REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Gilbert Mills NWA – Feeders 24751, 24752, 24753

1 Introduction

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or the Company) is an electric and gas investor-owned utility committed to providing safe, reliable, and affordable energy to all customers throughout its service territory in Upstate New York. As a part of providing this service, National Grid is pursuing the potential implementation of Non-Wires Alternatives (NWA) solutions in its New York service territory. Find out more about National Grid and its affiliate companies at https://www.nationalgrid.com/about-us

The information contained within this Request for Information (RFI) is confidential and proprietary to National Grid and is to be used by the recipient solely for the purpose of responding to this RFI. This RFI does not constitute an offer by National Grid to enter into a contract, nor does any response to this RFI constitute an acceptance of an offer, nor does any response to this RFI bind National Grid in any way. Additionally, any costs incurred in responding to this RFI are the responsibility of the respondent. This RFI does not commit National Grid in any way to award a contract, pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a submission or procurement or contract for product or services of any kind whatsoever. National Grid will not reimburse the respondent for any cost associated with the response to this RFI.

Upon submission, the response to this RFI will be the sole property of National Grid. National Grid reserves the right to execute all ideas therein without compensating the respondent. National Grid reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all responses to subsequent RFI, to negotiate with any or all companies considered, or to cancel this RFI in whole or in part.

2 RFI Background and Instructions

National Grid is conducting an RFI to gather industry information regarding a potential NWA opportunity. The purpose of this RFI is to gather interest levels and the ability to respond to a future potential RFP.

Please provide responses to the RFI Questions in Section 4 by the response due date indicated in Section 3.

All responses must be submitted via the Piclo Flex portal: https://usa.picloflex.com/dashboard. For assistance using the Piclo Flex platform, please contact support@picloflex.com. In the event

a developer is unable to complete the RFI process using the Piclo platform, please reach out to support@picloflex.com and Non-WiresAlternativeSolutions@nationalgrid.com.

It is the NWA solution providers' responsibility to thoroughly review all provisions of the respective supporting documents, appendices, and requirements of this RFI process as applicable.

Any questions on the content of this RFI should be submitted to Non-WiresAlternativeSolutions@nationalgrid.com; please reach out to this inbox for any question on this RFI.

2.1 Flexibility Services Standard Agreement

In order to simplify and streamline participation in NWAs, expedite the procurement process, and minimize time spent on negotiations for NWA opportunities, National Grid has developed the Flexibility Services Standard Agreement for its New York electric service territory. If you are interested in learning more about the Standard Agreement please view the New York Standard Agreement: https://www.nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/bus-partners/nwa_flexibility_services_standard_agreement_final.pdf

2.1.1 Secure Service and Sustain Service

In the Flexibility Services Standard Agreement for New York, National Grid introduced two distinct services for the provision of flexible services for NWAs: NWA Secure (Real-Time Dispatch Service) and NWA Sustain Service (Scheduled Dispatch Service). This set of offerings will enable National Grid to encourage multiple types of NWA solutions, and effectively manage and dispatch a portfolio of NWA solutions that align with our commitment to reliability, efficiency, and the integration of low carbon distributed energy resources.

• **NWA Secure (Real-Time Dispatch) Service** encompasses any front-of-the-meter (FTM) exporting distributed energy resource (DER), or behind-the-meter (BTM) asset with exporting capabilities that are equipped to receive direct, real-time dispatch signals. This enables direct telemetry through National Grid's approved supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems utilizing the Distributed Network Protocol 3 (DNP3) or other utility-approved communication protocols. The defining feature of the NWA Secure Service is its capacity for load following (real-time dispatch), allowing the Company to issue up to a 6-second internal direct signal to the NWA solution in response to live NWA events. NWA Secure Service will have real-time dispatchable capabilities where the DER facility or aggregation, must be able to respond to real-time dispatches from the Company where the dispatch signal is dependent on real-time conditions.

