



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Terms and Conditions for the Second Competition under the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme

RESS 2

October 2021

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1 Introduction, Purpose and Structure

- 1.1 The Minister has developed the new Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) for Ireland. The RESS aims to promote the generation of electricity from renewable sources. The new scheme is framed within the context of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, the annual Climate Action Plan and the European Union's Clean Energy Package (EU Clean Energy Package), in particular the Renewable Energy Directive and Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan. The RESS is consistent with the EU Clean Energy Package and the EU Guidelines on State Aid for Environmental Protection and Energy 2014-2020. The RESS also fits within the wider context of the EU's Green Deal and Fit for 55 package. The RESS will rely on competitive forces to achieve renewable energy ambitions at the lowest feasible cost to electricity customers while delivering technology diversity and significant community participation.
- 1.2 This document sets out the terms and conditions that will apply to the second competition to be conducted under the RESS and to the ongoing administration of awards made in the RESS 2 Auction.
- 1.3 The document is structured as follows:
- Section 1 provides an overview of the overarching principles of RESS
 - Section 2 provides definitions and interpretation provisions
 - Section 3 provides for the legal basis for RESS 2
 - Section 4 sets out the roles for the Auction Monitor and the Market Auditor
 - Section 5 sets out the form of RESS 2 Support
 - Section 6 sets out the parameters around the RESS 2 Auction including the target volume, Preference Categories, eligibility requirements, the requirements of Offers and the winner selection rules
 - Section 7 sets out the community-related aspects of RESS 2
 - Section 8 sets out the obligations on Successful Applicants
 - Section 9 sets out (a) the processes that will be employed by the TSO to administer the RESS 2 Auction including the application process and (b) associated qualification process
 - Section 10 sets out the reserved rights of the Minister with respect to RESS 2
 - Section 11 sets out additional general terms and conditions applicable to RESS 2
 - Annex A sets out specific technical requirements for certain Eligible Technologies
 - Annex B sets out a Financial Questionnaire that must be completed and returned

with an Offer

- Annex C sets out the form of Implementation Agreement that will be provided to Successful Applicants in the RESS 2 Auction, including: (i) the form of the Performance Security to be provided by Successful Applicants (except in respect of a Community Zero-Bond Project) and (ii) the form of Letter of Offer to be provided by the Minister to Successful Applicants, in accordance with these Terms and Conditions

1.4 Key elements of the RESS include the following:

- It has been designed to promote investment in renewable energy generation to contribute toward Ireland's ambition of up to 80% renewable electricity, and an EU-wide renewable energy target of 32%, by 2030, within a competitive auction based, cost effective framework.
- It has been designed to deliver on a broader range of policy objectives including:
 - the provision of pathways and supports for communities to participate directly in renewable energy projects
 - broadening the renewable electricity technology mix (the diversity of technologies); and
 - increasing energy security, energy sustainability and ensuring the cost effectiveness of energy policy.

1.5 Running in tandem with Corporate Power Purchase Agreements (CPPAs), the RESS (in conjunction with previous renewable support schemes and CPPAs) will provide up to 80% renewable electricity by 2030. This will be subject to determining the cost-effective level of procurement and based on the trajectory to meeting Ireland's contribution to the EU 2030 renewable energy target set out in Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan as well as the national targets set out in Ireland's Climate Action Plan.

The RESS is being implemented through a series of renewable electricity competitions and in accordance with a renewable electricity auction roadmap, providing indicative timelines and capacities. The RESS is in line with new designs operated across the European Union. It has been designed in the context of the EU's Clean Energy Package and in particular the Renewable Energy Directive's provisions on renewable energy support schemes.

- 1.6 Three entities will be primarily involved in the implementation of the RESS. These are the Minister (when applicable the Minister's designee acting through the Minister), the Regulatory Authority and the TSO.

The Minister is responsible for the design of the RESS policy (including the establishment of RESS competitions), decisions with respect to the RESS auctions and the development of terms and conditions applicable to each RESS auction. The Minister is also responsible for setting clear dates and rules for the delivery of projects as provided for in the RESS 2 Implementation Agreement in order to ensure high project realisation rates.

The Regulatory Authority is responsible for advising the Minister with respect to the potential availability of RESS supply for each RESS competition, competition parameters for each RESS auction, appointing and overseeing the Auction Monitor and Market Auditor, and for ongoing administration and calculation of RESS payments through the PSO Levy in accordance with provisions set forth in the terms and conditions of each RESS auction by the Minister.

The TSO is responsible for administering the RESS competitions in accordance with provisions set forth in the terms and conditions of each RESS competition and pursuant to Public Service Obligations imposed under Section 39 of the Act.

- 1.7 The specific responsibilities to be fulfilled by the TSO with respect to RESS are as follows:

- administer a set of operational processes for competitions established by the Minister and as provided for in the terms and conditions of the relevant RESS competition;
- administer an application, qualification and competitive bidding process for competitions established by the Minister and as provided for in the terms and conditions of the relevant RESS competition;
- conduct analysis to support the Minister as necessary for the establishment of a competition as provided for in the terms of reference of the relevant RESS competition;
- submission of results of a RESS competition to the Minister and the Regulatory Authority; and
- report to the Minister on the compliance with TSO's obligations detailed above in

these Terms and Conditions.

- 1.8 These Terms and Conditions apply to RESS 2 only. Future RESS auctions and supports will be subject to such terms and conditions as shall be issued in respect of those future RESS auctions and supports. All description of and references to future RESS auctions and supports are provided solely for information purposes only and should not be construed so as to create legally binding obligations as between or impose rights and duties on any persons.
- 1.9 RESS 2 has been designed to be consistent with Articles 107 to 109 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union together with all associated relevant European Union rules, regulations, guidance and notices applicable to state aid.
- 1.10 RESS 2 is subject to any and all clearances required from the EU Commission and any consents, clearances or licenses which might be required from any other competent regulatory or statutory body. For the avoidance of doubt, the Minister reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions as a consequence of notifications to the EU Commission pursuant to Articles 107 to 109 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- 1.11 Subject to Article 6 of the Renewable Energy Directive, the Minister reserves the right to alter or amend any provision, Section or part of these Terms and Conditions, including as a consequence of any directions, conditions or requirements of any such consents, clearances or licenses.
- 1.12 The Minister may (in his sole discretion and subject to relevant state aid approvals) adjust the level of support to be provided pursuant to these Terms and Conditions in accordance with the following objective criteria:
- to promote investor certainty and protect the financial viability of RESS 2 Projects that are the subject of an Award;
 - to facilitate changes in electricity market arrangements and market revenue calculations by the Regulatory Authority;
 - to promote the short-term and long-term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to reliability, affordability and sustainability of electricity in Ireland; and
 - to ensure proportionality and transparency in the operation of RESS 2.

2 Definitions and Interpretations

2.1 In these Terms and Conditions, except where the context otherwise requires, capitalised terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the following meanings:

“**Act**” means the Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (as amended).

“**Active Power**” has the meaning given to that term in the SEM Trading and Settlement Code.

“**Affiliate**” means, in relation to any company that is incorporated in Ireland or any other jurisdiction, any holding company of that company, any subsidiary of that company or any subsidiary of a holding company of that company, in each case within the meaning given to those terms in Sections 7 and 8 of the Companies Act 2014 in Ireland.

“**All Projects Preference Category**” means a Preference Category for all renewable projects eligible to participate in the RESS 2 Auction with the exception of (subject to Section 6.7.5) Community Zero-Bond Projects.

“**An Bord Pleanála**” means the authority established under the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 1976 (as amended from time to time), and which is responsible for, amongst other things, the determination of appeals and certain other matters under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended from time to time).

“**Applicant**” means a person applying to qualify for the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project.

“**Application for Qualification**” means an application to be submitted by an Applicant seeking to qualify for the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project.

“**Application for Review**” means an application by an Applicant requesting the TSO to review a Provisional Qualification Decision in respect of an Application for Qualification.

“Auction Information Pack” means the information pack prepared by the TSO in accordance with Section 9.4.1 of these Terms and Conditions for the purpose of informing Qualified Applicants of the timing, requirements and processes involved in the RESS 2 Auction.

“Auction Information Pack Publication Date” means the scheduled publication date for the Auction Information Pack.

“Auction Monitor” is defined in Section 4.1 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Available Volumes” is defined in Section 6.3.1 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Award” or **“Awards”** means the award of RESS 2 Support to Successful Applicants.

“Bid Bond” means the cash security to be lodged by an Applicant in respect of an Application for Qualification in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

“Bid Bond Posting Date” means the last day on which a Bid Bond may be lodged by the Applicant in the TSO RESS Account, and accepted by the TSO, such date to be published in the Qualification Information Pack.

“Bid Bond Required Amount” is defined in Section 6.4.17 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Biogas” has the meaning given to it in Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

“Biomass” has the meaning given to it in Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

“Climate Action Plan” means the climate action plan to tackle climate breakdown which was published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment on 17 June 2019 and updates of the same as provided for under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.

“Commercial Operation” shall have the meaning given to that term in the Implementation Agreement.

“Community Benefit Fund” means a fund to be set up by a Generator whereby the Generator will contribute €2 per MWh to such fund for the benefit of the community in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

“Community-Led Project” means a RESS 2 Project which complies with all of the requirements as set out in Section 7.1 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Community Preference Category” means a Preference Category for Community-Led Projects in the RESS 2 Auction.

“Community Zero-Bond Project” means a Community-Led Project that has submitted an Application for Qualification in the Community Preference Category only.

“Companies Registration Office” or **“CRO”** means the Companies Registration Office of Ireland, being the central repository of public statutory information on Irish companies and business names.

“Curtailment” has the meaning set out in the attachment to the SEM Committee decision paper SEM-13-10 “EirGrid and SONI Definition of Curtailment and Constraint, Version 1.0, 13 Feb 2013”.

“Curtailment Compensation Arrangements” has the meaning set out in Section 5.6.1 of these Terms and Conditions.

“DAM Price” means the price resulting from the Day Ahead Market.

“Day Ahead Market” or **“DAM”** means the day ahead market as more particularly described in the SEMOpX Rules, including the “Day-ahead Auction Market Segment” within the meaning given to that expression in the SEMOpX Rules and any successor thereto.

“Deemed Energy Quantity” is defined in Section 6.6.4 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Deemed Offer Price” is defined in Section 6.6.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Difference Payment” has the meaning given to it in Section 5.2.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Distribution System Operator” or **“DSO”** means ESB Networks DAC in its capacity as Distribution System Operator pursuant to a licence granted by the Regulatory Authority pursuant to Section 14(1)(g) of the Act and any successor distribution system operator.

“ECP” means the system for issuing connection offers for new generation and storage capacity referred to as “Enduring Connection Policy - 1” and “Enduring Connection Policy - 2”.

“ECP Project” means a RESS 2 Project listed as eligible for connection offer under ECP.

“Eligible Technology” and **“Eligible Technologies”** are defined in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“EU Clean Energy Package” means the European Union’s clean energy package which consists of eight legislative acts, including the Renewable Energy Directive.

“EU Commission” means the executive branch of the European Union including its various Directorates-General with responsibility for policy matters including, *inter alia*, energy and competition policy.

“Evaluation Correction Factor” has the meaning given to it in Section 6.6.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Final Auction Results” means the final auction results issued by the TSO in respect of the outcome of the RESS 2 Auction.

“Final Auction Results Date” means the indicative date for issue of the Final Auction Results by the TSO.

“Final Competition Ratio” has the meaning given to it in Section 6.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Final Qualification Decision” means the final qualification results prepared by the TSO (for approval by the Minister) identifying the proposed Qualified Applicants, for the purposes of the administration of the RESS 2 application process, as more particularly set out at Section 9.2.7 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Final Qualification Decision Date” means the indicative date for submission of approved Final Qualification Decisions to Applicants in accordance with Section 9.2.7 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Final Withdrawal Date” means the last date an Applicant can withdraw their Application for Qualification in respect of the RESS 2 Auction.

“Financial Questionnaire” means the financial questionnaire in the form set out in Annex B.

“FIP” means the two way floating feed in premium applicable to RESS 2, the operation of which is further set out at Section 5.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Force Majeure” has the meaning given to it in the Implementation Agreement.

“Generator” means a person who is the holder of a licence to generate electricity under Section 14(1)(a) of the Act and in the context of these Terms and Conditions means a person that is party to an Implementation Agreement and/or has received a Letter of Offer.

“Good Practice Principles Handbook” means the ‘Good Practice Principles Handbook’ and related appendices published by the Minister in respect of RESS 2, as may be modified, amended or replaced from time to time.

“Grid Code” means the conditions, procedures, provisions and codes governing the planning and operation of the transmission system and the scheduling and dispatch of generation prepared by the TSO in accordance with Section 33 of the Act (as may be updated from time to time).

“Grid Contracted Project” means a RESS 2 Project that has been issued a grid connection offer by the DSO or TSO (as applicable) or is party to a grid connection agreement with the DSO or TSO (as applicable), in each case of sufficient capacity for the Offer Quantity submitted in the Application for Qualification for such RESS 2 Project.

“Guarantee of Origin” has the meaning given to it in Article 2(j) of the Renewable Energy Directive.

“GWh” means gigawatt hour.

“High Efficiency CHP” or **“HECHP”** means high efficiency cogeneration which complies with criteria specified in Annex 11 of Directive 2012/27/EC.

“Hydro” means hydroelectric generation which uses hydraulic turbines but excludes pumped-storage hydro.

“Implementation Agreement” means an agreement to be entered into between a Successful Applicant and the Minister, in the form set out in Annex C of these Terms and Conditions.

“Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date” is the date by which all Successful Applicants in receipt of a Notice of Award are required to return both signed copies of the Implementation Agreement and the Performance Security as specified in the Notice of Award.

“Information Paper” means the information paper published by the Regulatory Authority on 2 September 2019 on the *“Terms of Reference for the RESS Market Auditor and Auction Monitor”* (Reference CRU-19-109).

“Installed Renewable Capacity” means the total MW^{AC} nameplate capacity of all of the “Installed Plant” (as that term is defined in the Grid Code) of the RESS 2 Project, but not including the capacity of any energy storage facilities such as battery storage systems.

“Irish Transverse Mercator” means the geographic coordinate system for Ireland

implemented jointly by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland.

“**kW**” means kilowatt.

“**Letter of Offer**” means a letter of offer for RESS 2 Support from the Minister to a Generator, in the form set out in Appendix 1 of the Implementation Agreement.

“**Longstop Date**” means, in respect of Commercial Operation, 31 December 2025.

“**Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity**” means Metered Quantity adjusted as follows:

- (a) capped in each hour by the MWh equivalent of Installed Renewable Capacity; and then
- (b) further adjusted to reflect transmission losses and distribution losses (as determined by the TSO and DSO from time to time).

“**Market Auditor**” is defined in Section 4.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“**Market Reference Price**” is defined in Section 5.2.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“**Maximum Export Capacity**” or “**MEC**” means the maximum export capacity of a RESS 2 Project as stated in its grid connection offer / agreement (or, in the case of ECP Projects, as listed in ECP) and indicated in the Application for Qualification.

“**Maximum Offer Price Considered**” means the maximum Offer Price allowed to be included in an Offer for the RESS 2 Auction and such maximum Offer Price for the RESS 2 Auction is €120/MWh.

“**Metered Quantity**” means the Active Power produced by the RESS 2 Project and recorded each hour by the meter of the RESS 2 Project described in Section 5.5.1.

“**Milestones**” means the milestones prescribed in Appendix 2 of the Implementation Agreement.

“**Minimum Installed Renewable Capacity**” is defined in Section 6.4.15 of these

Terms and Conditions.

“Minister” means the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications or any successor.

“MW” means Megawatt.

“MWh” means Megawatt hour.

“National Energy and Climate Plan” or **“NECP”** means the National Energy and Climate Plans developed by the Irish Government in order to meet the European Union’s energy and climate targets for 2030 and as required under the European Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council on 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action.

“New Project” means a RESS 2 Project which comprises of each of the following elements:

- (a) the electricity generating equipment in respect of the RESS 2 Project is electricity generating equipment that was not previously used at the Site to export electricity to the grid prior to the Qualification Application Closing Date;
- (b) the investment in the RESS 2 Project made after the execution of the Implementation Agreement by or on behalf of the Generator for that RESS 2 Project must equal or exceed €300 per kW of capacity;
- (c) if the RESS 2 Project is built at a Site that was previously used for renewable generation, that the Deemed Energy Quantity at the Site from the RESS 2 Project will be at least 50% greater than the previous average annual output from renewable generation at that Site; and
- (d) provided for the avoidance of any doubt, the RESS 2 Project cannot benefit from any other support scheme funded via the PSO Levy while in receipt of RESS 2 Support and the RESS 2 Project cannot have previously received payments under any other support scheme funded via the PSO Levy.

“Non-Variable” means, for the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, a RESS 2

Project using one of the following Eligible Technologies:

- (a) Waste to Energy HECHP;
- (b) Biomass HECHP; or
- (c) Biogas HECHP.

“Notice of Dissatisfaction” means a notice of dissatisfaction issued by an Applicant or Qualified Applicant in accordance with Sections 9.2.5(d) and 9.4.2(d) of these Terms and Conditions.

“Notice of Withdrawal” means an irrevocable notice issued by an Applicant in accordance with Section 9.2.2(c) of these Terms and Conditions.

“Offer” means an offer made by a Qualified Applicant in respect of a RESS 2 Project in the RESS 2 Auction.

“Offer Price” means the single price to be specified in an Offer (expressed in €/MWh).

“Offer Quantity” means the MW quantity of the RESS 2 Project being offered into RESS 2 and the same will be specified in both the Application for Qualification and in the Offer.

“Onshore Wind” is defined in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Operational Processes” means a set of processes prepared by the TSO detailing all parties’ obligations in respect of the operation of the RESS 2 Auction and to be published by the TSO in the Qualification Information Pack and Auction Information Pack.

“Performance Security” means the on demand security to be procured by a Successful Applicant in favour of the Minister in the form as set out in Appendix 3 of the Implementation Agreement.

“Preference Categories” means the preference categories within which Eligible Technologies will compete against each other in the RESS 2 Auction as detailed in

Section 6.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Preference Category Flag” is defined in Section 6.7.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Pricing Information” means information that:

- (a) provides an indication of what Offer Price an Applicant may submit in the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project, including a range of potential Offer Prices;
- (b) provides an indication of what pricing a counterparty would be willing to enter in to a PPA contingent upon the RESS 2 Project receiving an Award; or
- (c) provides an indication of any relationship between the Offer Price an Applicant may submit in the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project and the terms under which an entity would provide equity or debt financing or otherwise acquire an interest upon the RESS 2 Project receiving an Award.

“Provisional Auction Results” means the provisional auction results issued by the TSO in respect of the outcome of the RESS 2 Auction.

“Provisional Auction Results Date” means the indicative date for issue of the Provisional Auction Results by the TSO.

“Provisional Qualification Decision” means the provisional qualification results issued by the TSO in respect of the outcome of an Application for Qualification, for the purposes of the administration of the RESS 2 application process.

“Provisional Qualification Decision Date” means the indicative date by which Provisional Qualification Decisions will be issued by the TSO in accordance with Section 9.2.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Prudent Electric Utility Practice” means those standards, practices, methods and procedures conforming to safety standards and legal requirements which are attained by exercising that degree of skill, care, diligence, prudence and foresight which would reasonably and ordinarily be expected from a skilled and experienced operator

engaged in the same type of undertaking under the same or similar circumstances.

“Prudent Industry Operator” means an operator engaged in the electric utility industry which performs in accordance with Prudent Electric Utility Practice.

“PSO” means the ‘public service obligation’ which may be imposed by virtue of Section 39 of the Act.

“PSO Levy” has the meaning given to “public service obligations levy” in the PSO Order.

“PSO Levy Year” means a one-year period running from 1 October to 30 September the following year or such other period as may be specified in any update to the PSO Order.

“PSO Order” means the Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (Public Service Obligations) Order 2002 (as amended from time to time).

“PSO S.I.” is defined in Section 5.3.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Qualified Applicant” means an Applicant whose Application for Qualification has been included in the Qualification Results which has been approved by the Minister.

“Qualification Application Closing Date” means the last date an Applicant can submit an Application for Qualification in respect of the RESS 2 Auction.

“Qualification Decisions Submission Date” means the indicative date for submission of Final Qualification Decisions to the Minister for approval in accordance with Section 9.2.7(b) of these Terms and Conditions.

“Qualification Information Pack” means an information pack prepared by the TSO for the purpose of informing Applicants as to, inter alia, the timing, requirements and conduct of the qualification for the RESS 2 Auction.

