



Job Ad No: E201026

Principal Engineer

**Transmission Access Planning
Grid Development & Commercial (GDC)**

Salary experience related

Applications are invited for the above position

Background

EirGrid plc, a state-owned company, is the electricity Transmission System Operator (TSO) and the wholesale Market Operator in the Republic of Ireland. In the role of TSO, EirGrid is responsible for the operation of the power system including scheduling, demand-forecasting and dispatch of generation, the development and maintenance of the transmission network and providing open access to all customers, generators and suppliers.

In fulfilling its Market Operator function, EirGrid partners with SONI Ltd (System Operator Northern Ireland) to operate the new Single Electricity Market for the island of Ireland. In March 2009, EirGrid acquired SONI Ltd from Northern Ireland Electricity. EirGrid is committed to providing high quality services to all our customers and stakeholders.

Transmission Access Planning (TAP)

Transmission Access Planning (TAP) is responsible for determining connection methods for all generator and demand connections to the transmission system. In addition TAP is responsible for analysing the transmission impact of distribution connected generators and loads. Each year TAP also produces the *Transmission Forecast Statement* which identifies the potential of the grid to accommodate future connections.

With the scale of renewable generator connections set to quadruple over the next 10 years and growth in new conventional plant connections, this is an exciting opportunity to work at the cutting edge of power system planning whilst actively contributing to the achievement of renewable energy national targets, increased competition in the energy sector and enhanced security of supply.

This role will provide the successful applicant with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in an interesting, challenging and supportive environment.

Job Description

The role holder will be one of three team leads within the section, each leading a small team of engineers.

As a team lead, you will be required to co-ordinate activities, provide direction, make decisions, take responsibility and be a recognised subject matter expert in your area of specialisation. The role requires excellent team working, organisational and communications skills.

Main Responsibilities

You will be responsible for leading a specific area of work, involving the co-ordination of complex assignments, activities and projects. In doing so you will be required to:

- Perform transmission access planning studies and analysis
- Provide direction to, coach and co-ordinate the activities of a small team of engineers
- Develop and drive forward innovative proposals and solutions
- Contribute to the development and introduction of new or improved planning methods, policies, tools and techniques
- Act as a technical representative in internal and external meetings
- Develop strong working relationships with other parts of EirGrid and with the DSO, SONI, NIE, CER, customers and other stakeholders
- Contribute to the strategic development of the section and GDC department
- Lead activities and complete work cost effectively and to required timelines

Job Relationships

Reporting to Manager, Transmission Access Planning, Grid Development and Commercial.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

The successful candidate will possess a suitable combination of the following attributes:

- Engineering qualification to degree level or equivalent qualification
- Typically 6-8 years relevant post-qualification experience with 2+ years working in an area of specialisation preferably in a relevant utility or industry equivalent
- Technical skills (mathematical / engineering appreciation) required to carry out power system modelling and analysis
- Proficient in the use of PSS/E and/or other planning analytical tools
- Ability to coach, provide direction to and coordinate the activities of team members
- Strong analysis, judgement and problem solving skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills, self motivation, enthusiasm and the ability to influence and understand stakeholder requirements
- Strong communication skills with an emphasis on report writing and an ability to communicate technical issues confidently
- Capable of providing innovative solutions to complex issues in a timely manner
- Demonstrated flexible working approach with ability to manage and prioritise a wide range of demands and activities whilst maintaining a professional and positive focus
- Appreciation of and /or experience of planning, design, construction or operation of transmission or sub-transmission networks

Applications should be submitted quoting the above Job Ad. No to careers@eirgrid.com not later than Monday 28th June 2010.

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