• **NWA Sustain (Scheduled Dispatch) Service** encompasses any FTM exporting DERs and BTM DERs (including aggregation of DERs) or any installation that combines a load with a non-

exporting DER. Unlike the NWA Secure Service, the NWA Sustain Service does not require real-time dispatch capabilities. Dispatch for NWA Sustain Services is event-driven, based on contracted loads, with kW dispatch levels determined prior to the NWA dispatch event (e.g. using a dispatch schedule). NWA Sustain Service can include single or aggregations of DERs that can operate based on the NWA service definition above when called upon a day ahead by the Company. These are similar to 'event-based' grid resources, akin to traditional demand response programs.

This strategic categorization ensures that the Company can encourage, to the extent possible, a broad range of possible NWA solutions, and effectively manage and dispatch a portfolio of NWA solutions that align with our commitment to reliability, efficiency, and the integration of sustainable energy resources.

3 RFI Details and Timeline

3.1 RFI Schedule

See details on RFI timelines below:

Issue RFI	06/02/2025
Last Day Supplier Clarification Request	06/30/2025
National Grid Response to Clarification Requests	07/03/2025
Supplier Submit Response	07/14/2025

3.2 Project Details

The Company has provided information on the background of the distribution need at the potential NWA location, the preliminary solution requirements to meet the need, and any location-specific information. This RFI is not a solicitation or a guarantee of future procurement. National Grid makes no commitment to proceed with any procurement process or award based on responses. All information, requirements, and criteria presented herein are subject to change.

		Description
General Description	Gilbert Mills Station is planning to be upgraded on the basis of load relief required and its current asset condition rating. Based on historical and forecasted loading scenarios, load relief can help mitigate load at risk prior to the completion of the substation upgrade. In 2024, this station had surpassed its Summer Normal ratings and additional load relief would ease planning and operational concerns until the permanent capital project can be constructed.	

Distribution or Transmission Need	Distribution	
Operating District	Syracuse-11	
Zip Code	13135	
Town	Schroeppel	
Map/Location	See map below	
Feeders	24751, 24752, 24753	Customers and/or NWA solutions must be on these feeders.
Need Dates	2026-2030	The Company would be looking for at least a one- year NWA solution so potential NWA solution providers, at a minimum, must provide at least a one-year solution; singular yearly solutions will be accepted as well as multi-year solutions (shortest contract term to be awarded would be one year). Potential NWA solution providers may propose NWA solutions beyond 2030.
MW	2.6	Amount of load relief that is required to meet the need at peak loading, but should not limit the project size (i.e., projects with aggregate nameplate over or under 'Maximum MW Need' will be considered). The Company will consider partial NWA solutions as well as portfolio solutions. Potential NWA solution providers are encouraged to offer partial solutions if a full solution is not possible.
MWh	11	Largest continuous 24-hour MWh need of NWA solution (calculated by adding average hourly MW need over any 24-hour period) assuming average MW need would be affected by field operations (i.e., feeder ties/switching). Guaranteed nominal power and capacity ratings must be met for the duration of the contract period.
Number of calls a year	7	Calls per year based on annual overload projections. The NWA solution will need to be available for at least the number of times called per year as stated.
Time range (Service Window)	12:00 - 21:00	Earliest and latest possible times of need by the Company (based on projections, not continuous hours)