“Qualification Results” means the qualification results prepared by the TSO in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

“Regulatory Authority” means the Commission for Regulation of Utilities as established pursuant to the Act or any successor body.

“Renewable Energy Community” means a legal entity:

- (a) which, in accordance with applicable law, is based on open and voluntary participation, is autonomous, and is effectively controlled by shareholders or members that are located (in the case of SMEs or local authorities) or resident (in the case of natural persons) in the proximity of the RESS 2 Project that is owned and developed (or proposed to be owned and developed) by that legal entity;
- (b) the shareholders or members of which are natural persons, SMEs, local authorities (including municipalities), not-for-profit organisations or local community organisations;
- (c) for any shareholder or member (with the exception of “Sustainable Energy Communities” as registered with SEAI), that shareholder or member’s participation does not constitute their primary commercial or professional activity;
- (d) the primary purpose of which is to provide environmental, economic, societal or social community benefits for its shareholders or members or for the local areas where it operates, rather than financial profits;
- (e) in respect of which, each shareholder or member is entitled to one vote, regardless of shareholding or membership interest; and
- (f) which is, or which has at least one shareholder or member that is, registered as a “Sustainable Energy Community” with SEAI,

and all of the above criteria must be evidenced to the satisfaction of the Minister.

“Renewable Energy Directive” means Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

“Representative Competition Ratio” shall have the meaning given to it in Section 6.3.1 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Representative Maximum Quantity” means the Representative Maximum Quantity as determined by the Minister in accordance with Section 6.3.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“RESS Community Benefit Funds National Register” means the register of RESS Community Benefit Funds to be established by the Minister.

“RESS 1” means the first RESS competition.

“RESS 1 Implementation Agreement” means the implementation agreement entered into by a RESS 1 Project in accordance with RESS 1.

“RESS 1 Project” means a renewable energy project in receipt of a RESS 1 letter of offer and one which has also signed a RESS 1 Implementation Agreement.

“RESS 2” means the second RESS competition and includes the RESS 2 Auction and the RESS 2 Support.

“RESS 2 Auction” means the auction, to be conducted under Section 6 of these Terms and Conditions, for the award of RESS 2 Support.

“RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date” means the closing date for receipt of Offers.

“RESS 2 Auction Timetable” means the schedule of events leading up to and following the RESS 2 Auction, as may be amended or updated by the Minister and/or the TSO from time to time.

“RESS 2 Payment” means Support Payments and Difference Payments.

“RESS 2 PPA” means a power purchase agreement complying with these Terms and Conditions between a Generator and a Supplier obliging the latter to purchase the electrical output from the relevant RESS 2 Project, and “PPAs” shall be construed accordingly.

“RESS 2 Project” means a renewable energy project, as detailed in an Application

for Qualification.

“RESS 2 Support” means an entitlement to receive Support Payments, and an obligation to pay Difference Payments.

“RESS 2 Hybrid Project” means a project that is of Eligible Technology type RESS 2 Hybrid Solar and Storage, RESS 2 Hybrid Wind and Solar or RESS 2 Hybrid Wind and Storage.

“RESS 2 Hybrid Solar and Storage” is defined in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project” means a project that is of Eligible Technology type RESS Hybrid Solar and Storage or RESS Hybrid Wind and Storage.

“RESS 2 Hybrid Wind and Solar” is defined in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“RESS 2 Hybrid Wind and Storage” is defined in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“SEM” or “Single Electricity Market” means the arrangements in the State and Northern Ireland initially described in the Memorandum of Understanding between Great Britain and Ireland, which are designed to promote the establishment and operation of a single wholesale electricity market and which allow for the efficient application of the European Union rules for cross-border trade in electricity (as provided in Section 2 of the Energy Act 1999, as amended by the Energy Act 2016).

“SEM Metering Code” means the minimum technical, design and operational criteria to be complied with for all revenue metering and data collection equipment and the associated procedures as required in the Single Electricity Market.

“SEM Trading and Settlement Code” means the balancing market rules for both the trading and settlement with respect to electricity and for the settlement of capacity in the Single Electricity Market.

“SEMO” has the meaning given to the term “Market Operator” in the SEM Trading and Settlement Code.

“SEMOpX Rules” means the set of rules pursuant to which EirGrid plc and SONI Limited agree to perform tasks of a nominated electricity market operator in Ireland, and to which participants in the SEM are required to accede in order to trade in such markets as are operated by that nominated electricity market operator, which rules were established by EirGrid plc and SONI Limited and approved by the Regulatory Authority by letter published on 30 June 2017, and as same may be amended from time to time.

“Site” means the relevant parcel(s) of land set out in the Application for Qualification, upon or adjacent to which the RESS 2 Project is intended to be developed, constructed and operated.

“SME” means, as per Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive, a micro, small or medium- sized enterprise as defined in Article 2 of the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.

“Solar” has the meaning given to it in Section 6.4.3 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Standstill Period” means the period of time from and including the date of submission of the Application for Qualification by an Applicant up to and including the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date.

“Strike Price” is defined in Section 5.2 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Successful Applicant” means a Qualified Applicant who has been notified by the TSO that its Offer into the RESS 2 Auction was successful.

“Supplier” means an entity licensed by the Regulatory Authority to supply electricity in Ireland.

“Support Payment” is defined in Section 5.2.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

“Sustainable Energy Community” means a “Sustainable Energy Community” which is registered as such with the SEAI.

“SEAI” means the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland or any successor body.

“Terms and Conditions” means these RESS 2 terms and conditions, together with all of its Annexes.

“Top Meter” means an official TSO or DSO installed meter that is polled by the TSO or the DSO as appropriate and that meters all output of the Site including output from generation or storage facilities on the Site that are not part of the RESS 2 Project and are not behind the meter of the RESS 2 Project.

“Transmission System Operator” or **“TSO”** means EirGrid plc in its capacity as transmission system operator pursuant to a licence granted by the Regulatory Authority under Section 14(1)(e) of the Act and any successor transmission system operator.

“TSO Bank” means a bank which is used by the TSO and where an Applicant must deposit its Bid Bond, details of which will be advised to Applicants by the TSO.

“TSO RESS Account” means the bank account held by the TSO whereby Applicants must post a Bid Bond in respect of their RESS 2 Project, details of which will be communicated to Applicants by the TSO.

“Variable” means, for the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, a RESS 2 Project in one of the following Eligible Technologies (regardless of whether or not the RESS 2 Project incorporates battery or other storage technology):

- (a) Onshore Wind;
- (b) Solar;
- (c) RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar;
- (d) RESS Hybrid Wind and Storage;
- (e) RESS Hybrid Solar and Storage; or
- (f) Hydro.

“Waste” has the meaning given to it in Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

“Working Day” means a weekday which is not:

- (a) a public holiday or a bank holiday in Ireland; or

(b) a non-processing day, as advised by the TSO Bank.

2.2 The TSO shall use consistent numerical rounding of all published quantities in accordance with the following:

2.2.1 all energy variables shall be expressed in MWh to three decimal places;

2.2.2 all power variables shall be expressed in MW to three decimal places;

2.2.3 all monetary variables shall be expressed in Euro to two decimal places;

2.2.4 all parameters, ratios, factors, discounts, premiums, currency exchange rates, rates, and proportions used in calculations shall be published to the same number of decimal places as that used in calculations; and

2.2.5 time shall be expressed to the nearest second.

Any price, variable, quantity, parameter, volume, ratio, factor, discount, premium, rate or proportion determined under these Terms and Conditions and to be used in settlement under the relevant legislation shall be calculated to the level of computational precision required to carry out those settlements in accordance with the requirements of relevant legislation.

2.3 Without prejudice to Section 2.2, the TSO shall not round any price, variable, quantity, parameter, volume, ratio, factor, discount, premium, rate or proportion during calculation other than that automatically arising from its IT systems, unless specifically required under these Terms and Conditions.

2.4 In these Terms and Conditions (including the Annexes), the following shall apply unless the context requires otherwise:

2.4.1 the table of contents, and any headings in these Terms and Conditions, are for ease of reference only and do not form part of the contents of these Terms and Conditions and do not and shall not affect its interpretation;

2.4.2 words in the singular shall include the plural and vice versa and the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter;

2.4.3 the word “including” and its variations are to be construed without limitation, and a reference to a range of paragraphs (e.g., 2.4.1 – 2.4.8) includes both paragraphs referred to, as well as all those between;

- 2.4.4 any reference to any legislation, primary or secondary, in these Terms and Conditions includes any statutory interpretation, amendment, modification, replacement, re-enactment or consolidation of any such legislation and any regulations or orders made thereunder and any general reference to any legislation includes any regulations or orders made thereunder;
- 2.4.5 any reference to another agreement, code or document, or any licence, deed or other instrument is to be construed as a reference to that other agreement, code or document, deed, licence or other instrument as lawfully amended, modified, supplemented, substituted, assigned or novated from time to time;
- 2.4.6 any references to Sections, paragraphs, annex(es) and tables are references to Sections, paragraphs, annex(es) and tables of these Terms and Conditions as amended or modified from time to time in accordance with the provisions of these Terms and Conditions;
- 2.4.7 any reference to a day is to be construed as a reference to a calendar day except where provided otherwise, and any reference to a year is to be construed as a reference to a period of 12 months;
- 2.4.8 any reference to a time is to be construed as a reference to the time prevailing in Dublin, Ireland;
- 2.4.9 capitalised words and phrases have the meaning given to them in Section 2.1 to these Terms and Conditions;
- 2.4.10 references to the “Minister” includes any designee, appointee, agent, state department or any other person authorised to act on behalf of the Minister;
- 2.4.11 a reference to a “person” includes any individual, partnership, firm, company, corporation (statutory or otherwise), joint venture, trust, association, organisation or other entity, whether or not having separate legal personality;
- 2.4.12 where these Terms and Conditions require the Minister, the TSO or the Regulatory Authority to publish information and no timeline is specified for such publication, it shall be required to publish such information as soon as is reasonably practicable in the particular circumstances; and
- 2.4.13 differences of language between provisions may be explicable by reference to changes of drafting practice and do not necessarily imply a difference of meaning.

3 Legal Basis for RESS 2

- 3.1 This Section provides information on the applicable legal basis for RESS 2, including the conducting of the RESS 2 Auction and the provision of RESS 2 Support in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.
- 3.2 RESS 2 is established by the Minister and RESS 2 Support will be funded through the PSO Levy charged to all final electricity customers. Section 39 of the Act sets out the legal basis for the PSO Levy.
- 3.3 Statutory Instrument No. 217 of 2002 (as amended) made under Section 39 of the Act requires that the Regulatory Authority calculates and certifies the costs associated with the PSO, including each of the relevant PSO schemes, and sets the associated PSO Levy. The RESS is now explicitly provided for under the relevant PSO legislation.
- 3.4 RESS 2 is part of the overall RESS package, which is subject to state aid approval by the EU Commission and is consistent with the European Union's Clean Energy Package, in particular the Renewable Energy Directive, and S.I. 365/2020 – European Union (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2020 which gives effect to Articles 4 and 6 of the Renewable Energy Directive.
- 3.5 Copies of legislation referred to in these Terms and Conditions are available online at <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/>. EU Directives are available online at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>. Regulatory Authority decisions are available at <http://www.cru.ie>.
- 3.6 These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland and, subject to Sections 9.2.5(d) and 9.4.2(d) of these Terms and Conditions, the Courts of Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any matter arising under or in respect of these Terms and Conditions.

4 RESS Auction Monitor and Market Auditor

- 4.1 The Regulatory Authority will appoint a person or firm to act as the RESS auction monitor (the “**Auction Monitor**”). In accordance with the Information Paper, the Auction Monitor shall monitor the processes and procedures followed by the TSO in carrying out qualification and conducting the RESS 2 Auction under these Terms and Conditions and the Operational Processes.
- 4.2 The Regulatory Authority will appoint a person or firm to act as the RESS market auditor (the “**Market Auditor**”). In accordance with the Information Paper, the Market Auditor shall conduct an audit of the operation and implementation of the RESS 2 Auction, procedures and processes under these Terms and Conditions and the Operational Processes at least annually, in accordance with the terms of reference determined by the Regulatory Authority.

5 RESS 2 Support

5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 Eligible prospective renewable electricity generators may compete in the RESS 2 Auction (as further detailed in this Section 5 of these Terms and Conditions) for RESS 2 Support, subject to and in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.
- 5.1.2 A Successful Applicant in the RESS 2 Auction will be provided with an Implementation Agreement that will, subject to the terms and conditions of the Implementation Agreement, require the Minister to provide the Successful Applicant with a Letter of Offer within two weeks of the later to occur of: (i) the receipt by the Minister of two original counterparts of the Implementation Agreement signed by the Successful Applicant and; (ii) except in the case of a Community Zero-Bond Project, the provision of the Performance Security to the Minister by the Successful Applicant.
- 5.1.3 The Letter of Offer will, subject to the terms of the Implementation Agreement and these Terms and Conditions, entitle the Supplier that enters into a PPA with a Successful Applicant to receive RESS 2 Support for a period extending no longer than 31 December 2039 (and potentially 31 December 2040 solely in the event of Force Majeure having been successfully claimed prior to achieving Commercial Operation).

RESS 2 Support will be eligible to commence upon the Commercial Operation of the RESS 2 Project or on 1 July 2023 (whichever is later), subject always to the RESS 2 Project having been listed in the PSO Order. For the avoidance of doubt:

- (a) It will not be possible for a Supplier to submit a claim ex ante to the Regulatory Authority for PSO payments associated with the RESS 2 Support prior to the 2022/23 PSO Levy Year. However, if applicable, an ex-post payment claim can be made by an eligible Supplier in the 2023/24 PSO Levy Year for Commercial Operation in the period between 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023.
- (b) where a RESS 2 Project achieves Commercial Operation prior to 1 July 2023 it can participate in the SEM prior to the commencement of RESS 2 Support.
- 5.1.4 RESS 2 Support is structured as a FIP (i.e. a 2-way floating feed in premium). The RESS 2 Payment calculation process will be administered by the Regulatory Authority and the process for the payment of Support Payments to Suppliers and the

payment of Difference Payments from Suppliers under the FIP will be administered by the TSO, based on their existing PSO payment procedures.

- 5.1.5 The Letter of Offer will contain a unique RESS 2 reference number in respect of the RESS 2 Project. Once issued and to facilitate the administration of RESS 2, it is a requirement that this reference number be quoted in all communications with the Minister.
- 5.1.6 The Regulatory Authority will be responsible for implementing and administering the arrangements set out in this Section 5 of these Terms and Conditions. The Regulatory Authority may consult on any modification of these arrangements where it deems appropriate and provide recommendations to the Minister where, following such consultation, the Regulatory Authority is of the view that the arrangements set out in this Section 5 should be modified. Any modification of this Section 5 shall be made by the Minister in accordance with Section 1.11 of these Terms and Conditions.

5.2 2-way Floating Feed In Premium (or FIP)

5.2.1 RESS 2 Support is structured as a FIP

5.2.2 Strike Price

Each Qualified Applicant will be required to specify an Offer Price for its RESS 2 Project in the RESS 2 Auction. If successful in the RESS 2 Auction, this Offer Price shall be the 'strike price' for that Qualified Applicant used to settle the FIP for the RESS 2 Project (the "**Strike Price**"). The Strike Price will be constant over the term of the RESS 2 Support and will not be indexed or adjusted for inflation.

5.2.3 Market Reference Price

For RESS 2 Projects that are:

- (a) Variable, the market reference price used to settle the FIP will be the hourly DAM Price; and
- (b) Non-Variable, the market reference price used to settle the FIP will be the time weighted average of the DAM Price calculated over the relevant PSO Levy Year (or part thereof in any instance where a period of RESS 2 Support does not coincide with a full PSO Levy Year),

(each the relevant "**Market Reference Price**").

The suitability of using the DAM Price for this purpose may be reviewed from time to

time. In the event of changes to market conditions which result in the DAM Price being no longer suitable or feasible for use in the Market Reference Price calculation, a suitable and feasible alternative to the DAM Price will be established.

5.2.4 Annual Forecasts

RESS 2 Support will be calculated annually based on forecasts and will be reconciled by the Regulatory Authority after the end of the following PSO Levy Year.

5.2.5 Overview of the Arrangements for Calculating RESS PSO Monies

The FIP will be calculated according to arrangements to be developed by the Regulatory Authority that will compare costs to market revenues (in each case as further described below). In the event that costs exceed market revenues, payments will flow from the PSO Levy in the direction of the Supplier to the PPA for the RESS 2 Project. In the event that market revenues exceed costs, payments will flow from the Supplier to the PPA for the RESS 2 Project in the direction of the PSO Levy. In general terms, costs are represented by the Strike Price of the RESS 2 Project applied to its Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity, and market revenues are represented by the deemed energy revenues and the realised capacity revenues applicable to the RESS 2 Project. This process is described in further detail below.

The FIP is described as being 2-way because when costs exceed market revenues a Support Payment will be due to the Supplier, and when market revenues exceed costs a Difference Payment will be due from the Supplier.

The descriptions provided in this Section 5.2.5 are for the purpose of describing the effective amount of the Support Payment and the Difference Payment. The Regulatory Authority will develop arrangements for quantifying these Support Payments and Difference Payments, in accordance with the Act and the PSO Order. The FIP will be calculated by the Supplier on an hourly basis and will effectively be calculated with respect to deemed energy revenues based on the Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity of the RESS 2 Project applied to the Strike Price and the Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity of the RESS 2 Project applied to the Market Reference Price. Specifically:

- For hours in which:
 - (a) the Strike Price multiplied by Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity,

exceeds

- (b) the Market Reference Price multiplied by Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity,

then if the DAM Price equals or exceeds zero euro per MWh, the Supplier will be entitled to receive a payment equal to (a) minus (b), otherwise it will be entitled to a payment of zero (the “**Support Payment**”); and

- For hours in which:

- (a) the Market Reference Price multiplied by Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity,

exceeds

- (b) the Strike Price multiplied by Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity,

then the Supplier will be obligated to make a payment equal to (b) minus (a) (the “**Difference Payment**”).

The Support Payment and the Difference Payment will be further adjusted to account for capacity market revenues actually received. The market revenue calculations for the purposes of calculating the PSO Levy for RESS 2 Projects will take into account only capacity market revenues. It will not take into account capacity market costs (including for the avoidance of doubt any cost obligations of the RESS 2 Project associated with non-performance under a CRM reliability option). Capacity market revenues will (as applicable) decrease the Support Payment or increase the Difference Payment for the PSO Levy Year.

For avoidance of doubt, DS3 and constraint revenues will not be considered as market revenues and therefore will not be taken into account in the calculation of Support Payments and Difference Payments. The net difference between the aggregate of Support Payments and Difference Payments over the relevant PSO Levy Year will be funded through the PSO Levy. For the avoidance of any doubt, payments under the FIP will therefore have a statutory basis described by these Terms and Conditions but shall not derive by way of a contract pursuant to these Terms and Conditions.

5.2.6 Annual Reconciliation

The TSO will be responsible for disbursing and collecting the net difference between

the aggregate of Support Payments and Difference Payments over the relevant PSO Levy Year. Such duties shall, inter alia, take account of the Regulatory Authority's forecast of the level of payments to and from Suppliers with a RESS 2 PPA and a reconciliation to adjust for deviations between hourly forecasts and actual outcomes of generation, loss factors, DAM Prices and any other factors that contribute to the calculation of the level of payments, as necessary. The arrangements for the calculation of the PSO Levy for RESS are expected to be broadly similar to the arrangements described in CRU/20/13 Decision Paper on "Arrangements for the Calculation of the PSO Levy post I-SEM implementation" (but for the avoidance of doubt, these arrangements may be modified by the Regulatory Authority from time to time). However, to accord with these Terms and Conditions, the reconciliation with each Supplier will recognise the unique Strike Price and Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity applicable to each RESS 2 Project in the reconciliation and, for the avoidance of doubt, Section 5.2.5 means that the FIP will be calculated on an equivalent hourly basis for each of the annual forecast and the annual reconciliation.

5.2.7 Payments from Suppliers to the PSO

In the event that the forecast net amount due in respect of a RESS 2 PPA for a PSO Levy Year is negative after adjusting for any reconciliation, the Supplier that is a party to the RESS 2 PPA will be required to make monthly payments over the course of the next applicable PSO Levy Year to the TSO as opposed to receiving payments. In the event that, at the end of the term of RESS 2 Support for a RESS 2 Project or after a RESS 2 Project has exited RESS 2 pursuant to the provisions in these Terms and Conditions, the final reconciliation calculation indicates that there is an amount due from the Supplier, such amount will be the joint and several responsibility of the Supplier and the Generator. This provision will apply to the RESS 2 Project without regard to ownership of the RESS 2 Project after the final year of RESS 2 Support.

