

Australian Research for Power System Transformation (Stage 6)

Request for Quote

ISSUE DATE	8 th April 2026
CSIRO CONTRACT OFFICER	CSIRO Contact Officer details are provided at Clause 3.5

Contents

1	About this RFQ.....	4
	1.2 CSIRO Profile.....	5
	1.3 RFQ Documentation.....	5
	1.4 Respondent Acceptance.....	5
2	Definitions.....	6
3	Request for Quote	7
	3.1 Key Events and Dates	7
	3.2 Lodgement	7
	3.3 Quote Validity.....	7
	3.4 Preparing to Lodge a Response	7
	3.5 CSIRO Contact Officer.....	8
	3.6 Assessment Criteria.....	8
	Capability	8
	3.7 Goods and/or Service Requirements	8
	3.8 Research Topics.....	12
	3.9 Timeframes.....	12
	3.10 Specifications and Performance.....	12
	3.11 Equipment	12
	3.12 Service Delivery	12
	3.13 Delivery and Acceptance	12
	Capacity	14
	Quality Systems	14
	3.14 Health, Safety and Environment (HSE).....	14
	Additional Information	14
	3.15 CSIRO Material	14
	3.16 Contract Agreement.....	14

1 About this RFQ

- 1.1.1 CSIRO seeking proposals for the provision of the Goods and Services described in this Request for Quote (RFQ).
- 1.1.2 In 2025, the Global Power System Transformation (G-PST) initiative evolved and in Australia, now operates under the lead of CSIRO and AEMO as the Australian Research in Power Systems Transition (AR-PST).

This RFQ is to undertake research related to electricity system transformation in a number of areas as identified by the *Australia's Global Power System Transformation Research Roadmap* (the Research Roadmap), which was published by CSIRO through engagement with the Global Power System Transformation (G-PST) Consortium. We are requesting several – up to ten – research topics to progress.

- 1.1.3 Each proposal will focus on one of the following topics:
- a. Topic 1: Inverter Design - Development of capabilities, services, design methodologies and standards for Inverter-Based Resources (IBRs).
 - b. Topic 2: Stability Tools & Method - **Not offered in Stage 6.**
 - c. Topic 3: Control Rooms of the Future - Development of new technologies and approaches for enhanced real-time visibility and analysis in power system operator control rooms.
 - d. Topic 4: Planning - New planning metrics, methods, and tools to capture the characteristics and influence of a changing resource mix.
 - e. Topic 5: **Not offered in Stage 6. Research area has been moved to Topics 1, and 6**
 - f. Topic 6: Services - Quantifying the technical service requirements of future power systems to maintain the supply-demand balance reliably and at least cost.
 - g. Topic 7: Architecture - **Not offered in Stage 6**
 - h. Topic 8: Distributed Energy Resources - Challenges and opportunities for coordination of very high levels of distributed energy resources.
 - i. Topic 9: Distributed Energy Resources and Stability – Development and demonstration of interoperable DER devices and provision of advanced services from DER.
- 1.1.4 Additional guidance for each topic can be found as part of the information pack for the RFQ: **Guidance Document for Stage 6**. These notes should be read as guidance for responses rather than essential requirements. All responses will be considered and assessed against value for money and program needs.
- 1.1.5 Individual researchers / staff can propose to provide more than one research proposal. However, if they do so, each research proposal must be tendered for separately (i.e. provide a separate Part B response for each research proposal), and individual researchers may contribute to no more than 2 successful topic bids.
- 1.1.6 This RFQ should be seen as research seed funding opportunity. Other funding opportunities exist for multi-year research where respondents, third parties, and CSIRO come together for larger bodies of work, including those exceeding 12 months, or \$400k. Reference to this broader context is encouraged in the proposal.
- 1.1.7 Responses from international research agencies and organisations are encouraged, though Australian relevance of the topic is vital. Collaborative responses with Australian researcher organisations are also viewed favourably.

- 1.1.8 CSIRO values the diversity in its workforce and recognises that unique perspectives lead to greater problem-solving capability, collaboration and innovation. We encourage you to share with us how your contract team will address all dimensions of diversity, in particular gender diversity.