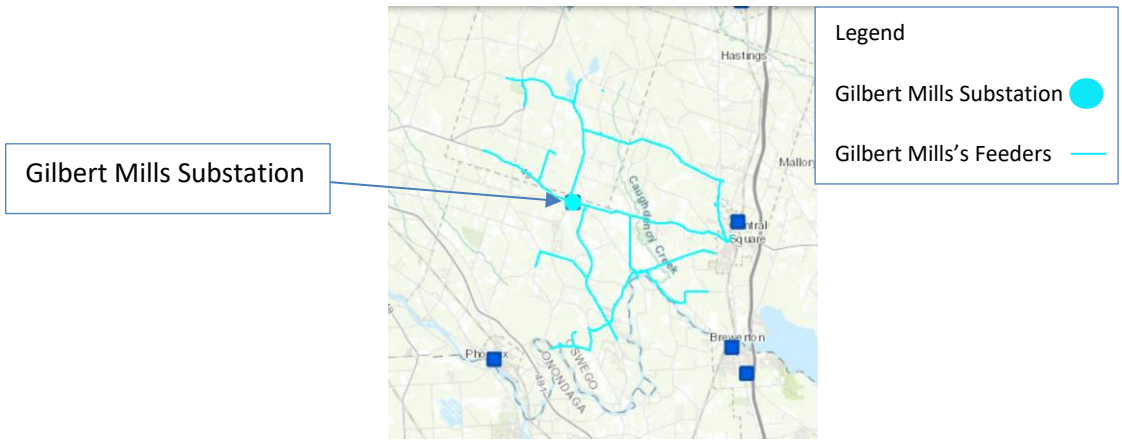


Figure 1: Gilbert Mills Substation & Feeders Map

Note dark blue substation are neighboring substations that are not relevant to this RFI, see Feeder IDs have been listed below:

Substations | OH | UG

Options | Filter by map extent | Zoom to | Clear selection | Refresh

MASTER_CDF	SUBSTATION_NAME	OPERATING_VOLTAGE
36_11_24751	GILBERT MILLS	13.20
36_11_24752	GILBERT MILLS	13.20
36_11_24753	GILBERT MILLS	13.20

4 RFI Questionnaire

4.1 *Project Organization*

1. Please provide name, title, telephone number, and email address of your company's primary contact for the purpose of this Please provide your full company name, website address, and the name, title, telephone number, and email address of your primary contact for this RFI.

4.2 NWA Solution

2. What type of asset or solution may your company propose for this potential NWA opportunity? What is the nature of your company's potential solution:
   i) Aggregation of DERs (please specify what type of DER within the Aggregation)
   ii) Demand Response
   iii) Energy Storage System

iv) Solar (Distributed Generation) plus Energy Storage System

v) Mobile Battery Energy Storage

vi) Other (Please specify)

3. Are you aware of any existing assets on the targeted feeder(s), whether owned by your company or not? If so, do you currently own, operate, or have access to any of these assets that could support an NWA solution? (example: existing solar array, storage, or aggregation of DERs).
4. Would you consider a new build asset (i.e, a newly developed asset and/or an asset specifically developer for this opportunity and not currently in operation) as a potential solution? Please provide details.
5. As of the date of your RFI response, would your potential solution be:

   i) Constructed

   ii) Commissioned

   iii) In the interconnection queue (If so, please provide the application or case number)

   iv) Implemented

   v) Planned

   vi) Other (please specify)

6. What is the size in kW of your existing and/or planned assets on this circuit(s)? (submission is non-binding). Note, the NWA must be interconnected to one of the feeders listed in the project details. Please Appendix C for instruction on how to check where the feeders are located.
7. Which type of service would your company be interested in (see section 2.1 for definitions). If you are an interested DER developer, would your solution have the ability to dispatch dynamically in real time? Or would your solution require an agreed pre-defined schedule?

   i) Secure Service (real-time dispatch)

   ii) Sustain Service (scheduled dispatch)

   iii) Both

8. Do you have an asset that you would like to propose but unsure or concerned if is not eligible for any of the NWA service types (Secure Service or Sustain Service)? If so, please explain why you think it is ineligible or not a good fit for this NWA opportunity.

4.3 Economics

9. Please provide a range for the expected bid cost per year or per MW/year, noting how many years your pricing covers (submission is non-binding)? What would an approximate NWA bid cost be for this opportunity (please specify the years this cost would cover)?

10. What other revenue mechanisms are you looking to stack (i.e., participate in simultaneously) with your potential solution while serving as a NWA asset for National Grid? Please identify any applicable state or federal incentives, such as the recently released NYSERDA incentive for storage, that you may intend to leverage in your proposal.

