



ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY

Appendix 4

Description of qualitative criteria for Utsira Nord

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1. General information

This document describes the award process and qualitative criteria for the awarding of project areas in Utsira Nord. The document also describes the documentation requirements and how the criteria will be assessed. The document is Appendix 4 to Announcement of competition for project areas in Utsira Nord for offshore renewable energy production.

2. The award process

2.1 Introduction

Pursuant to Section 2-3 of the Offshore Energy Act, one or more sub-areas within an area opened pursuant to Section 2-2 are to be announced and awarded through a competition. In connection with the announcement, the Ministry shall decide whether the award is to take place through an auction, through an evaluation of the applicants based on objective and non-discriminatory considerations, or a combination of the two approaches. The Ministry has decided that the project areas on Utsira Nord will be awarded through a qualitative competition, without prequalification. Section 2-3 of the Offshore Energy Act stipulates that applicants must document an adequate level of technical expertise and financial strength, and fulfil relevant health, safety and environmental requirements. In the announcement, the Ministry may also impose other objective and non-discriminatory conditions.

The Ministry is responsible for evaluating applications for the awarding of project areas. The Ministry will commission Enova, in consultation with the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE) and any other necessary assistance, to evaluate the applications under the criteria ‘Cost level 2030’ and ‘Innovation and technological development’. If necessary, the Ministry will obtain assistance from other government agencies or external experts when evaluating the applications.

2.2 Assessment of the applicants' qualifications (fulfilled/not fulfilled)

After the application deadline, the Ministry will assess whether the applicants possess a satisfactory level of technical expertise and financial strength, and comply with relevant health, safety and environmental requirements.

2.3 Ranking of applicants according to qualitative criteria

Applicants who meet the requirements (cf. section 2.2) will be ranked according to the qualitative criteria (Cost level 2030, Innovation and technological development, Execution capability, Sustainability and Positive local benefits).

Under each criterion, a score from 1-10 will be given, based on a discretionary evaluation of the sub-criteria (with the exception of the sub-criteria 3C Project owner's integrity and 3F Health, safety and environment, which will be assessed as fulfilled/not fulfilled).



The best application under each criterion will receive 10 points, while a score will be given that reflects relevant differences relative to the best application for the other applications. The score for each criterion will be multiplied by the following weighting:

Table 1 Criteria and weighting

Criterion	Weight
Cost level 2030	30 percent
Innovation and technological development	20 percent
Execution capability	30 percent
Sustainability	10 percent
Positive local benefits	10 percent

2.4 Awarding of project area

The three applicants who receive the highest overall score in the qualitative competition will each be awarded their own project area. The applicant with the highest score will be awarded their preferred project area, the applicant with the second highest score will be awarded their preferred project area among the remaining two project areas, and the applicant with the third highest score will be awarded the last project area.

3. Qualitative criteria

This chapter describes the qualitative criteria and the documentation that must be submitted. Due to the water depth in Utsira Nord, the Ministry considers floating offshore wind to be most relevant and has formulated the criteria accordingly.

3.1 Cost level 2030

This criterion is intended to ensure that the project areas are awarded to the most cost-effective projects. This will contribute to make floating offshore wind both commercial and competitive as quickly as possible, while at the same time reducing the State's costs by limiting the state aid required to realise the Utsira Nord project.

Under this criterion, the applications will be evaluated based on a cost estimate and energy production for a 500 MW floating offshore wind project established at Utsira Nord in full operation in 2030.



