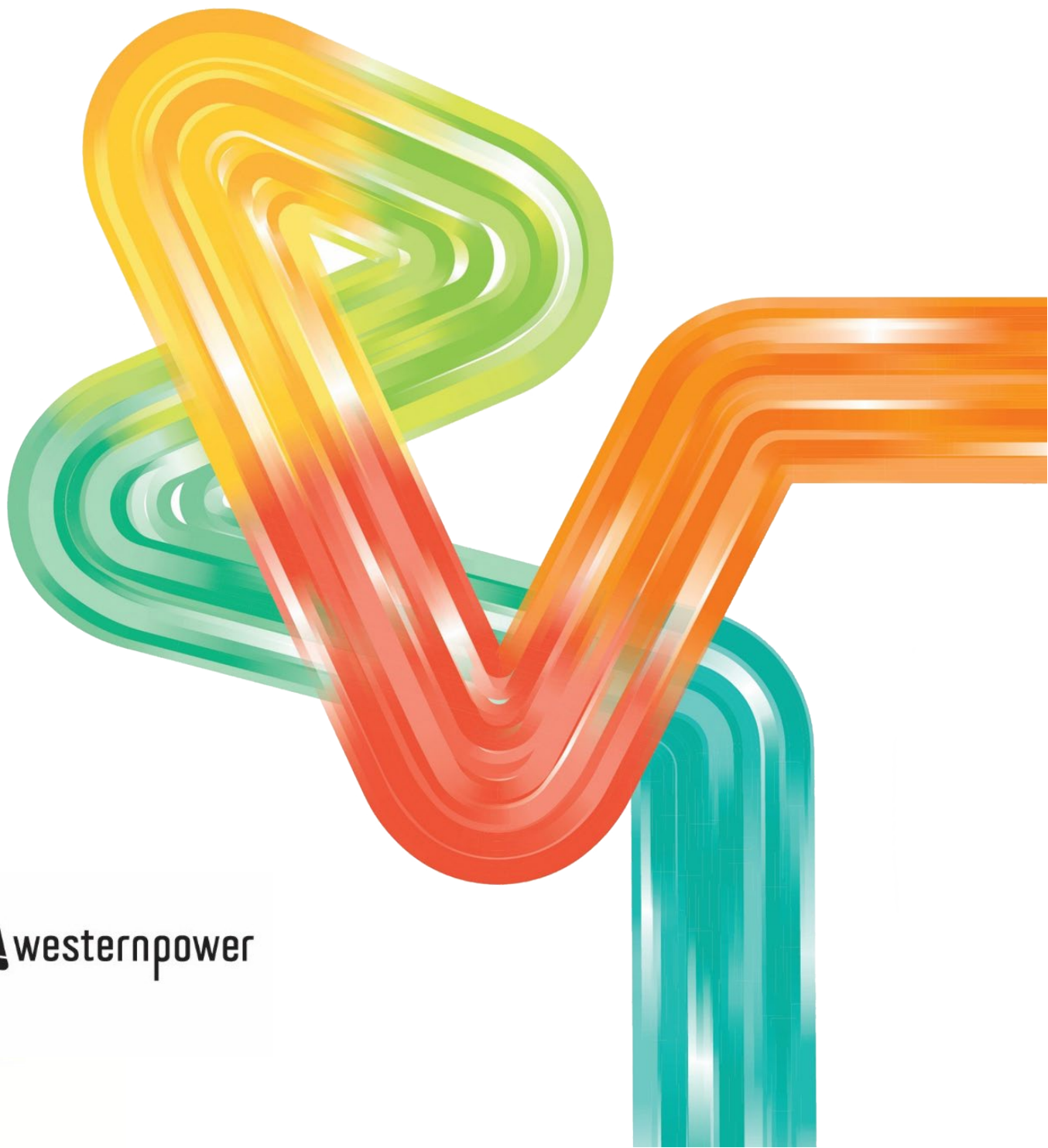


# Draft NCESS Service Specification

Network Support Services for Geraldton minimum demand

Public

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose and scope

- 1.1.1 Western Power has prepared this draft NCESS Service Specification in accordance with clause 3.11B.1 and 3.11B.5 of the Electricity Market Rules (ESM Rules). This draft NCESS Service Specification includes:
- a. the service requirements;
  - b. the expected technical capability of a facility or equipment that may be able to provide the service;
  - c. the network locations where the service is to be provided;
  - d. the maximum quantity of the service required;
  - e. the expected commencement and duration of the service;
  - f. the reasonable expectation of the frequency of service utilisation, the expected duration of each utilisation and when the service is expected to be utilised during typical days;
  - g. any operational requirements or limitations;
  - h. the material contractual terms associated with the NCESS, including required pricing structure;
  - i. the selection criteria that may apply to the NCESS Submissions; and
  - j. any other relevant matters.

## 1.2 Definitions

- 1.2.1 Terms defined in the *Electricity Industry Act 2004*, the ESM Regulations and the ESM Rules have the same meaning in this document unless the context requires otherwise.
- 1.2.2 Capitalised terms used in this document have the meaning given in the ESM Rules unless specified in Table 1.

**Table 1: Definitions and acronyms**

Term	Meaning
Activation	The period in the which the Service is operating under the terms of the NCESS contract
