised officer for and on behalf of the Lead Consortium Member

PQQ FOR Lot 1: Smart Electricity Meters Procurement

Name of Applicant:

Address of Applicant:

.....

I certify that the Applicant has read the summary of project mandatory requirements provided by the Contracting Entity and made its decision to submit a PQQ with full knowledge of those project mandatory requirements.

I understand that the information contained in the summary of project mandatory requirements has been provided in good faith and is intended solely to assist Applicants in making a decision to submit a PQQ. The Contracting Entity provides no warranty as to the accuracy of the information which may unavoidably change at a later stage of the procurement process.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE:

**APPENDIX 6.2 - DECLARATION OF AWARENESS OF PROJECT MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS
LOT 2**

To be printed, completed, signed and submitted with the PQQ response via eTenders. This Declaration must be completed and signed by a duly authorised officer of the Applicant, or where Applicant is a consortium, by a duly authorised officer for and on behalf of the Lead Consortium Member

PQQ FOR Lot 2: Smart AMI HES

Name of Applicant:

Address of Applicant:

.....

I certify that the Applicant has read the summary of project mandatory requirements provided by the Contracting Entity and made its decision to submit a PQQ with full knowledge of those project mandatory requirements.

I understand that the information contained in the summary of project mandatory requirements has been provided in good faith and is intended solely to assist Applicants in making a decision to submit a PQQ. The Contracting Entity provides no warranty as to the accuracy of the information which may unavoidably change at a later stage of the procurement process.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE:

APPENDIX 7 REFERENCE PROJECT INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO CRITERIA B.9.2.A LOT 1

To be completed by the Applicant, or in the case of a Consortium by the Applicant Member(s) and submitted for a total of two (2) projects.

Applicants (or Applicant Members) must provide all of the information required in the format indicated below. In providing this information, consent is given for the accuracy of the information to be checked with the relevant Employer identified below.			
APPLICANT'S/APPLICANT MEMBER'S NAME:			DATE:
ACTIVITY (Title of Applicant Activity)	[activity]		
PROJECT DETAILS (Title & brief description including relevant project characteristics)	[The characteristics and details of the reference project including relevant dates (project duration/contract award/programme milestones/financial close etc.), capital value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in section B.9.2.A.2 Project Scope, B.9.2.A.2.2 Complexity and B.9.2.A.2.3 Size and Scale. B.9.A.2.4 Implementation] Please limit responses in relation to Project Details to a maximum of 1000 words.]		
Site Location:	[location]		
Proportion of Project undertaken by Applicant/Applicant Member:	[proportion]	Tendering entity (e.g. Sole Trader/ Joint Venture)	[Entity]
VALUE Contract value at award stage:	[value]	Contract value at completion/ final account:	[value]
DATES Start Date:	[date]	Date of Completion:	[date]
Name & address of Employer responsible for the project:		[name & address]	
Employer contact name:	[name]	Employer contact phone number:	[phone number]
OTHER INFORMATION			
If not, the Employer named above, please state to whom the works/ service was provided in a sub-contracting capacity		[name]	

APPENDIX 8 REFERENCE PROJECT INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO CRITERIA B.9.2.B LOT 2

To be completed by the Applicant, or in the case of a Consortium by the Applicant Member(s) and submitted for a total of two (2) projects.

Applicants (or Applicant Members) must provide all of the information required in the format indicated below. In providing this information, consent is given for the accuracy of the information to be checked with the relevant Employer identified below.			
APPLICANT'S/APPLICANT MEMBER'S NAME:			DATE:
ACTIVITY (Title of Applicant Activity)	[activity]		
PROJECT DETAILS (Title & brief description including relevant project characteristics)	[The characteristics and details of the reference project including relevant dates (project duration/contract award/programme milestones/financial close etc.), capital value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in section B.9.2.B.5.1 Project Scope, B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity, B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale, B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation Focus. Please limit responses in relation to Project Details to a maximum of 2000 words.]		
Site Location:	[location]		
Proportion of Project undertaken by Applicant/Applicant Member:	[proportion]	Tendering entity (e.g. Sole Trader/ Joint Venture)	[Entity]
VALUE Contract value at award stage:	[value]	Contract value at completion/ final account:	[value]
DATES Start Date:	[date]	Date of Completion:	[date]
Name & address of Employer responsible for the project:		[name & address]	
Employer contact name:	[name]	Employer contact phone number:	[phone number]
OTHER INFORMATION			
If not, the Employer named above, please state to whom the works/ service was provided in a sub-contracting capacity		[name]	

APPENDIX 9 REFERENCE PROJECT INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO CRITERIA B.9.3.A LOT 1

To be completed by the Applicant, or in the case of a Consortium by the Applicant Member(s) and submitted for a total of two (2) projects.

