

27th November 2025

Dear Industry Colleague,

RE: OPERATING MARGINS (OM) – INVITATION TO TENDER – Ariba Reference: WS2837687660

This Invitation to Tender is made in respect of National Gas Transmission plc's ("National Gas") latest OM procurement exercise.

OM Service Requirement

National Gas procures capacity and access to a volume of gas for OM on an annual basis in line with both the requirements of Section K of the Uniform Network Code (UNC) and the obligations detailed in the National Gas Safety Case.

The OM Service enables the delivery of a change in the rate of gas flow to or off-taken from the NTS which manages sudden changes in supply or demand that cannot be met by normal trading/balancing arrangements. In addition, OM allows time for National Gas to reconfigure the NTS or for the market to deliver additional supply and can protect against the need to declare emergency conditions to ensure normal commercial market operation can be maintained where possible. In the event of an emergency, OM can also be used to manage the safe and orderly rundown of the NTS.

Tenders are invited from Storage, LNG Importation with Storage, or Demand Reduction service providers to meet the 2026/27 forecast OM requirement of 860 GWh.

Changes for the 2026/27 OM Tender

Following feedback from previous tenders, there's one important change that participants should note for the 2026/27 tender.

- In order to increase OM supply type diversity, National Gas has broadened the scope of the OM Tender to include shippers at Interconnector Facilities. The requirement is for a demand reduction from the NTS and/or a supply increase to the NTS at Balgzand Bacton Line (BBL) and/or Interconnector UK. Interconnector Service providers intending to submit a response, are required to complete Tender Pack 4 - Interconnector Facility User Demand Reduction and/or Supply Increase.

E-sourcing

National Gas uses the Achilles Utilities Vendor Database (UVDB) when compiling lists of potential suppliers for goods and services requirements. It is therefore a requirement for all tender participants to be registered with UVDB – if not already registered, please follow this link [UVDB | Achilles](#) to register

National Gas will be using the electronic Ariba portal for the submission of tender responses and encourage you to register on Ariba. All users who do not have an Ariba account will be required to register, which can be accessed via Ariba Supplier <https://supplier.ariba.com/>. **Alternative methods of tender submission will not be accepted.**

If you have not received an email directly from Ariba inviting you to the tender event by 28th November 2025, please contact National Gas by emailing operatingmargins@nationalgas.com

Once you have registered for an account, you will need to email operatingmargins@nationalgas.com requesting to be invited to tender for the OM Tender Event in Ariba by completing the following table.

Ariba Supplier ID Number	
Company Name	
Ariba Key Contact Name	
Ariba Key Contact Email Address	
Ariba Key Contact Mobile Number	

National Gas will verify the information provided prior to approving login credentials and invite the tenderer to participate with an auto generated email.

Please be advised that the portal inviting tenders for the OM service year 2026/27 is now open. The portal, created within the “Ariba Sourcing” online environment, will close at **13:00 (GMT) on Wednesday 7th January 2026** and can be accessed via the following link once you have registered and received the auto generated invitation to participate email [Ariba Sourcing](#).

Once you have logged in you will be able to:

- Read the Invitation to Tender
- Download, Populate and Attach Tender Pack(s)
- Read and agree to the Terms & Conditions
- Submit Tender(s)

OM Tender Documentation

Documentation relating to this Invitation to Tender is now available on National Gas's website:

[Operating Margins \(OM\) | National Gas](#)

The following documents have been published:

- This Invitation to Tender (ITT) Letter
- Tender Guidance Document
- Tender Pack 1a – Gas Storage Facility Operator (Gas Capacity)
- Tender Pack 1b – Gas Storage Facility User (Gas Capacity)
- Tender Pack 2 – Gas Delivery (LNG Storage)
- Tender Pack 3 – Gas Delivery (Demand Reduction)
- Tender Pack 4 – Gas Delivery (Interconnector Facility User Demand Reduction and/or Supply Increase)
- OM Tenderers Contract Response Form
- OM Agreements
 - Gas Capacity Agreement – Storage – Gas Storage Facility Operator
 - Gas Capacity Agreement – Storage – Gas Storage Facility User
 - Gas Delivery Agreement – LNG Storage
 - Gas Delivery Agreement – Demand Reduction
 - Gas Delivery Agreement – Interconnector Facility User

OM Timeline

The key dates for this Procurement Event, are as follows:

Activity	Date
Tender Opens	Thursday 27 th November 2025
OM Tenderers Contract Response Form Submission Deadline (only required if amendments are proposed)	13:00 (GMT) on Wednesday 17 th December 2025
Tender Submission Deadline	13:00 (GMT) on Wednesday 7 th January 2026
Tender Assessment	8 th January 2026 - 6 th February 2026
Tender Results Notification	During Week Commencing 23 rd February 2026
Contract Issue and Acceptance	March /April 2026
Service Commencement	05:00 BST hours on Friday 1 st May 2026

All tenders must be received by the prevailing National Gas e-sourcing tool no later than **13:00 (GMT) on 7th January 2026.**

OM Contract Terms

National Gas is subject to its Gas Transporter Licence obligations to ensure a tenderer does not obtain any unfair commercial advantage from a preferential or discriminatory arrangement against another tenderer. This means that National Gas cannot substantially deviate from the terms published in the template OM Agreement. **Therefore, proposed contractual amendments should only be submitted if they are deemed reasonably necessary to reflect the type and technical characteristics of the relevant site.**

Any changes that tenderers wish to propose to the template OM Agreement terms (or alternative terms) must be captured on the standalone OM Tenderers Contract Response Form, and submitted to operatingmargins@nationalgas.com **no later than 13:00 (GMT) on Wednesday 17th December 2025.** Such proposed amendments will be factored into the assessment of the tenders.

Further Information

For further information and a more detailed explanation of the Procurement Process, please refer to the OM Tender Guidance Document.

Should any party wish to arrange further discussions directly with National Gas, please request a meeting at your earliest convenience by contacting operatingmargins@nationalgas.com.

Yours sincerely
For and on behalf of

National Gas Transmission plc

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