

To: members@teca.in
Subject: Amendments issued to TN Repowering, Refurbishing and Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects 2024- Comments provided
Attachments: G.O.[Ms] No. 3-20012026111849 (1).pdf; Annexure to our Circular No.43.pdf
Categories: Red Category



TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION

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To All Members

CIRCULAR

Respected Members,

Sub: Amendments issued to TN Repowering, Refurbishing and Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects 2024- Comments provided.

Ref: 1) G.O. (Ms.) No. 3 Energy (E1) Department dated 14.01.2026.

2) G.O. (Ms.) No. 80 Energy (E1) Department dated 22.08.2024.

We are enclosing herewith a copy of the Tamil Nadu Government Order cited at reference (1) for the information of all members operating Wind Energy Generators (WEGs) that were commissioned prior to 01.04.2016 and have completed, or are in the process of completing, 20 years of operation as on date.

Salient Features of the Amendments

1. Life Time of WEGs

- WEGs commissioned prior to 01.04.2016 shall have a lifetime of 20 years.
- WEGs commissioned on or after 01.04.2016 shall have a lifetime of 25 years.

2. Obligation upon Completion of 20 / 25 Years

- Every WEG commissioned before 01.04.2016 upon completion of 20 years, and every WEG commissioned after 01.04.2016 upon completion of 25 years, shall mandatorily opt for one of the following, in order to continue availing the power generated for captive use:
 - Repowering, or
 - Refurbishment, or
 - Life Extension.
- Without opting for any one of the above options, the WEG shall not be permitted to continue operation in any manner.

3. Repowering of WEGs

- On opting for Repowering:
 - The developer shall install a new WEG of appropriate make and capacity.
 - A Development Charge of Rs. 30 lakhs per MW shall be paid only on the incremental capacity achieved through repowering.
 - Additionally, a nominal charge of Rs. 5 lakhs per MW shall be paid on the existing capacity prior to repowering
(Earlier, Rs. 30 lakhs per MW was applicable on the entire capacity).
- The earlier requirement of a minimum 1.25% increase in annual generation has been completely withdrawn, and no minimum generation increase is now specified.

4. Refurbishment / Life Extension of WEGs

- Certification of refurbished or life-extended WEGs shall be carried out by:
 - Any Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or
 - A Certified Chartered Engineer (Civil).
- Electrical safety certification shall be obtained from the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government (CEIG).
 - (Earlier requirement of compliance with UL 4143 standards has been relaxed).
- WEGs undergoing Refurbishment or Life Extension shall pay a Development Charge of Rs. 50,000 per MW per annum
(Earlier: Rs. 30 lakhs per MW per approval).

5. Technical Certification – Civil, Mechanical & Electrical

- For repowered WEGs, no technical certification is required except the CEIG certificate, since the machines are new.
- Structural and civil integrity certification for refurbished or life-extended WEGs shall be carried out by:
 - OEM or
 - Certified Chartered Engineer (Civil).
- Certification from CEIG as per applicable CEA procedures remains mandatory for electrical safety.

- The earlier detailed requirements relating to UL 4143 / BIS Lifetime Extension Standards and separate type certification have been deleted.

6. Fall-in-Distance Relaxation

- For repowered WEGs, fall-in-distance norms are relaxed and governed by the formula:
 - *Hub height + half rotor diameter + 5 metres* from key receptors, with necessary noise mitigation measures.
- For refurbished or life-extended WEGs, existing fall-in-distance norms shall continue provided there is no change in hub height or rotor diameter.

7. Annual Banking

- Annual banking shall continue from 1st April to 31st March.
- Unutilised banked energy at the end of the financial year shall be settled at 75% of the applicable TNERC tariff.
- Clarification is awaited on whether annual banking will be available to WEGs commissioned on or after 01.04.2018.

8. Banking Charges

- Existing banking charges shall continue.
- The issue of banking charges will be further decided by TNERC, in compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble APTEL dated 16.06.2025 in TASMA Appeals No. 176 & 177 of 2016.

9. Higher Slot to Lower Slot Adjustment

- The existing facility for adjustment of higher slot generation against lower slot consumption shall continue, subject to the regulatory orders of TNERC.

10. Hybrid Conversion

- Developers opting for Repowering, Refurbishment, or Life Extension are explicitly permitted to convert wind projects into wind-solar hybrid projects.
- Must-run status for combined wind and solar generation may be extended up to the sanctioned evacuation capacity, including during the wind season.

We are enclosing the detailed tabulated statement for the reference of our members

With Warm Regards

L. Santhosh
President