Activation Notice	Means a notice issued to a NCESS provider for the Service to operate in accordance with this NCESS Service Specification and an NCESS Contract.
Activation Period	The period from 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec one year to 1 <sup>st</sup> April the following year
Activation Fee	The fee for the operation of the Network Support Service per MW/hr
Approval to Operate	Western Power's approval for a behind the meter, embedded generation system to operate
Availability Fee	The fee for making the network support service available per MW

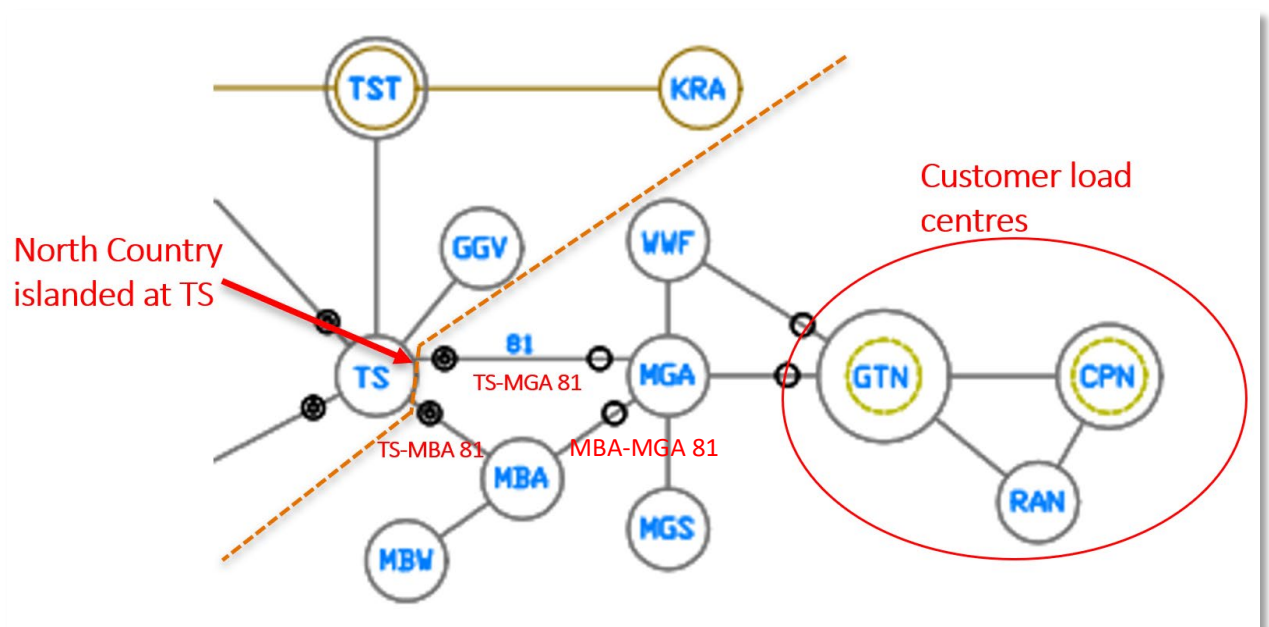
Term	Meaning
Contract Term	The period (specified in paragraph 2.5 of this document) during which the NCESS provider must make the Service available.
Maximum NCESS Contract Amount	The maximum amount that is payable to the NCESS provider under the NCESS Contract on the assumed basis that the Service is available during each Dispatch Interval in the Availability Period.
MW	Mega Watt
MWhr	Mega Watt hour
Network Support Service (NSS)	The service provided by a supplier under the NCESS Contract
Service	Has the meaning given in paragraph 2 of this document.
Service Equipment	The Registered Facility or Unregistered Equipment from which the Service is required to be provided under the NCESS Contract.
Service Period	Has the meaning given in paragraph 2 of this document.
Service Quantity	The quantity of the Service that the NCESS provider is required to provide under the NCESS Contract.
Unregistered Equipment	Means any facility or equipment that is not registered and not required to be registered under this document.
ESM Rules	Electricity System & Market Rules

