

Valuing Natural Capital in Low Carbon Energy Pathways

Announcement of Opportunity

Published 21 July 2014





Announcement of Opportunity

NERC Challenge for UKERC Phase 3 - Valuing Natural Capital in Low Carbon Energy Pathways

**Call published: 21st July 2014 in conjunction with Ideas Brokerage Workshop held on 21st and 22nd July, Scarman House, Warwick
Call closes: 18th September 2014 at 4 p.m.**

Please note that this Announcement of Opportunity is the basis on which proposals will be assessed. Applicants should also read the programme Science Plan for background on the science goals:

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/valuingnaturalcapital/vnc-science-and-implementation-plan.pdf>

Outputs from Ideas Brokerage Workshop:

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/valuingnaturalcapital/>

Summary

NERC invites proposals to the new research programme, Valuing Natural Capital in Low Carbon Energy Pathways (VNC), which will form a challenge for phase 3 of the UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC). Proposals should also include links to the new NERC Valuing Nature Programme. This call is for consortium projects (minimum of 3 Research Organisations) of up to £1.9m (80% FEC). Projects should be of 5 years in duration and start no later than March 2015. It is expected that one multidisciplinary consortium project with 4-5 Associated PhD studentships will be funded that should start in October 2015.

The overarching aim of this research programme is to understand the implications for natural capital and the provision of ecosystem services of a range of future energy scenarios, including scenarios that are compatible with the UK's energy policy goals of maintaining energy security, keeping energy affordable and cutting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 80% by 2050.



Key Facts



- Up to £1.9M (80%FEC)
- One multidisciplinary Consortium project
- Addressing all programme goals
- Minimum of 3 eligible RO
- 5 years
- Start 1st March 2015
- 4-5 Associated PhD Studentships
- Studentships Start 1st October 2015
- Special conditions for working with UKERC and Valuing Nature Programme



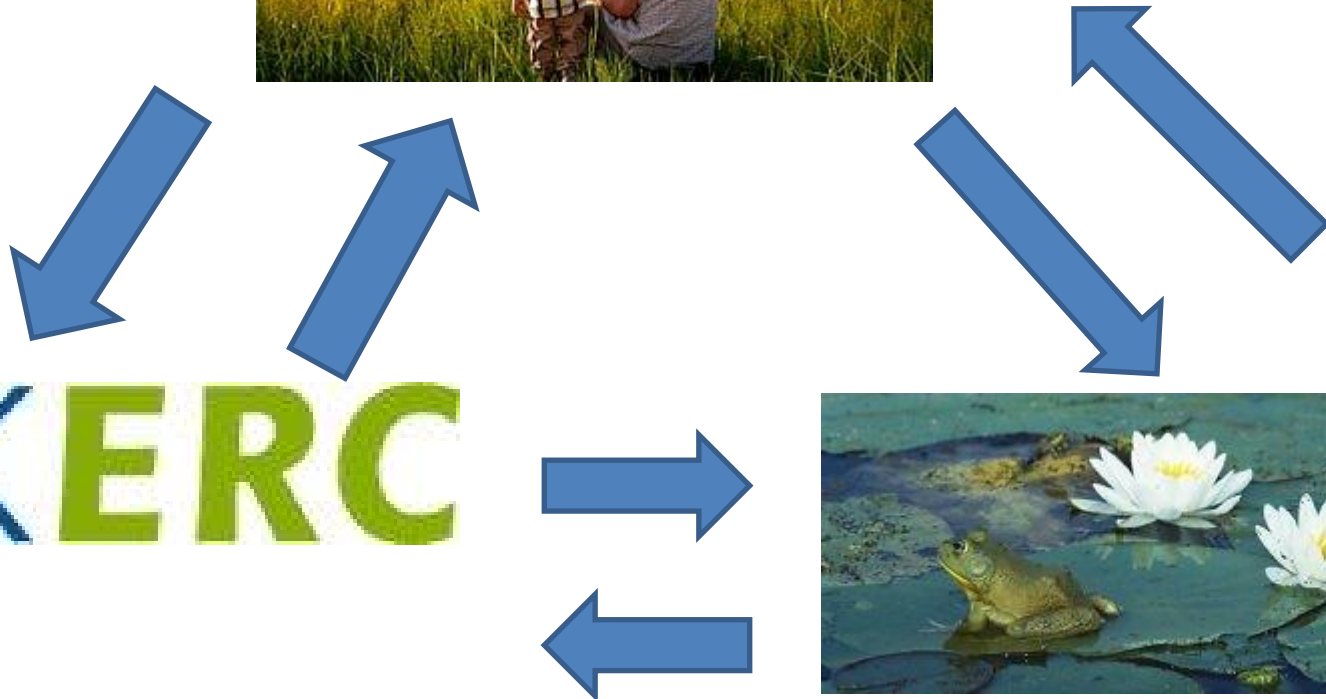
Collaboration



UKERC



(Valuing Nature Programme)





Science Goals



Four inter-related Science Goals identified and successful consortium *will* encompass all of these goals:

1. to characterise the impact pathways of specific energy chains and energy infrastructure development in the UK's marine, aquatic, coastal margin and terrestrial environments under a range of decarbonisation scenarios;
2. to understand how different means of sourcing energy from outside the UK would impact ecosystem services from a global perspective and to identify options for managing these impacts;
3. to understand the cumulative and indirect effects of energy technologies/ infrastructure over time on the full range of ecosystems services – underpinning, regulating, cultural and provisioning, addressing both economic and non-economic values; and
4. to understand better the nexus between energy, land and water and the trade-offs and synergies associated with different patterns of energy development.



Timetable



- AO to be published: 21st July 2014
- Ideas Brokerage Workshop: 21st /22nd July 2014
- Call opens on JeS: 21st July 2014
- **Deadline on JeS: 18th September 2014**
- **PI response: w/c 1st December 2014**
- Review: Sept - Dec 2014
- **Moderating Panel: January 2015**
- Grants awarded: February 2015
- **Grant start date: 1st March 2015**
- **PhD studentships start: 1st October 2015**

- Dates are provisional and are subject to change.



Further information

Programme website:

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/valuingnaturealcapital/>

Contacts:

- Michelle Truman or Sally Reid: vnc@nerc.ac.uk
- Valuing Nature Programme: valuingnature@nerc.ac.uk
- UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC): jim.watson@ukerc.ac.uk