Applicants (or Applicant Members) must provide all of the information required in the format indicated below. In providing this information, consent is given for the accuracy of the information to be checked with the relevant Employer identified below.			
APPLICANT'S/APPLICANT MEMBER'S NAME:			DATE:
ACTIVITY (Title of Applicant Activity)	[A description of the role(s) of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entity Being Relied Upon demonstrating the degree to which they worked together in delivering the reference project. Where an applicant has answered 'Yes' to B1.5 Ref No.1 they should describe their role in relation to the reference project to demonstrate the degree to which they delivered 100% (or lower if this is not possible) of the contract deliverables themselves.]		
PROJECT DETAILS (Title & brief description including relevant project characteristics)	[The characteristics and details of the reference project including relevant dates (project duration/contract award/programme milestones/financial close etc.), capital value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in section B.9.3.A.1.1 Project Scope, B.9.3.A.1.2 Complexity, B.9.3.A.1.3 Size and Scale, B.9.3.A.1.4 Working together. Please limit responses in relation to Project Details to a maximum of 1000 words.]		
Site Location:	[location]		
Proportion of Project undertaken by Applicant/Applicant Member:	[proportion]	Tendering entity (e.g. Sole Trader/ Joint Venture)	[Entity]
VALUE Contract value at award stage:	[value]	Contract value at completion/ final account:	[value]
DATES Start Date:	[date]	Date of Completion:	[date]
Name & address of Employer responsible for the project:		[name & address]	
Employer contact name:	[name]	Employer contact phone number:	[phone number]
OTHER INFORMATION			
If not, the Employer named above, please state to whom the works/ service was provided in a sub-contracting capacity		[name]	

**APPENDIX 10 REFERENCE PROJECT INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO CRITERIA B.9.3.B LOT
2**

To be completed by the Applicant, or in the case of a Consortium by the Applicant Member(s) and submitted for a total of two (2) projects.

Applicants (or Applicant Members) must provide all of the information required in the format indicated below. In providing this information, consent is given for the accuracy of the information to be checked with the relevant Employer identified below.			
APPLICANT'S/APPLICANT MEMBER'S NAME:			DATE:
ACTIVITY <i>(Title of Applicant Activity)</i>	[A description of the role(s) of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entity Being Relied Upon demonstrating the degree to which they worked together in delivering the reference project. Where an applicant has answered 'Yes' to B1.5 Ref No.1 they should describe their role in relation to the reference project to demonstrate the degree to which they delivered 100% (or lower if this is not possible) of the contract deliverables themselves.]		
PROJECT DETAILS <i>(Title & brief description including relevant project characteristics)</i>	[The characteristics and details of the reference project including relevant dates (project duration/contract award/programme milestones/financial close etc.), capital value and client details. A sufficient level of detail should be included to allow evaluation relative to the characteristics set out in section B.9.3.B.1.1 Project Scope, B.9.3.B.1.2 Complexity, B.9.3.B.1.3 Size and Scale, B.9.3.B.1.4 Working together. Please limit responses in relation to Project Details to a maximum of 1000 words.]		
Site Location:	[location]		
Proportion of Project undertaken by Applicant/Applicant Member:	[proportion]	Tendering entity (e.g. Sole Trader/ Joint Venture)	[Entity]
VALUE Contract value at award stage:	[value]	Contract value at completion/ final account:	[value]
DATES Start Date:	[date]	Date of Completion:	[date]
Name & address of Employer responsible for the project:		[name & address]	
Employer contact name:	[name]	Employer contact phone number:	[phone number]
OTHER INFORMATION			
If not, the Employer named above, please state to whom the works/ service was provided in a sub-contracting capacity		[name]	

APPENDIX 13 QUALITATIVE EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SCORING TABLE

Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Table for Section B.9: Experience and Technical Capability – Lots 1 and 2

The Applicant should note that there is a requirement to achieve a minimum score of 60% of the score available (i.e. a minimum score of 480 out of 800). This is detailed in Appendix 13: Qualitative Evaluation Criteria and Scoring table.

An Applicant who fails to achieve these minimum scoring requirements will not be eligible for further consideration and the Applicant will not pre-qualify to the next stage of the Procurement process.

