# NCESS Reliability and System Strength Services for the North Country - WS5659204351

## Call for NCESS Submission - Questions and Answers

**Question 1:**

How is Western Power considering the relative merits of geographic location in this process? We appreciate the network configuration means that Western Power will favour solutions in the Geraldton area (west of Mungarra), but it is unclear how this favouritism will be quantified. If you can elaborate and include an indication of whether or not a generator close to Three Springs will be acceptable in this process and under what conditions.

**Answer 1:**

As outlined in the Trigger Submission and Service Specification, the required services are intended to support reliability and system strength within the North Country (NC) load area, which includes loads supplied from Chapman, Geraldton and Rangeway substations.

Due to the North Country load area's connection to Three Springs via two long single-circuit 132 kV lines, generation facilities located near Three Springs may provide limited reliability benefits to the North Country load area.

As the system strength framework is undergoing final stages of development, the potential contribution of a proposed generation facility towards system strength requirements cannot be ruled out at this stage and will be assessed against the finalised framework.

**Question 2:**

Has Western Power quantified how it will consider the relative merits of different technologies and the firmness of different fuel supplies? Please share this quantification.

**Answer 2:**

Western Power welcomes a range of technologies and solution types, provided they can meet the required service outcomes specified in the Final Service Specification. Proponents should demonstrate that their proposed facility or facilities can reliably provide the relevant service quantities for the required continuous operating periods and expected service utilisation requirements associated with the Reliability Service and/or System Strength Service. Refer to sections 2.5.9 , 2.5.12 , 2.5.13 , and 2.5.14 of the Final Service Specification.

**Question 3:**

Would Western Power welcome solutions that include network investment as part of the provided solution?

**Answer 3:**

Proponents may propose solutions that include network investment where they consider it supports the delivery of the required services. All costs associated with the proposed network build should be included

in the pricing submitted by the proponent. The tender period for the Long-Term Service has been designed to allow proponents sufficient time to develop their proposed solutions, including obtaining the information necessary to accurately price any network investment that may form part of their proposal.

**Question 4:**

On face value the only difference between the short term service and the long term service is the contract term and associated price. Are respondents allowed to submit a response to the short term service and then later the long term service given the closing dates are different.

**Answer 4:**

Yes. Respondents may submit a response for the Short Term Service and subsequently submit a response for the Long Term Service through the respective VendorPanel tenders.

**Question 5:**

Could Western Power please provide any existing grid studies, power system studies and grid connection studies relating to the Mungarra Power Station site and the surrounding network area, including the Geraldton (GTN) substation and associated 132 kV network?

We would also appreciate any relevant studies or technical network information already available for potential new generation connections within the North Country NCESS location area identified by Western Power.

**Answer 5**

Western Power is unable to disclose system studies associated with other projects. If the proponent requires specific technical or engineering information relating to the NCESS, the request should be clearly articulated so that it can be appropriately considered. Alternatively, the proponent may request a PowerFactory SWIS Base Model using the link provided in Appendix A of the Final Service Specification.

**Question 6:**

The document indicates preference will be given to projects located close to Geraldton Zone Sub. We have excellent access to land and gas at the Mondarra Gas Storage Facility which is approx. 90km south of Geraldton, would Western Power consider this as an option?

**Answer 6:**

Please see Answer 1.