1.2 CSIRO Profile

- 1.2.1 CSIRO - the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation - is Australia's largest scientific research organisation and one of the largest and most diverse scientific organisations in the world.
- 1.2.2 CSIRO's work touches every aspect of Australian life: from the molecules that build life to the molecules in space. Working from sites across the nation and around the globe, CSIRO's focus is on providing new ways to improve the quality of life, as well as the economic and social performance of a number of industry sectors through research and development.
- 1.2.3 CSIRO is an independent statutory authority constituted and operating under the provisions of the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949* and is a Commonwealth Corporate Entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.
- 1.2.4 Further information about CSIRO can be found at www.csiro.au

1.3 RFQ Documentation

- 1.3.1 The following documentation forms part of this Request for Quote:
- AR-PST Stage 6 RFQ Part A (Australian Research for Power System Transformation (Stage 6)). *This pdf document*
 - AR-PST Stage 6 RFQ Part B (Australian Research for Power System Transformation (Stage 6)). *Put your responses in this word document.*
 - AR-PST Stage 6 Contract Terms. *To be read and accepted in preparation for any contract with CSIRO.*
 - A document offering Advisory Notes for Relevant Topics. *A pdf document.*

This RFQ should be read in conjunction with the published "Australia's Global Power System Transformation Research Roadmap" by CSIRO at:

<https://www.csiro.au/en/research/technology-space/energy/electricity-transition/ar-pst> and the research recommendations in the AR-PST Stage 2 to 5 Reports available at that URL. Note that Stage 5 reports are interim.

1.4 Respondent Acceptance

- 1.4.1 By submitting a response to this RFQ, the Respondent accepts the terms and conditions as set out in Appendix A of this RFQ, and as shown in the separate contract terms as part of the Expression bid pack (1.3.1.c).

2 Definitions

2.1.1 Unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

TERMS	MEANINGS
CSIRO	the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, operating under the <i>Science, Industry and Research Act 1949</i> (Cth).
Closing Time and Date	the final time and date for lodgement of Quotes as provided by clause 3
Contract	a Contract or Official Order (Purchase Order) or Work Order entered into between CSIRO and the Successful Respondent or Respondents (if any).
CSIRO Primary Contact	the person or persons nominated at clause 3.5 to represent CSIRO during the term of this RFQ process.
Goods and Services	the goods and/or services referred to in this RFQ to be provided and/or carried out under a Contract.
Issue Date	the date CSIRO issues the RFQ to potential Suppliers.
Late Quote	a Quote that is not lodged prior to the Closing Date and Time, as defined in clause 3.2.
Quote	an offer submitted by a Respondent in accordance with these RFQ requirements.
Respondent	a Supplier who submits a Quote in accordance with these RFQ requirements.
Supplier	a Supplier or Suppliers (if any) engaged under a Contract to perform the Services.

3 Request for Quote

3.1 Key Events and Dates

EVENT	DATE	TIME
Closing Time and Date	Friday 8 th May 2026 (Topics 3, 4, and 6) Friday 15 th May 2026 (Topics 1, 2, 8, and 9) Topics 5 has been split between Topics 1 and 6, and Topic 7 will not be offered in Stage 6	5:00 pm AEST
Expected Contract Execution Date	15 th June 2026	
The provision of the Goods and/or Services is required to be completed on or before	28 th May 2027	
Contract Term	The Contract will remain in force for a period of 12 months from the date the Contract was entered into.	
Contract Extension Option	Not applicable	

3.2 Lodgement

- 3.2.1 In lodging a response, Respondents are required to comply with all requirements set out in this Request for Quote.
- 3.2.2 Completed Quotes should be lodged electronically via email to the address listed in CSIRO Primary Contact Details (at clause 3.5), on or before the RFQ Closing Time and Date.
- 3.2.3 Late Quotes **will** be excluded from the RFQ process and **will not** be admitted to evaluation.

3.3 Quote Validity

- 3.3.1 Quotes submitted in response to this Request for Quote must remain valid for a period not less than 90 calendar days from the Closing Time.