Table 2 Qualitative criteria: Cost level 2030

Ref.	Criterion	Explanation	Documentation
1A	Cost level 2030	<p>The applicant must have a realistic and lowest possible cost estimate for a 500 MW floating offshore wind project in Utsira Nord that will be fully operational in 2030.</p> <p>The realism of the estimates will be assessed. Unrealistic estimates will be weighted negatively.</p> <p>The applicants will also be assessed on whether they have an active approach to cost uncertainty, and a strategy for remedying key uncertainties which could result in higher costs.</p> <p>The cost estimate and estimated energy production will be assessed using a standardised theoretical levelised cost of energy (LCOE) calculation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed cost estimate template (cf. Appendix 5) including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cost estimates for CAPEX and OPEX for the production facility (incl. internal cabling within the project area, excluding export cable and potential transformer). The cost estimate shall be stated as the expected cost (P10, P50 and P90).○ Estimated energy production, gross and net. Energy production shall be stated as expected production (P50 and P90).• Documentation of qualification of technology implemented for the adopted concept, as well as a description of how the qualification activity underpins the cost estimates (e.g. concept maturity through inhouse studies or third party evaluations).• Documentation of uncertainty analysis with a description of how it has been implemented, identification and account of the most uncertain cost estimates, as well as choice of method and planned measures to remedy the uncertainties. <p>See the template for user guidance and assumptions behind the cost estimates. The cost estimate must be based on the applicant's project concept (cf. criterion 3G) located in project area 2. Any other assumptions and prerequisites applied by the applicant must be clearly stated.</p>



			<p>Documentation must be submitted in the case of estimates based on letters of intent, tenders or price estimates from partners.</p> <p>Maximum of ten pages for the main documentation. Completed template for cost estimates and appendices are in addition. The key points in relevant appendices must be described in the main documentation. When referring to appendices, it must be clearly stated where in the appendix the documentation occurs (specific page numbers).</p>
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3.2 Innovation and technological development

As floating offshore wind is developed further and realised, cost reductions for floating offshore wind are anticipated. This criterion is intended to promote measures, innovations and technology development that can result in future cost reductions for floating offshore wind. This will help to make floating offshore wind both commercial and competitive as soon as possible.

Under this criterion, the applications will be evaluated based on a cost estimate and energy production for a 500 MW floating offshore wind project established at Utsira Nord in full operation in 2035, assuming that the applicant has been able to establish an operational 500 MW production installation in Utsira Nord from 2030.

Table 3 Qualitative criteria: Innovation and technological development

Ref.	Criterion	Explanation	Documentation
2A	Potential for cost reductions	<p>The applicant must demonstrate a clear understanding and measures for technological development, innovation and other cost-reducing processes that will result in the most cost-effective and competitive fully operational offshore wind project by 2035.</p> <p>Through a plan for realising cost reductions, the applicant must substantiate how the technological innovation will</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reasoned and quantified estimate of the potential for cost reductions from 2030 to 2035. The estimate must be based on the applicant having established an operational 500 MW production installation on Utsira Nord from 2030, and quantify the potential for further cost reductions for a similar production installation coming on stream in the same area in 2035. Insofar as is possible, the potential must be estimated for the same items as specified in the cost



	<p>lead to lower costs when applied on a large scale.</p> <p>The applicant must utilise the key technology choices that form the basis for the applicant's project concept. The applicant will be evaluated on the technology's potential for cost reductions and the applicant's plan for and experience with realising cost reductions. Innovation and technology with the potential for significant cost reductions will be afforded a positive weighting.</p> <p>The realism of the plan will be assessed.</p> <p>The applicants will also be assessed on whether they have an active approach to cost uncertainty, and a strategy for remedying key uncertainties which could result in higher costs.</p>	<p>estimate template (cf. criterion 1A), and include both CAPEX, OPEX and possible improvements within energy production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan for realising cost reductions which outlines planned activities aimed at achieving cost reductions. The plan must include a risk assessment where the applicant describes key factors that could impact the potential for cost reductions and the planned strategy for remedying these.• Documented experience of cost reductions from previous projects through innovation, scaling and project execution of relevance to future floating offshore wind projects.• Documentation of ongoing and planned research and development, user-tested or piloted technology, etc. that underpins the cost-reducing effect.• Description of the applicant's strategic collaborations, development process and letters of intent with suppliers and other actors, and how the collaboration will contribute to the attainment of cost reductions. <p>Any assumptions and prerequisites applied by the applicant must be clearly stated.</p> <p>In the case of strategic collaborations, documentation of letters of intent and/or contracts must be provided.</p> <p>Maximum of 13 pages for the main documentation. Appendices are in addition. The key points in relevant appendices must be described in the main documentation. When referring to appendices, it must be clearly stated where</p>
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			in the appendix the documentation occurs (specific page numbers).
2B	Dissemination potential	<p>The applicant will be evaluated in respect of opportunities and measures for the further dissemination and scaling of the key technologies that form the basis for the applicant's project concept; cf. criterion 3G.</p> <p>The applicant must substantiate the potential for dissemination of the technology, including the extent to which and how the technology will be made available to other projects or actors.</p> <p>Technology with the potential for dissemination and scaling will be given a positive weighting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Documentation describing and substantiating the potential for dissemination and scaling of the technology, as well as a description of the specific advantages of the concept that will enable dissemination.• Documentation describing measures and plans for making the technology available to other projects or actors. <p>The applicant must quantify and schedule as far as possible. Any assumptions and prerequisites applied by the applicant must be clearly stated.</p> <p>Maximum of four pages.</p>

