

Technical Lead, Open Networks Innovation & Electricity Systems Department

Salary: Competitive salary, dependent on experience

Contract: Permanent, Full-Time

Location: London Bridge/More London – Hybrid Working



About Us

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the 'wires and pipes' transmission and distribution network operators for gas and electricity in the UK and Ireland. Our members control and maintain the critical national infrastructure that delivers these vital services into our homes and businesses. More information about the company can be found here:

<https://www.energynetworks.org/about-ena/>

ENA leads a number of strategic programmes on behalf of its members to address strategic industry challenges and the Open Networks programme (ON) is one of them. Open Networks is a major industry initiative that is transforming the electricity networks into smart grids that can support UK's Net Zero ambitions. Now in its fifth year, Open Networks is a key future looking strategic programme that is focussing on everything from policy and regulation to technical processes. It is a complex programme of work that has a large stakeholder base and a number of dependencies, both internally within the programme and at ENA as well as externally with other industry initiatives that required substantial coordination.

More information about the programme can be found on our [website](#) and the 2022 Programme Initiation Document can be found in our [resource library](#).

The Role

We are looking for a Technical Lead to join the Open Networks team at ENA. This is a great opportunity to get involved in the UK's energy sector and become a part of the industry-leading programme that is progressing the energy transition.

The Technical Lead will work closely with the product teams (comprised of ENA member company representatives) to deliver multiple technical deliverables in line with the scope and timelines set out in the Programme Initiation Document. The Technical Lead will support coordination and management of technical aspects within the programme. This is a broad role that touches on flexibility services, energy markets, electricity networks operation, Distributed Energy Resource (DER) connections, planning, data transfer, forecasting, network codes and standards, etc. The Technical Lead may also be expected to lead a few key products, including managing delivery and achieving consensus on outcomes within the product team.

This role will report to the Head of Open Networks and work closely with the ON project management team and member representatives to coordinate and deliver the objectives of the programme.

The Technical Lead will be the contact point for all technical aspects of the Open Networks. Key day to day activities and responsibilities include:

- Work with working group members to solve technical problems that arise from products and workstreams.
- Fulfil the role of Product Lead for ENA led products/outputs from the programme e.g. developing a common framework for flexibility services, developing processes for reporting of network requirements and development plans, updating and maintaining the strategic roadmap for flexibility, investigating conflicts of interest and unintended consequences, developing flexibility statistics and flexibility markets etc.

- Work with members to develop an ENA response to consultations that are relevant to Open Networks.
- Lead the development of governance and process for transitioning Open Networks products into Business as Usual (BaU) activity at ENA
- Support identification and management of technical dependencies between products and workstreams within Open Networks and dependencies with other industry initiatives, issues, programmes and policies that may affect the technical aspects of the Open Networks programme.
- Mentor ENA team members (Innovation team and wider ENA staff) on technical aspects of energy networks.
- Support the project team in the scope identification process at the end of each year.
- Take the lead in promoting and presenting the technical outputs of the programme across various mediums (inc. reports, conferences, interviews, etc.) and to the Government/Regulators.
- Take the lead on scoping, planning and implementing follow-on projects, for example collaborative innovation projects.
- Contribute to wider Innovation team projects and initiatives as required.

The Person

This role requires a strong understanding of transmission and distribution electricity networks in the UK, and the associated issues and opportunities around the transition to a smart, flexible energy system. You will need to demonstrate subject matter expertise in some or all of the aforementioned electricity network areas and their associated processes and procedure and an ability to lead a team of subject matter experts. You must also be comfortable with taking a hands-on approach, working across multiple areas in a fast-paced environment with a wide number of stakeholders, including the Government and Regulators.

An ideal candidate will have the following skills and experience:

- Degree qualification in Electrical Engineering or other relevant technical degree with transferable skills.
- Experience working in the energy sector (especially energy networks) and working knowledge in some of the key areas covered by Open Networks.
- Strong understanding of the UK energy industry, the role of energy networks and the challenges and opportunities facing them.
- Strong delivery focus with the ability to lead a team of experts and manage stakeholders to deliver key outcomes.
- Ability to prioritise multiple tasks efficiently, manage reactive and proactive work, and deliver tasks to tight deadlines.
- Strong attention to detail and ability to work independently, including remotely.
- Initiative and self-motivation, along with the ability to successfully work in a team environment.
- A high degree of flexibility and adaptability in order to respond to changing needs and effectively address issues.
- A sound working knowledge of the Microsoft Office Suite and possibly scripting tools.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to build and maintain positive and productive relationships with colleagues, members and stakeholders.
- An ability to communicate clearly and confidently at all levels of the organisation including presenting technical arguments to internal and external audiences

Desirable criteria:

- Experience working in, or with, a trade association or consultancy, particularly those which undertake key Network Innovation projects.
- Postgraduate degree (MSc, MPhil, PhD) in power systems engineering or related discipline.

- Experience presenting/speaking to a large diverse audience in person or via webinars.
- Knowledge of gas, transport and other energy vectors.
- A project management qualification such as APMP or Prince2.

If the applicant does not meet all of the essential criteria, we are open to considering the candidate for the position of a Technical Advisor with an opportunity to then develop into a Technical Lead with appropriate training.

Benefits

In return in addition to a competitive salary you will have access to a range of other employee benefits including; 28 days' holiday entitlement; Group Personal Pension Scheme, Annual Bupa Medical Assessment, Employee Assistance Programme and an interest-free season ticket or bike loan.

To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter with the reference ON1492, explaining what you could bring to this role to recruitment@energynetworks.org.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30 September 2022