

## Do you want to contribute research and innovation to the sustainable expansion of wind power?

You can now apply for funding for projects related to the sustainable expansion and business development of Swedish wind power. Projects aimed at developing new solutions or building knowledge in the field are welcome to apply for funding within the framework of this call.

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# 1 Funding available to projects that contribute to the sustainable expansion and business development of Swedish wind power

The world needs to take significantly greater leaps if it is to meet the global climate challenge. Research and innovation leads to new solutions and knowledge that accelerate the transition to a sustainable society. Electrification is one of the key solutions to achieving the necessary energy transition and Sweden has great potential for expanding wind power. Wind power is currently undergoing rapid expansion in Sweden and it is expected to supply the bulk of new electricity production over the coming 20 years. That said, there are a number of challenges to be met:

- **Conflicts of interest and competition for land use, both on land and at sea**

The expansion of wind power has an impact on other societal interests, meaning that many suitable sites for establishment are unavailable. From a holistic societal perspective, it will be a major challenge to create consensus and resolve conflicts of interest in an optimal manner.

- **Resource-efficient Swedish wind power with minimum environmental impact**

It will not be possible, nor would it be economically justifiable, to expand wind power without affecting people and the environment to a certain extent. It will therefore be important to continue working to minimise this impact and to increase knowledge of the effects of wind power, both globally and locally. Costs and the efficient use of resources throughout the lifecycle are crucial. Major expansion will require a preparedness to build in all areas of the country, as well as off shore.

- **A robust electricity grid with a high security of supply demands new solutions and the incentives to utilise them**

Wind power will need to contribute support services to the electricity grid. Even if solutions are available, the incentives must be in place to implement them. The transmission network is basically at maximum capacity in large parts of the country and it will also be a major challenge to ensure that the electricity grid expands in parallel with the needs of wind power.

- **Time aspect – 2040 is just around the corner**

Many projects will need to be realised in order to deal with this new phase for the electricity grid. Long lead times, unpredictable permit processes and uncertainty regarding when needs will arise make planning difficult. Long permit application processes also mean that a large proportion of the wind power plants that will be operational by 2040 is already in the planning stage. The challenges that will arise at later stages must therefore be addressed here and now.

In this call, the Swedish Energy Agency is seeking proposals for projects that contribute to meeting these challenges in the field of wind power, by developing new solutions and building knowledge that can be used by stakeholders in Swedish wind power.

The ambition is that the majority of funding within this call will go to projects that develop new solutions. Solutions can include both products and methods and processes. One prerequisite is that there is a link to the stakeholder(s) who will be utilising the results of the project, see Category A in Section 2 below; however, even projects intended to build knowledge and expertise are welcome to apply for funding in this call. It is important that any such projects generate results that can be widely disseminated for use in the development of wind power, see Category B in Section 2 below.

## 2 Who can apply?

The call is aimed at all organisations that can contribute to the areas described above, such as

- companies
- the public sector
- universities' and colleges' social sciences, humanities, technical and scientific disciplines
- research institutes and
- associations and non-governmental organisations

Several organisations can participate in a single project, for example to add more perspectives and competences to the project or to increase the dissemination of knowledge or project results between different actors.

Gender equality and diversity shall be taken into account in the composition of the project group, when selecting project managers and in the implementation of the project, in its content, objectives and effects.

Private individuals cannot apply for funding through this call.

### 3 Which projects can apply?

This call is aimed at projects that meet the above challenges by:

- developing new solutions that can be commercialised and/or used in society (Category A); or
- building the knowledge and expertise available to stakeholders in society (Category B).

The VindEL programme awards grants to research and innovation projects in the field of wind power. Projects that meet the challenges facing the wind power sector by disseminating existing knowledge are therefore excluded from the call. Any such projects may however be eligible to apply to the call [Local and Regional Initiatives for Renewable Electricity Production](#).

Through this call, the Swedish Energy Agency anticipates the award of grants totalling approximately SEK 35 million.

It is the Swedish Energy Agency's ambition to split this support so that two thirds goes to Category A (new solutions) and one third to Category B (knowledge and expertise).

The maximum grant to any single project within this call is SEK 7 million.