3.3 Execution capability

The Offshore Energy Act stipulates that applicants must possess satisfactory technical competence and financial strength and fulfil relevant health, safety and environment (HSE) requirements in order to participate in the competition for the announced area; cf. Section 2-3, third paragraph. The criteria relating to financial strength, technical competence of key personnel, relevant experience and health, safety and the environment under the criterion 'Execution capability' is intended to ensure that actors who are awarded a project area meet the aforementioned statutory requirements.

The government wishes to ensure that the first offshore wind projects are operational by 2030. In order to achieve this goal, it is important that applicants who are awarded a project area have a defined, realistic and sound project concept, as well as solid project and funding plans. The Ministry therefore also stipulates requirements regarding the project concept, project plan and funding plan under the criterion 'Execution capability'.



Table 4 Qualitative criteria: Execution capability

Ref.	Criterion	Explanation	Documentation
3A	Financial strength	<p>Applicants must have sufficient financial strength to carry out feasibility studies and project planning, and construct and operate the offshore wind park and associated grid installations.</p> <p>As a minimum requirement, applicants must have the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an average annual turnover of at least NOK 30 billion over the last three years. 2. Solvency ratio (equity/total assets) of at least 20 percent in the last annual report for the last three years, or a credit rating of at least BBB- (S&P) / BBB- (Fitch) / Baa3 (Moody's). <p>Greater financial strength will be considered positively.</p> <p>The turnover requirement will be assessed collectively for the consortium. The solvency requirement will be assessed for all companies in the consortium.</p> <p>However, in connection with the assessment of whether or not the minimum turnover requirement is met, an assessment will be made of each applicant company's contribution to the consortia. In the assessment, particular consideration will be given to whether or not each applicant company satisfies the minimum turnover requirement calculated on a pro-rata basis according to the individual applicant company's share in the consortium.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual reports for the last three years • Auditor's reports for the last three years (if not included in the annual report). • Credit ratings for the last three years. The most recent credit rating must not be more than twelve months old as of the application deadline. • Statement with specified financial key figures. <p>If the applicant is unable to submit annual reports, auditor's reports or credit ratings for the last three years, the applicant must submit other documentation that provide confirmation of financial and financial capacity at the same level as the requested documentation.</p> <p>If the applicant consists of several applicant companies (consortium), the requested documentation must be enclosed for all companies.</p> <p>If the applicant makes use of the financial support of the parent company or other companies, a signed confirmation letter from the company providing the support must be submitted; cf. Appendix 6.</p> <p>Maximum of two pages with a description of key figures (annual reports, auditor's reports and credit ratings are in addition)</p>



		<p>If the applicant is dependent on financial support from the parent company or other companies, the solvency will be calculated collectively for the companies concerned.</p> <p>For consortia, the regulation of financial responsibility in the collaboration agreement will be taken into account in the assessment of the consortium's overall financial strength.</p>	
3B	Funding plan for the project	<p>The applicant must have a robust and realistic funding plan for the project.</p> <p>The funding plan must be based on equity in the project company corresponding to at least 20 percent of the project's estimated investment cost.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding plan for the project, which at least:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) specifies the project budget until the investment decision is made, andb) specifies funding of the costs for the entire project from investment decision until commissioning.• Description of the applicant's experience of planning and implementing funding of up to three relevant projects• If the applicant is a consortium, the distribution of equity must be specified in the agreement. If the equity is obtained from another company within the group (parent company, etc.), a signed confirmation letter from the company providing the support must be submitted; cf. Appendix 6. <p>Maximum of ten pages (appendices may be in addition)</p>
3C	Project manager's integrity	<p>The applicant must possess the necessary integrity as a project manager.</p> <p>The applicant must his tax and VAT affairs in order. Applicants with arrears linked to their certificates for tax and value added tax may be rejected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tax and VAT certificates, no more than six months old as of the application deadline, confirming that the applicant has fulfilled its obligations with regard to the payment of taxes, National Insurance contributions and VAT. For more information, see skatteetaten.no. Foreign applicants



