

Q: Does National Grid have a preference for which type of service you prefer for this NWA opportunity? Secure or Sustain? Will each service be evaluated equally?

A: National Grid does not have a preference between the types of services. Per the RFP, “The Company does not consider bid values from NWA Sustain Service and NWA Secure Service the same and may consider the capacity value (e.g., bid value) of NWA Sustain Service lower in comparison to NWA Secure Service due to its lack of real-time dispatchability, and given that additional procurement of NWA Sustain Service may be required to adequately address the system need.”

Q: Is there an energy storage component to the RFP?

A: The NWA program is technology agnostic. Vendors may provide storage as a solution to National Grid via the NWA Sustain Service, NWA Secure Service or a utility asset under a Construction Services Agreement.

Q: How will the Secure dispatch signal be delivered and how will the response be verified?

A: Please refer to page 44, Section 5 of the [Flexibility Services Standard Agreement](#). The project/site shall be designed and constructed with, or contain: (a) equipment and software necessary to receive, accept and react to a signal from National Grid’s SCADA system; and (b) communication circuits from the project/site to National Grid for the purpose of telemetering, supervisory control/data acquisition, and voice communications

Q: Will the awarded project be expected to follow the SIR process, is that cycle loaded into the project timeline, and will proposer be expected to fund CESIR and interconnection/upgrade fees?

A: Yes, the awarded project will need to follow the SIR process when dictated by the SIR rules. Depending on the nature of the NWA solution proposed, potential infrastructure upgrades may be required to accommodate and connect the NWA solution as it is necessary for the solution to be located downstream of the transformer to solve the problem (full details pending an interconnection study (i.e., Coordinated Electric System Interconnection Review (CESIR)). If a CESIR is necessary and the proposal is awarded, National Grid will fund the interconnection costs (including CESIR fees) for the selected bidder(s).

Q: Is there a pre-selected communications protocol for real-time dispatch? e.g., IEEE2030.5?

A: National Grid intends to use Distributed Network Protocol 3 (DNP3) communication protocol standard for SCADA telemetry. We’re exploring other options including IEEE 2030.5 but currently that option is not available. If that option does become available at a later time, National Grid and NWA providers may mutually agree to use IEEE 2030.5 instead of DNP3 as the communication protocol for dispatch.

Q: Would this include solar developments or community solar subscriptions?

A: It will depend if the solution can meet the requirements of the RFP. If there is a solar component, it must meet the dispatch and measurement & verification requirements, please see the RFP and contract for details.

Q: What's the maximum amount of dispatch at one time?

A: There may be up to 10 dispatch events per year based on National Grid's forecast. The New Krumkill need scales up with time and each year has a different amount of MWs required at peak - please see the table on [page 6 of the RFP](#).

Q: Are the liquidated damages defined in the bid docs?

A: Yes, they are defined in Appendix H (page 89) of the [Flexibility Services Standard Agreement](#).

Q: Is National Grid interested in a 25 year solar lease? If so, would National Grid bare responsibility for decommissioning?

A: 25 years would be too long for this need as National Grid does not foresee an NWA need that far along in the future. If the project is third-party owned, decommissioning would be the responsibility of the developer.

Q: Is NWA Sustain Service bound by the 95% performance requirement described in Flexibility Services Standard Agreement Appendix H? If not, is there any performance shortfall penalty for the Sustain Service?

A: Yes, Sustain and Secure both have a 95% performance requirement. You can have a larger capacity or oversubscribe your bid in order to ensure you achieve the 95% performance requirement.

Q: Is National Grid looking for different amounts of MWs per year? Are you looking for one project to fulfill the entire need from 2026-2030?

A: Yes, National Grid is seeking different amounts of MWs per year - please see the table on [page 6 of the RFP](#) for more details. National Grid is looking for either one bid or multiple projects (including aggregations of resources) to build a portfolio to fulfill the need. A single bid must fill at least one year but may start at any year in the term.

Q: What types of technologies and resources are eligible for the RFP?

A: National Grid is open to any technologies and resources that can provide NWA Secure Services or NWA Sustain Services (see [page 3 of the RFP](#) for definitions). This includes but is not limited to front-of-the-meter dispatchable projects (e.g., battery storage, solar), behind-the-meter load (e.g., demand response, energy efficiency), and more.

Q: What is the current status of AMI roll-out?

A: National Grid is in the process of deploying advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) meters. Albany area residential AMI meter installation started in Q3 of 2024 and we hope to have a substantial amount of meters installed by Q2 2025. Commercial meters will follow and we hope to have these installed in the Albany area in 2026.