3.4 Preparing to Lodge a Response

File Formats, Naming Conventions and Sizes

- 3.4.1 CSIRO will accept responses in Microsoft Word 2003 (or above), Microsoft Excel version 2003 (or above) or PDF format.
- 3.4.2 The Response file name/s:
- should incorporate the Respondent's company name and
 - should reflect the various parts of the bid they represent, where the response comprises multiple files.

3.5 CSIRO Contact Officer

- 3.5.1 Respondents should direct any queries arising from this RFQ to the CSIRO Contact Officer:

CSIRO Contact Officer Name	Chris Knight
Email	Chris.Knight@csiro.au

- 3.5.2 All such queries are to be directed to the CSIRO Contact Officer via email only. Telephone enquiries will not be taken.

3.6 Assessment Criteria

- 3.6.1 Responses will be assessed based on the following criteria. An appropriate level of detail should be submitted by the Respondent to allow CSIRO to properly assess the suitability of the proposal.
- a. Capacity to provide the Requirements
 - b. Demonstrated experience in delivering the Requirements
- 3.6.2 As in previous years, the contract with CSIRO will include the condition that all IP developed under the GPST contract will be owned by CSIRO, including data collected and software developed. Furthermore, CSIRO must be given licence to use background IP required to exploit the project IP that it owns under contract. It is the intention of CSIRO to make quality-controlled project IP publicly available to the extent practical, in a way that maximises impact and permits the broader research and industrial community direct access to the artefacts created under this research program.
- 3.6.3 Sufficient data must be provided so that assessors can validate the outputs of models, and claims made in reporting. The validation cannot be encumbered with a third party, and it is the respondent's responsibility to obtain relevant licenses.
- 3.6.4 Consequently, RFQ's that include, as explicit deliverables (including deliverable by being made publicly available on public repositories such as GitHub or a contractor hosted platform), specific data and software to be developed under the GPST research project will be preferred over those that develop IP that, despite being owned by the funding agency, are not specified in advance and are to be provided only in principle on request.

Capability

3.7 Goods and/or Service Requirements

- 3.7.1 In 2025, the Global Power System Transformation (G-PST) initiative evolved and in Australia, now operates under the lead of CSIRO and AEMO as the Australian Research in Power Systems Renewable Transition (AR-PST).
- 3.7.2 This RFQ is to undertake research related to electricity system transformation in a number of areas as identified by the Australia's Global Power System Transformation Research Roadmap (the Research Roadmap), which was published by CSIRO through engagement with the Global Power System Transformation (G-PST) Consortium. We are requesting several – up to nine – research topics to progress.

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH FOR POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION (STAGE 6)

The research proposal in response to this RFQ is to cover activities to be completed during the Financial Year 2026/27 as Stage 6 of the work described in the multi-year *Research Roadmap*.

Each proposal will focus on at least one, but up to two of the following topics:

- a. Topic 1: Inverter Design - Development of capabilities, services, design methodologies and standards for Inverter-Based Resources (IBRs).
- b. Topic 2: Stability Tools & Method - **Not offered in Stage 6**.
- c. Topic 3: Control Room of the Future - Development of new technologies and approaches for enhanced real-time visibility and analysis in power system operator control rooms.
- d. Topic 4: Planning - New planning metrics, methods, and tools to capture the characteristics and influence of a changing resource mix.
- e. Topic 5: **Not offered in Stage 6. Research area has been moved to Topics 1, and 6**
- f. Topic 6: Essential Services - Quantifying the technical service requirements of future power systems to maintain the supply-demand balance reliably and at least cost.
- g. Topic 7: Architecture - **Not offered in Stage 6**
- h. Topic 8: Distributed Energy Resources - Challenges and opportunities for coordination of very high levels of distributed energy resources.
- i. Topic 9: Distributed Energy Resources and Stability – Development of interoperable DER devices and provision of advanced services from DER.

3.7.3 Individual researchers / staff can propose to provide more than one research proposal. However, if they do so, each research proposal must be tendered for separately (i.e. provide a separate Part B response for each research proposal), and individual researchers may contribute to no more than 2 successful topic bids. A single research proposal may make a substantial contribution to distinct aims of more than one topic.