4.4 Schedule

11. Based on your proposed solution, how much lead time would your company need from contract award (or notice to proceed) to meet the required in-service date? Additionally, how much time would you need to develop and submit a bid, including any early-stage development steps (e.g., identifying a site, securing site control, initiating permitting, or exploring financing options)?
12. What is the ideal service term (in years) your company would commit to for this NWA solution? During which years of the project term would your solution be able to meet the need?
13. Would you consider a contract term end beyond 2030? If so, what would be the ideal contract length (years) for your NWA solution?

4.5 Experience & Location

14. Has your company previously integrated this technology with a utility? If so, please briefly describe the project.
15. What challenges or risks do you see in implementing this project in this location? What barriers do you see if you were to seek acquiring or deploying DER in this area? Have you experienced any community pushback regarding implementing energy storage or other DER solutions in this area?
16. Based on a preliminary, high-level assessment without contacting landowners, are you aware of any available sites in the target area that would be suitable for an NWA solution? Additionally, does your company currently own any land in this area that could be utilized for such a solution?

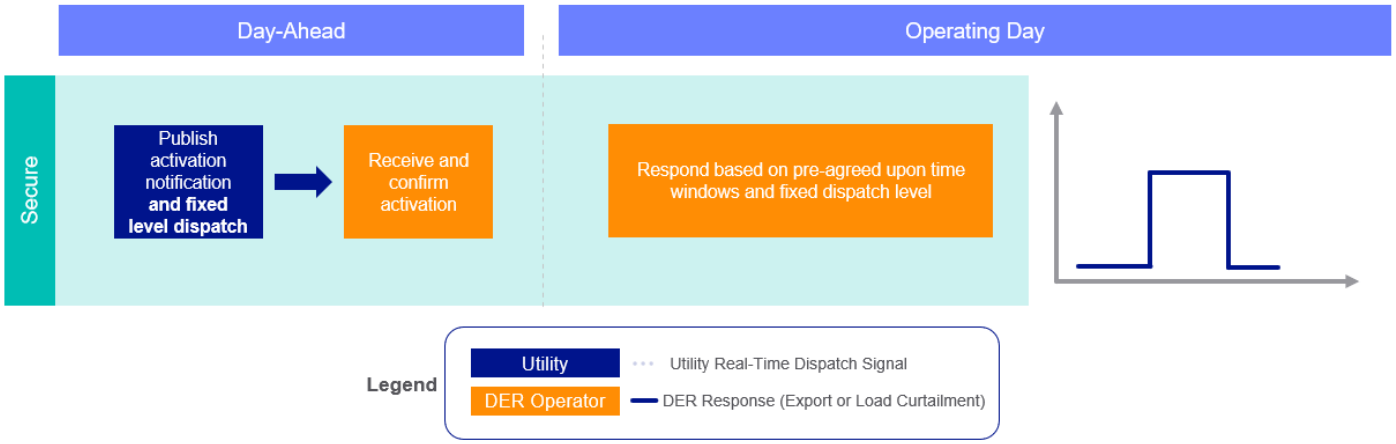
4.6 Miscellaneous

17. If this proceeds to an RFP would your company invest in building a proposal and bid for this project? Please describe.
18. How should National Grid update your company for future opportunities?
19. Is there any additional information you would like to share with National Grid on this topic to help us be successful in implementing Non-Wires Alternatives in this area?
20. Please indicate the amount of time your company would require from RFP release to bid close to developer and submit an NWA proposal?

21. Do you have any feedback on the content of our Flexibility Service Standard Agreement, see section 2.1, and would any specific provision hinder you from participating in an NWA opportunity under this agreement?

Appendix A - NWA Secure (Real-Time Dispatch) Service Operational and Integration Requirements

- **NWA Secure Services** - services from a DER that is activated at least day-ahead and is able to respond to real-time dispatches from the Company and the dispatch signal is dependent on real-time conditions. DER co-located with load (i.e., BTM) are ineligible to provide this service.



