

F. No.: 66/155/2012-WE
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
(Wind Energy Division)

Block No.14, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-11003
Date: 2 June 2016

Subject: Amended Guidelines for installation of prototype wind turbine models.

Ministry issued guidelines for installation of prototype wind turbine models on 22.05.2012. Amendments to these guidelines were issued on 20.09.2012 and on 01.06.2016. To facilitate the stakeholders the guidelines with amendments are being issued by the Ministry as under:

The Ministry has decided to permit the installation of a limited number of prototype wind turbines to facilitate indigenization and encourage national industry. The guideline document is applicable for all the wind turbine manufacturers in India, who wish to install prototype wind turbine model(s) in the country and synchronize with the Indian grid system. It is desirable to allocate land on “footprint basis” for installation of prototype wind turbine(s). The Ministry’s D.O. letter no. 61/20/2011-WE dated 15.05.2012 may be referred in this regard. The guidelines will be implemented by the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), Chennai. The installation of a prototype wind turbine model will be allowed only to carry out type testing for obtaining type certificate from Internationally Accredited Certifying Agencies, subject to the following conditions:

(i) The Agency to whom application is to be made and the format of the application :

The manufacturer(s) of the wind turbine whose prototype is to be installed, shall submit requisite information and documentation as per the prescribed format (to be provided by NIWE) to NIWE, Chennai for obtaining recommendation to permit installation of wind turbine prototype model for testing and grid synchronization / commissioning.

(ii) Eligibility for Type Certification Schemes and documents required to be submitted with application :

- (a) The type certification scheme shall be in accordance with IEC scheme / GL scheme in vogue presently.
- (b) The type testing and certification shall be carried out only by Internationally Accredited Testing and Certification bodies.
- (c) In case the type certification is being carried out as per IEC scheme, prototype certificate shall be provided to NIWE by the wind turbine manufacturer. In case of its non-availability, basic design evaluation as per prototype certification requirement shall be completed and in this regard, a letter issued by type certification body shall be provided to NIWE by the manufacturer of the wind turbine. If the type certification is being carried out as per GL scheme, as a minimum the manufacturer shall provide “C” design assessment.

- (d) The manufacturer(s) of wind turbines shall provide copies of contracts signed for type testing and type certificate with Internationally Accredited Testing and Certification Bodies.
- (e) No changes can be made to the prototype wind turbine without the approval of the type certification body. If any modifications or changes are carried out, approval of the type certification body shall be obtained. Such approvals shall be provided voluntarily by the wind turbine manufacturer(s) without any delay.
- (f) A letter issued by the type testing and type certification body on the status of type testing and type certification shall be provided at the end of every year to NIWE.

(iii) Operation and Maintenance :

Regular maintenance and service shall be carried out for the prototype wind turbines installed. The type certification body will provide a certificate at the end of the year regarding regular operation and maintenance of prototype wind turbines. Failing which the wind turbines are liable to be disconnected from the grid.

2. A maximum period of 3 years from date of issuance of recommendation letter from NIWE for the prototype wind turbines will be allowed to complete testing and for obtaining the type certification. However, validity of prototype certificate (IEC) or design assessment (GL) shall be maintained till the type certificate is issued or for the period of 3 years whichever is earlier. If only basic design evaluation as per IEC has been completed, then the confirmation letter issued by the type certification body stating that the requirements of basic design evaluation are met shall be obtained at the end of each year.
3. A maximum period of 18 months from date of issuance of recommendation letter from NIWE, within which all the prototype wind turbines shall be commissioned / grid synchronized.
4. Commissioning certificate / grid synchronization report for the prototype wind turbines, issued by the concerned State utility / SNA shall be provided by manufacturer to NIWE, immediately after the commissioning / grid synchronization.
5. For each prototype wind turbine model, wind turbines up to a total capacity of 15 MW will be allowed for grid synchronization / commissioning.
6. Type certificate for prototype wind turbine model shall be obtained from an Internationally Accredited Type Certification Body as per the scheme mentioned in Para-1(ii) (a) above within 3 years from date of issuance of recommendation letter from NIWE, failing which such prototype wind turbines shall be immediately disconnected from the grid and uprooted at the cost of manufacturer(s).
7. The prototype wind turbines shall be owned by the concerned wind turbine manufacturer and shall not be sold to any party, until the model is included in Revised List of Models and Manufacturers of wind turbines (RLMM).

8. Serial production and installation of prototype wind turbines will not be allowed until the wind turbine model is included in RLMM.
9. The components / items procured / imported for manufacturing of the prototype wind turbines will be new and unused. No second hand components / machines will be allowed.
10. The components / items procured / imported for manufacturing of the prototype wind turbines will be eligible for custom and excise duty exemption as per notifications issued by custom and excise departments from time to time.
11. An indemnity bond has to be submitted by the manufacturers to the State utility/ SNA and NIWE for complying to the above conditions. The format of the indemnity bond can be obtained from NIWE.
12. If one or more of the conditions mentioned above are not satisfied, the permission granted for the prototype installation and testing can be withdrawn unilaterally in the interest of safety and security.
13. This issues with the approval of Secretary, MNRE.

(J K Jethani)
Scientist-D

To
All concerned.