3.7.4 Each research proposal (10 pages max) must at least include:

- a. Title and broad description of the proposed project, including the topic area, project objectives and how the proposal is aligned with the prioritised research tasks as identified in the Stage 5 Interim Reports, or by the Research Roadmap. The proposal may differ from the Interim Reports and the Research Roadmap with justification.
- b. Background information to provide a brief review of the current status of technology and solutions, and related activities underway by AEMO, networks, government, research organisations, and others, and a discussion of how the research proposal will contribute to the topic area.

The following matters can be taken as given: the relevance of climate change, the desirability of increased renewables in the Australian power system, increased electrification, meeting growth in electrical energy requirements, future projections of increased of inverter-based resources.

- c. Succinct technical description of the proposed approach to achieve the project objectives, including a list of the expected outputs and proposed project timeline.
- d. Project outcomes and the significance of their contribution to the topic area (up to 200 words).

Describe how this proposal is intended to make a difference to increasing or bringing forward the uptake of renewable energy in the Australian (or international) context. This will likely be by relaxing constraints limits and the uptake and deployment of renewable power. Include, if possible quantitative indicators of the difference that could be made, relative to the scale of the Australian power system and the time frames envisaged for decarbonisation to 2030 and 2050.

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH FOR POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION (STAGE 6)

The full intended pathway should be explained, including stakeholders envisaged to implement the outcomes and plausible time frames. The proponent should indicate steps taken to make it plausible that the intended implementing stakeholders will be motivated to do so. Describe additional activities, outside the research program, would be required, including – if possible - scale of effort, magnitude of implementation costs, and time frames.

- e. Project resources and roles, including project team, key stakeholders to be involved, required data (including a data management plan) and other resources needed to deliver the project successfully. The capacity of the project team, including the key personnel and a short biography for each of them, and the qualification of the team (including the past experience on similar projects), must be demonstrated.
- f. Proposed project budget with breakdowns, including in-kind contributions and external funding requirements. See additional explanation of this item in paragraph 3.13.3 below.
- g. Knowledge sharing plan including data, software, publications and, particularly, contribution to the continued engagement with the AR-PST activities, including development of white papers and presentations at relevant events such as webinars, workshops, conferences and meetings.
- h. Further considerations:
 - i. It will be highly desirable for another stakeholder party (network, industry body, regulator or AEMO or CSIRO) to be willing to attend interim and final presentations, and to review the project's interim and final reports. It is preferable that they are also willing to send a representative to attend one hour project meetings up to monthly frequency.
 - ii. Where substantial effort is being made towards stakeholder (industry or consumer) engagement, please elaborate (100 words or less)
 - iii. Does this proposal include substantial multi-organisational collaboration. If so, elaborate (100 words or less).
 - iv. Briefly describe the intended mechanisms for encouraging the work carried out by each organisation to be appropriately coordinated (100 words or less)
 - v. Does this proposal provide substantial support for industry and AEMO with the delivery of Type 2 transition services. If so, elaborate (100 words or less)
 - vi. Does this proposal provide substantial support for the implementation of AEMO's Transition plan for system security? If so, elaborate (50 words or less)
 - vii. Does this proposal focus primarily on:
 - Applications to bulk power supply, centralised generation and the transmission network
 - Applications to distributed energy resources and distribution networks
 - Applications across both bulk power supply and distribution
 Choose one, if you wish, elaborate with up to 100 words.

3.7.5 Project deliverables for each research topic are to at least include:

- a. Regular updates on progress with CSIRO and AEMO as directed;
- b. A project plan;
- c. An interim report, covering the work to be undertaken in the remainder of the project Stage 6 to the end of FY 26/27, and progress to date;
- d. A refresh (that is, a revised update) of the multi-year *Research Roadmap* published in 2022 for the Topics addressed by the research proposal to address any differences from the current recommendations by the proponent;