5.3 PSO

- 5.3.1 At a designated time prior to the commencement of a PSO Levy Year, each Supplier is required to inform the Regulatory Authority of any Generators with whom it has entered into a RESS 2 PPA, on behalf of whom they will be eligible to receive (and, when applicable, required to make) RESS 2 Payments in the upcoming PSO Levy Year. Any responses to queries from Suppliers as to the information to be provided to the Regulatory Authority ahead of the PSO Levy Year shall be addressed directly to such Suppliers by the Regulatory Authority.

- 5.3.2 The Regulatory Authority will then calculate the amount of the RESS 2 Support for the upcoming PSO Levy Year on the basis of the information provided to it by Suppliers and other relevant information it considers necessary. Only RESS 2 Projects (a) in respect of which all obligations under the Implementation Agreement and these Terms and Conditions have been met, (b) which have been notified to the Regulatory Authority by Suppliers and included in the relevant PSO calculation by the Regulatory Authority and (c) which have been included in the PSO S.I. (in accordance with section 5.3.3), are eligible to receive and make RESS 2 Payments in the relevant PSO Levy Year.
- 5.3.3 On an annual basis, to coincide with the PSO Levy Year commencing 1 October, the Minister shall publish a statutory instrument (the “**PSO S.I.**”) that contains a list of RESS 2 Projects eligible for PSO payments in the upcoming PSO Levy Year. Payments cannot be made unless the RESS 2 Project is both listed in the PSO S.I. for the upcoming PSO Levy Year and has been included by the Regulatory Authority in the PSO Levy decision. RESS 2 Projects will be included in the PSO S.I. when (a) they have applied to be included, (b) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Minister that they are expected to generate during the upcoming PSO Levy Year and (c) have met all other criteria established by the Minister for inclusion. It is for the parties to the RESS 2 PPAs (i.e. the relevant Generators and Suppliers) to ensure that the Regulatory Authority is provided with timely information each year by Suppliers in accordance with the timelines specified by the Regulatory Authority from time to time.

5.4 RESS 2 PPA

- 5.4.1 The Minister will not be a party to a RESS 2 PPA, which is a commercially negotiated arrangement between the relevant Supplier and the Generator corresponding to the Successful Applicant.
- 5.4.2 Any termination or expiry of a RESS 2 PPA, or any event which causes the RESS 2 PPA to cease to be in full force and effect, shall be notified in writing by the Supplier or his permitted successor or assign to the Minister and the Regulatory Authority forthwith. A Supplier shall cease to have any entitlement to receive future Support Payments with effect from the date of termination or expiry of the RESS 2 PPA, or on the date the RESS 2 PPA ceases to be in full force and effect, but shall have the right to receive Support Payments and any reconciliation payments owed to it (and the obligation to make Difference Payments and to make any reconciliation payments it owes) for the period up to such date of termination or expiry, as the case may be. Unless the RESS 2 PPA has been transferred to another Supplier in accordance with

Section 5.4.3 (or where the RESS 2 Project has been withdrawn from RESS 2 in accordance with Section 5.4.5), the existing Supplier shall retain the obligation for Difference Payments resulting from operation after termination or expiry of the relevant RESS 2 PPA and any reconciliation payments. Parties to a RESS 2 PPA shall notify the Minister and the Regulatory Authority immediately in writing in the event that a RESS 2 Project subject to a RESS 2 PPA intends to cease to operate or ceases to operate in any PSO Levy Year or for the remaining term of the RESS 2 PPA.

- 5.4.3 On the application of the Generator and with the prior written consent of the Regulatory Authority, the Generator may enter into a new RESS 2 PPA with a new Supplier in the event that the original Supplier is unable to perform its obligations under the original RESS 2 PPA or these Terms and Conditions and if the new PPA is compliant with these Terms and Conditions and is for the remainder of the term of the original RESS 2 PPA. The new Supplier shall assume liability for any unpaid Difference Payments and reconciliation payments owed by the original Supplier in respect of the period prior to the date on which the change in Supplier takes effect. In circumstances where the Generator and Supplier are in compliance with these Terms and Conditions, and the Generator's RESS 2 PPA is terminated for reasons beyond the control of the Generator including any successor(s) thereto, the Generator may, with the prior consent of the Regulatory Authority, enter into a new RESS 2 PPA with a new Supplier provided that the new PPA is compliant with these Terms and Conditions and is for the remainder of the term of the original RESS 2 PPA.
- 5.4.4 Where a RESS 2 Project has been included in the PSO Order and a Supplier is a PPA counterparty for a RESS 2 Project, the Minister and the Regulatory Authority may in their discretion include such RESS 2 Project in the PSO S.I. and PSO Order for subsequent PSO Levy Years without having regard as to whether such RESS 2 Project has applied to be in the PSO for that year, provided that such RESS 2 Project has not withdrawn in accordance with Section 5.4.5 of these Terms and Conditions.
- 5.4.5 Provided that the RESS 2 Project has achieved Commercial Operation by the Longstop Date in accordance with the Implementation Agreement and has satisfied any and all obligations to pay Difference Payments and reconciliation payments under RESS 2, the Generator may request to withdraw the RESS 2 Project from RESS 2 and take the RESS 2 Project to the open market without Support Payment entitlements or Difference Payment obligations by giving at least 12 months' prior written notice of the date of withdrawal to the Minister. The date of withdrawal must

be the first day of a PSO Levy Year. The Generator must submit evidence that the Supplier to that RESS 2 PPA agrees to the withdrawal from RESS 2. The request to withdraw will be granted if the Supplier has paid all Difference Payments and reconciliation payments applicable to the relevant RESS 2 Project and the Generator has provided evidence of written consent that the Supplier agrees to the withdrawal. If such a withdrawal is requested and granted, the following will apply:

- (a) the Letter of Offer shall, insofar as it affects the Generator, which includes any future developer or generator developing or operating the same RESS 2 Project within any renewable support scheme in Ireland, cease to confer any entitlement to RESS 2 Support with effect from the notified date of withdrawal and no revocation of the withdrawal or revival of the Letter of Offer shall be permitted after the date notified as the withdrawal date has passed; and
- (b) insofar as it affects any Supplier as a party to a RESS 2 PPA, the Supplier shall cease to qualify for RESS 2 Support in respect of any power metered or purchased from the relevant RESS 2 Project after the notified date of withdrawal from RESS 2 has passed but shall retain any Regulatory Authority payment obligations or entitlements under the FIP prior to the date of withdrawal. The Generator withdrawing will be responsible on a joint and several basis for any payment obligations under the FIP that have resulted from operation prior to the date of withdrawal.

5.4.6 A Generator that has executed the Implementation Agreement and has received a Letter of Offer may give notice to the Minister and the Regulatory Authority that it does not wish to be included in the PSO Order and receive Support Payments and have an obligation to make Difference Payments. Provided that such notice is given at least six months prior to the Longstop Date the Generator will be deemed to have withdrawn the RESS 2 Project from RESS 2 and to have taken the RESS 2 Project to the open market without Support Payment entitlements or Difference Payment obligations. The withdrawn RESS 2 Project:

- (a) is ineligible to receive support associated with any future RESS competition.
- (b) shall remain required to meet all obligations set forth in the Implementation Agreement including for the avoidance of doubt to (i) ensure that the Performance Security remains in place and (ii) achieve Commercial Operation by the Longstop Date;
- (c) shall remain subject to forfeiture of Performance Security in accordance with the provisions of the Implementation Agreement;

(d) shall be permitted to seek a Guarantee of Origin.

The Minister shall return the Performance Security to an RESS 2 Project which is withdrawn under this Section 5.4.6 in accordance with the terms of the Implementation Agreement.

5.4.7 For the avoidance of doubt, in interpreting Section 5.4.5 and 5.4.6 the following shall be noted:

- (a) the exercise of the discretion permitted by Section 5.4.5 or 5.4.6 is a discretion to exit RESS 2 and enter the open market; and
- (b) all notices to withdraw from RESS 2 will be made solely by the Generator that is a party to the RESS 2 PPA subject to the Letter of Offer for the RESS 2 Project. In accordance with Section 5.4.5, the Generator must submit evidence in its notice that the Supplier has provided written consent to the withdrawal from RESS 2.

5.4.8 Once the period of RESS 2 Support commences in respect of a RESS 2 PPA, no changes in Supplier are permitted, save as specifically permitted in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

5.5 Metering

5.5.1 All RESS 2 Projects must be metered separately. It is a requirement of RESS 2 that official TSO or DSO meters are installed and polled by the TSO or the DSO as appropriate. The metering of a RESS 2 Project must relate to the size and Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project (the minimum and maximum of which are set out in Section 6.4.15 of these Terms and Conditions). Where there is additional electricity generation installed on a Site beyond the flexibility provided for in Section 6.4.15, this must be metered separately to the RESS 2 Project.

5.5.2 A RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project must only store energy generated by the RESS 2 Project and not electricity imported from any other source. This must be demonstrated to the TSO's satisfaction in the Application for Qualification (verified by a director declaration) and this requirement is continuous once the project is operational, in order to remain eligible for RESS 2 Support. The storage facility must be electrically connected behind the meter of the RESS 2 Project so that charging of the storage facility will be reflected as decreased exports across that meter and discharging of the storage facility will be reflected as increased exports across that

meter. A RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project will cease to be eligible for RESS 2 Support if it at any time uses electricity imported from the grid to charge the storage facility.

5.5.3 Where there is an energy storage facility co-located on or near the Site of a RESS 2 Project, and where that storage facility is not part of the RESS 2 Project, any meter for that storage facility must be independent of the meter of the RESS 2 Project. It is permissible that both the RESS 2 Project and the separate storage facility could sit behind a Top Meter at the grid connection point so long as:

- (a) the independent meter (sub-meter) of the RESS 2 Project, to be used to establish the Metered Quantity for the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, is of revenue quality and compliant with the requirements of the SEM Metering Code; and
- (b) the configuration is permissible in accordance with the relevant DSO/TSO connection arrangement for the RESS 2 Project, SEM Trading and Settlement Code, SEMOpX Rules, and with any other applicable rules and regulations.

5.5.4 All electrical energy generated by a RESS 2 Project must be delivered across that RESS 2 Project's meter. No portion of the RESS 2 Project's generated electricity shall bypass that RESS 2 Project's meter, or be delivered in a form other than electrical energy.

5.6 Curtailment

5.6.1 On an annual basis after each PSO Levy Year, the Regulatory Authority will review the following in respect of each RESS 2 Project:

- (a) the aggregate annual MWh of Metered Quantity of that PSO Levy Year;
- (b) the annual MWh of Curtailment of that PSO Levy Year which is not compensated by another party and/or through another mechanism; and
- (c) $(c) = (b) / ((a) + (b))$.

If (c) equals or exceeds ten percent (10.0%) for two consecutive PSO Levy Years for any RESS 2 Project, (the "**Curtailment Issue**") the Regulatory Authority will develop and implement Curtailment compensation arrangements (the "**Curtailment Compensation Arrangements**").

5.6.2 The Curtailment Compensation Arrangements will set out the calculation, in respect of a RESS 2 Project in a given PSO Levy Year, of the level of additional

compensation (if any) that is consistent with a Curtailment level limited to a maximum of 10.0% for that RESS 2 Project in that year.

This calculation will have the following form:

$$\text{Compensation} = \text{TQMLF} \times \text{Strike Price} \times \text{CFactor}$$

Where:

- (a) TQMLF is the total Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity of the RESS 2 Project in the PSO Levy Year (in MWh);
- (b) Strike Price (as is defined in Section 5.2.2 of these Terms and Conditions); and
- (c) CFactor = $(1 - 0.1) / (1 - (c)) - 1$ if positive, and is otherwise set to zero. For example:
 - if (c) is 11% then Curtailment is greater than 10% and so compensation applies for the PSO Levy Year concerned for that RESS 2 Project at a factor of $0.90 / 0.89 - 1 = 0.01124$,
 - if, alternatively, (c) is 9% then Curtailment is less than 10% and so no compensation factor applies for that PSO Levy Year for that RESS 2 Project.

5.6.3 Any compensation as part of such Curtailment Compensation Arrangements will be funded through the PSO Levy.

5.6.4 Any such Curtailment Compensation Arrangements will be available for application in respect of any PSO Levy Year after the two years for which the Curtailment Issue was first identified. Such Curtailment Compensation Arrangements will be available on this basis for RESS 2 Projects for which (c) as defined in Section 5.6.1 equals or exceeds ten percent (10.0%). Compensation can therefore potentially accrue (if applicable) beginning on the first PSO Levy Year after those two years for which the Curtailment Issue is first identified. Compensation will not be applied retrospectively to the PSO Levy Years for which, or before which, the Curtailment Issue was first identified.

5.6.5 Compensation (if applicable) will be made on a two-year lagged basis, i.e. compensation accrued in respect of PSO Levy Year y will be made in PSO Levy Year $y+2$.

5.6.6 Once and if the Curtailment Issue has been identified, the Curtailment Compensation Arrangements will remain in place for the remainder of the term of RESS 2 Support.

- 5.6.7 Any Curtailment Compensation Arrangements developed will be designed to only provide support for foregone Metered Quantity that meets the definition of Curtailment, is beyond the 10.0% level, and is not otherwise compensated. For avoidance of doubt, compensation will not be provided if Curtailment is being compensated by another party and or through another mechanism.
- 5.6.8 For the avoidance of doubt, Curtailment Compensation Arrangements do not apply to all generation reductions that the Generator is required to implement – for example they do not apply to generation reductions to accommodate network constraints, local system stability constraints, forced or planned generator or transmission outages, or economic factors such as economic dispatch or negative market prices, unless they are concurrent with Curtailment.
- 5.6.9 For the avoidance of doubt, where a Curtailment Issue arises in accordance with Section 5.6.1 of these Terms and Conditions for a RESS 2 Project, all other RESS 2 Projects will be eligible for Curtailment compensation (if applicable) calculated in accordance with the Curtailment Compensation Arrangements (i.e. these other RESS 2 Projects do not have to satisfy the requirements in Section 5.6.1 in order for such RESS 2 Projects to be eligible to receive compensation for Curtailment under this Section 5.6).

5.7 Prudent Electric Utility Practice and Availability

All RESS 2 Projects must be operated in accordance with Prudent Electric Utility Practice in order to ensure the RESS 2 Project is available to produce electricity at times of relative system scarcity and at times of higher than average market prices.

RESS 2 Projects must use reasonable endeavours to conduct planned outages at times of system surplus and lower than usual, zero, or negative market prices.

6 RESS 2 Auction

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 The RESS 2 Auction will be open to Eligible Technologies.
- 6.1.2 The RESS 2 Auction will be administered by the TSO in accordance with the terms set out in Section 9 of these Terms and Conditions.
- 6.1.3 The RESS 2 Auction will be administered in accordance with, inter alia, the following high level steps:
- (a) the TSO will accept Applications for Qualification;
 - (b) Applicants (other than Applicants in respect of Community Zero-Bond Projects) will post their Bid Bonds no later than the Bid Bond Posting Date;
 - (c) the eligibility criteria set out in Section 6.4 of these Terms and Conditions will be assessed by the TSO for each Application for Qualification received;
 - (d) a Provisional Qualification Decision will be made by the TSO;
 - (e) Final Qualification Results are prepared and notified to Applicants and an Offer Price is submitted by each Qualified Applicant to the TSO; and
 - (f) the RESS 2 Auction will be conducted and Awards will then be notified to Successful Applicants.
- 6.1.4 An Application for Qualification must be associated with a single RESS 2 Project at a contiguous or near-contiguous Site.

An applicant may submit more than one Application for Qualification, including for RESS 2 Projects that might be physically adjacent provided that this is allowed under the Applicant's planning consent and grid connection arrangements and so long as each such project independently complies with all the Terms and Conditions. RESS 2 Projects cannot be mutually-exclusive or dependent on other RESS 2 Projects.

An Applicant may submit an Application for Qualification for a RESS 2 Project physically adjacent to an additional electricity generation facility that is not a RESS 2 Project (for example an additional electricity generation facility that sells its output under a corporate power purchase agreement, or sells its output to the SEM, or a project in a future RESS competition) provided that this is allowed under the Applicant's planning consent and grid connection arrangements. The RESS 2 Project

must nevertheless comply with all the Terms and Conditions in its own right. The additional electricity generation facility must be metered separately in accordance with Section 5.5.

6.2 Preference Categories

6.2.1 Qualified Applicants that submit eligible Offers will compete against each other on the basis of two Preference Categories, namely: (i) the Community Preference Category; and (ii) the All Projects Preference Category.

6.2.2 Preference will be given to a designated amount of renewable energy in the Community Preference Category in accordance with Section 6.7 of these Terms and Conditions.

6.3 Target Volume

6.3.1 The Regulatory Authority has issued an assessment to the Minister regarding the annual GWh quantity of renewable energy (the “Available Volumes”, or AV_p , for each Preference Category p) which may be awarded competitively under the RESS 2 Auction. AV_p was calculated as $AV_p = EP_p / RCR_p$, where:

- (a) EP_p is the annual GWh quantity initially “Eligible to Participate” in Preference Category p .
- (b) RCR_p is a “Representative Competition Ratio” as was determined to be the appropriate ratio by the Regulatory Authority for Preference Category p of total auction supply to fixed auction demand that the Regulatory Authority assesses could reasonably be expected to result in a sufficiently competitive auction.

6.3.2 The Minister has determined a Representative Maximum Quantity ($RMax_p$) in annual GWh for each Preference Category for the RESS 2 Auction including a Representative Minimum Quantity ($RMin$) for the All Projects Preference Category (i.e. for the overall auction) for the RESS 2 Auction, taking into account amongst other things:

- (a) Available Volumes (AV_p) as recommended by the Regulatory Authority (with regards to Representative Maximum Quantity ($RMax_p$));
- (b) the 2030 target for renewable energy set out in the National Energy and Climate Plan;

- (c) the trajectory targets set out in the National Energy and Climate Plan;
- (d) the target for corporate power purchase agreements as set out in the Climate Action Plan; and
- (e) other appropriate policy considerations such as community considerations and renewable generation technology diversity objectives.

6.3.3 Representative Maximum Quantity (RMax_p) and Representative Minimum Quantity (RMin) have been determined for RESS 2 in accordance with Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 (inclusive) as follows:

Table 1: RMin and RMax_p

	p = c (community)	p = a (all projects)
RMin	N/A	1,000 GWh
RMax _p	200 GWh	3,500 GWh

6.4 Eligibility Requirements

6.4.1 All Applicants must provide evidence to the TSO with the Application for Qualification that the eligibility requirements set out in this Section 6.4 have been met.

6.4.2 All declarations provided by a director in connection with the RESS 2 Auction must be true and accurate and made by way of a sworn affidavit having regard to the fiduciary duties that a director has to the company whose board (or equivalent) it sits on, in each case under applicable company law legislation.

In the event that any statement in a declaration is not true or accurate, in addition to applicable legal penalties or sanctions in respect of the sworn affidavit, the RESS 2 Project will be disqualified from RESS 2 and the Applicant or Qualified Applicant on whose behalf the director signs the false declaration will be prohibited from participating in any RESS competitions for a period of five years.

In the event a declaration is found to be false before or after the RESS 2 Auction has been held, the participation of the RESS 2 Project in RESS 2 may be terminated, the Letter of Offer revoked (if applicable) and the full amount of any Bid Bond or Performance Security in place may be drawn down by the TSO or the Minister (as applicable).

6.4.3 Eligible Technology

The RESS 2 Auction will be open to New Projects which are connected directly to the electricity network and metered independently of any other electricity generating plant, at a single metering point, and which rely on the following equipment to produce electricity:

- (a) onshore wind turbines ("**Onshore Wind**");
- (b) onshore solar thermal or solar photovoltaic technology ("**Solar**");
- (c) onshore wind turbines and solar thermal or solar photovoltaic technology with all wind turbines and solar technology located behind the meter of the RESS 2 Project ("**RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar**");
- (d) onshore wind turbines, together with storage such as batteries, where wind turbines and the storage are electrically connected behind the meter of the RESS 2 Project with no separate means of the storage facility importing from or exporting to the grid ("**RESS Hybrid Wind and Storage**");
- (e) projects that utilise solar thermal or solar photovoltaic technology together with storage, such as batteries, where the solar technology and the storage are electrically connected behind the meter of the RESS 2 Project with no separate means of the storage facility importing from or exporting to the grid ("**RESS Hybrid Solar and Storage**");
- (f) Hydro;
- (g) High Efficiency CHP boilers fuelled exclusively by Waste, involving the process of generating energy in the form of electricity from the primary treatment of Waste, or the processing of Waste into a fuel source ("**Waste to Energy HECHP**") provided that eligibility for RESS 2 will be limited to the extent input Waste is certified as being renewable;
- (h) High Efficiency CHP boilers fuelled by Biomass ("**Biomass HECHP**"); or
- (i) High Efficiency CHP boilers fuelled by Biogas ("**Biogas HECHP**"),

(each an "**Eligible Technology**" and together the "**Eligible Technologies**").

