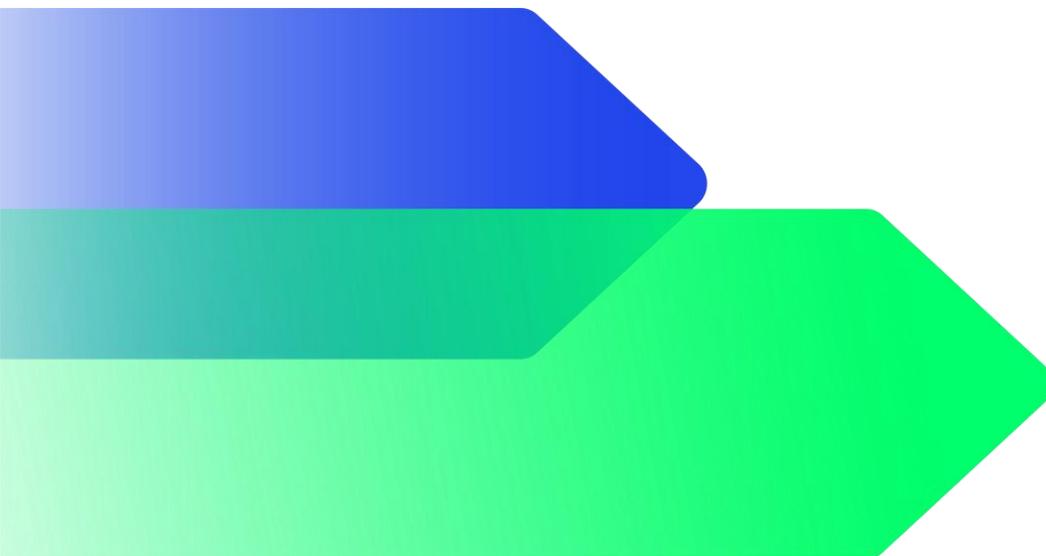


OFFSHORE WIND ACCELERATOR S4Y6

# Clarification Question Responses

TWG-E – Development of a Frequency Domain Stability Analysis Toolbox for Offshore Wind

**Clarification deadline: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



#	Type	Question	Response
1.1	Generic specific	<p>XX is a university-based research centre with an established commitment to open science and long-term maintenance of research software. Our proposed technical approach would build upon substantial pre-existing open-source Background IP, notably the toolboxes A and B, which already implement a large share of the envisaged functionality and haven been proven in both research and industrial works. Preserving the open-source nature and future usability of this software is a core requirement for XX.</p> <p>Therefore, with reference to Condition 39, could Carbon Trust clarify how software functions that substantially build upon existing open-source Background IP would be classified in practice as either Results (subject to assignment) or retained Background Knowledge and IPR, particularly where new functionality is tightly integrated with pre-existing code?</p>	<p>The Carbon Trust and the OWA welcome all proposals for work that align with the objectives outlined in the scope. If the proposed solution involves pre-existing open-source code, applicants should carefully address licensing arrangements and available options within their application.</p>
1.2	Generic	<p>Given that much of the required functionality already exists in XX's open-source toolboxes, the project work is expected to consist largely of incremental extensions, refactoring, validation, or performance improvements. From XX's perspective, treating all such improvements as exclusively owned Results would risk effectively closing off further open-source development.</p> <p>Therefore, under Condition 39.2(a), could Carbon Trust clarify whether incremental improvements or extensions to pre-existing open-source Background IP must necessarily be assigned in full as Results, or whether such work may be treated as retained</p>	<p>Using existing open-source toolboxes as a baseline for this project is acceptable. However, the work being funded is expected to be held by the OWA, this would therefore assume that the arising IP from the contract will be owned by the OWA and that the original background IP would remain with the contractor.</p> <p>If a significant proportion of the proposed outputs are already available in an open-source format, we would hope this is reflected in the bid.</p>

