



Capacity Investment Scheme (CIS) Tender 9: National Electricity Market (NEM) – Generation Q&A Responses

This document provides a compilation of responses to de-identified questions received from Registered Proponents for CIS Tender 9: NEM – Generation (**Tender 9**). New Q&As are added to this document in chronological order and shaded in pale green. All Q&As are allocated to categories aligning with the Q&A form: Eligibility Criteria; Merit Criteria (MC) 1 – Financial value, system reliability and system benefits; MC 2 – Project deliverability and timeline; MC 3 – Organisational, resource, and financing capability; MC 4 – First Nations participation and benefits sharing; MC 5 – Social outcomes and community benefits sharing; Project Documents; and other.

All responses and correspondence by AEMO regarding the Q&A Process in Tender 9 are subject to the Tender Conditions set out in Section 6 of the [Tender 9 Tender Guidelines](#) (published 25 May 2026).

Important notice: Registered Proponents are reminded of Sections 6.6 (No warranty), 6.5 (No representations), 6.13 (Requests for clarification and further information) and 6.19 (Proponents to perform own due diligence) of the Tender Guidelines. AEMO and the Australian Government reserves its rights not to respond to any question or request. The responses provided are for information purposes only and neither AEMO nor the Australian Government make any warranties or representations with respect to the completeness, accuracy, adequacy or currency of the responses. The responses do not take into account individual circumstances and Registered Proponents should ensure they perform their own due diligence.

Version Release

Version	Release date	Changes
1	17/06/2026	Release 1 including 2 responses.
2	25/06/2026	Release 2 including 2 responses.
3	03/07/2026	Release 3 including 2 responses.
4	06/07/2026	Release 4 including 2 responses.

Bid Q&A

Q&A Release 1		Distributed 17/06/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
1	MC5	<p>Can you please confirm the definition of 'steel' to be applied when calculating the Local Steel percentage under the CIS Tender 9 documentation.</p> <p>Please also clarify whether wind turbine tower sections are included within this definition.</p>	<p>Please refer to the 'MC5 Instructions' tab and the 'CISA Schedule 2A Output' tab of the MC4&5 Returnable Schedule for the definitions of Steel and Locally Milled Steel.</p> <p>Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Steel' is defined as 'all steel intensive components, such as anchor cages, wind turbine tower sections, racking and mounting for solar, transmission towers, piling, and civil and structural works for substations, but excludes steel components integral to a component not available locally at the time of bidding, such as steel inside a solar module, and miscellaneous small hardware items such as nails and bolts'; and 'Local Milled Steel' is defined as 'Steel that has been milled within the geographic boundaries of Australia and New Zealand'. <p>Accordingly, wind tower turbine sections are explicitly included within the definition of 'Steel' and should be included when calculating the total steel cost base and local steel percentage as set out in the MC4&5 Returnable Schedule.</p>

Q&A Release 1		Distributed 17/06/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
2	Project Documents	<p>Regarding clause 32 of the Warranties Form, not all Options (1, 2 and 3) are available for selection.</p> <p>Please confirm whether this is an intended feature of the Warranties Form.</p>	<p>The Warranties Form has been designed such that the Options available for selection for clause 32 are based on the Options selected in clauses 30 and 31.</p> <p>The Warranties Form has been updated to ensure the appropriate options are displayed depending on which option is selected for clauses 30 and 31.</p>

Q&A Release 2		Distributed 25/06/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
3	MC1	Could ASL please explain how the methodology to calculate Forecast Net CISA Cost may include consideration of any Power Purchase Agreement that the Project has signed.	<p>The existence of a PPA is not directly assessed under MC1; however, Proponents may take their specific PPA arrangements into account when determining their Bid Variables</p> <p>MC1 evaluates financial value, system reliability and system benefits using a range of benefit and cost metrics. Please refer to the MC1 Market Briefing note for more information on the assessment of MC1.</p> <p>As outlined in section 1.1 of the Tender Guidelines, Proponents should aim to structure their Bid in a way that it is both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) competitive, to enhance their prospects of success in this Tender Process; and b) sufficient to enable their Project to reach Financial Close, considering the Project's financing structure, realistic expectations of debt and/or equity requirements, and the technology type proposed. <p>Each Proponent is responsible for determining its Bid Variables considering the above.</p>

Q&A Release 2		Distributed 25/06/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
4	MC4 / First Nations Set Aside	If a Proponent is not yet able to provide binding commitments for First Nations revenue sharing or equity participation, can non-binding information (such as a letter of intent) be submitted as part of the Bid?	<p>Proponents should include any relevant supporting information as part of their Bid to demonstrate their approach to MC4 – First Nations participation and benefits sharing, including in respect of proposed First Nations equity sharing or revenue sharing arrangements.</p> <p>First Nations equity sharing and / or revenue sharing arrangements may be proposed as part of MC4 (under First Nations Community Shared Benefits) and may also be relevant for the First Nations Set Aside should Proponents elect to participate.</p> <p>For more information, please refer to sections 3.1 – Merit Criterion 4 – First Nations participation and benefits sharing and 4.3 – First Nations Set Aside in the Tender Guidelines.</p>