Projects that are awarded grants through this call may commence no sooner than 1 December 2020 and must be completed no later than 31 December 2024.

Applications to the call shall focus on the aforementioned challenges and be related to wind power. The call is based on the [Swedish Energy Agency's Strategy for Wind Power](#), meaning that the following areas are not covered by this call:

- Floating wind power.
- Offshore North Sea technology.

- Small-scale wind power.

### **3.1 Category A – New solutions**

This category encompasses projects intended to develop or test new solutions that contribute to meeting the challenges that the call seeks to address and that have the potential to develop the Swedish business sector. These solutions may include new products (system solutions, components, materials, concepts, services, etc.) and processes such as new methods for financing, planning, building, maintaining and recycling, as well as other solutions that may contribute to wind power's role in transitioning to a 100% renewable electricity grid for a climate-neutral welfare state.

This category does not cover basic research or routine or recurring changes to existing goods, services or manufacturing methods and processes.

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Category-specific requirements	Project groups must include at least one organisation through which future commercialisation or other benefits are intended to be achieved.
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#### **3.1.1 Option to submit a draft proposal**

If you apply as a **Category A** project, you have the option to submit a draft proposal that we will offer feedback on before the call closes. This draft need not contain the same level of detail as a complete application.

Please note that the submission of a draft proposal is entirely optional. You are welcome to submit your completed application immediately. We provide the opportunity to submit a draft in order to raise the quality of the submitted applications.

Draft proposals should be submitted to the Swedish Energy Agency via email to [skisser\\_hallbarel@Energimyndigheten.se](mailto:skisser_hallbarel@Energimyndigheten.se). Drafts should be written using the form *Skissansökan VindEL*, which you will find in the right-hand column of the call page. The form contains a number of questions related to the call and application. Please respect the maximum limit of five pages for draft proposals. It is not possible to attach appendices.

Based on the submitted draft proposal, you will receive feedback and a recommendation. Here are a few common alternatives that we may recommend:

- Your project proposal is deemed to conform with the call and you are welcome to submit a completed application.
- Your project proposal is deemed to conform with the call although there are a number of flaws. You are welcome to submit a completed application whereupon you will be asked to rectify these flaws.
- Your project proposal does not conform with the call and we recommend that you refrain from submitting an application. You may be referred to one of our other initiatives to which your project proposal would be better suited.

### **3.2 Category B – Knowledge and expertise**

This category encompasses projects intended to increase knowledge and expertise among Swedish stakeholders. The project should contribute to meeting the challenges that the call seeks to address, although it need not necessarily be intended for commercial applications or uses. Projects within this category may have the long-term potential to lead to innovations that can be commercialised and, although certain patents may be applied for concerning the results of the project, the results should generally be made public.

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Category-specific requirements

To the extent that it is possible, the results of the project must be published and disseminated via public channels.

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## **4 Project proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria**

All applications submitted under this call will be assessed according to the following four criteria. The projects that best meet the criteria will be prioritised for support. You should therefore be careful to describe how your project contributes to the criteria in your application, as this information forms the basis for assessment. In addition to the following criteria, the Swedish Energy Agency will also weigh up the project against the Agency's project portfolio in the field

of wind power and the composition of the projects submitted to the call before approving or rejecting the application.

### 1 Transitional potential for the energy system

This criterion assesses the degree to which the project may potentially contribute to the transition of the energy system and the call's purpose as formulated in the challenges outlined in Section 1 above. The project need not contribute to meeting additional challenges in order to receive a higher score.

#### 2A Level of innovation (Category A projects only)

This criterion assesses the innovative value of the solution that project intends to develop in terms of:

- how unique the new solution is compared to other available solutions;
- what value the new solution can add; and
- the new solution's potential for groundbreaking change.

#### 2B Scientific quality (Category B projects only)

This criterion assesses whether the project maintains a high scientific standard in terms of:

- how it relates to the current state of knowledge in the field;
- whether it contributes new knowledge and new competence bearers to the relevant challenges;
- whether its implementation is based on scientifically accepted methods: and
- where the project addresses relevant issues, if it has dealt with aspects related to gender equality, gender and diversity.