Specific technical requirements applicable to each of Waste to Energy HECHP, Biomass HECHP and Biogas HECHP are provided in Annex A.

Compliance with this Section 6.4.3, and Annex A if applicable, must be evidenced by information submitted by the Applicant describing the RESS 2 Project to be built and

the equipment to be used.

6.4.4 Planning Consent

RESS 2 Projects are required to have full planning permission for the construction of the electricity generating plant at the Site as described in the Application for Qualification. This means that a full and final grant (and not merely a notification of decision to grant) of planning permission issued by the relevant planning authority (or, if it is the case, An Bord Pleanála) for the construction of the electricity generating plant at the Site as described in the Application for Qualification. The planning permission for a RESS 2 Project must not have an expiry date or a decommissioning obligation prior to the anticipated end of the term of RESS 2 Support for a RESS 2 Project.

The Application for Qualification must contain evidence of the planning permission for the RESS 2 Project concerned. The TSO will publish these evidentiary requirements in the Qualification Information Pack.

An Applicant is required to provide a declaration ("**Declaration of Planning Consent**", the form of which will also be provided in the Qualification Information Pack) that:

- (a) the planning permission permits and is consistent with the Offer Quantity submitted for the RESS 2 Project concerned, as well as for the Offer Quantity of any other RESS 2 Project(s) which utilise the same planning permission; and
- (b) the RESS 2 Project described in the Application for Qualification is in all other respects consistent with that for which full planning permission has been obtained.

For the avoidance of doubt, for the purposes of satisfying the planning consent requirements under this Section 6.4.4, any such final grant of planning permission may be the subject of a judicial review challenge or still within the 8 week period during which such a judicial review challenge may be commenced.

Minor planning amendments subsequent to the submission of the Application for

Qualification are permissible, so long as there are no changes required to the information specified in Section 6.4.13 other than where provided for in Section 6.4.14.

6.4.5 Grid Connection

The RESS 2 Project must be (i) a Grid Contracted Project or (ii) an ECP Project that is eligible to be processed to receive a valid connection offer, in both cases with a capacity at least equal to the Offer Quantity of the relevant RESS 2 Project.

Compliance with this requirement will need to be evidenced by a director's declaration ("**Declaration of Grid Connection**") that certifies that the RESS 2 Project meets grid connection requirements applicable to the RESS 2 Project and certifies whether the RESS 2 Project is a Grid Contracted Project or is an ECP Project. A grid contract reference number must be provided for Grid Contracted Projects and the ECP project name must be provided for ECP Projects.

RESS 2 Projects that have been awarded a grid connection offer but have failed to accept such offer within the applicable time period will not be eligible for RESS 2 except where they are subject of a dispute under Section 34 of the Act. Non-ECP Projects for which grid connection agreements or grid connection offers have lapsed or have been terminated will not be eligible for RESS 2.

Regarding modifications:

- (a) A RESS 2 Project must meet the aforementioned grid connection requirements of this Section 6.4.5 as of the Qualification Application Closing Date in order to be eligible for RESS 2. Subject to Sections 6.4.5 (b)–(d) the grid connection offer or grid connection agreement of the RESS 2 Project may be modified on, or at any time after, the Qualification Application Closing Date.
- (b) Where a RESS 2 Project has meets the grid connection eligibility requirements as of the Qualification Application Closing Date, and the grid connection offer or grid connection agreement is the subject of a proposed modification, in order to be eligible for RESS 2 the modified grid connection offer or modified grid connection agreement (as the case may be) must also meet the aforementioned grid connection requirements of this Section 6.4.5

and be in compliance with all other Terms and Conditions.

- (c) any modification to the grid connection offer or grid connection agreement of a RESS 2 Project prior to the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date must maintain grid connection capacity at least equal to the Offer Quantity of that RESS 2 Project.
- (d) any modification to the grid connection offer or grid connection agreement of a RESS 2 Project after to the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date must maintain grid connection capacity at least equal to the Minimum Installed Renewable Capacity of that RESS 2 Project.

6.4.6 Site Control

The Site of the RESS 2 Project must be specified using Irish Transverse Mercator and Applicants must possess and demonstrate control of this Site and the right to access this Site for the purposes of developing and operating the RESS 2 Project.

Compliance with this requirement must be evidenced by submitting a landowner consent form that will be published by the TSO in the Qualification Information Pack and that will reflect the form used in the grid connection application process.

6.4.7 Financeability

The RESS 2 Project must be financeable under the Terms and Conditions and at the Offer Price to be submitted by the Qualified Applicant. In this context, “financeable” is understood as having expressions of interests or indications from investors or funders that they will provide the funding required to construct and operate the RESS 2 Project, or that the Applicant has sufficient equity funding in place to construct and operate the RESS 2 Project, in the event that it receives an Award.

Compliance with this requirement must be evidenced by a director declaration (“**Declaration of Financeability**”) that the RESS 2 Project has sufficient equity funding in place or expressions of interests or indications from investors or funders to provide funding if the RESS 2 Project receives an Award.

For RESS 2 Projects that plan to use debt financing, the declaration must clearly state that the Applicant: (a) has or will have sufficient equity funding in place for the

non-debt financing portion of the funding or commitments from investors to provide such equity funding and (b) has received indications or expressions of interest from lenders that the RESS 2 Project should receive the debt financing required to construct and operate the RESS 2 Project.

Applicants are reminded that a failure to secure sufficient debt financing does not excuse the Applicant from performance of its obligations as a Successful Applicant or from any financial consequences of non-performance. For the avoidance of doubt, an Offer by a Qualified Applicant is a firm commitment to develop the RESS 2 Project as detailed in the Application for Qualification without any contingency based on securing financing.

6.4.8 New Project Requirements

The RESS 2 Project must meet the requirements of a New Project. Compliance with this requirement must be evidenced by a director declaration ("**Declaration of New Project**") that the RESS 2 Project meets the New Project criteria. The RESS 2 Project may be subject to audit by the Minister and / or the TSO (or their respective nominees or agents) and required to demonstrate that these requirements have been met in order to participate in RESS 2.

6.4.9 RESS 2 Storage Hybrid Charging Requirements

A RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project must meet the requirements of Section 5.5. Compliance with this requirement must be evidenced by a director declaration ("**Declaration of Hybrid Metering and Storage Requirements**") that the RESS 2 Project complies with Section 5.5 and is not designed and will not be operated so that energy used to charge the storage facility will have any source external to the RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project. The RESS 2 Hybrid Storage Project may be subject to audit by the Minister, the CRU and / or the DSO/TSO (or their respective nominees or agents) to demonstrate that these requirements have been met / are being met in order to participate in RESS 2 and/or maintain eligibility for RESS 2 Support.

The form of declaration to be provided under this Section 6.4.9 will be included in the Qualification Information Pack.

6.4.10 Interaction with a RESS 1 Project

In order to be eligible to participate in the RESS 2 Auction, an Applicant is required to provide a director declaration (the “**Declaration Regarding RESS 1 Projects**”) that:

- (a) the planning consent or grid connection offer/agreement is not one which a RESS 1 Project has relied upon, as detailed in that RESS 1 Project’s application for qualification under RESS 1, and is not any subsequently modified or reissued version of the planning consent or grid connection arrangements that such a RESS 1 Project has relied upon or will rely upon; or
- (b) the Application for Qualification is being made for separately metered extension to a RESS 1 Project where this extension is on an adjacent land area and planning consent allows for both projects to be constructed and to the extent that both projects will utilise common grid connection offers or agreements that the grid connection offers or agreements will allow for both projects to be constructed and that the MEC of the connection will allow both projects to export at full capacity.

The form of declaration to be provided under this Section 6.4.10 will be included in the Qualification Information Pack.

A RESS 2 Project which is a separately metered extension of a RESS 1 Project in accordance with Section 6.4.10(b) will only be eligible for support under RESS 2 once the associated RESS 1 Project has achieved Commercial Operation in accordance with the RESS 1 Implementation Agreement for that RESS 1 Project.

6.4.11 Applicant Independence

An Applicant is required to provide the following information and / or director declarations (together, the “**Declaration of Bidding Independence**”) in order to be eligible to participate in the RESS 2 Auction (the forms on which the information and / or declarations are to be provided will be included in the Qualification Information Pack):

- (a) a declaration that the Applicant is in compliance with all applicable competition legislation;
- (b) a list of all persons that directly or indirectly own or control more than 30% of

the shares of the Applicant (the “**Principal Owners**”). The Applicant shall also provide a certified structure chart showing the ownership of the Applicant up to ultimate beneficial owner level;

- (c) a list of all entities (i) to which the Applicant or its Principal Owners have revealed Pricing Information, excluding any finance provider or advisor bound by confidentiality obligations restricting the disclosure of such Pricing Information (provided that such finance provider or advisor is not an Applicant or the Principal Owner or Affiliate of an Applicant) and / or (ii) which may become a Principal Owner of the Applicant prior to the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date provided that commercial discussions have commenced between such entity (or entities) and the Applicant (or its Principal Owners) in this regard. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain information from its Principal Owners;
- (d) a list of all other entities that (i) the Applicant or its Principal Owners believe have submitted or may submit Applications for Qualification and (ii) in respect of which the Applicant or its Principal Owners are aware of Pricing Information, and the RESS 2 Projects to which the Pricing Information relates. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain information from its Principal Owners; and
- (e) a list that describes the party to and nature of any agreements or arrangements that the Applicant or its Principal Owners are aware of that are contingent upon the result of the RESS 2 Auction. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain information from its Principal Owners.

An Applicant is obliged to provide a director declaration as to the accuracy of all information provided in accordance with this Section 6.4.11.

The information will be forwarded to the Regulatory Authority and the Minister by the TSO and may be used in the Regulatory Authority’s competition assessment.

As at the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date a Qualified Applicant will be required to confirm that all information provided in accordance with this Section 6.4.11 has remained true and correct in all respects throughout the Standstill Period and in accordance with Section 6.6.1 and Section 9.2.6, with the only exception being any information for which a change of status or change of the information itself was

approved and accepted in writing by the TSO during the Standstill Period – for example in the case of change of contact details pursuant to Section 6.4.14.

If the Principal Owners and / or the structure chart have changed between the date of submission of the Application for Qualification and the date of submission of the Offer Price, the Applicant shall indicate this and provide an updated certified structure chart showing the ownership of the Applicant up to ultimate beneficial owner level. Any new Principal Owner can only be an entity that was listed by the Applicant in its Application for Qualification in accordance with Section 6.4.11(c).

6.4.12 Preference Category

An Applicant must specify the Preference Category or Categories for which it is applying in its Application for Qualification. An Application for Qualification must qualify in either or both of:

- i) the All Projects Preference Category; and / or
- ii) the Community Preference Category.

Applicants in respect of a Community-Led Project can elect whether or not they wish to be a Community Zero-Bond Project. A Community Zero-Bond Project is a Community-Led Project that applies and qualifies only in the Community Preference Category and not in the All Projects Preference Category. A Community Zero-Bond Project is not required to provide a Bid Bond or Performance Security. In contrast, a Community-Led Project that applies in both Preference Categories is required to provide a Bid Bond and subsequently, if it is successful in the RESS 2 Auction, Performance Security.

Only one set of application information shall be used and assessed in the RESS 2 Auction, including Offer Price and Offer Quantity, regardless of how many Preference Categories are applied for by an Applicant. Preference Category-specific eligibility requirements are as follows:

- (a) Community Preference Category:
 - (i) the RESS 2 Project must meet the requirements for Community-Led

Projects and each Applicant will be required to provide a director's declaration ("**Declaration of Community-Led Project**") to the effect that it will meet the requirements of a Community-Led Project along with its Application for Qualification. The form of this declaration will be issued by the TSO with the Qualification Information Pack.

(ii) the Applicant must indicate in the Application for Qualification whether it is applying as a Community Zero-Bond Project (if it is, then no Bid Bond or Performance Security will be required, however that RESS 2 Project will then be ineligible to apply in the All Projects Preference Category);

(iii) Minimum Offer Quantity: 0.5 MW; and

(iv) Maximum Offer Quantity: 5 MW,

(b) All Projects Preference Category:

(i) the RESS 2 Project is not a Community Zero-Bond Project (it can still be a Community-Led Project if a Bid Bond and Performance Security are provided);

(ii) Minimum Offer Quantity: 0.5 MW; and

(iii) Maximum Offer Quantity: the MW equivalent of 600 GWh/year,

where compliance with this annual GWh value for this All Projects Preference Category is evaluated by use of the formula set out in Section 6.6.4 which converts Offer Quantity (in MW) to the Deemed Energy Quantity (in GWh). Therefore the Deemed Energy Quantity of a RESS 2 Project must be less than or equal to 600 GWh annually in order to be eligible for the All Projects Preference Category.

Aggregation of smaller RESS 2 Projects to achieve the Minimum Offer Quantity (for a Preference Category) will not be possible (unless the Applicants organise one single project, behind a single meter and a single applicant entity that meets all the qualification requirements in these Terms and Conditions).

6.4.13 Other Information

In addition to the information and requirements described above in Sections 6.4.1 to 6.4.12 (inclusive) of the Terms and Conditions, in order to be eligible for RESS 2, Applicants will be required to provide the following information in the Application for Qualification:

- (a) legal name and registered address or address of principal place of business of the Applicant. The Applicant must be the proposed Generator of the RESS 2 Project;
- (b) a list of all entities with an ownership or equity interest in the RESS 2 Project and the same information required in paragraph (a) above for each such entity;
- (c) name of the individual preparing the Application for Qualification;
- (d) a confirmation that the Applicant will be bound by these Terms and Conditions;
- (e) a confirmation that the information that the Applicant has provided is true and accurate in all respects;
- (f) an acknowledgment that for the purposes of the administration of the RESS 2, the Minister is authorised to use information related to the Applicant and the RESS 2 Project, provided in the Application for Qualification, to communicate with the Applicant, the Regulatory Authority, the DSO, TSO and SEMO in order to ensure the proper functioning of RESS 2 and to ensure the accuracy of information included in the relevant statutory instrument for the PSO Levy for the relevant PSO Levy Year;
- (g) an acknowledgment that the Application for Qualification has been prepared at the expense of the Applicant and that the TSO and the Minister bear no responsibility or liability for any costs incurred by the Applicant in connection with the Application for Qualification;
- (h) a description of the renewable energy technology and the equipment that will

be utilised for the RESS 2 Project;

- (i) a description of the overall plant size i.e. aggregate installed (nameplate) rating for the RESS 2 Project and its Offer Quantity expressed in MW to three decimal places;
- (j) in the case of RESS 2 Hybrid Projects, the installed (nameplate) rating for each component element (wind, solar and/or storage) expressed in MW to three decimal places;
- (k) the Maximum Export Capacity of the RESS 2 Project; and
- (l) confirmation that a Guarantee of Origin will not be sought in respect of the output of the RESS 2 Project, in accordance with Statutory Instrument 483 of 2014.

In accordance with Statutory Instrument 483 of 2014, where a RESS 2 Project receives a Guarantee of Origin for a renewable energy unit, no Support Payment or Difference Payment for the same unit of electricity shall be made and a RESS 2 Project shall be withdrawn from RESS 2 by the Minister (and will not be eligible to return to RESS 2).

As a condition of qualification for the RESS 2 Auction, the RESS 2 Project must be located in Ireland.

6.4.14 Process for Change of Contact Details and/or Directors

Changes to an Applicant's company name, its registered directors, its address and/or changes to the individuals authorised to represent the Applicant are permissible during the Standstill Period subject to the following provisions:

- (a) changes to an Applicant's name, its registered directors, and/or its address must be notified by means of a director declaration and accompanied by a receipt of formal change from the CRO; and
- (b) changes to authorised individuals shall be notified by means of a director declaration and accompanied, where necessary, by a receipt of formal change from the CRO if it relates to a new director.

6.4.15 Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project

Minimum Installed Renewable Capacity

Generators must demonstrate as a condition to Commercial Operation that the Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project is at least 90% of the Offer Quantity which was accepted into RESS 2 (the “**Minimum Installed Renewable Capacity**”).

Maximum Installed Renewable Capacity

Windfarm Generators

In the case of renewable wind generators, a RESS 2 Project may over-install above its MEC where there is over-installation allowed pursuant to the decision paper of the Regulatory Authority (ref: CER/14/047) (“**RA Decision Paper 14/047**”) provided that the RESS 2 Project remains compliant with these Terms and Conditions including compliance with Section 6.4.16. In any case Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project shall be no more than 120% of the Offer Quantity which was accepted into RESS 2.

Non-wind Generators

In the case of non-wind renewable generators the decision papers (ref: CER/11/093, and CER/14/047) and ruleset of the Regulatory Authority (ref: CER/11/093y) may apply, however this is determined by the TSO on a case by case basis. Where there is over-installation relative to MEC as allowed under RA Decision Paper 14/047, a RESS 2 Project may over- install above its MEC provided that the RESS 2 Project remains compliant with these Terms and Condition including compliance with Section 6.4.16. In any case Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project shall be no more than 120% of the Offer Quantity which was accepted into RESS 2.

6.4.16 Maximum Export Capacity and Offer Quantity

In all cases the Offer Quantity cannot be greater than the MEC contained in the grid connection offer or grid connection agreement for the RESS 2 Project or the MEC listed for the RESS 2 Project in ECP (as applicable).

Where there is over-installation relative to MEC for a RESS 2 Project pursuant to Section 6.4.15:

- (a) the RESS 2 Project must be technically controlled to ensure that the MEC cannot be exceeded;
- (b) the Supplier with whom the Successful Applicant enters into a RESS 2 PPA must provide evidence of this technical control to the Regulatory Authority when making their annual returns; and
- (c) the Successful Applicant must undertake in writing not to raise the MEC of the RESS 2 Project during the period of RESS 2 Support. Any increases in the MEC during the period of RESS 2 Support must be agreed with the Minister and the Regulatory Authority. This includes agreeing a methodology for suitable metering arrangements to separately record generation on the Site which would be above the capacity approved for RESS 2 Support. RESS 2 Projects must have full planning permission for all Installed Renewable Capacity and any storage capacity.

6.4.17 Bid Bond

- (a) Each Applicant (other than those for Community Zero-Bond Projects) must provide a Bid Bond to the TSO by the Bid Bond Posting Date in accordance with Section 9.3 of these Terms and Conditions. The Bid Bond value in RESS 2 is €6 per MWh, where the MWh value is the Deemed Energy Quantity for one year for the RESS 2 Project calculated pursuant to Section 6.6.4 and multiplied by 1,000 to convert from GWh to MWh (the “**Bid Bond Required Amount**”). For example, the Bid Bond for a 10 MW Solar project would be €6/MWh x 10 MW x 8760 hours x 0.11 Renewable Capacity Factor = €57,816.
- (b) The TSO may draw down on the Bid Bond in the circumstances set out in Sections 6.6.3, 8.2 and 9.3 of these Terms and Conditions. There will be no exceptions applied to the forfeiture provisions including in respect of any events that are claimed to be outside of the control of the Applicant.

6.5 Final Competition Ratios

The TSO will provide the Qualification Results to the Regulatory Authority, including any information supplied in connection with the Applications for Qualification required by the Regulatory Authority such as information concerning commonality of ownership or other aspects of Applicant independence. For the avoidance of doubt, this information will not include Offer Prices given that Offer Prices will not yet have been submitted to the TSO.

The Regulatory Authority will then determine appropriate final competition ratios **“Final Competition Ratios”** for each Preference Category (**“FCR_p”**) taking into account the results of a competitive analysis that the Regulatory Authority will undertake on the aforementioned data. The competitive analysis undertaken by the Regulatory Authority for this purpose may consider certain factors including the distribution of ownership and commonality of control, pivotal supplier considerations, other market concentration considerations, and other factors as the Regulatory Authority in its sole discretion deems appropriate. The Final Competition Ratios will be published by the Regulatory Authority prior to the submission of Offer Prices by Qualified Applicants unless the Regulatory Authority determines there is insufficient competition within a Preference Category with which to conduct an auction, in which case a statement to this effect will be published instead for the Preference Category(ies) concerned.