Qualitative Evaluation and Scoring							Applicant Name				
Section B.9: Experience and Technical Capability							LOT 1				
A		B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Relevant Project Experience of Applicant and/or Applicant Members		Criteria Score Available	Minimum Threshold Score	Project Score Available	Evaluator Name(s)	Project Characteristics & Sub-criteria	Sub-criteria Score Available (% of Project Score)	Sub-criteria Marks Available (DxG)	% Score Awarded Please refer to Appendix 11 of PQQ document	Sub Criteria Score Achieved (HxI)	Criteria Score Achieved
B.9.2.A Lot 1 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon: Supply of SEMs – (Qualitative scored)	SEM Project 1	400	480	200		B.9.2.A.2.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0	0
	SEM Project 2					B.9.2.A.2.2 Complexity	20.00%	40		0	
						B.9.2.A.2.2 Size and Scale	20.00%	40		0	
						B.9.2.A.2.2 Implementation focus	40.00%	80		0	
		Project 1		B.9.2.A.2.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0			
	B.9.2.A.2.2 Complexity			20.00%	40		0				
	B.9.2.A.2.2 Size and Scale			20.00%	40		0				
	B.9.2.A.2.2 Implementation focus			40.00%	80		0				
B.9.3.A Lot 1 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon – Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions (Qualitative scored)	Project 1	400	200		B.9.3.A.1.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0		
					B.9.3.A.1.2 Complexity	20.00%	40		0		
					B.9.3.A.1.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	40		0		
					B.9.3.A.1.4 Working together	40.00%	80		0		
	Project 2	B.9.3.A.1.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0					
		B.9.3.A.1.2 Complexity	20.00%	40		0					
		B.9.3.A.1.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	40		0					
		B.9.3.A.1.4 Working together	40.00%	80		0					
Points Total		800	480	800				800			0

Qualitative Evaluation and Scoring						Applicant Name				
Section B.9: Experience and Technical Capability						LOT 2				
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Relevant Project Experience of Applicant and/or Applicant Members	Criteria Score Available	Minimum Threshold Score	Project Score Available	Evaluator Name(s)	Project Characteristics & Sub-criteria	Sub-criteria Score Available (% of	Sub-criteria Marks Available (DzG)	% Score Awarded Please refer to Appendix	Sub Criteria Score Achieved	Criteria Score Achieved
B.9.2.B Lot 2 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon: Supply of Head-end systems and associated IT Systems including integration to an MDMS - (Qualitative scored)	400	480	60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	0
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
			60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
			60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
			60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
			20		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	8		0	
			20		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	4		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	8		0	
			60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
			60		B.9.2.B.5.1 Scope	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.2 Complexity	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	12		0	
					B.9.2.B.5.4 Implementation focus	40.00%	24		0	
B.9.3.B Lot 2 Experience of the Applicant and/or Applicant Members and/or Entities Being Relied Upon - Working collaboratively with other key stakeholders in the delivery of Smart Metering solutions	400		200		B.9.3.B.1.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.2 Complexity	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.4 Working together	40.00%	80		0	
			200		B.9.3.B.1.1 Scope	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.2 Complexity	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.3 Size and Scale	20.00%	40		0	
					B.9.3.B.1.4 Working together	40.00%	80		0	
Points Total		800	480	800			800		0	0

APPENDIX 14 QUALITATIVE EVALUATION GUIDANCE TABLE

% of total score available	Evaluation Summary
0%	Unacceptable – Nil or inadequate Response, or reference project(s), where applicable, are not comparable. The response fails to satisfy the subject matter of the criteria in very significant respects.
20%	Poor – Overall, the Response is poor and only partially relevant, and the reference project(s), where applicable, is only partially comparable. The Response addresses the subject matter of the criteria in part but contains insufficient / limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the subject matter of the criteria will be satisfied.
40%	Fair – Overall, the Response is fair and partially relevant, and the reference project(s), where applicable, is fairly comparable. The response demonstrated a fair understanding of the subject matter of the criteria but lacks detail on how the subject matter of the criteria will be satisfied.
60%	Good – Overall the Response is good and relevant, and the reference project(s), where applicable, is comparable. The Response demonstrates a good understanding of the criteria and provides details on how the criteria will be satisfied to an adequate standard.
80%	Very good – Overall, the Response is very good and relevant, and the reference project(s), where applicable, is very comparable. The Response demonstrates a very good understanding of the subject matter of the criteria and provides details on how the subject matter of the criteria will be satisfied to a high standard.
100%	Excellent – The Response is excellent and relevant and the reference project(s), where applicable, is highly comparable. The Response is comprehensive and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the subject matter of the criteria and provides details on how the subject matter of the criteria will be satisfied to a very high standard.