## 2. Service details

### 2.1 Service requirements

- 2.1.1 This NCESS Service Specification is for Network Support Services within the areas that are supplied by Western Power's Geraldton, Chapman and Rangeway distribution networks. The required service is the capability to curtail DER generation or increase demand at times of the system minimum demand during which times the North Country network needs to be operated in a standalone island configuration and supplied by a local power station i.e. when the supply on both TS-MBA 81 and TS-MGA 81 or TS-MBA 81 and MBA-MGA 81 transmission lines are interrupted as shown in figure 1.1. This Service opportunity is open to both existing and new facilities and the facility is not required to be registered.

Figure 1.1: Geraldton Load Area Single Line Diagram



- 2.1.2 It has been observed from the operational experience that a minimum demand of 10MW is required at this power station for operational stability. Outages are typically over several days, multiple times per year. On minimum demand days the total electricity demand can go as low as 2MW.
- 2.1.3 The NSS will be seeking for DER generation reduction or an increase in energy demand increase to ensure operational demand in the region is maintained above 10MW in the event of a transmission outage where the Geraldton area will form an islanded network.

## 2.2 Expected technical capability of a facility or equipment that may be able to provide the Service

- 2.2.1 The expected technical capability of a facility or equipment that may be able to provide the NSS must be sufficient to form and sustain a DER generation reduction or an increase in energy demand in line with the following requirements:
- providing the DER generation reduction or an increase in energy demand as agreed in the NCESS Contract, within the Activation Period and on issuing of an Activation Notice;
  - sustaining the NSS for no less than 6 hours; and
  - sustaining the NSS at the level as described for the NSS location.
- 2.2.2 A NCESS provider is required to comply with all applicable ESM Rules.

## 2.3 Service locations

The NSS is required at the locations shown in Table 2. The facilities providing the NSS must be electrically connected to the Distribution feeders supplied from the zone substations outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2: NSS Locations and Service Requirements**

