

Hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in a Nordic context – Call for tender



Invitation to tenders

for open competition under the EEA threshold
when procuring:

**Hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in a Nordic context
– present situation and future needs and potentials**

(Deadline: 29.03.2021, 13:00 CEST)

Hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in a Nordic context

Table of content

1. Introduction	2
2. Administrative regulation	5
3. Wages and working conditions.....	6
4. Requirements for the tender	7
5. Delivery of tender	8
6. Eligibility requirements.....	8
7. Award criteria and evaluation	9
8. Termination of competition.....	10

1. Introduction

1.1. About the contracting authority

Nordic Energy Research is an institution under the Nordic Council of Ministers which manages and finances international research programs and projects that add value to national work in the Nordic countries. In addition, we perform certain secretariat and analytical functions in the energy policy cooperation under the Nordic Council of Ministers. The board of Nordic Energy Research comprises representatives from the authorities and ministries responsible for energy research funding in the five Nordic countries Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, who also contribute to most of the organisation's funding.

In this invitation to tender, Nordic Energy Research act as the contracting partner on behalf of the Nordic Committee of Senior Officials for Energy Policies.

1.2. The assignments objectives and content

The aim of the study is to enable the Nordic countries to maintain a leading role in the energy and climate transition by assessing the role of hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in the transition in the different Nordic countries and to assess strengths and potential synergies in a Nordic context. The study should also provide an overview of the relevant background information and context, and assess what is needed for the synergies to be achieved.

1.2.1. Background for assignment

In June 2020, the European Commission (EC) presented its hydrogen strategy (*"A hydrogen strategy for a climate-neutral Europe"*). This strategy is a roadmap, describing hydrogen as an important part of the European Green Deal and for the necessary energy and climate transition within the EU. The EC has announced that 430 billion Euros will be allocated for hydrogen development in Europe. In addition, a broad coalition, the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance has been formed to identify archetypes and prototypes for production, transport and usage of hydrogen, including the integration of carbon capture and usage (CCU) and carbon capture and storage (CCS), within Europe.

In the wake of this strategy, several countries are in the process of developing their own national hydrogen strategies, including several of the Nordic countries. The international focus on hydrogen and its applications – as well as CCS and CCU – as contributing to the goals of achieving a carbon

neutral society is growing steadily. This is also illustrated by the massive activities taking place and the industrial interest in these technologies.

On this backdrop, it was decided to conduct a joint Nordic study on hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCS and CCU within the framework of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

1.2.2 Objectives

The purpose of the study is to map and analyse the present situation and future needs on hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCS and CCU in the Nordic countries and to assess strengths and potential synergies in the Nordic region, as well as to make the results tangible in a comprehensive report to be presented at the Ministerial Meeting in September 2021.

1.2.3 Content

The study is to be delivered as a report and should cover the following topics:

1. **Benefits from an energy and climate transition perspective.** The study should describe preconditions, demand and benefits of implementation of the technologies in different sectors from an energy and climate transition perspective in the different Nordic countries. This should also include a business/industry perspective and a risk assessment (incl. environmental). The conditions necessary to realize these benefits should also be accounted for.
2. **Nordic strengths and synergies:** Strengths and potential synergies based on the countries' different demands, needs and opportunities should be described from a Nordic perspective.
3. **Relevant political goals within the fields of energy, climate and business.** Political goals on different levels that affect the development of hydrogen, electro-fuels, bio-CCUS and CCUS should be described briefly.
4. **Existing support measures and policies:** Highlight which existing policies have the most significant impact on the different technologies and how they affect the conditions for implementation (obstacles/barriers).
5. **Policy- and market development.** Significant existing and proposed market and policy initiatives aimed at promoting hydrogen, electro-fuels, bio-CCUS and CCUS in other regions of Europe and key countries outside Europe should be highlighted. Market development/trends and business models should also be described.
6. **Technical and economic status and development.** Developments within the technologies and their applications, as well as cost development and implication of different technology options, should be described. A structured description of the different options available to produce hydrogen and electro-fuels – including type and origin of inputs/feedstocks, electricity, CO₂ etc. – should be included, as well as mapping of the current production, storage, distribution and use in each of the Nordic countries.