- e. The research tasks recommended by the proponent for the following project, Stage 7 (FY 27/28);
 - f. A draft final report and presentation;
 - g. A detailed final report, including the full report and a short executive summary report, and presentation;
 - h. Throughout the year various knowledge sharing events will occur. CSIRO will provide a location and catering for these events. Respondents will be required to pay for reasonable travel and accommodation, and present their work. These will be based in Australia. The events currently under consideration include:
 - a. Online events in late 2026,
 - b. In person event in Newcastle in early 2027;
 - i. Other deliverables as agreed between CSIRO and the successful proponent.
- 3.7.6 CSIRO and AEMO will have joint oversight of the research areas, and research progress is to be shared within participants of the AR-PST.
- 3.7.7 CSIRO is aware that respondents may use PhD students to complete all or some of these tasks. CSIRO is open to separate agreements covering multiple years for those students, even though the tasking in this RFQ is limited to 12 months. CSIRO or AEMO would usually be co-supervisors for these students, and funding arrangements would be separate to the funding arrangements from this RFQ.
- 3.7.8 In order to expedite successful bids to contracting, a brief summary of milestone items for each milestone are required. *These clear and concise tasks will be drafted directly into the legal agreement.* If the response provided above in section 3.7.4 and 3.7.5 meets the word limits there is no need to rewrite – just drop them in here. These include for **each deliverable**:
- a. Task number and description (2 sentences):
 - Eg Task 1. Project plan, timeline and resource identification.
 - b. Objective (100 words);
 - Eg Objective 1. A detailed work plan, including timeline and resourcing identification against agreed outcomes, including any expected data requirements.
 - c. Background (200 words);
 - Eg Background 1. In order to deliver a successful project under this funding, the project team will deliver the necessary project planning process information. This will include a Gantt chart, notes of planned Tasks, and dates of Milestones and other deliverables.
 - d. Key research question (100 words);
 - Eg Research Question 1. How much energy reserve does a battery energy storage system require to deliver a stable restoration service from variable output inverter-based resources.
 - e. Activity (100 words) - How you are going to achieve the objective;
 - Eg Activity 1. The project will use its previously developed battery energy storage system simulator to determine the capacity required for a stable black start capability.
 - f. Deliverables (100 words) - What evidence of the achievement are you providing? There may be more than 1 deliverable per Task.;
 - Eg Deliverable 1. A report (or journal article, TED Talk, conference paper, whitepaper etc) outlining the results of the analysis into battery energy capacity for black start capability.
 - g. Milestone Number;

- The milestone (typically 1-4) that this work will be delivered for. If there is more than 1 deliverable they may deliver to different milestones. Note that the milestone payment will be delayed until the deliverable is provided.

3.8 Research Topics

Details of the individual research topics are included in the “Executive Summary Report for Australia’s Global Power System Transformation Research Roadmap” as included in this RFQ pack. The individual research plans for all focused topics under the Research Roadmap are available on CSIRO’s website: <https://www.csiro.au/en/research/technology-space/energy/electricity-transition/ar-pst>, Stage 2-4 final reports.

3.9 Timeframes

- 3.9.1 See milestones below

3.10 Specifications and Performance

- 3.10.1 The primary deliverables for this work include presentations, written reports (including an interim report, a draft report, a full report and a short executive summary report) and other deliverables as agreed by CSIRO and the successful respondents. The presentations and written reports must be written in a clear, concise language, which is appropriate for an informed, broad audience of industry specialists, and are expected to be easily understood by the breadth of Australia’s electricity industry, including researchers, engineers, policymakers, consumer advocates, start-ups, and others. Successful respondents are expected to engage with various stakeholders within the energy industry to ensure their perspectives are considered in the development and execution of their research proposals.

3.11 Equipment

- 3.11.1 The provider to provide all equipment for the development and delivery of the project.

3.12 Service Delivery

- 3.12.1 Reporting and Project Management – Successful respondents are expected to provide regular updates to CSIRO staff on their progress. Updates should be no less regularly than bi-weekly and must include progress achieved, upcoming work, and any risks or issues identified. Email updates must be provided, and regular progress meetings/phone calls may be required at CSIRO’s discretion.
- 3.12.2 A project management plan, including risk management to identify the risks associated with the project and mitigation strategies, is to be provided by the proponent.

3.13 Delivery and Acceptance

- 3.13.1 The milestones should include the following items. However, other milestones necessary should be added subject to negotiation & confirmation before commencing

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH FOR POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION (STAGE 6)

the project. Both the Due Date and magnitude of the Milestone Payment are negotiable. The following table offers guidance.