6.6 Offer Process

- 6.6.1 Qualified Applicants will be invited to submit an Offer Price (denominated in €/MWh) in respect of their RESS 2 Project. The Offer Price must be submitted before the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date.

In its Offer, the Qualified Applicant must confirm (subject to Section 6.4.11 and Section 6.4.14) that all information provided in the Application for Qualification remained true and accurate in all respects throughout the Standstill Period and that it remains true and accurate in all respects as of the date of submission, with the only exception being any information for which a change of status, or change of the information itself, was approved and accepted in writing by the TSO within the Standstill Period – for example in the case of change of contact details pursuant to Section 6.4.14.

In its Offer, the Qualified Applicant must complete and submit the Financial

Questionnaire attached at Annex B and the information submitted in this Financial Questionnaire must be true and accurate at the time of submission.

In the event that information submitted in the Financial Questionnaire is not true accurate at the time of submission, the RESS 2 Project will be disqualified from RESS 2 and the Applicant or Qualified Applicant on whose behalf the Financial Questionnaire is submitted will be prohibited from participating in any RESS competitions for a period of five years.

In the event that information submitted in the Financial Questionnaire is found not to be true and accurate at the time of submission, and regardless of whether this is found before or after the RESS 2 Auction has been held, the participation of the RESS 2 Project in RESS 2 may be terminated, the Letter of Offer revoked (if applicable) and the full amount of any Bid Bond or Performance Security in place may be drawn down by the TSO or the Minister (as applicable).

6.6.2 In accordance with Section 5.2.2 of these Terms and Conditions, the Strike Price under the FIP for Successful Applicants will be set at the Offer Price (i.e. RESS 2 Support is 'pay-as-bid'). For the avoidance of doubt:

(a) RESS 2 Support will not be linked to any market-clearing (pay-as-cleared) price; and

(b) the Strike Price will not be indexed annually to inflation.

6.6.3 The Offer Price may not exceed the Maximum Offer Price Considered. Offers for which the Offer Price submitted exceeds the Maximum Offer Price Considered or for which the Offer Price is not submitted by the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date will not be considered in the RESS 2 Auction and in such cases, the Offer will be disregarded and the TSO will be entitled to draw down on the full amount of the Bid Bond.

6.6.4 For the purposes of winner selection, each such Offer Quantity will be converted into a deemed energy quantity ("**Deemed Energy Quantity**" or "**DEQ**") in GWh/year as follows:

$$DEQ_o = OQ_o \times 8760 \times RCF_t / 1000$$

Where Offer o is of Eligible Technology t , and RCF_t is the reference Renewable Capacity Factor (denominated as a percentage) of Eligible Technology t from Table 2.

6.6.5 For the purposes of winner selection, each Offer Price will be converted into a deemed offer price (“**Deemed Offer Price**” or “**DOP**”) in €/MWh as follows:

$$DOP_o = OP_o \times ECF_t$$

Where OP_o is the Offer Price (denominated in € / MWh) of Offer o , and ECF_t is a technology-specific Evaluation Correction Factor (ECF) where Offer o is of Eligible Technology t .

Table 2: Renewable Capacity Factor (RCF) and Evaluation Correction Factor (ECF) by Eligible Technology

Eligible Technology (t)	Renewable Capacity Factor (RCF _t)	Evaluation Correction Factor (ECF _t)
Onshore Wind	35%	1.00
Solar	11%	0.90
RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar	$(35\% \times W_o + 11\% \times S_o) / OQ_o$	DEQ weighted average of wind and solar ECFs
RESS Hybrid Wind and Storage	35%	1.00
RESS Hybrid Solar and Storage	11%	0.90
Hydro	35%	1.00
Biomass HECHP	85%	1.00
Waste to Energy HECHP	43%	1.00
Biogas HECHP	36%	1.00

Where W_o is the wind capacity portion of RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar Offer o and S_o is the solar capacity portion of RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar Offer o pursuant to Section 6.4.13(j).

6.6.6 For the avoidance of doubt and in accordance with Section 5.2.2, Support Payments and Difference Payments will be calculated on the basis of the Offer Price, and not the Deemed Offer Price.

6.7 Winner Selection

6.7.1 The RESS 2 Auction will be conducted by the TSO subsequent to the Regulatory Authority's reassessment of competition.

6.7.2 The RESS 2 Auction takes the form of a simple, sealed bid auction of eligible Offers. The following Offer information submitted by each Qualified Applicant is utilised and evaluated within the winner selection process:

- (a) Deemed Offer Price (DOP_o);
- (b) Deemed Energy Quantity (DEQ_o);
- (c) Preference Category Flag (community) $PCF_{oc} = 1$ if Offer o is eligible in the Community Preference Category, 0 otherwise;
- (d) Preference Category Flag (all projects) $PCF_{oa} = 1$ if Offer o is eligible in the All Projects Preference Category, 0 otherwise.

6.7.3 For the avoidance of doubt, despite the fact that DEQs are used for the purpose of winner selection, the FIP will be subject to reconciliation based on actual Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity as described in Section 5 of these Terms and Conditions. DEQs are solely utilised for the purpose winner selection in the RESS 2 Auction.

6.7.4 There is no budget cap for the RESS 2 Auction other than that which is implied by the terms of Section 6 of these Terms and Conditions.

6.7.5 The TSO will clear eligible Offers submitted in the RESS 2 Auction in accordance

with the following sequential steps:

- (a) the Total Energy Available (TEA_p) will be calculated in the first instance for each Preference Category p as the sum of Deemed Energy Quantity (DEQ_o) across the set of Offers eligible for that Preference Category;
- (b) a schedule of cumulative Deemed Energy Quantity will then be produced where all the eligible Offers are sorted by Deemed Offer Price, from lowest to highest. This schedule (i.e. supply curve) will therefore contain: Deemed Offer Price (DOP_o), Deemed Energy Quantity (DEQ_o), Cumulative Deemed Energy Quantity ($CDEQ_o$), and the Preference Category Flags (PCF_{op}) where o indexes offers now sorted by Deemed Offer Price. In the event that any Deemed Offer Prices are identical, the tie-breaking rules set out in Section 6.7.7 of these Terms and Conditions will apply;
- (c) TEA_a will then potentially be updated in accordance with the following procedure (where X and Y are numerical parameters with indicative values of 125% and 500 GWh respectively – final values used will be specified in the Auction Information Pack): Starting at the Offer with the lowest DOP_o (i.e. $o = 1$), moving incrementally down the above schedule of eligible Offers, and only once $CDEQ_o$ exceeds $RMin$ (as set out at Section 6.3.3 of these Terms and Conditions) if the Deemed Offer Price of the next Offer on the ordered list ($o + 1$) exceeds $X\%$ multiplied by (the weighted average Deemed Offer Price of the preceding Y GWh of full or partial Offers), then TEA_a will be revised so as to equal $CDEQ_o$ (i.e. the Total Available Energy for the All Projects Preference Category will be revised so as to be equal to the total offer volume of the last eligible Offer before the $X\%$ threshold was exceeded). If the end of the schedule is reached with no Offer exceeding the $X\%$ threshold, then the value of TEA_a will be left unchanged; and
- (d) the Auction Starting Quantity (ASQ_p) for each Preference Category will then be calculated as follows:

$$ASQ_c = \text{Min} (TEA_c / FCR_c, RMax_c)$$

$$ASQ_a = \text{Max} (\text{Min} (TEA_a / FCR_a, RMax_a), RMin_a)$$

However, if the Regulatory Authority's competition assessment conducted pursuant to

Section 6.5 of these Terms and Conditions concluded that there is insufficient competition within a Preference Category with which to conduct an auction then ASQp will be set to zero for the Preference Category concerned. In the case the Preference Category concerned is the Community Preference Category, then (notwithstanding any other provisions of these Terms and Conditions) any eligible Offer of a Community Zero-Bond Project will be admitted automatically to the All Projects Preference Category without any further obligation.

6.7.6 Winner-determination rules will then be applied by selecting winners in turn from the list of eligible Offers sorted from lowest Deemed Offer Price to highest Deemed Offer Price. This process will start with Offers in the Community Preference Category and then be repeated for Offers in the All Projects Preference Category. As set out below, “preference” means that RESS 2 Projects in a category with higher preference are awarded first in priority to another category, and any further Awards apply to meeting subsequent target quantities if they qualify. Specifically, any community quantity awarded will be applied to the overall auction target quantity. The winner-selection rules to be applied in the RESS 2 Auction are therefore as follows:

- (a) Community Preference Category (i.e. $p = c$): Eligible Offers in the Community Preference Category are accepted in turn starting from that with the lowest Deemed Offer Price and proceeding through the list up to and including that for which the total Deemed Energy Quantity of eligible Community-Led Projects accepted first meets or exceeds ASQ_c.

- (b) All Projects Preference Category (i.e. $p = a$): Eligible Offers in the All Projects Preference Category are then accepted in turn starting from that with the lowest Deemed Offer Price and proceeding through the list up to and including that for which the total Deemed Energy Quantity accepted, including any quantity already accepted in the Community Preference Category that is also eligible in the All Projects Preference Category, first meets or exceeds ASQ_a. After ASQ_a is met, additional eligible Offers in the All Projects Preference Category will continue to be accepted in this sequence until either:
 - (i) the next Offer in the list has a Deemed Offer Price more than 5% higher than that which first caused the total Deemed Energy Quantity accepted to meet or exceed ASQ_a; or
 - (ii) accepting the next Offer in the list would cause the total Deemed

Energy Quantity accepted (excluding the quantity from any Community Zero-Bond Projects accepted) to exceed $RMax_a$,

in which case this next Offer will be rejected and the winner-determination process will stop.

6.7.7 Tie-breaking

If any tied Deemed Offer Prices are identified pursuant to Section 6.7.6 then Offers with identical Deemed Offer Prices will be sorted by Deemed Energy Quantity from lowest to highest (i.e. the lower quantity is selected before the higher quantity). In the event that any Offers are identical with regards to both Deemed Offer Price and Deemed Energy Quantity, the tie-break will be resolved using a predetermined and unique Offer index. The Offer index will be determined by the TSO ordering offers according to the following criteria in order of priority:

- (a) Community-Led Project flag (i.e. a Community-Led Project is selected before one that is not);
- (b) the date of the full and final granting of the planning permission issued by the relevant planning body or authority for the RESS 2 Project offered (pursuant to Section 6.4.4) – an Offer with an earlier date is selected before one with a later date if the tie has not otherwise already been broken; and
- (c) random order, where the random order is reproducible and where all possible random orders are equally likely.

7 Community Aspects of RESS 2

There are two aspects of community participation in RESS 2. These are: (i) provisions for Community-Led Projects; and (ii) provisions relating to the Community Benefit Fund. If a Generator fails to comply with this Section 7, the Letter of Offer may be withdrawn.

7.1 Community-Led Projects

7.1.1 Community-Led Projects must meet the following requirements as per the timelines of the Implementation Agreement:

- (a) at all relevant times be 100% owned by a Renewable Energy Community (the “**Relevant REC**”) either by way of (i) a direct ownership of the RESS 2 Project’s assets, or (ii) a direct ownership of the shares in the Generator; and
- (b) at all relevant times, 100% of all profits, dividends and surpluses derived from the RESS 2 Project are returned to the Relevant REC.

7.1.2 An Application for Qualification for a Community-Led Project must be made in conjunction with a Sustainable Energy Community. The Sustainable Energy Community must be identified in the Declaration of Community-Led Project, together with a description of the relationship between the Applicant and the Sustainable Energy Community.

7.2 Community Benefit Fund

7.2.1 All RESS 2 Projects are required to establish a Community Benefit Fund prior to Commercial Operation of the relevant RESS 2 Project. The contribution will be €2/MWh of Loss-Adjusted RESS Metered Quantity for all RESS 2 Projects.

7.2.2 All RESS 2 Projects are required to register the Community Benefit Fund with the RESS Community Benefit Funds National Register prior to Commercial Operation.

7.2.3 The Good Practice Principles Handbook lays out a range of principles and guidance for Generators in order to ensure the successful operation and delivery of Community

Benefit Funds, including the need to ensure community participation in fund decision-making via the establishment of a local committee, which should encourage successful dispersal of funds. Generators shall comply with the principles and guidance contained in the Good Practice Principles Handbook in the context of the operation and administration of the Community Benefit Fund for their particular RESS 2 Project.

7.2.4 The Generator shall take steps to raise awareness and effectively promote an annual application process in respect of the availability of financial support from the Community Benefit Fund. Such steps may include but are not limited to:

- (a) issuing notices in local newspapers;
- (b) delivering notices to the local inhabitants;
- (c) promoting it through a website and on social media; and
- (d) contacting community and voluntary organisations that may be registered on a database maintained by a national, regional or local authority including public participation networks.

7.2.5 The Generator or a procured agent, from either the private or public sectors (including entities such as local development companies, public participation networks and local community development committees), shall ensure that applications for funding under the Community Benefit Fund received are assessed in a fair, non-discriminatory and transparent manner.

7.2.6 The Generator or its agent shall administer and distribute the funds contained in the Community Benefit Fund for the duration of the relevant RESS 2 Project's RESS 2 Support as follows:

- (a) in respect of Onshore Wind RESS 2 Projects, a minimum of €1,000 shall be paid to each household located within a distance of a 1 kilometre radius from the Onshore Wind RESS 2 Project. The 1 kilometre distance specified is measured from the base of the nearest turbine of the RESS 2 Project to the nearest part of the structure of the household, the location of which is identified in the postal geo-directory;

- (b) a minimum of 40% of the funds shall be paid to not-for-profit community enterprises whose primary focus or aim is the promotion of initiatives towards the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 4, 7, 11 and 13, including education, energy efficiency, sustainable energy and climate action initiatives;
- (c) a maximum of 10% of the funds may be spent on administration. This is to ensure successful outcomes and good governance of the Community Benefit Fund. The Generator may supplement this spend on administration from its own funds should it be deemed necessary to do so; and
- (d) the balance of the funds shall be spent on: (i) initiatives successful in the annual application process, as proposed by clubs and societies and similar not-for-profit entities; and (ii) in respect of Onshore Wind RESS 2 Projects, on “near neighbour payments” for households located outside a distance of 1 kilometre from the RESS 2 Project but within a distance of 2 kilometres from such RESS 2 Project. The distance specified is from the base of the nearest turbine to the nearest part of the structure of the occupied residence, the location of which is identified in the postal geo-directory.

If the Community Benefit Fund of an Onshore Wind RESS 2 Project does not contain sufficient funds in a relevant period to make the minimum payment to households as required under paragraph (a) above and to meet the requirements under paragraphs (b) and (c) above, the Generator shall seek a derogation from the Minister (or a nominated body) in respect of this Section 7.2.6.

7.2.7 The Generator will submit an annual report to the Minister (or a nominated body) which will be made publicly available and shall comprise of the following information:

- (a) an overview Section outlining the main actions and activities of the Generator’s administration of the Community Benefit Fund for the preceding year;
- (b) a Section outlining the finances of the Community Benefit Fund for the preceding year (detailing in particular, the level of contributions made to the Community Benefit Fund and the outgoings of the Community Benefit Fund and any funds to be carried forward);

- (c) evidence of the promotional activity in respect of the Community Benefit Fund;
- (d) the accounting policies and financial controls of the Generator in administering the Community Benefit Fund; and
- (e) any other relevant information that is significant or material to the Generator's administration of the Community Benefit Fund in the preceding year.

7.2.8 Generators may offset contributions subject to any local authority-mandated funds or other legislative requirements against the contributions required to be made to this Community Benefit Fund subject to the condition that any offset contributions comply with Section 7.2.6 of these Terms and Conditions.

7.2.9 Proposals to carry forward funds must be notified in writing to the Minister (or a nominated body). Such proposals may include the setting aside of some funds over several years towards the delivery of a substantive, strategic project in due course. The Minister (or a nominated body) will consider such proposals but may also make directions to Generators in respect of carried forward funds.

7.2.10 The Minister (or a nominated body) shall have oversight over all Community Benefit Funds and may audit Community Benefit Funds for compliance with these Terms and Conditions.

8 Obligations of RESS 2 Successful Applicants

- 8.1 Each Successful Applicant is required to execute an Implementation Agreement (in the form prescribed in Annex C (Agreed Form Implementation Agreement)) and, except for Community Zero-Bond Projects, provide the Performance Security (in the form attached to the Implementation Agreement and for the avoidance of doubt alternative forms of security (including cash) are not permitted)) by the Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date. For the avoidance of doubt, a single Performance Security instrument for the full amount as calculated in accordance with Section 8.3 must be provided by a Successful Applicant. The provision of more than one Performance Security instrument of less than this full amount by or on behalf of the Successful Applicant is not permitted.
- 8.2 In the event that the Implementation Agreement has not been executed and (where applicable) the Performance Security has not been provided by the Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date, the Successful Applicant for the RESS 2 Project will have the Award rescinded and will not receive a Letter of Offer and the TSO will be entitled to draw down on the full amount of the Bid Bond.
- 8.3 The Implementation Agreement includes, among other things, the following with respect to obligations of Generators in respect of RESS 2 Projects:
- provision of the Performance Security in the amount of €20 per MWh, where the MWh value is the Deemed Energy Quantity for one year for the RESS 2 Project calculated pursuant to Section 6.6.4 and multiplied by 1,000 to convert from GWh to MWh. For example, the Performance Security for a 10 MW Solar project would be $\text{€}20/\text{MWh} \times 10 \text{ MW} \times 8760 \text{ hours} \times 0.11 \text{ Renewable Capacity Factor} = \text{€}192,720$;
 - Milestones to be achieved by the RESS 2 Project with the consequence that the Letter of Offer may be revoked and draws made against the Performance Security for a failure to meet such Milestones;
 - force majeure provisions; and
 - requirements to comply with these Terms and Conditions, including the community aspects of RESS 2 as detailed in these Terms and Conditions.

8.4 Where a RESS 2 Project is included as a successful project in the notification of Final Auction Results, any of the following potential renewable energy projects will be ineligible to participate in the subsequent RESS competition for onshore projects:

- a potential project that is on the same Site or an adjacent land area to such RESS 2 Project, to the extent that planning consent does not allow for both projects to be constructed; or
- a potential project that is on the same Site or an adjacent land area to such RESS 2 Project, to the extent that both projects will utilise common grid connection offers or agreements and that the offers or agreement or MEC will not allow for both projects to be constructed or that the MEC of the connection will not allow both projects to export at full capacity.

8.5 Subject to Section 8.4 and all other relevant requirements at the time including those that may be contained in future RESS terms and conditions a separately metered extension to a RESS 2 Project, where that RESS 2 Project was included in the notification of Final Auction Results and where the extension is on an adjacent land area to the RESS 2 Project, will be possible as an independent renewable energy project in future RESS competitions. This separately metered extension project will only be eligible for support under the future RESS scheme once (i) the RESS 2 Project has achieved Commercial Operation or (ii) for RESS 2 Projects involving Biomass HECHP, Biogas HECHP and Waste to Energy HECHP, Milestone 8 under the Implementation Agreement has been achieved.

9 Auction Administration Processes

9.1 Auction Timetable

9.1.1 The TSO shall publish the RESS 2 Auction Timetable which shall include indicative dates for the following:

- (a) the date by which the Auction Information Pack will be published;
- (b) the opening and closing dates for receipt of Applications for Qualification;
- (c) the Bid Bond Posting Date;
- (d) the Final Withdrawal Date;
- (e) the Provisional Qualification Decision Date;
- (f) the Qualification Decisions Submission Date;
- (g) the Final Qualification Decisions Date;
- (h) the Auction Information Pack Publication Date;
- (i) the opening for receipt of Offers;
- (j) the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date;
- (k) the date for conclusion of the RESS 2 Auction (the “**Auction Completion Date**”);
- (l) the Provisional Auction Results Date; and
- (m) the Final Auction Results Date.

9.2 Application Process

9.2.1 Qualification Information Pack

The TSO shall develop and publish the Qualification Information Pack including a form of Application for Qualification and including the forms of director's declarations specified to be provided in the Terms and Conditions which includes all the relevant information on how an Applicant may apply to qualify for a RESS 2 Auction.