The emphasis in the study should be placed on; 1) *“Benefits from an energy and climate transition perspective”* and 2) *“Nordic strengths and synergies”*. The other topics (3-6) should provide complementary background information, which should describe the relevant context for the above-mentioned technologies in the Nordic countries. Comparisons should be made with other regions in Europe and key countries outside Europe in order to make conclusions about the comparative advantages for the Nordic region in the different value chains.

1.2.4. Method

The study will be made in consultation with Nordic Energy Research and a Steering Group. In the tender, the consultants should outline how they will document their understanding of the future needs, benefits and potential synergies for hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in the Nordic region.

It will be up to the consultants to define an approach for this assessment, but Nordic Energy Research expects the consultants to explain how they will consult relevant stakeholders in the Nordic countries in order to consolidate their study and explain how they will make sure that the different Nordic countries will be covered. Throughout the working process, the consultant will be able to receive in-depth guidance from the Steering Group and Nordic Energy Research in this regard.

1.2.5. Preliminary timeframe & deliverables for the project execution

In the table below, the proposed timeframe and deliverables are set out:

Action	Deliverable	Date	Responsible
Contract signed	Contract	20.04.2021	NER
Start-up meeting	Minutes from meeting	21.04.2021	Consultant
Draft report	Draft report	02.06.2021	Consultant
Present draft report to Steering group	Oral presentation	07.06.2021	Consultant
Second draft report	Draft report	10.08.2021	Consultant
Presentation of key findings to the Nordic Ministers for Energy	Oral presentation	22.09.2021	Consultant
Final report	Final report	04.10.2021	Consultant
Language checking of the report	Comments to editor	October 2021	Consultant/NER
Presentation of final report to steering group	Oral presentation	18.10.2021	Consultant
Layout customization of the report	Comments to NordPub	November 2021	Consultant/NordPub

Signing the contract will be done by e-mail or mail. The start-up meeting will be conducted via Microsoft Teams/teleconference. The presentation of the final report should be determined during the course of the project.

1.2.6. Use of the report and the results

The report is intended to provide benefits for policy makers and private actors to gain insight on how to take advantage of synergies in the Nordic countries on hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in the Nordic region. The report may also be used as a foundation for further initiatives and research development on the topics.

The finalized report will be published in English and made publicly available on Norden Publications portal (NordPub, <https://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/search.jsf?dswid=-7222>). Applicants are

requested to make themselves familiar with the Norden design manual (<http://design-en.norden.org/>) when preparing the final report.

1.2.7. *Value of the assignment*

The total cost for the tender may not exceed 930.000 NOK, VAT excluded.

1.2.8. *Contract*

A contract shall be established with the awarded consultant.

The supplier may have subcontractors to specific task, but it will be the supplier who should have the entire responsibility regarding deadlines, quality insurance and finances etc. vis-à-vis the purchaser. If subcontractors are used, documentation for their participation in the project must be submitted, their role must be described and together with their estimated budget allocated.

1.3. **Announcement of the tender**

The invitation to tender will be sent to Doffin and TED as specified in Chapter 2.5.

2. Administrative regulation

2.1. **Purchase procedure**

The procurement directive is not directly applicable to Nordic Energy Research as an international organization located in Oslo. Consequently, only the general principles of the EU/EEA will apply to this procurement process. This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the Norwegian Act on Public Procurement of 17 June 2017 (Lov om Offentlige Anskaffelser – LOV-2016-06-17-73) and the Norwegian Regulation on Public Procurement (FOA; Forskrift om offentlige anskaffelser – FOR-2016-08-12-974) of 18 August 2016 part I.

The purchase procedure will be executed in an open competition according to the main principles of FOA. This procedure allows all potential suppliers to bid.

2.2. **Requested structure of the competition**

The competition will be based on:

- this document, containing information about the content, procedures and frames describing the process until the award and signing of the contract, and
- the appendices as presented below.

Appendices:

- Appendix A: EHS declaration
- Appendix B: Tender
- Appendix C: Disclaimer and Deviation
- Appendix D: Consultancy Agreement Draft
- Appendix E: Standard Terms of Contract for Consultants
- Appendix F: ESPD (optional)

2.3. **Contact information**

Contact persons concerning this purchase are:

- Svend Søyland, Senior Adviser at Nordic Energy Research.
E-mail: Svend.Soyland@nordicenergy.org

- Nicki Carnbrand Håkansson, Adviser at Nordic Energy Research.
E-mail: Nicki.Hakansson@nordicenergy.org

2.4. Language

All communication, written and oral, regarding this matter should be made in English. This also applies for the tender itself. Possible legal questions must be communicated in Norwegian.