This appendix specifies requirements applicable to NWA Secure Service that NWA solution providers can elect to provide to the Company.

NWA Secure Service Requirements

Monitoring and Dispatch Control Requirements for NWA Secure (Real-Time Dispatch Service

For parallel-connected generation connecting to National Grid's electric power system (EPS), the proposed solution must be compliant with National Grid's Electric System Bulletin (ESB) No. 756 – Requirements for Parallel Generation Connected to a National Grid-owned EPS (ESB 756).[1]

In addition to requirements under ESB 756, the proposed solution must also have communication capability to provide telemetry data so National Grid Operations can monitor real-time status of the NWA solution (DER facility or the DER aggregation) and issue real-time dispatch basepoints to the NWA solution. Dispatch basepoint may be telemetered as quickly as 6 second intervals and therefore the NWA solution provider's proposed operation must meet the ability to receive dispatch signals at the same rate. However, the dispatch basepoint is expected to change values at one-minute intervals.

The NWA solution provider is expected to support integration of a National Grid-owned and managed DER gateway, real-time automation controller, or other similar equipment that will utilize the DNP3

[1] National Grid Electric System Bulletins are located on the Company's website: https://gridforce.my.site.com/electric/s/article/Electric-Specifications. ESB 756 is typically applicable to DER interconnecting in parallel with the Company's electric power system ("EPS").

communication protocol standard for SCADA telemetry unless otherwise specified by National Grid. The DER gateway will be provided and installed by National Grid at the DER facility and the bidder or DER facility owner may be required to install make-ready provisions (e.g., mounting structure, control power) that must meet National Grid's equipment specifications. For proposed DER aggregations, the bidder will be expected to designate a centralized location within the Company's service area for the Company DER gateway to be installed that best facilitates integration with the bidder's aggregation dispatch system.

Dispatch Coordination Expectations for NWA Secure (Real-Time Dispatch) Service

NWA Secure Service providers will be expected to respond to real-time dispatch basepoints telemetered by National Grid during the Service Window defined in this RFI for each day it has been activated. In this manner, DER providing NWA Secure Service will act similar to 'load-following' grid resources.

Dispatch Notification (day-ahead) Process: The Company will provide activations for NWA Secure Service at least 24 hours (i.e., day-ahead) prior to an NWA dispatch call see Appendix B Service Terms in the Standard Flexibility Contract for more details. Providers are to confirm receipt and availability when notified of activation.

Real-time Dispatch Process: NWA solution providers are to provide at a minimum the required dispatch response based on dispatch basepoints received from the Company. However, Providers' responses may exceed the basepoint within the limits of any interconnection allowances (e.g., if renewable on-site generation can exceed the dispatch response requested). Any response in excess of the dispatch basepoint will not be compensated for grid services procured by this NWA solicitation.