### 3 Benefits and dissemination

This criterion assesses the extent to which the project is expected to provide actual benefits in Sweden, for example in the form of knowledge and competence building or business development, and the extent to which its results are expected to be disseminated to relevant stakeholders.

- Is there an identified need for the project's results, such as a clear knowledge gap or market potential?
- Does the application include a plan for how the results will be used and disseminated? Will the results be available to all (e.g. through open access publishing)?

- Have the groups that are expected to benefit from the results of the project been identified, and will these have the opportunity to influence or participate in the project?
- If the solution is a product intended to be marketed, does the application describe how the solution will be commercialised or utilised?

#### 4 Feasibility and competences

This criterion assesses the extent to which the project is deemed to be feasible, including whether there is assurance that the overall competence of those performing the project is sufficient for its implementation.

- Are the projects goals measurable, specific, well-defined and reasonably ambitious?
- Is the proposed timetable specific and realistic?
- Do the project members have the requisite expertise and correct resources to implement the initiative?
- Have potential risks to the project been identified and, if so, is there a plan to deal with them?
- Is the budget reasonable in relation to the planned activities and objectives?
- How well does the composition of the project consortium address gender equality, gender and diversity?

## 5 How to apply - start in good time

Follow these steps and the processing of your application will be faster:

- Use E-kanalen<sup>1</sup> to write your application
- Start by applying for your personal access to E-kanalen. Apply for access in good time because it may take a few days to get access.
- Write in Swedish or English.
- Always write a summary in both Swedish and English
- Write so that someone who is not expert in the subject can understand what the project is about.

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<sup>1</sup> A link to E-kanalen can be found on the call's web page.

Step by step instructions for submitting the application can be found in the E-kanalen quick reference guide (you can find this at the bottom left of the home page of the E-kanalen).

Submit the application by 10 June 2020. We give support until 16.00 the same day.

If you are applying for a Category A project and wish to take advantage of the opportunity to submit a draft proposal, please complete and submit the form *Skissansökan VindEL* via email to [skisser\\_hallbarel@Energimyndigheten.se](mailto:skisser_hallbarel@Energimyndigheten.se). The deadline for submitting draft proposals is 22 April 2020. The Swedish Energy Agency will then offer feedback, time allowing within one week, although the quantity of draft proposals and the inclusion of any issues that are difficult to assess may result in delays.

## 6 What should be included in the application?

Enter your application text in the field in E-kanalen. Think about justifying how and to what extent your project proposal contributes to all the assessment criteria listed in section **Fel! Hittar inte referensälla..** For further information regarding what you should include on your application form, please refer to the document [Anvisningar för ansökan](#).

Appendices of a total of 20 pages are also allowed. For example, these may contain images, CVs of project participants or an explanation of intent.

Those submitting a draft proposal will also find details of which questions they should answer on the form. The questions relate to the call and the information to be included in a completed application. The idea is that the information in your draft proposal can be more general than in the completed application. For this reason, there is a maximum limit to the number of characters and it is not possible to attach appendices.

## 7 What proportion of the project's costs can we receive funding for?

The maximum support level is calculated per project participant. Briefly, the amount of support each project participant can receive depends on , among other things, (detailed description follows):

- the amount of eligible costs that the participant has
- if the activities carried out by the participants in the project consist of economic or non-economic activities
- the category of research that the activities in the project are considered to correspond to.

The maximum grant to any single project within this call is SEK 7 million.

### 7.1 Costs that are eligible for support

You can receive support for the following costs, according to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, Article 25.3:

- a) Personnel costs: researchers, technicians and other support staff to the extent that they work on the project.
- b) Costs of instruments and equipment to the extent and during the time they are used for the project. If the instruments and equipment are not used throughout the whole life cycle of the project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life cycle of the research project, calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles, are considered eligible .
- c) Costs of buildings and land to the extent and during the time they are used for the project. In the case of buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life cycle of the research project, calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles, are considered eligible. For land, the costs of transfer on commercial terms or actual capital costs are eligible.
- d) Costs of contract research, knowledge and patents that are purchased or rented from external sources on market terms, as well as costs for consultancy services and corresponding services used exclusively for research activities.
- e) Other general overheads and other operating costs, including the costs of material, storage supplies and similar products, incurred directly as a result of a project.