2.5. Execution of the tendering process

Activity	Date
Announcement in Doffin and TED	08.03.2021
Deadline for questions concerning the invitation to tender	19.03.2021
Answers to questions concerning the invitation to tender	24.03.2021
Deadline for tender	29.03.2021, 13:00 CEST
Opening of tender	29.03.2021, 14:00 CEST
Evaluation of tender	31.03.2021
Contract award intention announced (waiting period)	07.04.2021
Contract award and signing	20.04.2021

2.6. Correction, addition and/or change of the competition

Before the deadline of the competition, the purchaser is entitled to make corrections, additions or changes to the competition that are not significant.

2.7. Questions for the competition

Any questions the suppliers may have for the competition must be received by the deadline indicated in the schedule 2.5.

Questions must be sent by e-mail to the contact person of the competition as indicated in 2.3. All questions will be answered anonymously and made available for all who have registered to receive the competition on Doffin and TED in due time before the deadline of the competition.

2.8. The participation cost of the supplier

Any cost that the supplier may have in connection with the preparation, delivery or follow-up of the tender and the procurement process will not be refunded. Participation in the tendering process will in no way commit the purchaser to enter into a contract with the supplier or involve the purchaser in financial obligations.

2.9. Return of tender

The purchaser will not return the tender of the supplier.

3. Wages and working conditions

If this competition includes services or construction work in accordance with regulations of February 8, 2008 no.112 on wages and working conditions in public contracts, separate requirements and remedies related to this apply.

4. Requirements for the tender

4.1. Structure of the tender

The tender should contain the following documentation that should be structured according to the following sectioning.

Section no.	Documentation
1.	Tender which should include the following: 1.1 Reference to the name of the competition 1.2 The address, phone number and e-mail address of the supplier 1.3 The contact person of the supplier and his phone number and e-mail address 1.4 Confirmation of the validity of the tender, cf. section 4.3. 1.5 Binding signature from a person with authority to sign on behalf of the supplier
2.	Documentation of eligibility: Documentation described in 6.2-6-4 <i>or</i> Completion of European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), available as Appendix F
3.	Requirements for technical and professional qualifications ref. section 6.5 Documentation of award criteria ref. section 7.1.
4.	Any modifications or alteration to the competition or the contract ref. section 4.7. and Appendix C.
5.	Other relevant information.

4.2. Delivery Format of the tender

Tenders should be delivered by E-mail to the following address: tender@nordicenergy.org

with the following subject line: **Hydrogen, electro-fuels, CCU and CCS in a Nordic context – TENDER**

The tender should be in PDF format and/or other Microsoft Office compatible format.

4.3. Validity

The tender must have a validity of a minimum of 90 days from the day of the deadline of the tender.

4.4. Contract

The supplier must base his tender on the enclosed contracts (Appendices D and E).

4.5. Tender for all or part of the delivery

It is not permitted to submit tenders for part of the delivery.

4.6. Alternative tenders

It is not permitted to submit alternative tenders.

4.7. Reservations and amendments

Significant reservations and amendments shall be stated precisely and unambiguously so that the purchaser can evaluate the offer without making contact with the supplier. Reservations and amendments shall clearly and unambiguously refer to the relevant appendix and point in the tender documents and shall be annexed to the tender.

The supplier shall clearly specify the consequences that any reservations and amendments have or may have on the performance, price and/or other aspects of the tender.

4.8. Revocation of tender

A tender may be revoked or altered until the deadline of the tender. Revocation shall be done in writing. Change of the tender is considered a new offer.

5. Delivery of tender

5.1. Deadline of tender

The tender must reach the purchaser no later than the deadline specified in section 2.5. The deadline is absolute. Late submitted tenders will be rejected. The supplier carries the risk of failure or delay in shipment.

5.2. Delivery method and delivery address

The tender must be delivered in the format specified in section 4.2.

6. Eligibility requirements

6.1. About the eligibility requirements

The supplier must meet the requirements listed below in order to be eligible for participation in the competition. The supplier is responsible for providing all documentation requested below as proof of the requirements imposed. Lack of documentation or incomplete information may lead to the rejection of the tender. Only qualified suppliers can be awarded the contract.