MILESTONE DESCRIPTION	PLANNED DUE DATE	MILESTONE PAYMENT
- A detailed work plan, including timeline and resourcing identification against agreed outcomes, expected data requirements. - Presentation of work to date and work to be undertaken. - Other deliverables as agreed between CSIRO and the successful proponent.	June 2026	50% of contract value
-An interim report and a presentation covering: 1) the work to date; and 2) the work to be undertaken in the remainder of the project. -Continued engagement within the AR-PST consortium, including the development of materials and presentations for relevant events such as webinars, workshops, conferences & meetings. -Other deliverables as agreed between CSIRO and the successful proponent.	November 2026	15% of contract value
- A draft final report and presentation. - A refresh of the Australia’s G-PST Research Roadmap (published in March 2022) written for this topic. - The research tasks recommended by the proponent for the following project Stage 7 (FY 27/28) -Continued engagement within the AR-PST consortium, including development of materials and presentations for relevant events such as webinars, workshops, conferences & meetings. -Other deliverables as agreed between CSIRO and the successful proponent.	February 2027	20% of contract value
-Final report and presentation -Other deliverables as agreed between CSIRO and the successful proponent.	April 2027	15% of contract value

3.13.2 CSIRO may accept or reject any deliverables in accordance with the Contract.

3.13.3 The total project cost shall not exceed AUD\$399k including GST. The following eligible costs include:

- Staff costs, including wages and on-costs (superannuation, leave etc). Where an individual staff member contributes more than \$75k, their work is to be itemised to work packages less than \$75k.
- Overheads not to exceed 10% of staff costs.
- In-kind contributions are encouraged and should be reported separately. Where these contributions are from external organisations, they should be accompanied by a letter of support.
- Other individual costs exceeding \$75k shall be itemised.
- Capital items are to be included as in-kind.

Capacity

- 3.13.4 CSIRO is seeking to engage experienced quality service providers who are leading organisations in power systems research, with detailed knowledge of the Australian electricity sector and international reputation within their field of expertise.

Quality Systems

3.14 Health, Safety and Environment (HSE)

- 3.14.1 Prior to commencing delivery, CSIRO and the Supplier will identify any potential HSE issues and assign management of each issue identified to the party best able to manage it.

Additional Information

3.15 CSIRO Material

Details of the individual research topics are included in the “Executive Summary Report for Australia’s Global Power System Transformation Research Roadmap” as included in this RFQ pack. The individual research plans for all focused topics under the Research Roadmap are available on CSIRO’s website: <https://www.csiro.au/en/research/technology-space/energy/electricity-transition/ar-pst> and the research recommendations in the G-PST Stage 2, 4 and 4 Interim Reports available as part of this bid package.

3.16 Additional Response Recommendations

- 3.16.1 To aid in our assessment of responses submissions must:
- a) indicate how sub-consulting contracts and non-disclosure agreements (NDAs), if any, will be executed in a timely fashion, and not adversely impact the overall project timeline;
 - b) identify the project inputs and information, where this is intended to be sourced and how it will be procured in a timely fashion that will not delay completion of the project;
 - c) identify the use or requirement of proprietary software that is needed to carry out the research project and/or to use the project deliverables;
 - d) clearly state the research program tasks that the project will advance, and how far the work will advance the particular tasks, or what additional tasks are being proposed, how they are associated with the proposed research topic, and why this is recommended as a higher priority than existing tasks;
 - e) outline intended publications beyond the required deliverables in the RFQ, that will be produced by the researchers, where such publications may include papers, reports, webpage that shares research outputs etc.;
 - f) identify any potential contingency plans that can be actioned if problems arise, such as data access, travel restrictions, or outcomes that might impact delivery.