		<p>The applicant, associated companies, owners or representatives must not be subject to sanctions or restrictive measures.</p> <p>If the applicant, associated companies, owners or representatives have previously been convicted of an offence, adequate measures shall be taken to prevent any recurrence and ensure the necessary integrity.</p> <p>If the applicant is part of a consortium, all companies must possess the necessary integrity.</p> <p>The criterion will be deemed to be fulfilled/not fulfilled, and will not be assessed in connection with the ranking of applications.</p>	<p>must submit certificates from the corresponding authorities to the Norwegian authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the applicant is involved in an appeal case or dispute with the tax authorities concerning the levying or notification of tax penalties (or a corresponding sanction imposed by foreign tax authorities for missing or inaccurate information), an account must be provided of the case as part of the application. <p>The applicant shall certify that neither the applicant, the applicant's direct or indirect holding company(s), the applicant's ultimate underlying owner(s), directors, managing director nor any other person in an administrative, management or control body of the aforementioned companies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are subject to sanctions or restrictive measures by Norwegian authorities or in accordance with obligations under international law by which Norway is bound• Has been legally convicted or issued with a fine for the following criminal offences within the last 3 years:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Participation in a criminal organisationb) Corruptionc) Fraudd) Terrorist acts or criminal offences related to terrorist activitye) Money laundering or terrorist financingf) Child labour and other forms of human trafficking <p>If persons or companies referred to above have been convicted of one or more of the above criminal offences within the last three years, the applicant must declare this. In</p>
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			<p>such cases, the applicant must also submit documentation showing whether the applicant has implemented the following measures in order to maintain the necessary integrity as Project manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation paid by the company(s) or person(s) concerned for any losses arising from the circumstance, or pledged such payment. • Active cooperation with competent authorities to clarify the facts and circumstances of the matter, and • Implemented appropriate technical, organisational and personnel measures to prevent recurrence.
3D	Competence of key personnel	<p>The applicant must have key personnel with relevant and appropriate expertise and experience in order to carry out the project.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the competence and experience of key personnel.</p> <p>If the applicant is dependent on key personnel from the parent company or other companies, the competence and experience will be assessed collectively for the companies concerned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 20 CVs of key personnel of the applicant and, if relevant, binding partners who will be used in the project, including a description of the role within which the competence will be used. <p>If the applicant makes use of the technical competence from the parent company or other companies, a signed confirmation letter from the company providing the support must be submitted; cf. Appendix 6.</p> <p>Maximum of one page per CV, including the role within which the competence will be used.</p>
3E	Relevant experience	<p>The applicant must have the experience and competence necessary to carry out the project in a adequate manner.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant must at least have experience of developing one reference project for an offshore wind park (either fixed or floating) with a capacity of 200 MW or more. The reference project must be fully commissioned. 	<p>Documentation comprising up to five reference projects with a description which includes the following (as far is relevant for the individual reference project):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Name and location of the project b) Description of the main elements of the project, including a grid solution for an onshore connection point. c) The applicant's role in the project (i.e. developer, owner, main contractor, subcontractor, etc.).