Zone substation	Location	2026	2027	2028
Chapman	Bluff Point, Sunset Beach, Beresford, Glenfield, Waggrakine, Strathalbyn, Woorree, Webberton, Spalding, Drummond Cove	10–15 MW*	10-15 MW*	10-15 MW*
Geraldton	Kalbarri, Waggrakine, White Peak, Moresby, Howatharra, Buller, Yallabatharra, Glenfield, Bowes, Northampton, Horrocks, Nabawa, Gregory, Binu, Nanson, Woorree, Narra Tarra, Sandy Gully, Alma, Utakarra, Narngulu, Deepdale, Walkaway, Dongara, Springfield, Yardarino, Bonniefield, Meru, Georgina, Port Denison, Cape Burney, Greenough, Rudds Gully, Bookara, South Greenough, Mullewa, Moonyoonooka, Pindar, Tenindewa, Wongoondy, West Casuarinas, Durawah			
Rangeway	Mount Tarcoola, Geraldton, Wandina, Beresford, Wonthella, Mahomets Flats, Beachlands, Webberton, West End, Rangeway, Wonthella, Utakarra, Karloo, Tarcoola Beach			

\* DER generation reduction of a minimum of 10MW and up to 15MW or an increase in energy demand of a minimum of 10MW and up to 15MW

## **2.4 Maximum Service Quantity required**

- 2.4.1 An expression of interest (EOI) submitted in response to this draft NCESS Service Specification must specify a Service Quantity.
- 2.4.2 The Service Quantity must be in accordance with the minimum and maximum provisions specified in section 2.
- 2.4.3 The maximum Service Quantity required from all NCESS providers is shown in table 2.

## **2.5 Contract Term and expected Service utilisation**

- 2.5.1 The Contract Term must commence no later than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 and end on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028. A contract duration of 1 to 3 years, within the term start and finish dates, will be considered.
- 2.5.2 The NCESS provider must make the NSS available for Western Power to call upon as required.
- 2.5.3 The service will be activated between the hours of 8:30AM and 4:30PM AWST or parts thereof.
- 2.5.4 The service will need to be available for any day, with the NSS being called on as a priority to any other services contracted.
- 2.5.5 The contracted service is expected to be called upon no more than 10 days each calendar year for a duration up to a maximum of 8 hours for each Activation Period.
- 2.5.6 Activation will typically be with 1 (one) day advance notice. Multiple providers for this service will be considered for both the duration and the service quantity.

### **Draft NCESS Service Specification feedback**

Western Power seeks feedback (through EOIs in response to this draft NCESS Service Specification) on the ability of potential NCESS providers to deliver the Service for the duration of the Contract Term specified, and any commercial benefits associated with any alternative durations or extensions to the Contract Term.

### 3. Operational requirements or limitations

#### 3.1 Control and communication requirements

3.1.1 The NCESS provider must provide a communication process and system that:

- a. Receives and acknowledges an Activation Notice from Western Power
- b. Provides the verification data detailed in 3.1.2
- c. Is able to safely integrate with Western Power, enabling Western Power's receipt of the data covered in section 3.1.

3.1.2 The NCESS provider must provide 5-minute time series data for all NMIs providing the Service for each time interval commencing 30mins prior to the NSS Activation start until the end, including:

- Time stamp (interval start and end)
- NMI
- DER type/load type
- DER/load Control signal
- DER/load active power
- Total NSS active power, that is increase in energy consumption and/or reduction of DER generation.



- 3.1.3 Western Power will provide an Activation Notice 12-24 hours in advance of the Service being required.

## **3.2 Minimum availability requirement**

- 3.2.1 A minimum availability of 95% is required.
- 3.2.2 The NCESS provider must notify Western Power promptly after changing or modifying the Service and/or equipment in a way that reduces or could reasonably be expected to reduce the availability of the Service.
- 3.2.3 Western Power will require the NCESS provider (at the NCESS provider's cost) to conduct a test of the Service and/or equipment ahead of the NCESS Contract start to demonstrate that the Service complies with the NCESS Contract and with applicable standards, including but not limited to; the ESM rules, NQRS code and the Western Power technical rules.
- 3.2.4 The NCESS provider must take remedial action in the event of Service unavailability.
- 3.2.5 In the event the Service is unavailable for Activation under the NCESS contract, there will be a reduction in payments by Western Power depending on the duration of the unavailability<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2.6 The NCESS provider must provide the participating NMLs associated with providing the Service aligned to the capacity agreed in the NCESS contract.