- g) Engagement with third parties to develop commercial and practical outcomes is highly encouraged. If you have relevant letters of support from partners, please provide them here or as attachments. The letters should outline the type and level of support, and any other relevant information to support your submission.
- 3.16.2 Acceptance of any proposal by CSIRO will be subject to the Respondent's agreement to the Terms and Conditions set out in the Draft Contract Terms available as part of the RFQ documents.
- 3.16.3 CSIRO requires the Respondent's quotation to be made according to the proposed Terms and Conditions.
- 3.16.4 **IMPORTANT:** If respondents anticipate they may require confidential / protected information from third parties such as AEMO, then:
- a) These discussions should take place at the earliest possible time between the researchers and that third party (eg AEMO) so as not delay progress.
 - b) AEMO have indicated that they will need to be satisfied that the objectives and outcomes of the work are aligned with AEMO's purpose,
 - c) The researcher will need to enter into a consultancy agreement that describes the scope of work and data requirements, though in general AEMO do not anticipate any financial amount associated with this type of engagement.

3.17 Contract Agreement

- 3.17.1 Acceptance of any proposal by CSIRO will be subject to the Respondent's agreement to the Terms and Conditions set out in the draft contract (Attachment B).
- 3.17.2 CSIRO requires the Respondent's quotation to be made according to the proposed Terms and Conditions.
- 3.17.3 Respondents should include a statement in their response of any items of non-compliance against the proposed Contractual terms and conditions including an explanation. Where a Respondent provides no comment, they will be deemed to comply.

Appendix A Conditions and Acknowledgements

- Right Not to Proceed

- i. CSIRO is not bound contractually, or in any other way to the Respondents who respond to this RFQ. CSIRO reserves the right not to proceed with this RFQ or any part of it, and to suspend or vary the RFQ and/or its requirements at any stage.

- Unintentional Errors of Form

- i. If an unintentional error of form in a Tenderer's response is identified prior to award of a Contract, CSIRO may in its absolute discretion allow correction of that error by the Tenderer by the submission of a correction, variation or additional information.
- ii. An unintentional error of form is an error that CSIRO is satisfied in its absolute discretion:
 - a. represents incomplete information not consistent with the Tenderer's intentions and, if relevant, capabilities at the time the submission was lodged
 - b. does not materially affect the competitiveness of the Tenderer's response.

- Costs Borne by Respondent

- i. All costs and expenses incurred by Respondents in any way associated with the development, preparation and submission of the RFQ response, including but not limited to attendance at meetings, discussions, presentations and providing any additional material required by CSIRO, will be borne exclusively by the Respondents.
- ii. All prices are required to be quoted in Australian dollars \$ (unless otherwise specified). Quoted prices must not vary according to the mode of payment or alter during the quote validity period. **The Respondent must assume the risk of any currency fluctuations in respect of those underlying costs of its technical solution or Services that the Respondent incurs in a currency other than Australian dollars.**

- No Legal Relationship

- i. No binding legal relationship will arise out of this RFQ.

- Information

- i. The statements, opinions, projections, forecasts or other information contained in this RFQ may change. Where any such information relates to future matters, no steps have been taken to verify that the information is based upon reasonable grounds, and no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, is made by CSIRO, or any of its officers, employees, advisers or agents that the statements contained in this RFQ will be achieved.
- ii. This RFQ is designed to reflect and summarise the information concerning the Requirements only and is not a comprehensive description of them.

- iii. Except as required by law, and only to the extent so required, neither CSIRO, nor its respective agents or advisers will in any way be liable to any person or body for any loss, damage, cost and expense of any nature arising in any way out of or in connection with the statements, opinions, projections, forecasts or other representations, actual or implied, contained in or omitted from this RFQ or other information provided to any Respondent or by reason of any reliance thereon by any person or body.
- iv. Any time and/or date in this RFQ is for the sole convenience of CSIRO. The establishment of a time and/or date in this RFQ does not create an obligation on the part of CSIRO to take any action or any right in any Respondent that any action is taken on the date established. CSIRO may change any date or time. The Department will notify affected Respondents if it changes the date and/or time but will not be obliged to provide any reasons for its actions.

• Respondents to Inform Themselves

- i. Respondents are considered to have:
 - a. examined this RFQ, any documents referenced in this RFQ and any other information made available by CSIRO to Respondents for the purpose of responding
 - b. examined all further information which is obtainable by the making of reasonable inquiries relevant to the risks, contingencies, and other circumstances having an effect on their RFQ response
 - c. undertaken their own professional advice in respect of this RFQ, any other information provided to Respondents and the RFQ process generally, as appropriate
 - d. satisfied themselves as to the correctness and sufficiency of their RFQ response including submitted prices.