	<p>The reference project(s) must document experience of at least the following project deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project planning (e.g. development, project management, design and engineering), - Licensing process (e.g. impact assessment, licence application, contact with the authorities and detailed planning), - Procurement. - Construction and installation (e.g. foundations, installation and commissioning), - Operation and maintenance (e.g. optimisation of operations, power trading and power supply security and emergency preparedness). <p>At least one reference project must include experience of all project deliverables, except operations and maintenance.</p> <p>Only project deliverables completed by the application deadline will be considered. This means that if, for example, the project is under construction, only the parts of the project that have been completed by the application deadline will be considered. The applicant is asked to specify this in the description of the reference project.</p> <p>If the applicant has not developed grid installations belonging to an offshore wind park, the applicant must, through a reference project, demonstrate experience of project planning, the licensing process, procurement,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Contact person for the client, licensing authority, etc. (preferably including telephone number and e-mail address). e) Date of contract signing with the authorities/licence and any date for commercial commissioning. f) Location of the offshore wind park, including park layout. g) The project's installed capacity (MW). h) The applicant's contribution to the project within the relevant project deliverables. i) The current phase of the project (under construction, operational, etc.) and how long the applicant has been associated with the project. j) Summary HSE statistics for the project: H2 value¹ (total occupational injury frequency) and information on type of injury. k) Description of relevance of the Utsira Nord project <p>If the applicant intends to utilise the technical and professional competence of another entity (parent company, etc.), a signed confirmation letter from the company providing support must be submitted; cf. Appendix 6.</p> <p>Maximum of three pages per reference project (illustrations may be in addition). If the applicant attaches more reference projects than this, five reference projects will be selected through the drawing of lots.</p>
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¹ H2 value or "Total Recordable Injuries" is defined as the total number of occupational injuries. The H2 value is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of injuries with and without absence} \times 1,000,000}{\text{Number of working hours}}$$
For more information, see [Energi Norge's industry guide to reporting HSE statistics](#).



		<p>construction, erection, operation and maintenance concerning another grid installation of at least 66 kV.</p> <p>2. Reference projects involving floating offshore wind, but also other reference projects of particular relevance to Utsira Nord (such as other power production, offshore installations, offshore operations, marine operations, fabrication of elements for offshore use, grid installations and substations (AC technology)) will be given a positive weighting.</p> <p>If the applicant is dependent on experience and competence from the parent company or other companies, this will be assessed collectively for the companies concerned.</p>	
3F	Health, safety and environment	<p>The applicant must have satisfactory systems in place for quality assurance, HSE and internal control, and fulfil applicable HSE rules in force at any given time.</p> <p>The criterion will only be deemed to be fulfilled/not fulfilled, and will not be assessed in connection with the ranking of applications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSE declaration signed by person(s) authorised to bind the applicant. • Documentation of planned systems for quality assurance and HSE. • Documentation of planned systems for internal control. <p>Maximum of two pages in total (HSE declaration may be additional).</p>
3G	Project concept	<p>The applicant must have a defined, realistic and sound project concept.</p> <p>The project concept must be consistent with the applicant's responses to the other criteria.</p> <p>Project concepts that are mature will be weighted positively.</p>	<p>Description of the project concept which at least outlines planned:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) installed capacity and estimate for net annual energy production P50 b) Project location, area requirements (onshore and offshore) and offshore wind park layout c) Location of installation port and operation and maintenance base



		<p>The Ministry has not finally clarified the framework for the choice of grid solution from the offshore wind park to the onshore connection point; cf. Appendix 3, Chapter 7. The applicant is therefore asked to describe the preferred grid solution for the onshore connection point.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Type of turbine (MW, tower height, tip height, etc.) e) Type of floats (technology, material, etc.) f) Type of anchoring solution g) Type of cable within the production installation (internal cabling), h) Technical lifetime of the installations (production installations and grid installations) i) Preliminary calculations of wake effects (taking into account own production installations only) j) Preferred grid solution for the onshore connection point. <p>The applicant is asked to provide as precise a description of the project as possible, including an outline of various factors (risk, technology development, etc.) which could impact on the design of the production installation (turbine size, turbine layout etc.). If no concept has yet been chosen, relevant solutions must be described. Uncertainty regarding the choice of concept must be stated clearly.</p> <p>Maximum of 15 pages in total. (Illustrations may be in addition).</p>
<p>3H</p>	<p>Project plan</p>	<p>The applicant must have a good understanding of what will be required for the project to be implemented within the project's framework as regards time, cost, resource requirements and quality.</p> <p>The applicant must have a project plan and a risk assessment of the project.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on whether the project plan is making realistic progress, with clear milestones for carrying out activities in connection with the licence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project plan, which at least outlines progress, key milestones and organisation of the project as far as this is planned. The project plan must include at least the following milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Entry into agreements with suppliers concerning manufacturing and installation b) Execution of project-specific impact assessment c) Application for licence and approval of detailed plan d) Final Investment Decision (FID)



