

3. Ideas

Context

Developing and deploying new **ideas** is central to our ambition of being the world's most innovative economy. Our ability to innovate is one of the UK's historic strengths. We are a global leader in science and research: leading in measures of research excellence and home to four of the top 10 universities in the world.

The growth of the renewable sector in the UK over the past two decades, together with cost reductions, have been driven by innovation. Cost reduction and efficiency has been underpinned by practical learning by doing to overcome the technical challenges of renewable electricity generation. By delivering against the Ideas objectives, you will ensure that ongoing innovation and the realisation of ideas in the commercial application of Research and Development (R&D) will continue to act as a catalyst for progress toward net zero, industrial growth in the UK and a reduction in our carbon footprint.

As contained in your responses and with regards to the quality of your supporting evidence, marks will be awarded for:

- the **comprehensiveness** of response,
- **scale** of ambition in activities and anticipated outcomes,
- **feasibility**,
- whether you identify **quantifiable outcomes with measurable metrics**, and
- how delivery will be **assured** (e.g. through contractual commitments, details of your company's internal measurement/monitoring processes and obligations, including reporting).

Marks available: 110

3.1 Describe and support with evidence the three (3) most impactful activities your company has undertaken to date or plan to undertake across the development, construction, operations and decommissioning phases of the project your plan of activities to **invest in R&D in the UK** that relate to the challenges faced by the project and by associated technologies. A maximum of one (1) activity can be undertaken to date. Over the lifetime of the project, please state how much you have allocated to invest in UK R&D relevant to the renewable energy technology sector of this project in terms of £ and as a percentage of total estimated project costs².

(b) Complete Table 3.1 with details of all the R&D activities that this investment will be spent on, over what timescales, who you plan to collaborate with in the UK and internationally including with other developers, and what outcomes you are looking to achieve, including the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) to be achieved as an outcome from activities to commercialise R&D (see Appendix E).

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidelines-on-the-meaning-of-research-and-development-for-tax-purposes>