9.2.2 Submission of Applications for Qualification

- (a) Where an Applicant is seeking to participate in the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project, it shall submit an Application for Qualification to the TSO using the required documentation set out in the Qualification Information Pack by the Qualification Application Closing Date.
- (b) The TSO shall consider and review an Application for Qualification and determine whether the relevant Applicant is eligible to participate in the RESS 2 Auction in respect of the RESS 2 Project in accordance with these Terms and Conditions. The TSO may seek any further information from the Applicant that it may reasonably require to make its determination in respect of any Application for Qualification.
- (c) Where an Applicant is no longer seeking to participate in the RESS 2 Auction in respect of a RESS 2 Project, it shall submit a Notice of Withdrawal to the TSO prior to the Final Withdrawal Date using the required documentation set out in the Qualification Information Pack.
- (d) The TSO shall not consider an Application for Qualification where the Applicant has submitted a Notice of Withdrawal prior to the Final Withdrawal Date.

9.2.3 Administrative Considerations

The TSO may reject an Application for Qualification for the RESS 2 Auction where it considers that the information contained in the Application for Qualification is materially deficient or incorrect.

9.2.4 Eligibility Criteria

The TSO shall reject an Application for Qualification for the RESS 2 Auction where the RESS 2 Project does not meet and/or the Applicant does not comply with Section

6.4 of these Terms and Conditions.

9.2.5 Provisional Qualification Decisions

- (a) The TSO shall use reasonable endeavours to issue Provisional Qualification Decisions to all Applicants that have submitted Applications for Qualification by the Provisional Qualification Decision Date.
- (b) In respect of a Provisional Qualification Decision, where an Applicant (acting reasonably and in good faith and to the standard of a Prudent Industry Operator) considers that the TSO has not applied these Terms and Conditions correctly in making the Provisional Qualification Decision, they may submit an Application for Review to the TSO within two Working Days of receipt of the Provisional Qualification Decision.
- (c) The TSO shall review any relevant Provisional Qualification Decision and issue its decision to the relevant Applicant within ten Working Days of the receipt of the Application for Review.
- (d) Following receipt of the TSO decision at Section (c) above, where an Applicant (acting reasonably to the standard of a Prudent Industry Operator) considers that the TSO has not applied these Terms and Conditions correctly in assessing an Application for Qualification and an Application for Review, they may submit a Notice of Dissatisfaction to the Minister within two Working Days of receipt of the TSO decision.

9.2.6 Standstill Period

- (a) During the Standstill Period, Applicants shall not reveal Pricing Information to third parties that were not disclosed pursuant to Section 6.4.11(c)(i), excluding any finance provider or advisor bound by confidentiality obligations restricting the disclosure of such Pricing Information (provided that such finance provider or advisor is not an Applicant or the Principal Owner or Affiliate of an Applicant).
- (b) During the Standstill Period, Applicants shall not engage in commercial discussions with third parties that were not disclosed pursuant to Section 6.4.11(c)(ii) regarding potential changes of Principal Owners.

- (c) During the Standstill Period Applicants shall not engage in commercial discussions with third parties that were not disclosed pursuant to Section 6.4.11(e) regarding any commercial agreements or arrangements that are contingent upon the result of the RESS 2 Auction, with the exception of technical input providers such as engineers, construction contractors and equipment manufacturers.

9.2.7 Final Qualification Decisions

- (a) The TSO shall prepare Final Qualification Decisions in respect of Applications for Qualification that:
 - (i) reflect the Provisional Qualification Decisions;
 - (ii) reflect any changes to Provisional Qualification Decisions arising from any Application for Review or Notice of Dissatisfaction;
 - (iii) correct any error or omission in Provisional Qualification Decisions which the TSO becomes aware of; and
 - (iv) reflect any updated information or change in circumstances affecting the Applicant that the TSO becomes aware of.
- (b) The TSO shall use reasonable endeavours to submit the Final Qualification Decisions to the Minister for approval by the Qualification Decisions Submission Date.
- (c) The Minister shall consider the Final Qualification Decisions submitted by the TSO, the Auction Monitor report (in accordance with the Information Paper) and any Notices of Dissatisfaction submitted by Applicants in respect of a Final Qualification Decision.
- (d) The TSO shall issue the approved Final Qualification Decisions to Applicants by the later of (i) the Final Qualification Decisions Date or (ii) within two Working Days following receipt of approval from the Minister of the Final Qualification Decisions.

- (e) The TSO shall issue to the Regulatory Authority the approved Final Qualification Decisions for the purposes of the Regulatory Authority determining the Final Competition Ratios in accordance with Section 6.5 of these Terms and Conditions.

9.3 Bid Bond Process

9.3.1 Obligation to Provide

- (a) For the avoidance of doubt, this Section 9.3 is not applicable to Community Zero-Bond Projects.
- (b) The purpose of the Bid Bond is to provide credit support to cover scenarios where an Applicant does not submit an Offer or execute the Implementation Agreement and post a Performance Security.
- (c) The Applicant, where required to do so under these Terms and Conditions, shall post a Bid Bond as a single payment to the TSO RESS Account by the Bid Bond Posting Date.
- (d) Where an Applicant does not post the required level of Bid Bond by the Bid Bond Posting Date the TSO shall reject the relevant Application for Qualification for the RESS 2 Auction.

9.3.2 Acceptable Forms of Bid Bond

- (a) The Bid Bond shall be by way of a cash held deposit in the TSO RESS Account with the TSO Bank as provided for in the following paragraphs of this Section 9.3.2.
- (b) The TSO shall establish and maintain a TSO RESS Account with the TSO Bank as follows:
 - (i) the TSO RESS Account shall be in the sole name of the TSO with the designation "Reserve Account relating to the RESS Auctions"; and
 - (ii) the TSO shall irrevocably instruct the bank to make payment against

the sole instruction of the TSO in accordance with these Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions shall take precedence over the bank mandate for the TSO RESS Account.

9.3.3 Bid Bonds shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) a Bid Bond shall be available for draw down by the TSO making a call or a demand as provided for in these Terms and Conditions and shall continue to remain in place until the provision of the executed Implementation Agreement and the Performance Security by the relevant Applicant; and
- (b) the Applicant shall not allow, and shall not take any action, or fail to take any action, which would have the effect of allowing, the amount of the Bid Bond to reduce below the Bid Bond Required Amount.

9.3.4 Termination and Associated Charges

- (a) Applicants are reminded of Sections 6.6.3 and 8.2 of these Terms and Conditions which will allow the TSO to draw down on the full amount of the Bid Bond.
- (b) Where a Successful Applicant does not execute the Implementation Agreement or does not post the Performance Security in accordance with these Terms and Conditions, the Minister shall rescind the Letter of Offer and instruct the TSO to draw down on the Bid Bond provided by the Successful Applicant.
- (c) Where a Successful Applicant executes the Implementation Agreement and posts the Performance Security associated with that Implementation Agreement in accordance with the timeframes set out in these Terms and Conditions, the Minister shall instruct the TSO to return the Bid Bond to the Successful Applicant.
- (d) If a Qualified Applicant is unsuccessful in the RESS 2 Auction (and has otherwise complied with these Terms and Conditions), the TSO shall return the Bid Bond to the Qualified Applicant within ten Working Days of the publication of the final results of the RESS 2 Auction.

- (e) If an Applicant submits a valid Notice of Withdrawal to the TSO by the Final Withdrawal Date, the TSO shall return the Bid Bond to the Applicant within ten Working Days of the Final Withdrawal Date.
- (f) If an Applicant does not qualify for RESS 2 then the TSO shall return the Bid Bond to the Applicant within ten (10) Working Days of the issue of Final Qualification Decisions to Applicants.

9.4 Auction Process

9.4.1 Auction Information Pack

- (a) The TSO shall develop the Auction Information Pack and an offer submission form (the “**Offer Submission Form**”), which includes all the relevant information on how a Qualified Applicant may submit an Offer.
- (b) The TSO shall publish the Auction Information Pack and Offer Submission Form. The TSO shall include in the Offer Submission Form details of the secure submission process.

9.4.2 Submission of Offers and Provisions Relating to Auction Results

- (a) Qualified Applicants shall submit an Offer using the Offer Submission Form no later than the RESS 2 Auction Submission Deadline Date.
- (b) The TSO shall use reasonable endeavours to conclude the RESS 2 Auction in accordance with these Terms and Conditions by the Auction Completion Date.
- (c) The TSO shall use reasonable endeavours to do the following by the Provisional Auction Results Date:
 - (i) issue the Provisional Auction Results to all Qualified Applicants that submitted an Offer; and
 - (ii) publish a notification of the Provisional Auction Results, containing:
 - the total number of: Applications for Qualification; Applications for Qualification that did not qualify; withdrawals from the process; and

Qualified Applicants who failed to submit an Offer Price;

- the total number of Qualified Applicants who were provisionally successful in the auction and the total number of Qualified Applicants who were provisionally unsuccessful in the auction;
- the quantity of renewable energy supply (in total GWh/yr of Deemed Energy Quantity) of provisionally successful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the quantity of renewable energy supply (in total GWh/yr of Deemed Energy Quantity) of provisionally unsuccessful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the capacity (in total MW of Offer Quantity) of provisionally successful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the capacity (in total MW of Offer Quantity) of provisionally unsuccessful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the GWh-weighted average Offer Price of provisionally successful Offers, for each Preference Category; and
- a list of all provisionally successful Applicants and the location, size (Offer Quantity) and Eligible Technology category of each provisionally successful Offer.

The Offer Price for each provisionally successful Applicant will not be published.

- (d) In respect of a Provisional Auction Result, where the Qualified Applicant (acting to the standard of a Prudent Industry Operator) considers that the TSO has not applied these Terms and Conditions correctly, they may submit a Notice of Dissatisfaction to the Minister within two Working Days of receipt of the outcome of the Provisional Auction Results.
- (e) The TSO shall submit the Provisional Auction Results, for all Qualified

Applicants that submitted an Offer, to the Minister for approval.

- (f) The Minister shall consider the Provisional Auction Results submitted by the TSO, the Auction Monitor report (in accordance with the Information Paper) and any Notices of Dissatisfaction submitted by Qualified Applicants in respect of a Provisional Auction Result.
- (g) The TSO shall issue the Final Auction Results to all Qualified Applicants by the later of: (i) the Final Auction Results Date; and (ii) two Working Days after the receipt of approval from the Minister in respect of the Final Auction Results.

9.5 Post Auction Information to Be Released Publicly

The TSO will publish a notification of the Final Auction Results, including:

- the quantity of renewable energy supply (in total GWh/yr of Deemed Energy Quantity) of successful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the quantity of renewable energy supply (in total GWh/yr of Deemed Energy Quantity) of unsuccessful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the capacity (in total MW of Offer Quantity) of successful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the capacity (in total MW of Offer Quantity) of unsuccessful Offers, by Eligible Technology category;
- the GWh-weighted average Offer Price of successful Offers, for each Preference Category; and
- a list of all Successful Applicants and the location, size (Offer Quantity) and Eligible Technology category of each successful Offer.

The Offer Price for each Successful Applicant will not be published. However, the current Regulatory Authority policy is to publish PSO outturn payments by Supplier to each Generator.

When instructed by the Minister, the TSO will publish a list of any Successful Applicants for whom the TSO has drawn down a Bid Bond pursuant to Section 9.3.4(b). This list will include the location, size (Offer Quantity) and Eligible Technology category of each Offer concerned.

10 Reserved Rights of the Minister

10.1.1 The Minister reserves the following rights, in addition to the rights specified elsewhere in these Terms and Conditions:

- (a) the right to reject all Applications for Qualification and / or Offers, modify these Terms and Conditions if all Applications for Qualification and / or Offers have been rejected and direct the TSO to re-run the RESS 2 Auction;
- (b) the right to reject any Applications for Qualification and / or Offers as a result of Applications for Qualification and / or Offers being inconsistent with the objectives of RESS 2, and including by reason that the Application for Qualification and / or Offer took advantage of an interpretation of these Terms and Conditions which was not intended by the Minister and accepting such Application for Qualification or Offer would be contrary to the objectives of RESS 2; and
- (c) the right to reject any Offer Price for any reason provided that no higher Offer Price in the same Preference Category is accepted, and/or to modify R_{Min_a} .

11 General

11.1 Condition of Offer

It shall be a condition of any Letter of Offer for RESS 2 that each RESS 2 Project shall comply on an ongoing basis with these Terms and Conditions and any other legal or regulatory requirements applicable to the RESS 2 Project in question. In the case of any material breach of any of these Terms and Conditions, or of any legal or regulatory requirements, the Letter of Offer may be withdrawn.

11.2 Changes to Plant or Equipment

11.2.1 Pursuant to condition 5 of the Letter of Offer, the Minister may agree to material changes to plant or equipment within any individual RESS 2 Project subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the change is notified in writing to the Minister sufficiently in advance of the change;
- (b) the change is agreed by response in writing by the Minister;
- (c) the changes to the plant or equipment are reasonable and the RESS 2 Project remains otherwise compliant with these Terms and Conditions;
- (d) the changes do not increase or decrease the Installed Renewable Capacity or storage capacity of the RESS 2 Project (save in accordance with Section 6.4.15 of these Terms and Conditions) nor the MEC of the RESS 2 Project;
- (e) the change does not violate planning permission for the RESS 2 Project;
- (f) the change does not result in the RESS 2 Project moving between Eligible Technology categories or no longer qualifying as an Eligible Technology;
- (g) the change does not result in a material difference in the level of battery or other energy storage of the RESS 2 Project; and
- (h) the change does not result in energy produced by the RESS 2 Project bypassing the meter of the RESS 2 Project, or being delivered in a form other

than electrical energy.

11.2.2 Subject to the conditions at sub-Sections 11.2.1(c) to 11.2.1(f), minor changes to plant and equipment within any individual RESS 2 Project do not require the Minister's approval.

11.3 Freedom of Information Act

11.3.1 All records held by the Minister, the TSO and / or the Regulatory Authority are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, as amended or revised from time to time, (the "**FoI Act**") and may be subject to disclosure in the public interest in accordance with the FoI Act.

11.3.2 The FoI Act establishes a general rule of disclosure of all records held by certain bodies including the Minister, the TSO and / or the Regulatory Authority. Some exceptions are provided for including where information is of a personal or confidential nature or commercially sensitive. Applicants should seek their own legal advice on the applicability of the FoI Act to any application, information or documentation submitted under these Terms and Conditions.

11.4 Costs and Expenses

The Minister shall not be responsible or liable for any costs or expenses incurred in making any Application for Qualification in the RESS 2 Auction or submitting an Offer or otherwise participating in RESS 2 regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Application for Qualification or the RESS 2 Auction or otherwise.

11.5 Liability

Although every care has been taken in preparing these Terms and Conditions and equal care will be taken in performing any obligations under these Terms and Conditions, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, in respect of any error or misstatement by or on behalf of the Minister or any of his officers, employees, servants, advisers, contractors, or agents is or will be made or given to any Applicant or to any other party, and no responsibility or liability will be accepted by the Minister or any of his officers, employees, servants, advisers or agents for the accuracy or completeness of these Terms and Conditions or of any other information,

written or oral, which is made available to any Applicant or to any other party or to the officers, employees, servants, advisers, contractors or agents of any such party. Any and all liability and/or loss (including any third party liability or loss) of any nature whatsoever and howsoever arising (including liability and/or loss and any third party liability or loss (including indirect or consequential damage and loss whatsoever or howsoever arising)) in any way resulting from performing any obligations under these Terms and Conditions is hereby expressly disclaimed by the Minister and his officers, employees, servants, advisers and agents and is hereby excluded, in each case, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

11.6 Change of Control

For all RESS 2 Projects, the Successful Applicant shall give (as soon as reasonably practicable) notice to the Minister of any transfer or allotment of shares or amendment of articles of association or constitutional documents or by some other act or deed whereby the effective control of the Successful Applicant (whether by ownership of shares or the power to control or direct the management of the Successful Applicant) changed or passed to any person not having effective control as at the date of the Application for Qualification.

11.7 Access and Performance Monitoring

It is a condition of RESS 2 that Generators who receive a Letter of Offer will be required to provide reasonable access to the Site to the Minister, its employees, contractors, servants or agents (including Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, its employees, contractors, servants and agents, and the Regulatory Authority, the TSO and the DSO, and their respective employees, contractors, servants and agents) and to provide technical and generation information including statistical data to them for the purpose of monitoring and forming technical assessments of efficiency, reliability and productivity including overall performance.

11.8 Consultation with Third Parties

It is a condition of entry to the RESS 2 Auction that the Applicant accepts that the Minister may correspond with the appropriate regulatory authority (including the Regulatory Authority, the TSO and the DSO) about related applications to construct or operate the electricity generating plant or permissions, consents or authorisations

issued by it and to communicate with the appropriate network operator regarding the status of related connections to the network. Therefore, all Applicants shall complete letters addressed to the SEM, the Regulatory Authority and the relevant network operators as part of the application in the RESS 2 Auction (copies of which will be included in the Qualification Information Pack).

11.9 Extension of Time

The Minister may, even where no applications for extensions of time limits have been received, publish, in the event of a delay in grid connection build-out affecting, or likely to affect, a significant number of RESS 2 Projects or a category (which may be a category defined by type of RESS 2 Project or by reference to some other factor related to the likely impact of such a delay) of them, a notice extending, for all Generators or such a category, a specified deadline, or all deadlines, by a specified period of time or until a specified date within the conditions of the state aid clearance decision for RESS 2.

11.10 Information

The Minister may, where he considers it appropriate to do so, request any information he deems necessary for the consideration of an Application for Qualification or to confirm to his satisfaction ongoing compliance by an Applicant and/or Generator or Application for Qualification with these Terms and Conditions and the Minister may exclude any Applicant and/or Generator or Application for Qualification from RESS 2 if any information requested in a letter warning of the possibility of such exclusion is not received within 21 days after being requested in such a letter.

11.11 Data Protection

The Minister will process personal data (as that term is defined under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679) in connection with the administration of RESS 2. For further information on how the Minister processes personal data in connection with RESS 2, and the parties that personal data may be shared with, please see the privacy note contained on the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications website.

Annex A – Technical Requirements for Certain Eligible Technologies

Waste to Energy HECHP

“Boilers fuelled exclusively by Waste” or “Waste to energy” refers to the process of generating energy in the form of electricity from the primary treatment of Waste, or the processing of Waste into a fuel source.

“Waste” has the meaning assigned to it by section 4 of the Waste Management Act, 1996 (as amended), excluding substances that have been intentionally modified or contaminated in order to meet this definition.

RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Waste to Energy HECHP” must be connected directly to the electricity network and metered independently of any other electricity generating plant in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

Electricity generated from the combustion of Waste (other than a fuel produced by means of anaerobic digestion, gasification or pyrolysis) in a qualifying combined heat and power generating electricity plant only from renewable sources and those renewable sources include Waste which is not Biomass.

The calculation of the renewable portion of Waste to energy shall be based on the European Standard I.S. EN 15440 “Solid Recovered Fuels – Methods for the Determination of Biomass Content”. In accordance with these Terms and Conditions, RESS 2 Projects are permitted to use reference data that is derived in accordance with I.S. EN 15440, as opposed to the standard being applied to samples taken directly at the RESS 2 Project’s Site. Additionally, the Minister permits RESS 2 Projects to combine data from I.S. EN 15440 with Waste characterisation survey data that is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Minister to be representative of the Waste composition at the Site.

For PSO certification purposes (regarding RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Waste to Energy HECHP”), the Supplier who is party to the RESS 2 PPA will be required to submit this calculation data to the Regulatory Authority and it shall be accompanied by a report verifying the information. The verification shall be completed by an independent person in accordance with the requirements for assurance engagements prescribed in ISAE 3000, or an equivalent standard as

may be agreed with the Minister and notified to the Regulatory Authority. RESS 2 Projects that have variable biodegradable fuel content, affecting the proportion of their exported electricity eligible for their RESS 2 Project shall be estimated ex-ante and will be certified for the purposes of RESS 2 Support calculations on an ex-post basis.

All RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Waste to Energy HECHP” must retain a High Efficiency Combined Heat and Power HECHP certificate from the Regulatory Authority for the duration of RESS 2 Support.

Biomass HECHP

“Biomass Combined Heat and Power systems” refers to a combined heat and power system which uses solid biomass as a fuel.

“Renewable Energy Directive” refers to Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

“biomass fuels” has the meaning assigned to “biomass fuels” in Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

“Biomass” has the meaning assigned to it in Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Biomass HECHP” must be connected directly to the electricity network and metered independently of any other electricity generating plant in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

Biomass fuels produced from agricultural Biomass shall not be made from raw material obtained from land:

- (a) with high biodiversity value, i.e., primary forests, specially protected areas, special areas of conservation and highly biodiverse grasslands;
- (b) with high carbon stock, i.e., wetlands, continuously forested areas; or
- (c) that was undrained peatland in January 2008.

