



Technology
Driving
Transition

OGTC

Early TRL technologies Hydrogen Innovation

OGTC's Net Zero R&D Programme Call for Ideas guidelines



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Timeline

The Call for Ideas will be live from 2 April until **2pm on Friday 14th May 2021**. During this period, ideas can be submitted through the OGTC website. The call is open for 6 weeks so please ensure your idea is submitted prior to the deadline as we cannot accept submissions on this call once the window has closed.

Overview

The Net Zero Research & Development (R&D) Programme's mission is to nurture innovation and help companies accelerate their net zero technology development through funded collaboration with Scottish Universities.

Developer companies, as well as academics with established industry partners, are invited to submit innovative ideas and concepts containing R&D which could be delivered with a Scottish University as an essential element. Your idea for this call must target **Hydrogen Innovation**.

We are seeking early TRL (current TRL1-4) innovative technologies within the sub-themes of *H₂ Energy Production, Transportation, Storage & Utilisation*:

- **Optimising the Production of Blue Hydrogen**; innovation in low-carbon hydrogen production with carbon capture and storage. The main innovation gap here involves the separation of H₂ or CO₂ to improve yield and carbon capture.
- **Bulk Hydrogen Transportation** – enable effective transportation of renewable energy to utilisation and storage locations. Technology challenges include effective hydrogen carriers (incl. Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carriers - LOHC) and pipeline repurposing.
- **Long-term Hydrogen Storage** – enable intermittent renewable electricity to become a round-the-clock resource on the way to an eventual carbon free grid. This may include identification of potential storage sites across the UK and underground storage.
- **Hydrogen / Hydrogen Carrier Utilisation** – Applications include power generation for offshore platforms and/or as a transportation fuel for the marine sector.

OGTC Funding

Successful applicant can secure 50% of the total project cost/up to £100k of funding, to support the academic R&D required to accelerate your technology development.

Funding of your idea by OGTC is subject to the applicable rules on state aid. OGTC is obliged to comply with those rules, which set out requirements, and include but are not limited to the following: details of which eligible costs can be funded; the maximum amount of investment permitted towards developing your idea; and the maximum percentage of the overall project costs which can be supported with OGTC investment.

This may mean that you will have to support the development of your idea partly with your own resources or with other funds from non-state aid sources including private investment or industry contribution.

Eligibility

All submissions must be based on the innovative use of technology. Technology is broadly defined and may be interpreted as any scientific or industrial process, invention, method, or the like.

Ideas should be submitted by developer companies (this covers companies of various sizes, including individuals with a registered company) or with academic institutions with a developed relationship with an industry partner. We welcome collaborative submissions but cannot fund individuals without a registered company.

University partners must be Scottish. Companies however need not be, but the relevance of the proposed innovation to Scottish and UK government net zero targets should be clearly made within the submission.

We aim to support and encourage the development of innovative technologies focussing on decarbonising offshore operations and help the UK to become the first net zero basin, Globally. The programme is focused on early Technology Readiness Level development in the industrial research & development range and seeks to match you with the academic expertise and the resource base needed to deliver your technology and innovation requirements.

Only ideas submitted through our website portal, adhering to the instructions, will be considered for this call. We cannot accept submissions for this call in any other way or format.

Submitting your Idea

Whilst completing the submission form, please take the time to prepare all your information and ensure you provide complete and succinct answers to the specific questions. Guidance is provided by clicking the blue information buttons. You may use the *Save as Draft* facility and return to the draft submission at any point and as often as you like.

Once you feel the information provided is complete, submit your idea by using the *Submit* button. Please note, once submitted the idea capture is finalised and cannot subsequently be edited so please do make sure everything is complete before doing so.

There is upload provision for supporting diagrams, graphics, or schedules. These are limited and guidance is provided in the appropriate section of the submission form. Please do not use the upload facility to include additional written documentation as these will not be considered as part of the review and assessment – written answers must be provided where prompted and within the word limits outlined.

Review and Assessment

Questions have been carefully designed to enable us to assess your idea using the answers you provide. After your idea is submitted it will enter the review process and once a decision is made, we will inform you if your submission has been successful or not.

What happens during subsequent stages will vary for each submission and progression beyond the initial stage does not guarantee progression to an OGTC funded project. However, if successful on initial assessment, we will then work with you to swiftly connect with expertise within the network of 14 Scottish Universities. You may already have this connection or indeed in the case of a university led project part of this process will not be necessary. However, the overall goal will be to develop a fully costed and planned project proposal to go forward to be considered for final approval and project delivery.

Confidentiality

All submissions are treated confidentially within and between OGTC and the reviewing panel, which may include individuals not employed by OGTC.

Should your submission be selected to progress we will inform you and advise on the next steps to match you with expertise within Scottish Universities. The OGTC has general confidentiality agreements in place with these institutes which will cover initial information sharing. At the point of selection of a preferred university partner, a specific Confidentiality Agreement will be put in place between all relevant parties.

As a reminder, in your initial submission for this call, you should describe the innovation concept where possible without disclosing any information you feel may impact intellectual property, is confidential, or commercially sensitive.

Questions & Queries

After reviewing the guidance information within the submission form, if you still have questions or queries pertinent to submission of an idea, you may ask those questions at any time up until the submission deadline. All questions and answers will be published through the portal so that everyone has access to the shared information.

Before asking a question, please do check and read through the previous questions, listed under Supporting Materials, to see if it has already been answered. We will only answer each question once.

To ask a question please direct your email to: NZRD@ogtc.com with subject line: **NZ R&D Call Question**