	<p>Background Knowledge with an appropriate licence granted to Carbon Trust?</p>	
<p><b>1.3</b> Generic</p>	<p>XX is willing to grant Carbon Trust broad rights to use its Background IP for OWA purposes. However, it is essential for XX that such licences do not restrict its ability to continue independent development, academic reuse, and open-source distribution of that Background IP and other derivatives outside the OWA programme.</p> <p>1. With reference to Condition 39.2(b), can Carbon Trust confirm that the licence it receives over XX’s Background Knowledge and IPR is non-exclusive and does not limit XX’s ability to further develop, publish, and distribute that Background IP under open-source licences for non-OWA activities?</p> <p>Under Condition 39.2(c), can Carbon Trust confirm that the licence granted to other OWA parties is limited to OWA purposes only and does not extend to broader commercial exploitation of XX’s Background IP outside OWA?</p>	<p>A coherent proposal of the broad rights/ IP / licences should be considered in the proposal put forward by a successful applicant. It is expected that the output of this project and the arising IP will be held exclusively by the OWA as the sole funders.</p> <p>In reference to Condition 39.2(c), it is expected that a licence granted to OWA parties is limited to their individual organisations via the OWA agreement. Under this agreement, the OWA can publish work and extend their work under licences to other parties if required (e.g. the addition of new members to the OWA who purchase Background IP).</p>
<p><b>1.4</b></p> <p>Generic</p>	<p>Our relevant pre-existing packages, toolbox A and B, are already released under an open-source licence and used by a wider academic and industrial community. xx must ensure that participation in the project does not introduce contractual obligations that conflict with existing or future open-source licensing.</p> <p>Can you confirm that acceptance of the licence provisions in Conditions 39.2(b) and 39.2(c) will not impose any restrictions that are incompatible with existing OSI-approved open-source licences applicable to Etch’s Background IP?</p>	<p>If a successful bidder is building upon an already available open-source licence, our intent will be to not influence the current open-source module. All materials created in order to successfully complete the project would be considered arising IP and would be retained by the OWA. However, the existing open-source model would be retained by the contractor as their background IP and the contractor must grant the Carbon Trust and OWA Parties a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to use that Background IP.</p>

		Alternative IP arrangements will be considered if these are presented within the proposal.
1.5	<p>To avoid ambiguity during delivery and to ensure legal certainty for future open-source releases, XX prefers to clearly identify and agree upon its Background IP at contract award rather than retroactively at delivery.</p> <p>Project specific</p> <p>With reference to Condition 39.2(d), would Carbon Trust accept the use of an explicit Background IP schedule agreed at contract signature, identifying pre-existing open-source and clarifying their status and permitted evolution during the project?</p> <p>Furthermore, where deliverables combine new development with Background IP, what level of technical or documentary separation does Carbon Trust expect to satisfy the identification requirement in Condition 39.2(d)?</p>	<p>Carbon Trust and the OWA plan on identifying and agreeing background IP at contract award/ agreement.</p> <p>We would welcome a background IP schedule and would encourage applicants to develop this at the point of proposal.</p> <p>Documentary separation would be dependent upon individual deliverable and should be proposed upon application.</p>
1.6	<p>Project Specific</p> <p>As a public research organisation, XX must retain the ability to reuse project outcomes in future academic research, teaching, and publicly funded projects. Complete loss of reuse rights would materially limit XX's ability to participate in such a project. Under Condition 39.2(a), is Carbon Trust open to granting a non-exclusive, perpetual licence-back to XX for the use of Results for internal research, teaching, and future publicly funded research activities?</p>	<p>The FDSA toolbox will be funded exclusively by the OWA, therefore it is envisioned that the associated developed IP will be held by the OWA. Alternative arrangements can be proposed and discussed.</p>
1.7	<p>Project Specific</p> <p>XX strongly believes that open-source release of research software maximises quality, transparency, long-term maintenance, and industry uptake. For XX, it is important that participation in the project does not permanently preclude open-source release of software developed largely from existing open-source foundations.</p> <p>Is Carbon Trust willing to agree, at contract negotiation stage, to explicit carve-outs permitting the release of certain software</p>	<p>The Carbon Trust and the OWA welcome proposals regarding the implementation of this initiative. Applicants are encouraged to outline their suggested options within their submissions.</p>