For Biomass produced in Ireland, there are clear monitoring and enforcement systems in place

under existing legislation, monitored by the Forestry Service, the relevant local authorities and the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (“**DHLGH**”). Verification rests with Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (“**DAFM**”) and the **DHLGH**.

Biomass fuels produced from forest Biomass shall meet the following requirements in accordance with Article 29 of the Renewable Energy Directive:

- (a) the country of origin of the Biomass has harvesting laws, and monitoring and enforcement systems (or where not available in the country of origin, that management systems are in place at forest sourcing area level) to ensure:
 - (i) it is carried out in accordance with a harvesting permit;
 - (ii) forest regeneration is in place;
 - (iii) nature protection areas, including peatlands and wetlands, are protected;
 - (iv) impacts on soil quality and biodiversity are minimised; and
 - (v) it does not exceed the long-term production capacity of the forest.

- (b) the country (or regional economic integration organisation) meets the following requirements in accordance with Article 29 of the Renewable Energy Directive:
 - (i) is party to or has ratified the Paris Agreement;
 - (ii) has submitted a Nationally Determined Contribution to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (“**UNFCCC**”) or there are laws in place (in accordance with the Paris Agreement) to conserve and enhance carbon stocks and sinks; and
 - (iii) has a national system for reporting GHG emissions and removals from land use including forestry and agriculture.

RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Biomass HECHP” must meet the requirement of at least 70% greenhouse gas emission savings in line with Article 29 of the Renewable Energy Directive and calculated in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Renewable Energy Directive.

All RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Biomass HECHP” must retain a High Efficiency Combined Heat and Power HECHP certificate from the Regulatory Authority for the duration of RESS 2 Support.

Biogas HECHP

“Boilers fuelled by biogas” means the process of generating electricity using Biogas as a fuel.

“Biogas” has the meaning assigned to it by Article 2 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Biogas HECHP” must be connected directly to the electricity network and metered independently of any other electricity generating plant in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology ‘Biogas HECHP’ must meet the requirement of at least 70% greenhouse gas emission savings in line with Article 29 of the Renewable Energy Directive.

If the feedstock is classified as animal by-product (“**ABP**”), the eligible anaerobic digestion (“**AD**”) technology must be in receipt of an ABP licence from DAFM. A full list of ABP feedstock and the waste risk categories is available on the DAFM website.

In the absence of approved certification, AD feedstock shall consist of a maximum of 20% grass silage or other harvested energy crop in order to meet sustainability requirements. All Biogas proposals must clearly demonstrate robust traceability and verification of fuel source.

Biogas from landfill sites will not be eligible for support under RESS 2.

All RESS 2 Projects of Eligible Technology “Biogas HECHP” must retain a High Efficiency Combined Heat and Power HECHP certificate from the Regulatory Authority for the duration of RESS 2 Support.

High Efficiency CHP or HECHP

For a Generator to become HECHP certified, it must comply with certain criteria as set out in the Regulatory Authority’s documents [CER/12/125](#), [CER/12/184](#), [CER/16/153](#), [CRU20142](#) and any further clarifications as published on the Regulatory Authority’s website periodically as required.

Annex B – Financial Questionnaire

Dear RESS Applicant,

In line with EU State Aid Decision and ex-post evaluation of the scheme requirements (https://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/isef/case_details.cfm?proc_code=3_SA_54683) Applicants are required to provide the information specified in the table below. Applicants should note that the Department for the Environment, Climate and Communications will treat all such information as confidential and commercially sensitive for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2014. The Department for the Environment, Climate and Communications will ensure that, to the extent such information is used in any published ex-post evaluation, it will be on an anonymized basis.

Where an Applicant has submitted Offers in respect of more than one RESS Project, the Applicant must submit a separate response for each such project.

Information request	Applicant response
<p>Project Details What is the RESS application reference number of your project?</p>	<p>Insert application reference number as provided by EirGrid during the auction process.</p>
<p>Importance of RESS Please estimate the likelihood of you being able to deliver your project, without RESS or other financial support from the State.</p>	<p>Select one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • > 99% (almost certain to be delivered); • 75% to 99% (highly likely to be delivered); • 50% to 75% (likely to be delivered); • 25% to 50% (unlikely to be delivered); • 1% to 25% (highly unlikely to be delivered); or • < 1% (almost certainly <u>not</u> delivered).
<p>Non-RESS opportunities Please estimate the likelihood of you being able to deliver your project through a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (Corporate PPA). Your answer to this question should be a percentage range no greater than that in your answer to the preceding question.</p>	<p>Select one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • > 99% (almost certain to be delivered); • 75% to 99% (highly likely to be delivered); • 50% to 75% (likely to be delivered); • 25% to 50% (unlikely to be delivered); • 1% to 25% (highly unlikely to be delivered); or • < 1% (almost certainly <u>not</u> delivered).
<p>Explanation Please provide a brief explanation for your responses to the questions above.</p>	<p>Select one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project would not be economically viable without RESS support; • The project would be unlikely to proceed as a corporate PPA; and/or • Other – please specify
<p>Project Internal Rate of Return (IRR)</p>	<p>Select one of the following:</p>

Information request	Applicant response
<p>Please estimate the Nominal pre-tax Project IRR (PIRR) in respect of your project, based on your Offer Price in the RESS auction.</p> <p>The PIRR is the discount rate that equates the Nominal Project Cashflows to a Net Present Value of zero.</p> <p>Nominal means inclusive of escalation or inflation (i.e. 'money of the day', and <u>not</u> in 'real terms').</p> <p>Project Cashflows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — include project revenues, capital and operating costs (see definitions below), and working capital adjustments; and — exclude all Financing Costs, Taxes and Accrual Items. <p>Whereby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Financing Costs include interest, finance arranging or refinancing fees, dividends; — Taxes include corporation tax, capital gains tax, VAT, rates and stamp duty; and — Accrual Items include depreciation, amortisation and other accrual accounting adjustments to the project cashflows. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIRR \geq 10%; • 10% > PIRR \geq 8%; • 8% > PIRR \geq 6%; • 6% > PIRR \geq 4%; • 4% > PIRR \geq 2%; or • 2% > PIRR.
<p>Capital costs</p> <p>Please indicate the total Nominal Capital Costs associated with your project, relative to its Offer Quantity.</p> <p>Nominal Capital Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — include all planning, design, construction, contingency, escalation or inflation, project management, plant, machinery, equipment and other acquisition, installation or demolition costs associated with construction of the generation facility or other costs of a capital nature that will be incurred directly by your project – but excluding grid connection costs; — exclude all Financing Costs and Taxes. 	<p>Specify total Nominal Capital Costs to the nearest €100,000 per 1 MW and specify the year for which that value applies, e.g. '2023 Euros'.</p>
<p>Annual Operating costs</p> <p>Please indicate the Annual Operating Costs associated with your project, relative to its Offer Quantity.</p> <p>Operating Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — include all repairs, maintenance, operations and management costs associated with operation of the generation facility; — exclude all Financing Costs and Taxes. <p>Annual means the levelised cost over the life of the plant.</p>	<p>Specify Annual Operating Costs to the nearest €10,000 per 1 MW and specify whether that value has been levelised on a nominal basis, or alternatively on a real basis, e.g. 'levelised nominal'.</p>

Annex C – Form of Implementation Agreement, Performance Security and Letter of Offer

The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications

RESS-2

Implementation Agreement

[•] 20[•]

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THIS IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT (“AGREEMENT”) is made the day of 20[●]

BETWEEN:

- (1) **THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND COMMUNICATIONS**, of 29 – 31 Adelaide Road, Dublin, D02 X285 (the “**Minister**”); and
- (2) [[●]], a [[●] company] incorporated under the laws of [●], with [registration number [●]] and having its registered office at [[●]] (the “**Generator**”),

each a “**Party**” and together the “**Parties**”.

WHEREAS:

- A. The Minister has developed the new Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) for Ireland. The RESS aims to promote the generation of electricity from renewable sources and is framed within the context of the EU’s Clean Energy Package and in particular the Renewable Energy Directive.
- B. An Application for Qualification for the RESS 2 Auction in respect of the RESS 2 Project was accepted by the TSO and an Offer was submitted into the RESS 2 Auction in respect of the RESS 2 Project.
- C. By Notice of Award, the Generator was informed that the RESS 2 Project was successful in the RESS 2 Auction.
- D. In accordance with the Terms and Conditions, the Generator (as a successful bidder) shall be entitled to receive a Letter of Offer for RESS 2 Support (in the form set out in Appendix 1 to this Agreement) subject to and in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- E. In accordance with the Terms and Conditions, the Parties have agreed to enter into this Agreement subject to and upon the terms and conditions hereafter set forth.

In consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein **IT IS HEREBY AGREED** as follows:

1 Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 Definitions

In this Agreement (including the Recitals) and the Appendices hereto, save where the context otherwise admits or requires, the following definitions shall have the following meanings:

“**Act**” means the Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (as amended);

“**Application for Qualification**” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“**Approved Credit Rating**” means at least a BBB rating of long-term debt given by Standard & Poor’s (or equivalent rating by Moody’s or Fitch);

“**Biogas HECHP**” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“**Biomass HECHP**” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“**Commercial Operation**” means the date that the RESS 2 Project achieved the Installed Renewable Capacity Commitment and provided that the RESS 2 Project has (as applicable) also obtained an ‘Interim Operational Notification’ from the TSO or has paid the ‘third stage payment’ to the DSO (and the DSO is in receipt of the ‘third stage payment’) under the Grid Connection Agreement;

“**Commercial Operation Date**” means the date the RESS 2 Project achieved Commercial Operation;

“**Community Zero-Bond Projects**” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“**Competent Authority**” means any local or national or supra-national agency, authority, department, inspectorate, ministry, official or public or statutory person (whether autonomous or not) or regulatory authority of the Republic of Ireland or of the European Union which has jurisdiction over any of the Parties to and the subject matter of this Agreement and shall include the Regulatory Authority and shall not include a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction;

“Distribution System Operator” or **“DSO”** has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“Event of Default” has the meaning given to that term in Clause 8.1;

“Expiry Date” means, for any RESS 2 Project, the date falling seven (7) months after the Commercial Operation Date;

“Force Majeure” means any event or circumstance or number of events or circumstances or combination thereof which is beyond the control of a Party and which could not have been avoided and which results in or causes the failure of a Party to perform any of its obligations under this Agreement and any such event or circumstance or number of events or circumstances or combination thereof shall be limited to the following:

- (a) acts of terrorists;
- (b) war declared or undeclared, blockade, revolution, riot, insurrection, civil commotion, invasion or armed conflict;
- (c) sabotage or acts of vandalism, criminal damage or the threat of such acts;
- (d) extreme weather or environmental conditions including lightning, fire, landslip, accumulation of snow or ice, natural disasters and phenomena including meteorites, the occurrence of pressure waves caused by aircraft or other aerial devices travelling at supersonic speeds, impact by aircraft, volcanic eruption, explosion including nuclear explosion, radioactive or chemical contamination or ionising radiation;
- (e) any change of legislation, governmental order, restraint or directive having the effect of preventing or delaying the construction, commissioning or testing of the RESS 2 Project, shutting down or reducing the output of the RESS 2 Project or (where applicable) interrupting the supply of fuel or electricity to the RESS 2 Project; and

- (f) any strike which is part of a labour dispute of a national character occurring in the Republic of Ireland or which is part of a national electricity industry strike within the Republic of Ireland,

provided that Force Majeure shall not include lack of funds and/or the inability of a Party to pay and/or delay in construction or energisation of a RESS 2 Project's grid connection;

"Grid Connection Agreement" means the agreement to be entered into between the Generator and the DSO or the TSO setting out the terms on which the RESS 2 Project will be connected to the transmission system or the distribution system;

"Guarantee of Origin" has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

"HECHP" has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

"HECHP Certificate" has the meaning given to that term in Milestone 8 of Appendix 2;

"Installed Renewable Capacity" has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

"Installed Renewable Capacity Commitment" has the meaning given to that term in Clause 5.6;

"Law" or **"Laws"** means any law applicable to this Agreement and will include common law, statutes, statutory instruments, byelaws, rules, codes, regulations, decisions, directives, constitutions, instruments, rules of court, delegated or junior legislation;

"Letter of Offer" means a letter of offer for RESS 2 Support from the Minister to the Generator, in the form set out in Appendix 1 to this Agreement;

"Longstop Date" means 31 December 2025;

"Material Breach" means a breach by the Generator of or a failure by the Generator to comply with:

- (a) the Terms and Conditions; or

- (b) Clause 6.1 and 6.2 of this Agreement; or
- (c) any warranties, representations or confirmations contained in Clause 4 of this Agreement;

“Milestone Completion Dates” means the dates that each Milestone must be achieved by the Generator as set out in Appendix 2;

“Milestones” means the milestones prescribed in Appendix 2;

“Non-Performing Party” means a Party which is unable to perform all or any of its obligations by reason of Force Majeure;

“Notice of Award” means the letter from the Minister to the Generator advising the Generator that the RESS 2 Project was successful in the RESS 2 Auction;

“Offer” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“Performance Security” means the on demand performance security to be procured by the Generator in the form as set out in Appendix 3;

“PPA” means a power purchase agreement between the Generator and a licensed supplier obliging the latter to purchase the output from the RESS 2 Project;

“Regulatory Authority” means the Commission for Regulation of Utilities as established pursuant to the Act or any successor body;

“Renewable Energy Directive” means Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

“RESS” means renewable electricity support scheme established by the Minister pursuant to Section 39 (2) (b) of the Act;

“RESS 2 Auction” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“RESS 2 Project” means the renewable energy project to be developed by the Generator,

as detailed in the Application for Qualification;

“RESS 2 Support” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“RESS 2 Support End-Date” has the meaning given to that term in Clause 5.1;

“Terms and Conditions” means the terms and conditions governing the RESS 2 Auction (as may be amended or updated in accordance with the Terms and Conditions);

“Transmission System Operator” or **“TSO”** has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;

“Waste to Energy HECHP” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions;
and

“Working Day” has the meaning given to it in the Terms and Conditions.

1.2 Interpretation

1.2.1 In this Agreement, unless the context requires otherwise, any reference to:

- (a) the singular shall include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) any gender reference shall be deemed to include references to the masculine, feminine and neuter genders;
- (c) the word “including” and its variations shall be construed without limitation;
- (d) any reference to “writing” or “written” shall include all methods of reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form;
- (e) any words importing persons or parties shall include individuals, firms and corporations, joint ventures, trusts, unincorporated associations and organisations, partnerships and any other entity, in each case whether or not having a separate legal personality and any references to persons shall include their legal successors and permitted assignees;

- (f) any reference to legislation, regulations, directives, orders, instruments, codes or other enactments shall include any amendments, modifications, extensions, replacements or re-enactments thereof then in force;
- (g) any reference to a statutory agency, body, corporation, entity, ministry or office shall include their legal predecessors, successors and permitted assignees;
- (h) unless otherwise specified:
 - (i) any reference in this Agreement to a Clause is a reference to a Clause contained in this Agreement;
 - (ii) any reference to an Appendix is a reference to an Appendix to this Agreement;
 - (iii) any reference to another agreement or document, or any deed or other instrument shall be construed as a reference to that other agreement, or document, deed or other instrument as the same may have been, or may from time to time be, amended, varied, supplemented, substituted or novated;
 - (iv) any reference to a month or year shall be construed as reference to a calendar month or year, as the case may be;
 - (v) where reference is made to a monetary amount or sum, it is to an amount or sum denominated in euro unless specified otherwise;
 - (vi) the table of contents and Clause headings are inserted for ease of reference only and shall be ignored for the purpose of the construction of this Agreement;
 - (vii) all terms which have been defined in this Agreement shall have their initial letters in capital typescript whenever and wherever they appear in this Agreement; and
 - (viii) any reference to time shall be construed as local time in Dublin, Ireland.

1.2.2 In the event of inconsistency between the provisions of this Agreement and the Letter of Offer or the Terms and Conditions, the following order of precedence shall prevail:

- (a) the Terms and Conditions;
- (b) the Implementation Agreement; and
- (c) the Letter of Offer.

2 Term

2.1 This Agreement shall commence on the date of this Agreement and shall continue until the earlier of (i) the Expiry Date; and (ii) the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms.

3 Agreement

3.1 The Generator agrees that it shall:

3.1.1 deliver to the Minister and maintain the Performance Security in accordance with Clauses 6.1 and 6.2; and

3.1.2 design, finance, construct, complete and commission the RESS 2 Project in accordance with this Agreement, the Terms and Conditions and all Laws.

3.2 Subject to the Generator's compliance with Clause 6.1, the Minister agrees to provide the Letter of Offer to the Generator following receipt by the Minister of: (i) two original counterparts of this Agreement duly executed by the Generator; and (ii) an original of the Performance Security which has been duly executed.

4 Confirmations

4.1 The Generator hereby warrants, represents and confirms to the Minister as follows:

4.1.1 that the representations and warranties contained in the Application for Qualification for the RESS 2 Project are true, valid and correct, complete and

accurate in all material respects as of the date hereof;

- 4.1.2 the Generator is a company duly organised, validly existing and in a good standing under the laws of the country in which it is established and has full power and authority to carry on its business as provided for in this Agreement;
- 4.1.3 the Generator has the corporate power and authority to enter into this Agreement and the transactions provided for and contemplated in it;
- 4.1.4 the execution and performance of this Agreement does not conflict with or constitute a breach or default under any contract or agreement of any kind to which the Generator is a party or any Laws applicable to the Generator or its assets; and
- 4.1.5 the Generator is entering into this Agreement with a full understanding of its terms and risks and is capable of assuming those risks.

5 Achievement of Milestones and Commercial Operation

- 5.1 The RESS 2 Project is entitled to receive RESS 2 Support no earlier than 1 July 2023. Subject to Clause 5.4 below, the period of RESS 2 Support for the RESS 2 Project will end no later than 31 December 2039 (the “**RESS 2 Support End-Date**”).
- 5.2 The Generator shall ensure that all Milestones are completed by the time prescribed in Appendix 2.
- 5.3 The Generator shall ensure that the RESS 2 Project achieves Commercial Operation by the Longstop Date.
- 5.4 If the RESS 2 Project cannot achieve:
 - 5.4.1 a particular Milestone by the relevant Milestone Completion Date; or
 - 5.4.2 Commercial Operation by 31 December 2024,

In each case due to Force Majeure, then, always subject to (i) the Generator's compliance with Clause 7.1 and the Minister's right to terminate for extended Force Majeure under Clause 7.2, the relevant Milestone Completion Date and future Milestone Completion Dates will be adjusted to take account of such delay owing to Force Majeure. In addition, the RESS 2 Project's entitlement to RESS 2 Support will be extended past the RESS 2 Support End-Date. Any extension to the RESS 2 Support End-Date under this Clause 5.4, will not entitle the RESS 2 Project's RESS 2 Support to extend beyond 31 December 2040.

- 5.5 Within ten (10) Working Days after the Commercial Operation Date, the Generator shall furnish a director's certificate to the Minister along with any other relevant information confirming and evidencing that Commercial Operation has been achieved. The Generator acknowledges that the Minister may request any copies of any certificates or other documentation to ensure Commercial Operation has been achieved.
- 5.6 As a condition to the achievement of Commercial Operation, the Generator shall issue a director's declaration confirming that the Installed Renewable Capacity of the RESS 2 Project is within the tolerance limits set out in Sections 6.4.15 of the Terms and Conditions (the "**Installed Renewable Capacity Commitment**").

6 Performance Security

- 6.1 As security for the commitments of the Generator under this Agreement, the Generator shall procure the execution and delivery of the Performance Security, by a security provider with an Approved Credit Rating to the Minister no later than the Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date. As specified at Section 8.1 of the Terms and Conditions, the Performance Security must be in the form attached to this Agreement and alternative forms of security (including cash) are not permitted.
- 6.2 In the event that:
- 6.2.1 the Generator does not achieve a Milestone by the applicable Milestone Completion Date allowing the Minister to make a demand under the Performance Security as indicated in Appendix 2 to the Agreement; or

6.2.2 Commercial Operation is not achieved by the Longstop Date; or

6.2.3 the development of the RESS 2 Project is abandoned; or

6.2.4 any of the matters listed in Clause 8 arise, allowing the Minister to terminate this Agreement and/or make a demand for payment under the Performance Security in accordance with Clause 8.2,

the Minister may make a demand for payment under the Performance Security pursuant to its terms.

6.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, a Performance Security shall not be required to be put in place in respect of Community Zero-Bond Projects.