Q&A Release 3		Distributed 03/07/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
5	Eligibility Criteria 2 (“EC2”)	Does the Bid Entity specified in the Bid need to be owned by the Proponent?	<p>The Bid Entity does not need to be owned by the Proponent, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Bid Entity is incorporated or existing prior to the Bid Closing Date and Time; and b) the Bid Entity is proposed in the Proponent’s Bid. <p>The requirement to comply with the ‘Bid Entity Criteria’ under EC 2 only applies if the Proponent proposes the Bid Entity <i>after</i> submission of a Bid (but prior to execution of Project Documents). In those circumstances, the Bid Entity Criteria specifies certain ownership requirements that must be satisfied at the time the Bid Entity is proposed and at the time of execution of the Project Documents.</p> <p>Where a Proponent does not own the Bid Entity proposed in their Bid, the Proponent should also note the Bid Form questions relating to ownership of the Project and the requirement for the Bid to be a binding bid under Section 6.27 of the Tender Guidelines. Bids which are subject to conditions which prevent the Bid constituting an offer open for acceptance may not be considered to have complied with Section 6.27.</p>

Q&A Release 3		Distributed 03/07/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
6	Other: Project Details	Can a Proponent submit a Bid for a project as a Hybrid project where the project was not nominated as a Hybrid project at the time of registration?	<p>As outlined in the CIS Tender 9 Registration Form, registration is intended to provide indicative Project and entity details, identify authorised contacts, and indicate the product(s) intended for inclusion in the Bid. As per section 5.1 of the Tender Guidelines, registration must be completed before a Bid may be submitted.</p> <p>A Proponent may subsequently submit a Bid for a Project as a Hybrid Project where the Project was not identified as a Hybrid Project at the time of registration. As outlined in section 5.2.1 of the Tender Guidelines, the Bid Form, relevant Returnable Schedules and supporting documentation submitted at Bid stage form the basis on which satisfaction of the Eligibility Criteria and Merit Criteria is assessed.</p>

Q&A Release 4		Distributed 06/07/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
7	Eligibility Criteria (“EC9”)	Where a project configuration has changed since a network service provider response to a connection enquiry was obtained, can the original connection enquiry response be provided for the purposes of demonstrating compliance with EC9?	<p>Eligibility Criterion 9 (‘EC9’) requires that, as at the Bid Closing Date and Time, a Project must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> have received a network service provider response to a connection enquiry; have executed a connection agreement; or have received a network service provider response to a request to amend an existing connection agreement. <p>Proponents should submit all available documentation relevant to EC9 that demonstrates the network connection pathway for the Project that is the subject of the Bid. Where a Project configuration has changed since a connection enquiry response was obtained, Proponents should provide all available supporting evidence, including communication with the relevant network service provider, demonstrating that the connection pathway remains relevant to, and continues to support, the network connection pathway for the Project that is the subject of the Bid.</p> <p>AEMO may verify compliance with the Eligibility Criteria at any time during the Tender Process and may request further information from a Proponent for the purpose of assessing compliance with the Eligibility Criteria.</p> <p>AEMO may verify compliance with the Eligibility Criteria at any time during the Tender Process and may request further</p>

Capacity Investment Scheme (CIS) Tender 9

Bid Q&A Responses

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			<p>information from a Proponent for the purpose of assessing compliance with the Eligibility Criteria.</p> <p>Proponents are referred to EC9 in section 2 of the Tender Guidelines and section 5.3.1 of the Tender Guidelines for further information regarding Eligibility Criteria compliance and verification.</p>

Q&A Release 4		Distributed 06/07/2026	
#	Category	Question	Answer
8	Other: Rebid Projects	How does the Tender Process treat Projects or Proponents that have previously been awarded a CISA but did not execute Project Documents? Further, would this be considered a 'Significant Event' under the Tender Guidelines / CISA?	<p>If a Project has been awarded a CISA under any previous CIS tender process, that Project will be ineligible to participate in CIS Tender 9 (under Eligibility Criteria 11) unless at the Bid Closing Date and Time, the Successful Proponent from the previous tender process has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> formally notified the Australian Government in writing that it has withdrawn from that tender process; or received formal notification from the Australian Government that the Australian Government has ceased negotiations in relation to that CISA for that previous CIS tender process. <p>Additionally, AEMO may, at its discretion, have regard to a range of factors when developing Recommended Bids as outlined in Section 5.4 of the Tender Guidelines. This includes consideration of a Proponent's or its Related Bodies Corporate's record of executing, or not executing, its binding commitments and entry into the Project Documents with the Australian Government following announcement as a Successful Proponent in a prior CIS tender.</p> <p>Proponents should seek their own independent legal advice in relation to whether a certain event will be considered a "Significant Event" under the provisions in the CIS Tender 9 Tender Guidelines and Proforma CISA.</p>

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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