

CleanerGrid

Terms and Conditions

September 2026



Terms and Conditions

By participating in the CleanerGrid 2027 competition (run by EirGrid plc on behalf of the EirGrid Group) (the “**Competition**”) participants and their respective 3rd level institutes accept the following terms and conditions (the “**Terms and Conditions**”):

Eligibility

- 1) All individuals participating in the Competition (the “**Participants**”) must be registered students in a recognised university, technological university, or institute of technology in Ireland (“**3rd Level Institutes**”).
- 2) Applications to the Competition will only be accepted from Participants who are undergraduate, diploma, and/or taught master’s students in 3rd Level Institutes. The Competition is not open to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students.
- 3) The Competition is not open to current staff (temporary or permanent) of any company in the EirGrid Group or their immediate family members. In this respect, an “immediate family member” shall mean and include a spouse, civil partner, child, step-child, grandchild, brother, step-brother, sister, step-sister, parent, step-parent, or legal guardian.
- 4) Participants may participate in the Competition as individuals or as part of a small team (max. 6 Participants/students per team).
- 5) Participants must obtain permission from their 3rd Level Institute to participate in the Competition and to oversee their respective participation herein. A supervising member of the academic staff (professor, tutor, etc.) of the Participants’ 3rd Level Institute (the “**3rd Level Institute Supervising Member**”) must sign each Participants’/team’s application form to validate permission for all Participants, and to confirm their 3rd Level Institute’s understanding and acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.
- 6) Information on EirGrid’s use of personal data can be found under “Use of Personal Data” section below. Submitting false information as part of an application (for example, a false name, address etc.) will result in immediate disqualification from the Competition.
- 7) EirGrid reserves the right to verify the registration status of all Participants with their listed 3rd Level Institute.
- 8) In accordance with 8(a) and 8(b) below, there are two actions which must be fulfilled in order for Participants to take part in the Competition.
 - a. Participants must first submit a completed application form in EirGrid’s prescribed form (the “**Application Form**”) to confirm they are taking part in the Competition. Application Forms can be found online at <https://www.eirgrid.ie/cleanergrid>.
 - The closing date for receipt by EirGrid of Application Forms is **23:59 on Friday 6th November 2026**. All completed Application Forms must be submitted by email to research@eirgrid.com. EirGrid reserves the right at its discretion to extend the deadline for receipt of Application Forms.
 - b. Following submission of the Application Form, Participants may then proceed to submit their Competition entry (the “**Competition Entry**” or “**Competition Entries**”).
- 9) The closing date for receipt by EirGrid of Competition Entries is **23:59 on 12th February 2027**. All Competition Entries must be submitted by email to research@eirgrid.com. EirGrid reserves the right at its discretion to extend the deadline for receipt of Competition Entries.
- 10) EirGrid is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, corrupted or attempted submissions of Application Forms or Competition Entries by Participants, and all responsibility for the submissions of same lies with the Participants.

- 11) The final round of judging and the announcement of the winning Competition Entries will take place at an awards ceremony (the “**Awards Ceremony**”) at EirGrid’s offices. The indicative date for the Awards ceremony is 25th March 2027¹. The exact date and time will be confirmed to participants in or around February 2027. Participants/teams, must ensure their availability to attend the Award Ceremony. Shortlisted Participants/teams who do not attend the final round of judging at the Awards Ceremony will be ineligible to receive a prize. Winning Participants/teams will also be contacted via email to provide details for delivery of their prizes, and their 3rd Level Institute Supervising Member will be contacted to provide details for delivery of the relevant prize to their 3rd Level Institute.
- 12) No correspondence will be entered into between EirGrid and Participants regarding the judging process for the Competition and all decisions of the Competition judges with regard to evaluation of Competition Entries and selection of winning Competition Entries will be final. EirGrid may assess Competition Entries through one or more rounds of evaluation and may use internal and/or external assessors. EirGrid reserves the right to moderate marks and determine the number of Competition Entries progressing to subsequent rounds.
- 13) EirGrid reserves the right to disqualify any Participants/teams from the Competition that do not comply with these Terms and Conditions.
- 14) These Terms and Conditions and any disputes arising under, out of, or in relation to the Competition shall be interpreted, construed, and governed in accordance with the laws of Ireland. EirGrid’s decisions on any dispute relating to these Terms and Conditions or the conduct or outcome of the Competition shall be final.
- 15) EirGrid reserves the right to amend any of these Terms and Conditions and/or rules of the Competition as it considers necessary. Notice will be given to Participants of any such amendments.

Use of Personal Data

- 16) EirGrid collects various types of personal data when a person enters a competition (such as the Competition) on EirGrid Group social media channels.

For example, when a Participant enters the Competition, EirGrid may request and, for a limited period of time, store the Participant’s name and contact details (such as email address, postal address, telephone number) in connection with and as necessary for the Competition. This information will be deleted as soon as is practicable following confirmation of receipt of prizes by the Competition prize winners.