6.4 Subject to the overarching principle that any such replacement cannot result in a gap in security cover (and for the avoidance of doubt any gap in cover shall be a breach of this Agreement and the Terms and Conditions), a Generator may apply to replace the Performance Security in place with a new performance security instrument (the "**Replacement Performance Security**") during the term of this Agreement. Any Replacement Performance Security must:

- (a) be issued by a financial company with an Approved Credit Rating
- (b) be in the form set out at Appendix 3 to this Agreement.
- (c) be effective so there is no gap in security cover.

6.5 The Replacement Performance Security shall be sent by registered post or hand delivered to:

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, 29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2, D02 X285

For the Attention of: Principal Officer, Electricity Policy Division, Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

6.6 Following receipt of the Replacement Performance Security which satisfies the requirements of Clause 6.4, the Minister shall return the previous Performance Security provided to the Generator.

6.7 The Minister shall return the Performance Security or Replacement Performance

Security (as applicable):

6.7.1 involving Onshore Wind, Solar, RESS Hybrid Wind and Solar, RESS Hybrid Wind and Storage, RESS Hybrid Solar and Storage and Hydro, following receipt of the documentation at Clauses 5.5 and 5.6 for that RESS 2 Project including any additional information/documents required by the Minister to verify the documentation provided by the Generator.

6.7.2 involving Biomass HECHP, Biogas HECHP and Waste to Energy HECHP, upon receipt of the documentation at Clauses 5.5 and 5.6 as well as the HECHP Certificate for that RESS 2 Project including any additional information/documents required by the Minister to verify the documentation provided by the Generator.

7 Force Majeure

7.1 Where a Non-Performing Party is rendered wholly or partially unable to perform all or any of its obligations under this Agreement by reason of Force Majeure, this Agreement shall remain in effect but the Non-Performing Party's relevant obligations and the corresponding obligations of the other Party owed to the Non-Performing Party under this Agreement which are obligations affected by Force Majeure shall be suspended provided that such suspension shall be of no greater scope and no longer duration than is required by the Force Majeure.

Further:

7.1.1 as soon as reasonably practicable, but in any event within five (5) Working Days, the Non-Performing Party shall notify the other Party of the circumstances of Force Majeure, identifying the nature of the event, its expected duration, and the particular obligations thereby affected and shall furnish reports at such intervals as the other Party may reasonably request, with respect thereto during the period of Force Majeure;

7.1.2 the Non-Performing Party shall use all reasonable endeavours to remedy this inability to perform and to resume full performance of its obligations under the Agreement;

7.1.3 no obligations of either Party that arose before the Force Majeure and which can

reasonably be expected to be performed are excused as a result of Force Majeure;

7.1.4 forthwith after the occurrence of the Force Majeure, each Party shall use all reasonable endeavours to consult with the other as to how best to give effect to their obligations under the Agreement so far as is reasonably practicable during the period of Force Majeure;

7.1.5 the Non-Performing Party on being able to resume full performance of its obligations under the Agreement, shall provide the other Party with written notice to that effect, without delay; and

7.1.6 insofar as possible the Non-Performing Party shall seek to mitigate the consequences of the Force Majeure occurrence.

7.2 If the event that an event of Force Majeure continues for more than twelve (12) months, then the Party not affected by Force Majeure may by notice in writing to the Non-Performing Party terminate this Agreement with effect from the date of such notice. On termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Clause 7.2 the Parties acknowledge that the Letter of Offer will be withdrawn by the Minister.

8 Events of Default and Termination

8.1 The following events or circumstance shall be Events of Default:

8.1.1 the Generator does not comply with its obligation under Clause 6 of this Agreement; or

8.1.2 a demand has been made by the Minister under the Performance Security and such amount is not paid to the Minister within the timeframe for payment specified in the Performance Security; or

8.1.3 the Generator is in Material Breach; or

8.1.4 any other act, default or omission which is in breach of this Agreement and in respect of which the Minister has given notice (a "breach notice") to the Generator requiring the breach to be rectified and the Generator has failed to rectify within twenty (20) Working Days of the breach notice or such longer

period as the Minister may in its sole discretion specify in the breach notice;
or

8.1.5 the Generator:

- (a) is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of Section 570 of the Companies Act 2014 (and a Party shall not be deemed to be unable to pay its debts if any demand for payment is being contested in good faith by the Party concerned with recourse to all appropriate measures and procedures) or if it enters into any voluntary scheme, agreement or arrangement (other than for the purpose of solvent reconstruction or amalgamation upon terms and within such period as may previously have been approved in writing by the Minister); or
- (b) has a receiver or examiner appointed over the whole or any material part of its assets or undertaking; or
- (c) passes any resolution for winding-up; or
- (d) anything analogous to, or having a substantially similar effect to, any of the events or any circumstances specified in Clause 8.1.5 (a) – (c) above occurs in any jurisdiction in relation to the Generator; or

8.1.6 Commercial Operation is not achieved by the Longstop Date.

8.2 Where an Event of Default arises or the Minister terminates this Agreement in accordance with Clause 7.2, the Minister shall be entitled to:

8.2.1 make an immediate demand under the Performance Security; and / or

8.2.2 terminate this Agreement and the Letter of Offer with immediate effect.

8.3 The Minister shall have no liability to the Generator by reason of exercising such right of termination or revocation of the Letter of Offer in accordance with this Clause 8.

9 Effects of Termination

- 9.1 The relevant provisions of this Agreement shall survive expiry or termination of this Agreement to the extent necessary to provide for final payment of any payments, charges or other monies due and owing pursuant to this Agreement.
- 9.2 Termination of this Agreement by the Minister as a whole under Clause 8.2 shall not affect any rights or obligations of the Parties which have accrued at the time of such termination or, where applicable, the continuing obligations of the Parties under this Agreement.

10 Severance

If any provision of this Agreement is or becomes invalid, unenforceable or illegal by a judgement or decision of any court of competent jurisdiction or any Competent Authority to which it is subject or by order of the relevant body of the European Union, the same shall be deemed severable and the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. In any such case, the Parties will negotiate in good faith with a view to agreeing one or more provisions which may be substituted for such invalid or unenforceable provision in order to give effect, so far as practicable, to the spirit of this Agreement.

11 Notices

- 11.1 Any notice given by one Party to the other under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent or delivered to the address, and marked for the attention of the person specified in Clause 11.4. Either Party may, by notice to the other, given in compliance with this Clause 11, change its address or the person in that Party to which such notices are to be sent or delivered.
- 11.2 All such written notices shall either be personally delivered or be sent by pre-paid registered post (airmail if overseas) or electronic transfer. Communication by electronic means shall be confirmed by forwarding a copy of same by pre-paid registered post.
- 11.3 Any notice so delivered, posted or transferred shall be deemed to have been given:

11.3.1 in the case of personal delivery, when delivered; or

11.3.2 in the case of pre-paid registered post, on the second day following the date of posting (or, if airmailed to or from overseas, on the fifth day following the date of posting),

provided that, if in accordance with the above provisions, any such notice or communication is delivered or received outside working hours on any day, such notice or communications shall be deemed to have been served at the start of the working hour on the next Working Day thereafter.

11.4 **The Minister**

Address: Principal Officer, Electricity Policy Division
The Department for the Environment, Climate and
Communications, 29 – 31 Adelaide Road, Dublin, D02 X285

For the attention of: RESS Team, Electricity Policy Division

The Generator

Address: [•]

For the attention of: [•]

12 **Entire Agreement**

This Agreement, and the agreements or documents between the Generator and the Minister referred to herein, constitute the whole and only agreement between the Parties relating to the RESS 2 Project.

13 **Variation**

This Agreement may only be varied in writing by the Parties.

14 Waiver

14.1 No delay or omission by any Party to this Agreement in exercising any right, power or remedy provided by law or under this Agreement will:

14.1.1 affect that right, power or remedy; or

14.1.2 operate as a waiver of it.

14.2 The exercise or partial exercise of any right, power or remedy provided by law or under this Agreement will not preclude any other or further exercise of it or the exercise of any other right, power or remedy.

15 Counterparts

15.1 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and by the Parties on separate counterparts, but will not be effective until each Party has executed at least one counterpart.

15.2 Each counterpart will constitute an original of this Agreement, but all the counterparts will together constitute but one and the same instrument.

16 Governing Law and Jurisdiction

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland and the Courts of Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any matter arising under or in respect of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS whereof the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year first herein written.

Appendix 1
Form of Letter of Offer

Our Ref: RESS 2/X/YYYY

[•] 20[•]

[Legal name of Applicant]

[Address (including EirCode)]

[email address]

RESS 2 Competition

Letter of Offer

RE: [RESS 2 Project Name] - RESS 2 Ref. No: 2/YYYY (please quote on any future correspondence)

Dear [Authorised User•]

I am directed by the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to refer to your application in the RESS 2 (Renewable Electricity Support Scheme 2) Auction.

I am pleased to inform you that the RESS 2 Project identified in the following table has been accepted into RESS 2, subject to the conditions notified below:

Applicant	RESS 2 Project	Auction Category	Offer Price
[Legal Name of Applicant] [Address (including EirCode)]	[RESS-2 Project name], [•]MW, [•], townland, Generator address, County	RESS Preference Category	€[RESS-2OfferPrice]/MWh

The RESS 2 Ref. No in respect of this RESS 2 Project is [•] and should be quoted in all your correspondence with the Minister.

Capitalised terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning given to them in the RESS 2 terms and conditions which are publicly available at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/bd4ef-consultation-on-the-second-onshore-renewable-electricity-support-scheme-ress-2-auction-design-and-implementation/>

Conditions of this offer

1. That you shall comply with the RESS 2 terms and conditions.
2. You are required to comply with the Implementation Agreement including the achievement of all Milestones required to be completed under the Implementation Agreement by their respective completion dates.
3. Full valid planning permission is required at all times in respect of your RESS 2 Project in order to remain compliant with the RESS 2 Terms and Conditions.
4. Individual RESS 2 Projects are required to be metered separately.
5. Any material changes to the RESS 2 Project as accepted into RESS 2 must be approved by the Minister.
6. You are reminded of the requirement for official metering and of the requirement for the relevant supplier to provide evidence to the Regulatory Authority regarding technical control to ensure that the MEC cannot physically be exceeded.

Conditions of this offer relating to the PSO Order

The following additional conditions must be complied with in order for the RESS 2 Project to be included in the PSO Order:

7. Confirmation that a Guarantee of Origin in respect of the output of the RESS 2 Project will not be sought;
8. Evidence that the supplier with whom the Generator has entered into a PPA in respect of the RESS 2 Project has notified the Regulatory Authority that the RESS 2 Project is eligible for RESS 2 Payment in the upcoming PSO Levy Year; and
9. The Generator's current Tax Clearance Certificate from the Revenue Commissioners or for non-tax residents, a certificate or statement of suitability from the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

This information must be submitted to the Minister at latest within thirty (30) Working Days of

a supplier notifying the Regulatory Authority that the specified RESS 2 Project is to be included in the calculations for the upcoming PSO Levy Year.

It is noted that RESS 2 Support can only be paid to RESS 2 Projects in any given year subject to two conditions:

1. that the RESS 2 Projects have been included in the Regulatory Authority's annual PSO decision; and
2. that the RESS 2 Projects are included in the annual PSO Order statutory instrument.

Acknowledgement

You are required to acknowledge receipt of this offer in writing within ten (10) Working Days from the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Principal Officer
Electricity Policy Division

Cc: EirGrid: (RESS@EirGrid.com)

Appendix 2

Milestones

#	Milestone	Interim Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Interim Milestone Date	Final Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Final Milestone Date
1	The Generator shall issue two original executed copies of the Implementation Agreement to the Minister.	N/A	If not complete by the Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date, the Notice of Award will be revoked.
2	The Generator shall issue to the Minister a Performance Security in accordance with the terms of the Implementation Agreement.	N/A	If not complete by the Implementation Agreement and Performance Security Return Date, the Notice of Award will be revoked.
3	For Community-Led Projects, the Generator shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the Minister, that the Generator has established a company structure that complies with the definition of Community-Led Projects.	N/A	If not complete by 30 June 2023, the Letter of Offer will be revoked.
4	The Generator shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Minister that the Generator has accepted and signed a Grid Connection Agreement and to submit to the Minister the Grid Connection Agreement reference number.	If not complete by 30 June 2023, the Minister will be entitled to drawdown up to a maximum of 25% of the Performance Security (4% per month).	If not complete by 31 December 2023, the Letter of Offer will be revoked and remaining portion of the Performance Security will be drawn down.

#	Milestone	Interim Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Interim Milestone Date	Final Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Final Milestone Date
5	The Generator shall submit a declaration to the Minister confirming that funding to construct the RESS 2 Project and achieve Commercial Operation is in place in respect of the RESS 2 Project.	If not complete by 31 December 2023, the Minister will be entitled to drawdown up to a maximum of 25% of the Performance Security (4% per month).	If not complete by 30 June 2024, the Letter of Offer will be revoked and remaining portion of the Performance Security will be drawn down.
6	The Generator shall provide a letter to the Minister confirming receipt from the TSO/DSO of the 'Second Stage Payment' under the Grid Connection Agreement.	If not complete by 30 June 2024, drawdown on Performance Security up to a maximum of 25% (4% per month).	If not complete by 31 December 2024, Letter of Offer will be revoked and remaining portion of the Performance Security will be drawn down.
7	The Generator shall achieve Commercial Operation.	If not complete by 31 December 2024, erosion of the contract term equivalent to the period of time between 31 December 2024 and Commercial Operation Date.	If not complete by 31 December 2025, Letter of Offer will be revoked and remaining portion of the Performance Security will be drawn down.
8	For RESS 2 Projects involving Biomass HECHP, Biogas HECHP and Waste to Energy HECHP the Generator shall submit to the Minister a certificate from the Regulatory Authority confirming the HECHP status based on the 3 months of operation of the RESS 2 Project in accordance with Regulatory Authority documents CER/12/125 , CER/12/184 ,	N/A	If not received within six months from the Commercial Operation Date, the Letter of Offer will be revoked and remaining portion of the Performance Security will be drawn down.

#	Milestone	Interim Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Interim Milestone Date	Final Milestone Date and consequences for failure to meet Final Milestone Date
	<p>CER/16/153 and CRU20142 (or any amendment, modification or replacement of such documents) (the “HECHP Certificate”).</p>		

Appendix 3

Performance Security

Bond to be provided by a Bank or Financial Institution

To: Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Date [●]

Dear Sirs

Global Performance Security issued pursuant to the Implementation Agreement in the amount of €[●]

Under the Implementation Agreement between Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications (the “**Beneficiary**”) and [●] (the “**Generator**”) (the “**Implementation Agreement**”), it was agreed that the Generator will procure the issue of a Performance Security in favour of the Beneficiary in the form of this document.

This Performance Security is subject to the UCP Rules except where otherwise stated.

[●] with its registered place of business at [●] (the “**Issuer**”) issues this Performance Security, number [●], and irrevocably and unconditionally agrees as follows:

1. In this Performance Security (and every Demand), unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Authorised Signatory**” means an officer of the Beneficiary having authority to execute a Demand and whose name and specimen signature have been notified to the Issuer by the Beneficiary before service of the Demand;

“**Demand**” means a written notice of demand served by the Beneficiary on the Issuer in the form set out in the Attachment to this Performance Security;

“**Expiry Date**” means the earlier of the date falling seven (7) months after the Commercial Operation Date or 31 July 2026;

“**Specified Amount**” means in relation to any Demand the sum specified in that

Demand.

“**UCP Rules**” means the ICC Uniform Customs and Practices for Documentary Credits, 2007 Revisions (UCP 600) and all subsequent revisions thereof unless otherwise stated. Reference to any article is reference to such article in the UCP Rules or, where relevant, the equivalent article in any subsequent revisions of the UCP Rules.

2. The Issuer irrevocably and unconditionally undertakes that it will, on service of a Demand in paper form at the address specified below in clause 7 (or such other address as agreed between the Beneficiary and the Issuer) before the Expiry Date, and within three (3) business days of service of the Demand pay to the Beneficiary the Specified Amount, unless in so doing the aggregate limit set out in clause 3 of this Performance Security would be exceeded, in which case the Issuer shall pay to the Beneficiary so much of the Specified Amount as may be paid without exceeding such limit. The address specified below in clause 7 must be an address in the Republic of Ireland.
3. The Beneficiary may make one or more Demands under this Performance Security provided that the aggregate amount of all Demands and the aggregate liability of the Issuer under this Performance Security shall not exceed [insert maximum amount of Performance Security].
4. Any payment under this Performance Security shall be made without set-off or counterclaim and free from any deduction or withholding in euro in immediately available, fully transferable, cleared funds by transfer to the following name:

Account Name:	
Account Number:	
Bank Name:	
Bank Address:	
Sort Code:	
Swift Code:	
IBAN:	

or in such other manner or to such other account at an Irish financial institution as the Beneficiary may from time to time notify to the Issuer in writing.

Where any such deduction or withholding or is required by law to be made (whether by the Generator, Issuer or otherwise) the Issuer shall pay in the same manner and at the same time such additional amounts as will result in receipt by the Beneficiary of the amount it would have received had no such deduction or withholding been required.

5. The obligations of the Issuer under this Performance Security shall cease on the Expiry Date, except:
 - (a) in respect of any Demand received by the Issuer prior to the Expiry Date in relation to which the Issuer shall be obliged (subject to the terms of this Performance Security) to pay to the Beneficiary the Specified Amount; and
 - (b) as provided in clause 11 of this Performance Security,

and the provisions of this clause 5 shall survive expiration of this Performance Security accordingly.

6. The liability of the Issuer shall not in any way be affected by:
 - (a) any time, indulgence or relief being given to or by the Beneficiary or the Generator;
 - (b) any amendment or extension of or supplement to the Implementation Agreement;
 - (c) any invalidity in, or irregularity or unenforceability of the obligations of any person under the Implementation Agreement; or
 - (d) anything done or omitted which but for this provision might constitute a legal or equitable discharge or release of, or defence for, the Issuer.

7. Any notices or notification given under this Performance Security shall be in writing and shall be served by sending the same by post or leaving the same at:

If to the Issuer: [●]
Republic of Ireland

Attention: [●]

If to the Beneficiary: Minister for the Environment, Climate and
Communications, 29 – 31 Adelaide Road, Dublin, D02
X285

For the attention of: Principal Officer, Electricity Policy
Division

The Beneficiary and the Issuer may change its nominated address to another address in the Republic of Ireland by prior written notice to the other party. Any written notices shall be effective upon the earlier of:

(a) actual receipt; or

(b) two (2) days after mailing or despatch.

[The Issuer agrees to appoint [*NAME, COMPANY NUMBER AND REGISTERED ADDRESS IN IRELAND*] from the date of this Performance Security up until the Expiry Date as its agent in Ireland for the purpose of receiving service of process in any proceedings brought against the Issuer in connection with this Performance Security.]¹

8. This Performance Security may be amended only by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of the Beneficiary and the Issuer.
9. The governing law for the purposes of this Performance Security shall be the laws of Ireland. The competent Courts shall be the Courts of Ireland.
10. The Beneficiary, after receiving written consent of the Issuer and the Generator (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld), may transfer and assign all its rights and obligations under the Performance Security and Article 38 and 39 of the UCP Rules is hereby expressly excluded to the extent that it precludes such an assignment.

¹ **Note:** Delete the wording in square brackets if the Issuer has a registered place of business in Ireland and the Performance Security is being provided by such Irish entity.

11. If this Performance Security expires during any interruption of business of a kind referred to in Article 36 of the UCP Rules, then the Issuer shall remain liable to make payment under this Performance Security in respect of any Demand served no later than fifteen (15) business days after the Issuer has notified the Beneficiary that its business has ceased to be so interrupted. The Issuer undertakes that it shall, within two (2) business days of the cessation of any interruption of business referred to in Article 36 of the UCP Rules (during which this Performance Security expires) notify the Beneficiary of that cessation. Article 36 of the UCP Rules is hereby amended.

12. All charges and fees under this Performance Security shall be for the account of the Generator.

Yours faithfully

[•]

Attachment to Appendix 3

Form of Demand

To: [The Issuer]

[Date]

The Performance Security number [] dated [] (the “Performance Security”)

We refer to the Performance Security dated [] and issued by you in our favour. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the Performance Security, we hereby make demand in the sum of EUR [] and request that you pay the same immediately to [specified account].

For and on behalf of Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications.

Dated this [] of [] 20[]

[Authorised signatory]

SIGNED by authorised officer (print name)

Signature: _____

for and on behalf of the

THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND COMMUNICATIONS

in the presence of (print name):

Signature of Witness: _____

SIGNED by (print name)

Signature: _____

for and on behalf of

[GENERATOR]

in the presence of (print name):

Signature of Witness: _____