		<p>application, preliminary engineering, construction and commissioning etc.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed for the overall risk management of the project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">e) Start of manufacturing of floats and manufacturing of last floatf) Start-up of manufacturing of turbines and manufacturing of last turbineg) Installation of first and last floatsh) Installation of the first and last turbines (if separate operation at a time other than the floats, cf. letter g))i) Desired date for connection to the transmission gridj) Start date for electricity production for first and last turbinesk) Testing of the facilityl) Date of full operation (commercial operation date)m) Decommissioning and removal of the energy facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk assessment, where the applicant describes key factors which could delay the project and the planned strategy for remedying these.• Description of relevant suppliers of key elements, including any formalised agreements and other dialogue with these.• Description of the applicant's experience of planning and implementation of relevant projects. <p>The applicant is asked to assume that the following case handling times will be required by the authorities in the schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• four months for MPE to determine an investigation programme (including consultation).• A total of twelve months for consideration of the licence application and detailed plan (including consultation).
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			<p>Applicants are also asked to state the expected number of months from granting of the licence until the completion of installation of the energy facility and power from turbines are delivered to the onshore connection point. If it is of significance whether the detailed plan is approved at the same time as the licence or not until later, it is requested that the time implications of these two alternatives be specified separately.</p> <p>Maximum of 15 pages (any agreements may be in addition).</p>
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3.4 Sustainability

The government wishes to ensure that the development of offshore wind takes place in a sustainable manner which takes into account the climate and the environment. The sustainability criteria are intended to contribute to the sustainable development of offshore wind which safeguards coexistence and minimises the impact on the climate and environment. In its licensing decision, the Ministry may impose conditions on mitigation measures or similar that are intended to serve the same purpose. The licence decision will stipulate that the licence holder for the offshore wind park must carry out an analysis of the project's sustainability and submit a final report no later than two years after the installation has been put into operation. The final report must include a GAP analysis which compares plans and results. The final report will be published.

Table 5 Qualitative criteria: Sustainability

Ref.	Criterion	Explanation	Documentation
4A	Carbon footprint	<p>The applicant must endeavour to minimise the project's carbon footprint.</p> <p>The applicant must have carried out analyses of the carbon footprint and have a climate plan with descriptions of planned and possible measures to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated carbon footprint (atmospheric CO₂e emissions) calculated according to ISO 14040 and 14044 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ System limit is defined according to the ISO standard. ○ Carbon factors must be retrieved from an Ecoinvent version 3 database, primary data must



		<p>minimise the project's carbon footprint. The estimates must be based on the project concept described in 3G.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<p>be used where the applicant has access to such data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate footprint must be specified in the form of CO₂e/kW, CO₂e/kWh, absolute emissions of tonnes CO₂e for the project, and absolute emissions of tonnes CO₂e for each phase of the project as defined in the ISO standard. ● Climate plan with descriptions of planned and possible measures to minimise the project's carbon footprint. ● Description of the applicant's experience of climate measures in previous projects. <p>Maximum of four pages (Calculations may be in addition).</p>
4B	Co-existence	<p>The project must facilitate good co-use and coexistence within the project area and with affected stakeholders.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for the work relating to co-use and coexistence with fisheries and maritime traffic in order to fulfil the minimum requirement.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plan for the work relating to co-use and coexistence, including specific planned measures to improve coexistence in the project area and with affected stakeholders. The plan must describe planned measures, including the involvement of affected stakeholders. ● Description of the applicant's experience of co-existence in previous projects. <p>Maximum of four pages.</p>
4C	Waste, recycling and reuse	<p>The project shall contribute to good waste management, with a particular emphasis on recycling.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for waste management, recycling and reuse of larger elements in the energy installation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Waste management plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of materials and chemicals ○ Waste management and planned measures to combat pollution, including microplastics ● Estimated proportion of recyclable materials specified for turbine, turbine blades, turbine towers,