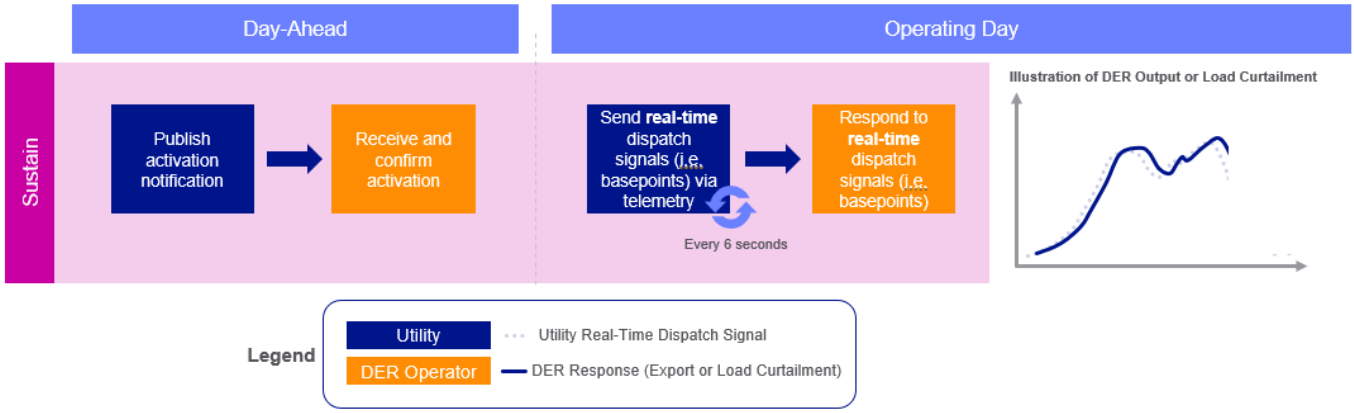
Metering

Metering and associated communications are necessary to ensure that the Company must be able to measure and verify the load relief that was delivered during an NWA event. The NWA Secure Service provider shall be responsible for all metering and communication devices and associated costs.

For parallel connected generation connecting to National Grid's EPS, the proposed solution must be compliant with the revenue metering requirements within ESB 756. Revenue metering must be, at a minimum, hourly interval meters to support National Grid's dispatch measurement and verification (M&V) process.

Appendix B - NWA Sustain (Scheduled Dispatch) Service Operational and Integration Requirements

NWA Sustain Service - services from a single or aggregation of DERs that can operate at a flat level dispatch when called upon a day ahead by the Company, based on pre-agreed output and over fixed time window and a minimum run time defined for the DER and its bid



This appendix specifies requirements applicable to NWA Sustain Service that bidders can elect to provide to the Company.

NWA Sustain Service Requirements

Monitoring and Dispatch Control Requirements for NWA Sustain (Scheduled Dispatch) Service

NWA Sustain Service providers will not require real-time telemetry between National Grid and individual DERs or the DER aggregation.

However, for parallel-connected generation connecting to National Grid's EPS and seeking to provide NWA Sustain Service, the proposed solution must still be compliant with the ESB 756 .

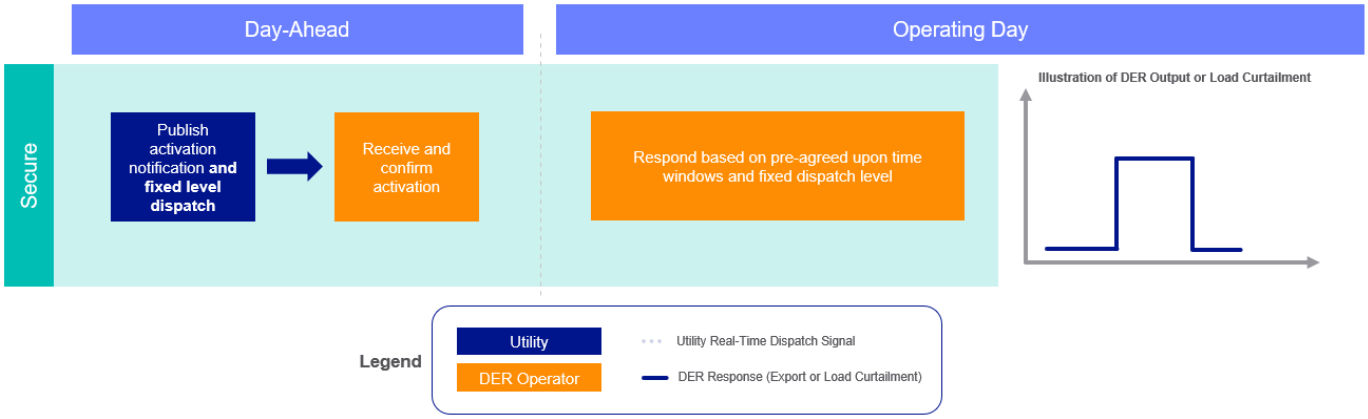
For aggregated DER co-located with retail load and are non-exporting facilities that do not fall under the scope of ESB 756, the third-party aggregator is responsible for installing, commissioning, operating, and maintaining all necessary telemetry equipment that the aggregator needs to maintain visibility and control of DER to third party aggregator. However, no real-time telemetry is required between the aggregator (or its DER) and the Company. In the case of aggregations, only the aggregator will be notified of the NWA event. The aggregator is responsible for notifying resources within its respective aggregation(s).