- 17) Where EirGrid operates competitions (such as the Competition) in conjunction with a third-party commercial partner, subject to the relevant competition rules and notices, that third-party commercial partner may request and, for a limited period of time, store personal data in order to ensure a competition winner receives a competition prize. The third-party commercial partner may also receive this personal data directly from EirGrid only in so far as required for the fulfilment, delivery and / or arrangement of the relevant prize. This information will be deleted as soon as is practicable following confirmation of receipt of a prize by the prize winners.
- 18) Where Participants are fully responsible for any winning Competition Entry, Participants accept that their name and partial address (e.g. town or county) may be used by EirGrid to publicise the result of the Competition, and may be published online, in print or in any other outlet/media at EirGrid’s discretion. For more details on how the EirGrid Group handles personal data generally, please refer to the privacy notices on EirGrid’s website.
- 19) Competition finalists may, at EirGrid’s request, be required to participate in publicity (photographs, video, audio, interview, quotations, etc.).

¹ **Note:** This date is indicative only subject to change which will be notified to relevant shortlisted Participants.

- 20) EirGrid acknowledges that Participants shall retain full ownership of any intellectual property which they produce for the Competition.
- 21) Without prejudice to Condition 20 above, Participants agree that by entering the Competition, EirGrid may utilise elements of Participants' Competition Entries in external press, publications, websites, social media and/or in any promotional material connected to the Competition, or future like EirGrid competitions.

Academic Integrity

- 22) All work in compiling a Competition Entry must be the Participants' own; however, Participants may be aided/guided by their 3rd Level Institute Supervising Member. Any Competition Entry which is suspected of plagiarism in whole or in part may be disqualified at EirGrid's sole discretion. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged inclusion of the writings, ideas or works of another person, organisation, or artificial intelligence ("AI"), in any formally presented work (including essays, examinations, projects, laboratory reports or presentations).
- 23) **Referencing & Citation Standards:** All written reports provided as part of a Competition Entry must include in-text citations and a corresponding list of references using either Harvard or IEEE referencing style.
- a. Failure to include citations and/or a list of references may result in the Competition Entry not being marked or considered for evaluation.
 - b. The quality, completeness, accuracy and consistency of citations and references will be assessed in accordance with the published grading rubric.
- 24) **AI Use Policy:** Use of AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Copilot) must be disclosed within Competition Entries (as applicable) and the use of same must not replace or substitute the Participant's own analysis, synthesis, creativity or original critical thinking. Participants are accountable for the validity and originality of all submitted content. AI-generated content must be reviewed, edited, and understood by the Participant/team. Competition Entries should not include "copy and pasted" AI outputs without interpretation.
- 25) Participants are required to affirm as follows by completing the **Competition Submission Form**:
- "This work is submitted to EirGrid in fulfilment of the requirements for the CleanerGrid Competition 2026/27. This work is original and represents the author(s)' own ideas and analysis. All sources are cited, and any assistance from tools (including AI) is disclosed. The author(s) have read and understood the "Eligibility", "Use of Personal Data", "Academic Integrity" and "Competition Entry Format" requirements stated within the Terms and Conditions of the CleanerGrid Competition 2027 available at <https://www.eirgrid.ie/cleanergrid>"
- 26) **AI Use Disclosure:** Each Competition Entry is required to detail all AI use in the appropriate section of the **Competition Submission Form** including:
- a. whether AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Grammarly, Copilot) were used; and
 - b. how AI tools were used (e.g. brainstorming, copyediting, code generation).
- 27) **Team Contribution Statement:** Each Competition Entry submitted by a Participant team should include a "Team Contribution Statement" in an appendix of the Written Report detailing, in brief, the individuals within the Participant team who were responsible for different elements of the Competition Entry. The Team Contribution Statement is requested to aid EirGrid in evaluating the different contributions made by individuals within a Participant team to the Competition Entry. EirGrid reserves the right to request a Team Contribution Statement where one has not been provided.

Awards

28) Prizes for the Competition are as follows:

- a. **1st place:** €6,000 for the selected Participant/Participant team, and €6,000 for their 3rd Level Institute;
- b. **2nd place:** €3,000 for the selected Participant/Participant team, and €3,000 for their 3rd Level Institute; and
- c. **3rd place:** €1,500 for the selected Participant/Participant team, and €1,500 for their 3rd Level Institute.

29) In the case of Participant team Competition Entries, any prize money awarded will be distributed in **equal shares** among all officially registered Participant team members.

30) If a Participant team wishes to propose a different prize money distribution arrangement to that stated in Condition 28 above, this must be **agreed in writing by all Participant team members** and submitted to EirGrid **prior to the prize money award being issued**.

31) EirGrid will endeavour to deliver all prizes to the relevant Participants/Participant teams within twenty-eight (28) days of the announcement of the winning Competition Entries. Where this cannot be achieved, EirGrid will notify the relevant Participants/Participant teams of the reasons for the delay and endeavour to deliver the prizes as soon as practicable thereafter.