

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) to participate in

**Implementation of the Distribution Commercial
Energy Trading System (Dx CET) in Eskom**

CLARIFICATION- BRIEFING NOTE DATED: 10 AUGUST 2022

DISCLAIMER FOR ISSUANCE OF BRIEFING NOTES

*A CLARIFICATION is not intended to modify or amend the tender documents issued by Eskom Holdings, but merely to provide clarity on the interpretation thereof.
An AMENDMENT is intended to amend, delete or modify and/or replace the original identified wording in the tender document to the extent set out in this Briefing Note.
Save as expressly set out in the Briefing Note, all the other provisions of the tender documents remains un-amended.*

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Doc	Nature of Note	Issue	Eskom Response
RFI	Clarification	Please confirm the meaning of the following acronyms: a. NMC b. DER c. DET	a. NMC = Network management centre (Provincial network control rooms) b. DER = Distribution energy resources c. DET = Distribution energy trader (Believe we also referred to Technical and Commercial energy trader)
RFI	Clarification	Regarding 'Part B - Response Sheet', question 9: Does the response need to be completed "on the Excel spreadsheet"? We would like to propose that a technical response is submitted as a separate document with reference to the Technical Evaluation Excel spreadsheet.	Support proposal for separate response referencing the technical evaluation sheet
Technical evaluation criteria spreadsheet	Clarification	We notice that in the Technical Evaluation Criteria spreadsheet, Eskom refers to 'Demand Response/Virtual Power Plant', but this is not included on the context diagram. Please can we have clarity on the requirement?	Distribution Energy Trader (Dx CET) is sometimes referred to as a Virtual Power Plant (VPP). The Distribution System Operator (DSO) requires a set of tools to enable them to trade energy needs with Transmission (Tx), Generation (Gx), Independent Power Producers (IPP's) and Customers. The proposed tools should enable the following functionality in Distribution (Dx): Load forecasting, Bidding, Trading, Purchasing, Contracting and Settlements.
RFI	Clarification	Over which areas will the Dx/CET platform operate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all 7 ESKOM regions? Any municipal/Metro areas or networks not owned by ESKOM? 	Currently Dx consist out of 9 x Operating units aligned with SA provincial boundaries and on top of this they are grouped into 5 x Clusters. WC+EC=Cape Coastal cluster, NC+NW=Gemma cluster, LP+MP=Limlanga cluster, FS+KZN=Central east cluster and GP is on its own as OU. Dx CET should be flexible to incorporate Metros/ Munics if required in future.

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RFI	Clarification	Do you expect the Dx CET platform to be network model based and to identify the network needs or is the tool just to allow procurement of services that address needs identified elsewhere (i.e., by the planning team)?	The Dx CET should have a forecasting functionality thus assuming it will require integration from a network needs perspective to accurately be able to determine network needs. This could be matured over time from HV/ MV to LV network levels.
RFI	Clarification	Do you have a preferred way that the Dx CET platform should assist in supporting the reduction of the imbalance risk associated with employing a single DER resource?	Believe the RFI is open for what vendors can offer in this regard and perhaps on how system can manage/ mitigate risks.
RFI	Clarification	What is the scope of the 'products and services that market participants are expected to provide? (e.g., Energy, reserves, frequency control, voltage support, inertia/stability, restoration, etc.,)	Provide information on what your product can offer and if it have the flexibility to add more products and flexible services in different categories.
RFI	Clarification	Will products/services be procured as pay-as-bid or pay-as-clear?	Provide explanations on both options and the pros/cons on both
RFI	Clarification	<p>Will the vendor be given the rules by which certain product/service needs are generated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example, for 'energy needs' – if this relates to frequency or restoration reserves the TSO/DSO should supply the security rules For example, if the needs are related to constraint management the TSO/DSO may need 	<p>Yes (please propose options/ examples on how we can best integrate the rules)</p> <p>Yes (please propose options/ examples on how we can best integrate the rules)</p>

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		to provide the network boundary limits.	
RFI	Clarification	Approximately how many DERs (in # and MW) are expected to require access to the CET platform in year 1?	(To be discussed at the clarification session)
RFI	Clarification	Is the objective of the Dx CET to provide a route-to-market (the wholesale market) for DER akin to a VPP?	DxCET & CVPP is one and the same.
RFI	Clarification	Can Eskom provide an estimate of the annual total value (\$USD) of the services procured via the Dx CET trader platform?	not presently available,
Solution pricing schedule	Clarification	How many concurrent user licenses will be required to access the solution?	+50 Eskom employees +200 Prosumers Please also provide possible Licencing models/ structures on offer.
Technical Evaluation Sheet : BF 1	Clarification	Q1 – What is the volume of TSO, MDMS, OMS system data that will need in the desired solution? How frequently the data will be made available? Q2 – Is there an expectation to migrate historical data from the above TSO MDMS system into the proposed solution?	Difficult to determine volume of data required for forecasting. For forecasting purposes believe real time data updates will assist with accurate forecasting. How do other utilities manage this? It could be beneficial to incorporate selected historical data migrations in order to accurately forecast futuristic trends.
Technical Evaluation Sheet : BF 3	Clarification	Q1 - What will be frequency of data inputs on any day? Is there a need for any real-time data updates?	For forecasting purposes believe real time data updates will assist with accurate forecasting. How do other utilities manage this and how do your solution support it?

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Technical Evaluation Sheet : BF 4	Clarification	<p>Q1 - What are the tools and interfaces used currently for demand forecasting?</p> <p>Q2 - What is current process of forecasting?</p> <p>Q3 - Is the expectation to get forecasting data from an existing system and models like Matlab and R or the expectation is to build forecasting in proposed solution?</p>	<p>Distribution do not have any tools as yet. Believe Transmission currently perform forecasting with limited automation.</p> <p>The expectation is to see what the market can offer in this regard and include these preferred tools into the solution.</p>
Technical Evaluation Sheet : BF 5	Clarification	<p>Q1 - For publication of information or reports does Eskom use any third party tools already? Please provide details of the BI tools that will need the data from the proposed solution</p>	<p>The following is used in Eskom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power BI • SAP BI • BI Web Portals • SAS
RFI	Clarification	<p>Due to the complex nature of such as RFI and the information received during the online clarification meeting held on 03/08/2022. Siemens (Pty) hereby formally requests that the bid submission be extended to 1st September 2022.</p>	<p>Please note that the request for extension of closing date of RFI is not granted due to the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The RFI was issued to the market on the 24 June 2022 with the initial closing date of 22 July 2022; On the 07 July 2022, Eskom received a request for extension of closing date and the reason provided was that “after an in-depth analysis of the requirements, we have realised the volume of work involved in developing our response. In order to prepare a quality submission, we thus respectfully request an extension of three weeks”. The request was acceded to and the closing date was extended from 22 July 2022 to 11 August 2022; The RFI was issued to the market for a period of forty-nine calendar days to afford potential tenderers sufficient time to respond to the request; and At the clarification session, which was held on 03 August 2022, It was indicated that there would be no consideration for further extension.