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<sup>1</sup> Excluding acceptable planned outages to be agreed between Western Power and the NCESS provider as part of contract negotiations.

## 4. General

### 4.1 Material contract terms

- 4.1.1 All items identified in this NCESS Service Specification are material contract terms.

### 4.2 Conditions Precedent

- 4.2.1 The NCESS Contract will be subject to the following conditions precedent, which must be satisfied by the date specified in paragraph 2.5:

By Western Power:

- a. Western Power has received funding approval for the NCESS Contract;

By the NCESS provider:

- a. DER generation reduction or an increase in energy demand as agreed in the NCESS Contract takes priority over other system services, however, can be provided coincident to other systems services;
- b. connection contracts permitting the facilities to be connected to Western Power's network must be in place;
- c. the equipment has completed all tests for the contracted capacity as required by Western Power and to Western Power's satisfaction, to demonstrate compliance with the Service requirements;
- d. each connection that forms part of the Service has been issued an Interim Approval to Operate or an Approval to Operate
- e. the NCESS provider and the facility have met all requirements under the ESM Rules to entitle the NCESS provider to provide the Services; and
- f. a scheduled maintenance plan for the Contract Term commencing on the date specified in paragraph 2.5 has been provided by the NCESS provider for the Service and agreed to by Western Power.
- 4.2.2 Western Power must determine satisfaction (or otherwise) of each condition precedent within 3 business days of the date Western Power considers (at Western Power's sole discretion) that all information relevant to that condition precedent has been provided or becomes available to Western Power.
- 4.2.3 To avoid doubt, Western Power may request further information from the NCESS provider at any time for the purposes of paragraph 4.2.2.
- 4.2.4 If Western Power determines under paragraph 4.2.3 that the condition precedent is satisfied, Western Power must set the date of satisfaction as the date when the condition precedent was satisfied, as reasonably determined by Western Power.

### 4.3 No exclusivity

- 4.3.1 The NCESS provider acknowledges and agrees that Western Power may engage any number of other contractors to provide services that are the same or materially equivalent to the Service during the Contract Term.

### 4.4 Extent of liability

- 4.4.1 Separate liability limits will apply for Western Power and the NCESS provider.

- 4.4.2 For Western Power:

- (a) subject to paragraph 4.4.2(b) and other than in respect of any unpaid fees, Western Power's liability is limited to the prescribed maximum amount for the purposes of section 126 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* and regulation 52 of the ESM Regulations.
- (b) Western Power is not liable for:
  - (i) indirect damages or losses;
  - (ii) loss of market, opportunity or profit (whether direct or indirect); or
  - (iii) damages or losses to the extent that they arise from the NCESS provider's failure to act in accordance with the NCESS Contract, a law (including the ESM Rules) or good electricity industry practice.

- 4.4.3 For the NCESS provider:

- (a) subject to paragraph 4.4.3(b), the total amount recoverable from the NCESS provider in respect of any and all claims arising out of any one or more events during the Contract Term with respect to, arising from, or in connection with, the NCESS Contract or the provision of the Service is limited to the lesser of the NCESS Contract value and \$5 million.
- (b) the NCESS provider is not liable for:
  - (i) indirect damages or losses;
  - (ii) loss of market, opportunity or profit (whether direct or indirect); or
  - (iii) damages or losses to the extent that they arise from Western Power's failure to act in accordance with the NCESS Contract, a law (including the ESM Rules) or good electricity industry practice.

### 4.5 Termination

- 4.5.1 Western Power may terminate the NCESS Contract if a condition precedent is not satisfied by the condition precedent satisfaction date and Western Power (in its sole discretion) does not waive it.

## **5. Payment**

### **5.1 Monthly fixed fee**

- 5.1.1 The monthly fixed fee is the Availability Fee for the relevant month, less any reductions for unavailability.