• Respondent Acknowledgements

- i. Responses are submitted on the basis that Respondents acknowledge they do not rely upon any warranty or representation made by or on behalf of CSIRO, except as are expressly provided for in this RFQ, but they have relied entirely upon their own inquiries and inspection in respect of the subject of their RFQ response.

• Relevant Legislative Provisions

- i. CSIRO policy is to not to enter into a contract with suppliers who have been named in Parliament as not complying with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*.
- ii. CSIRO expects its suppliers to always act in a safe manner and perform all relevant services in a way that is without risk to the health, safety or welfare of any person and eliminates health and safety risks so far as is reasonable practicable.
- iii. CSIRO will not enter into a contract with suppliers who are listed as designated entity by the Minister of Foreign Affairs by notice in the Gazette under s 15 of the *Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 (Cth)* or who intend to engage subcontractors who are listed as a designated entity by the Minister for Foreign Affairs by notice in the Gazette under s 15 of the *Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 (Cth)*. A consolidated list of such persons, entities and associated assets is maintained by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade under the *Charter of the United Nations (Dealing with Assets) Regulations 2008* and can be found at: http://www.dfat.gov.au/icat/UNSC_financial_sanctions.html

- iv. CSIRO will not enter into a contract with Respondents engaging illegal workers. For more information refer to 'A Guide on Work Rights' available at www.immi.gov.au/employers.

• CSIRO Rights

- i. The issue of this RFQ does not in any way commit CSIRO to proceed with any aspect of acquisition of the Requirement, whether from any of the Respondents to this RFQ or from any other source.
- ii. Without limiting any other part of these RFQ conditions CSIRO may:
 - a. amend this RFQ at any time in any way including any aspect of the RFQ process
 - b. choose to negotiate with (if applicable), any Respondent including one whose RFQ:
 - i. is a non-compliant RFQ, or
 - ii. does not have the lowest indicative price of all RFQs
 - c. not negotiate with (if applicable), any Respondent at any time whose RFQ complies with this RFQ
 - d. at any time (including in negotiations) disqualify any Respondent from participating in the RFQ process or exclude their RFQ from further consideration
 - e. allow any Respondent to change their RFQ at any time
 - f. stop or suspend negotiations with any preferred Respondent
 - g. select preferred Respondents or choose not to do so
 - h. request all or certain Respondents participate in a further procurement process for the Requirement
 - i. at any time use non CSIRO personnel in assessing RFQs
 - j. at any time use a probity auditor in connection with this RFQ
 - k. terminate the RFQ process at any time (including in the course of contract negotiations)
 - l. contract with more than one party for supply of the Requirement
 - m. enter into a contract outside the RFQ process
 - n. negotiate with a Respondent whose RFQ is for a different requirement than set out in this RFQ
 - o. undertake or allow any other actions or inaction in relation to this RFQ, on such terms as CSIRO deems appropriate
 - p. use information gained through the RFQ process to feed into any further procurement CSIRO may undertake in connection with the Requirement (or one similar to it), including further development of the Requirement
 - q. allow, or not allow, any Respondent to enter into a contract for the Requirement in the name of a different legal entity from the one that provided an RFQ.

• Disclaimer

- i. This RFQ is an invitation to treat and is not to be taken to be or relied upon as an offer capable of acceptance by any person or as creating any form of contractual (including a process contract), quasi contractual, restitutionary or promissory estoppel rights, or rights based on similar legal or equitable grounds.
- ii. CSIRO will not be liable to any Respondent on the basis of any promissory estoppel, quantum meruit or other contractual, quasi contractual or restitutionary grounds whatsoever or in negligence as a consequence of any matter relating or incidental to a Respondent's participation in this RFQ including instances where:

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH FOR POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION (STAGE 6)

- a. a Respondent is not invited to participate in any subsequent process following completion of this RFQ
- b. CSIRO varies the RFQ
- c. for reasons of public interest, CSIRO decides to terminate this RFQ or not to contract for all or any of the requirements or
- d. CSIRO exercises or fails to exercise any of its other rights under or in relation to this RFQ.