National Gas Transmission plc
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19th November 2026

Dear Industry Colleague,

RE: OPERATING MARGINS (OM) – INVITATION TO TENDER – Ariba Sourcing 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 National Transmission System (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 2027/28 forecast OM requirement of 903 GWh.

Changes for the 2027/28 OM Tender

There are several important changes that participants should note for the 2027/28 tender.

Contract type	Clause	Detail of change
All Contracts	Definition and Interpretations: "Base Rate"	Updated to include the Bank of England (BoE) base rate.
All Contracts	Definitions and Interpretations: Clause 1.2	Updated to reflect the latest terminology under the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023.
All Contracts	Data Protection: New Clause 27 (Clause 29 Gas Storage)	Data Protection provisions added

All Contracts	Service Availability: 8.1(c) (8.1(d) for Demand Reduction	Clause covering notification of a Cyber Security incident.
All Contracts	Severability: Clause 20.3 (Clause 22.4 for Gas Storage)	Amended so that where a provision is invalid, illegal or unenforceable, it is modified to the minimum extent necessary to make it valid, legal and enforceable. Only where modification is not possible will the provision be deleted.
All Contracts	Compliance: Clause 26 (Clause 28 Gas Storage)	Broadened to capture applicable sanctions laws, facilitation of tax evasion and fraud.
All Contracts	Counterparts: Clause 28 *(Clause 30 for Gas Storage)*	Updated to confirm that electronic signatures and electronically exchanged counterparts are effective.
LNG Contract only	Additional SP Delivery Capacity Charge: Clause 10.6	Corrected the reference to "Additional Delivery Capacity" to the defined term "Additional SP Delivery Capacity".
Interconnector Contract only	Recital A	Amended to reflect that the Service Provider may provide the Service using contractual access rights to the Facility rather than controlling or operating the Facility.
Interconnector Contract only	Nominations: Clause 5.1	Amended wording to read "in relation to".
Interconnector Contract only	Nominations: Clause 5.16	Cross-reference corrected to Clause 5.6(a).
Interconnector Contract only	Maintenance: Clause 7.2	Corrected so that the NTS maintenance provision applies to both Demand Reduction and Supply Increase.
Interconnector Contract only	Maintenance: Clause 7.3	Amended to recognise public notification of changes to Planned Maintenance Periods by the Facility Operator, as well as notification by the Service Provider.
Interconnector Contract only	Service Availability: Clause 8.2(a)(iii)(B)	Cross-reference corrected.
Interconnector Contract only	Nominations: Definition of "DFN" and updates to clauses 5.6 and 5.12	Inclusion of DFN (Delivery Flow Notification) definition and update of subsequent clauses

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

If you have not received an email directly from Ariba Sourcing inviting you to the tender event by 20th November 2026, 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 Sourcing by completing the following table.

Ariba Sourcing Reference Number	
Ariba Sourcing Supplier ID Number	
Company Name	
Ariba Sourcing Key Contact Name	
Ariba Sourcing Key Contact Email Address	
Ariba Sourcing 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 2027/28 is now open. The portal, created within the "Ariba Sourcing" online environment, will close at **13:00 (GMT) on Thursday 7th January 2027** 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 19th November 2026**
OM Tenderers Contract Response Form Submission Deadline (only required if amendments are proposed)	**13:00 (GMT) on Thursday 17th December 2026**
Tender Submission Deadline	**13:00 (GMT) on Thursday 7th January 2027**
Tender Assessment	**8th January 2027 - 5th February 2027**
Tender Results Notification	**During Week Commencing 22nd February 2027**
Contract Issue and Acceptance	**March /April 2027**
Service Commencement	**05:00 BST hours on Saturday 1st May 2027**

All tenders must be received by the Ariba Sourcing tool by no later than **13:00 (GMT) on 7th January 2027.**

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 Thursday 17th December 2026.** Such proposed amendments will be factored into the assessment of the tenders.

Further Information

For further information, including a detailed explanation of the Procurement Exercise, please refer to the OM Tender Guidance Document.

Should any tenderer 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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