		The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.	floaters and internal cables. Description of the applicant's experience of waste management, recycling and reuse in previous projects. Maximum of four pages.
4D	Nature and environment	<p>The project must ensure that consideration for nature and the environment is properly safeguarded, contribute to increased knowledge and innovation within the field of technology and methods that reduce environmental impact or have a positive impact on nature in the project area.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for the work relating to nature and the environment, knowledge and innovation.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan for the work relating to nature and the environment, including any specific planned measures which can contribute to increased knowledge and innovation within the field of technology and methods that reduce environmental impact or have a positive impact on nature in the project area.• Description of the applicant's experience of natural and environmental measures in previous projects. Maximum of four pages.

3.5 Positive local benefits

It is desirable that positive local and regional ripple effects be facilitated when planning a new development. The government's goal is for offshore wind to contribute to industrial development. The development of Utsira Nord will contribute to industrial development by building experience and competence development in the supply chain.

Offshore wind supply chains are under pressure. In order to contribute to reach of the political ambitions for offshore wind, both in Norway and in Europe, it will be necessary to build up new capacity in the supplier industry. The report entitled *Norske leveransemodeller* (Norwegian delivery models) produced by the Federation of Norwegian Industries in 2021 identifies a number of opportunities and challenges for the supply industry in Norway. The criteria for Positive local benefits will give an advantage to applicants who make a positive contribution to competence



development and development in the supply chains. It is a goal of the authorities that offshore wind projects should create the greatest possible value for society.

The licence decision will stipulate that the licence holder for the offshore wind park must carry out an analysis of the regional and local benefits of the offshore wind project, and submit a final report no later than two years after the installation has been put into operation. The final report must include a GAP analysis which compares planned benefits and results. The final report will be published.

Table 6 Qualitative criteria: Positive local benefits

Ref.	Criterion	Explanation	Documentation
5A	Competence development	<p>The project will contribute to competence development in the supply industry and provide incentives for the use of skilled workers and apprentices.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for how the planned project will contribute to competence development in the supply industry (introductory programmes, supplier meetings, collaborative projects, etc.), and provide incentives for subcontractors to use skilled workers and apprentices.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of planned and implemented competence-developing measures aimed at the supply industry in connection with the project. • Description of the parts of the project where it will be relevant to use skilled workers and apprentices and how the applicant will incentivise its subcontractors to use skilled workers and apprentices. • Description of contributions and cooperation with institutions and associations relating to relevant research and development in offshore wind. • Description of the applicant's experience of similar measures relating to competence development in previous projects. <p>Maximum of four pages.</p>
5B	Small and medium enterprises (SMEs)	<p>The project shall help small and medium enterprises to gain experience with the field of offshore wind.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for how the project will contribute to small and medium enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the planned contract strategy, including how SMEs can contribute in the relevant segments (studies, installation, operation and maintenance), including as a subcontractor or equipment supplier.



		<p>gaining experience of deliverables or services within offshore wind in the following segments: studies, fabrication, installation, operation and maintenance. In this context, SMEs are defined as companies with up to 100 employees.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief description of any agreements with SMEs for deliverables or services in the following segments studies, fabrication, installation, operation and maintenance• Description of how the applicant has contributed to the development of SMEs and local supply chains in previous projects. <p>Maximum of four pages on documentation and contract strategy plus 1/4 page per agreement, where applicable.</p>
5C	Development of the supply industry	<p>The project will help both Europe and Norway to achieve their ambitions for offshore wind power by developing the supply industry in an economically sustainable manner.</p> <p>The applicant must have a plan for the way in which the project will contribute to the development of the supply industry so that it can contribute to the green transition.</p> <p>The applicant will be assessed on the quality of the plan, including proposed measures, as well as documented experience and expertise relating to similar work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description of the planned tender and contract strategy, including for the development and operating phase, and how this can help to develop the supply industry.• Description of the applicant's experience of the development of the supply industry in previous projects. <p>Maximum of four pages.</p>