### **5.2 Monthly variable fee**

- 5.2.1 The monthly variable fee is the sum of the Activation Fees relating to the operation of the Service.

### **5.3 Total monthly fee**

- 5.3.1 The total monthly fee is the sum of the monthly fixed fee and the monthly variable fee.

## 6. Selection Criteria

### 6.1 Compliance and Assessment

6.1.1 In accordance with clauses 3.11B.8, 3.11B.9 and 3.11B.11 of the ESM Rules, Western Power will apply the selection criteria summarised in Table 3 for NCESS Submissions.

**Table 3: Selection criteria**

Criterion	Description	Weighting
Valid submission	As required under clause 3.11.B.8 of the ESM Rules, the submission complies with the NCESS Submission form and contains information requested.	Pass / Fail (1/0)
Compliance with specification	As required under clause 3.11B.10(a) of the ESM Rules, the Service complies with the specification as described in the tender and as required in column D of the NCESS Submission form.	Pass/Fail (1/0)
Evidenced delivery dates	As required under clause 3.11B.10(b)(i) of the ESM Rules, sufficient evidence has been provided to support NCESS delivery dates for new Services and/or equipment.	Pass/Fail (1/0)
Environmental Approvals	As required under clause 3.11B.10(b)(ii) of the ESM Rules, sufficient Environmental Approvals have been granted.	Pass/Fail N/A or (1/0)
Project methodology	Western Power's assessment of the project methodology and milestones, and likelihood that the project will achieve key dates.	10%
Technical capabilities	Assessment of technical requirements as outlined in this Service Specification. The ideal NCESS provider would meet the Service requirements whilst offering enhanced system benefits, and system supporting capabilities.	40%
WAIPS	Assessment on NCESS provider's Western Australian Industry Participation Plan to maximise opportunities for local business. Refer to 6.2.2.	10%
Value for Money	Western Power's assessment of value for money based on the NCESS provider's ability to meet the requirements and pricing. Regional Price Preference (refer to 6.2.3) for eligible NCESS provider, if applicable to be assessed accordingly.	40%

## 6.2 Due Diligence and Legislative Requirements

- 6.2.1 For cyber security purposes, any NCESS provider is required, where applicable, to adhere to the AESCSF when the NCESS provider or any of its subcontractors develops, accesses, transmits, processes, stores or otherwise handles Western Power sensitive operational information or other sensitive data.
- 6.2.2 Western Australian Industry Participation Strategy (WAIPS). NCESS provider must complete all applicable sections of the template Participation Plan in order to demonstrate the NCESS provider's commitment in relation to the participation by the local industry in the performance of the NCESS provider's obligations under the Contract. The Standard Full Participation Plan template can be downloaded from: <https://industrylink.wa.gov.au/participation-plans/participation-plans>. Guidance on "How to Complete a Participation Plan" is available from: <https://industrylink.wa.gov.au/participation-plans/how-to-complete-a-participation-plan>. A full Participation Plan has been requested, the NCESS provider is required to complete all questions except question 4 in Section A. Your completed Participation Plan should be titled: [Tender Number – Tender Title – Participation Plan – NCESS provider name]. The document uploaded as your response must be in the same MS Word format as the reference document provided.
- 6.2.3 Regional Price Preferences. Eligible businesses can request the application of the Regional Price Preference and/or the Regional Content Preference as outlined in the WA Buy Local Policy 2022. To be eligible for the Regional Price Preference the NCESS provider must provide evidence that they maintain a permanent operation office within 400km of the contract Point of Delivery excluding the Perth Metropolitan Area.
- 6.2.4 Where deemed necessary, a due diligence review may be undertaken on compliant NCESS Submissions. Evaluation scores may be moderated as a result of this process. The due diligence review may include:
- WHSE prequalification
  - Financial due diligence
  - Reference checks
  - Site audits
  - Overall risk assessment of the proposal