	<p>components of the Results under an open-source licence, where this does not undermine Carbon Trust's commercial or strategic interests?</p> <p>If such open-source release is acceptable in principle, which aspects (e.g. scope, timing, licence type, attribution) would Carbon Trust expect to be defined upfront in the contract?</p>	<p>We expect to determine exact parameters of IP ownership at negotiation stage, and would encourage applicants to have a strong idea of the options available at proposal.</p>
<p><b>1.8</b></p> <p>General</p>	<p>Publication of scientific and technical findings is a core obligation for XX as a university research centre and is essential for validation and dissemination of methods and tools.</p> <p>Can Carbon Trust confirm that XX retains the right to publish scientific papers, technical reports, and methodological descriptions arising from the project, subject to reasonable confidentiality review and approval, notwithstanding Carbon Trust's ownership of the Results?</p>	<p>All publications arising from the project must be approved by the OWA, which reserves the right to withhold publication if the material does not align with its objectives. Consequently, the final authority on the release of scientific papers and technical reports rests with the OWA Steering Committee, which will determine whether the project's results and methodology are suitable for publication.</p>
<p><b>2.1</b></p> <p>Project Specific</p>	<p>WP2 requests that the model definition is aligned with OEM methodologies through engagement. We have existing good relationships with OEMs but would envisage that the Carbon Trust and the OWA partners aid with engagement if required. Please confirm this assumption.</p>	<p>Although the Carbon Trust may be able to facilitate introductions to certain OEMs, it is expected that the successful applicant will also possess established relationships with relevant OEMs. The Carbon Trust affirms our commitment to supporting stakeholder engagement whenever feasible.</p>
<p><b>2.2</b></p> <p>Project Specific</p>	<p>WP2 specifies aligning standard models with OEM models. Is the expectation to replicate OEM models? This data is often proprietary.</p>	<p>While it is not required to exactly replicate OEM models, successful applicants are expected to consider how their solutions interface with OEM models and, where appropriate, make informed assumptions regarding necessary inputs and requirements.</p>

<p><b>2.3</b></p> <p>Project Specific</p>	<p>As part of model validation in WP4 the contractor is expected to utilise realistic offshore wind scenarios. Our expectation is for the Carbon Trust and OWA partners to provide these realistic offshore wind scenarios. Please confirm whether this is the case?</p>	<p>OWA partners and Carbon Trust contribute expertise to develop realistic offshore scenarios. However, it is expected that a successful applicant possesses adequate knowledge of offshore wind farms to formulate informed assumptions, which will subsequently be validated by the partners.</p>
<p><b>2.4</b></p> <p>Project Specific</p>	<p>“Compatibility with time-domain simulation tools such as DlgSILENT PowerFactory and PSCAD is essential.” Exporting to both platforms is specified as a requirement. Is the expectation for the toolbox to also accept model inputs from both platforms interchangeably?</p>	<p>Ideally, the toolbox should be compatible with models from both platforms. However, we are receptive to any solution that enables the project objectives to be met and offers a degree of interoperability with other commonly used electrical modelling tools.</p>
<p><b>2.5</b></p> <p>General</p>	<p>We are committed to providing a high quality and detailed proposal. Would the Carbon Trust be open to an extension of the tender submission deadline by a week due to the proposal being issued prior to the Christmas holiday period?</p>	<p>Unfortunately, no, tender dates are as published on website.</p>
<p><b>3.1</b></p> <p>Technical Question</p>	<p>It is mentioned that the generic models to be developed for time-domain simulations should be informed by industry-standard models and aligned with OEM input formats/ methodologies. Does this mean that the models to be developed should have the same masks and input/output format as the OEM models?</p>	<p>Ideally, newly developed models should maintain inputs and outputs that are consistent with those of OEM models or be as closely aligned as possible. This approach ensures that OWA developers can interchangeably utilize OEM models in the future if necessary.</p>
<p><b>3.2</b></p> <p>IP question</p>	<p>Can the FDSA toolbox developed in the project be used as is by XXXX for technical and commercial purposes without limitations/prior approval by Carbon Trust?</p>	<p>The toolbox is solely funded by the OWA, and as such, the associated intellectual property will be owned by the OWA. If the successful applicant has used background IP to develop the project, the contractor must grant the Carbon Trust and OWA</p>

If not, can you please specify such limitations/needs for prior approval?

Parties a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to use that Background IP for the purposes of the project.

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