Dispatch Coordination Expectations for NWA Sustain (Scheduled Dispatch) Service

NWA Sustain Service providers will be expected to provide pre-agreed fixed (flat level) responses during the Service Window for each day activated. In this manner, DERs providing NWA Sustain Service will serve similar to 'event-based' grid resources, akin to traditional demand response programs.

Dispatch Notification (day-ahead) Process: The Company will provide activations for NWA Sustain Service at least 24 hours (i.e., day-ahead) prior to a dispatch event. Providers are to confirm receipt and availability when notified of activation. See Standard Flexibility Contract at Appendix B for details.

Real-time Dispatch Process: Providers are to provide at minimum the required dispatch response based on the pre-agreed fixed (flat level) response contracted when selected during the procurement event. However, providers may have responses exceed the basepoints within the limits of any interconnection allowances, such as additional load curtailment. Any responses in excess of the pre-agreed responses will not be compensated for grid services procured by this NWA solicitation.



Metering

Metering and associated communications are necessary to ensure that National Grid must be able to measure and verify the load relief that was delivered during an NWA event. The customer shall be responsible for all metering and communication devices and associated costs.

For NWA solutions that do not have SCADA capabilities or fully dispatchable such as behind the meter assets, participants must have National Grid interval metering in place to participate. All performance will be measured using the Company's interval meter data.

All DER facilities providing NWA Secure Service and NWA Sustain Service must have National Grid-approved revenue grade interval metering requirements regardless of the flexibility service type.

For parallel-connected generation connecting to National Grid's EPS, the proposed solution must be compliant with the revenue metering requirements within ESB 756. Revenue metering must be at minimum hourly interval meters to support National Grid's dispatch M&V process.

Any resource requesting interval metering must submit a request to the Company requesting the installation of a new meter and ensure the interval meter is in place in time by the in-service date. The customer taking electric service from the Company is responsible for the metering and installation costs. The metering and installation costs are available from the Company's representatives. Metering communications are necessary for administration of the NWA solution.

Appendix C - How to Use the National Grid New York System Data Portal to Locate Feeders for the NWA Opportunity

This appendix provides step-by-step guidance for using National Grid's New York System Data Portal to ensure that your proposed NWA solution is located on the correct distribution feeders. Projects must be interconnected to or on the feeder(s) specified in Section 3.2, "Project Details," under the **Feeders** row.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Access the Portal: Open National Grid's New York System Data Portal: https://systemdataportal.nationalgrid.com/NY/
2. Open the Distribution Map: Click on the "Distribution Assets Overview" tab at the top of the page.
3. Search for the Substation: Use the search bar on the left to enter the substation name (e.g., *Gilbert Mills*). The substation will appear as a blue square on the map.

   Note, the map may often zoom in very closely on the substation, and surrounding feeders may not be visible at this level. To view associated feeders, you may need to manually zoom out or adjust your map view until the overhead lines become visible.
4. Locate the Feeders: Look at the bottom panel of the screen. Under the "OH" tab (for Overhead), you'll find the associated feeder(s). If the table isn't visible, click the upward arrow tab at the bottom of the screen to expand it.
5. View Feeder Details: You can click a feeder row in the table to highlight its path on the map in blue. If necessary you can trace the full extent of the feeder, zoom out or adjust your map view to ensure all feeder lines are visible . You can also use the search bar to locate specific feeders directly.

Note: Please ensure your proposed solution is interconnected to or on one of the designated feeders listed in Section 3.2 Project Details of the RFI document. Projects not located on the specified feeder(s) will not be considered responsive to the identified system need.