Option for self-declaration: Documentation regarding 6.2 – 6.4 can be provided by completing the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), available as Appendix F. The formal documents will be required at a later stage in the evaluation process, for the selected tender candidate.

6.2. Mandatory requirements

Requirements	Documentation requirements
The supplier must have fulfilled their obligation relating to the payment of tax, payroll tax and VAT.	Tax certificates not older end six months calculated from the deadline of the tender. Tax certificates are: For Norwegian suppliers: Form from the Tax Commission for VAT (RF-1244) issued by the tax office. Form from the Tax Commission (RF-1244) for tax issued by the Treasurer For foreign suppliers: Foreign suppliers must submit corresponding certificates from their country showing that they have complied with tax matters. If the authorities in the country concerned do not issue such certificates, the supplier shall submit a statement confirming that all taxes have been paid. The declaration must be approved and signed by the supplier’s CFO/finance manager.
For work to be performed in Norway, the supplier must fulfil	Only for Norwegian suppliers: Completed and signed HES statement according to the Norwegian Regulation health, environment, and safety at work (FOR-1996-12-

Norwegian HES requirements.	06-1127 Forskrift om systematisk helse-, miljø- og sikkerhetsarbeid i virksomheter (Internkontrollforskriften). Please use the attached template, see Appendix A.
-----------------------------	---

6.3. Requirements for organizational and legal position

Requirements	Documentation requirements
The supplier shall have a legally established company.	For Norwegian suppliers: Certificate of registration For foreign suppliers: Confirmation that the supplier is registered in a trade or business register acc. the legislation of the country where the supplier is established.

6.4. Requirements for economic and financial position

Requirements	Documentation requirements
The supplier shall have sufficient financial strength to perform contract.	Excerpt from the supplier's annual report including notes with the report from the Board and the auditors for the past two financial years.

6.5. Requirements for technical and professional qualifications

Requirements	Documentation requirements
The supplier must have good experience from similar deliveries	References from a maximum of 3 relevant deliveries/assignments within the last 4 years for each consultant involved. References shall at least contain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short description of the delivery • Implementation date • Scope of delivery and its price • Name and phone number of a contact person responsible for ordering
The supplier must have appropriate contact information	Name and phone number for reference for the proposed assignment leader.

7. Award criteria and evaluation

7.1. Award criteria

The contract is awarded to the supplier who financially has the most favourable tender based on the below-mentioned criteria.

Award criteria	Documentation	Weight %
Expected quality Project description in the proposed assignment including relevance, ambition, quality, organization, and structure ref. section 1.2.1 – 1.2.7.	The supplier must supply the following documentation (maximum 5 A4 format pages, Times 12, 1,5 line spacing): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The supplier must describe their understanding of the assignment and the implementation of it (project and solution description). 	40

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The supplier must account for the organization and structure of the project with deliveries/milestones in preparing the report, including draft table of content, planned budget and persons accountable for part deliveries. The supplier must describe their approach and choice of methodology. The supplier must describe their sources for information. 	
Offered expertise Offered expertise means the expertise and experience of the key personnel who is offered to implement this specific contract.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The supplier must present his/her CV with an overview of expertise and experience from relevant projects for the named key personnel. The distribution of labour input to key personnel and their hourly salary shall be specified and will be considered. 	40
Price of the assignment The total price is maximum 930.000 NOK excl. VAT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Price must be in NOK excl. VAT. This includes all cost required to execute the tender (i.e. salaries, travel cost etc.) 	20

7.2. Evaluation

All approved offers will be evaluated with scores per award criterion, where 10 is the highest and 0 the lowest. The overall result per criterion will be weighted according to the weighing degree above, ref. section 7.1.

8. Termination of competition

8.1. Cancellation of competition and total rejection

The purchaser reserves the right to cancel the competition or to reject all offers, if there are reasonable grounds.

8.2. Notification of the choice of supplier and waiting period

The purchaser informs all suppliers in writing and simultaneously about whom the purchaser intends to award the contract as soon as the choice of supplier is made. The notification will include an explanation for the choice and specify the waiting period from the time the award is made known until the contract signing is planned (concluding the contract). If the purchaser finds that the award decision is not in accordance with the criteria for the choice of supplier, the decision can be annulled until contract is signed.