## **7.2 Support for non-economic activities**

Actors that do not carry out economic activities (such as universities, higher education institutions, municipalities and research institutes, to the extent that the work is carried out in non-economic activities) can be supported up to 100% of the actor's eligible costs in the project.

- Universities and higher education institutions may make a mark-up for indirect costs under the full cost principle they apply.
- Funding recipients that are not universities or higher education institutions and do not carry out economic activities may receive support for indirect costs of no more than 30 percent of their eligible direct costs for personnel (salary and payroll costs). This also applies if a funding recipient carries out both economic and non-economic activities, provided that the project is carried out in the non-economic activities.

Please note that the term “enterprise” shall be interpreted broadly and independently of legal form, financing or ownership (see 7.3 7.3Support for enterprises). What determines classification is the real activity of the organisation. If it can be concluded that there is an existing market for the services or goods provided and that there is at least one competitor, in Sweden or the EU, the activity is considered to be an economic activity and the beneficiary is thus considered to be an enterprise.

Where research organisations carry out activities such as assignment research, the provision of research services, the rental of equipment etc. to enterprises, this is considered to involve economic activity.

Research organisations sometimes conduct research projects in collaboration with enterprises. In the case of projects carried out in cooperation with enterprises, special conditions are laid down for support to the research organisations in order not to be regarded as government funding to the enterprises involved. Participating enterprises may not receive an improper advantage through the collaborative project and its contractual terms. For collaborative projects, indirect government funding to enterprises is considered to exist if the purpose of the project, the distribution of its risks and results are considered to be to the disadvantage of the research organisation.

## **7.3 Support for enterprises**

The proportion of an enterprise's eligible costs (the support level) that can be covered by funding from the Swedish Energy Agency is determined by the EU

rules on government support. The support level is determined, among other things, by the research category that the various activities in the project are considered to correspond to and by the size of the enterprise that is to receive the support.

Every entity, irrespective of legal form, that carries out economic activity is regarded as an enterprise. Economic activity means providing goods or services on a market. Thus, entities carrying out a craft or other activity individually or within the family or groups or associations that are engaged in regular economic activity are considered to be enterprises.

Funding recipients that are enterprises (funding recipients that carry out economic activities) cannot be supported for indirect costs. This also applies if a funding recipient carries out both economic and non-economic activities, if the project is carried out in the economic activities.

### **7.3.1 The activities in the project are divided into research categories**

The maximum support level that an enterprise can obtain depends on the category of research that the activities in the project are considered to correspond to. The activities in the project can also be considered to correspond to several different research categories. The maximum permitted support level that an enterprise can receive is laid down in Article 25 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014<sup>2</sup>. The different research categories are described in Table 1 below. The maximum support levels are then shown in Table 3.

If an enterprise that the Swedish Energy Agency grants funding to has received or is receiving funding for the project in the form of other public support (such as other government, regional or municipal funding), this funding must be taken into account when calculating the amount of support the enterprise may receive. Under EU rules, the *total* public support that the enterprise receives for the project may not exceed the maximum support levels set out in Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 through which certain categories of support are declared compatible with the internal market according to Articles 107 and 108 of the treaty.

<sup>3</sup> See Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.

Table 1. Classification of research activities in research and development projects <sup>4</sup>

<b>Feasibility study</b>	the evaluation and analysis of the potential of a project, which aims at supporting the process of decision-making by objectively and rationally uncovering its strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats, as well as identifying the resources required to carry it through and ultimately its prospects for success.
<b>Fundamental research</b>	experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial application or use in view.
<b>Industrial research</b>	planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services. It comprises the creation of components parts of complex systems, and may include the construction of prototypes in a laboratory environment or in an environment with simulated interfaces to existing systems as well as of pilot lines, when necessary for the industrial research and notably for generic technology validation.
<b>Experimental development</b>	<p>acquiring, combining, shaping and using existing scientific, technological, business and other relevant knowledge and skills with the aim of developing new or improved products, processes or services. This may also include, for example, activities aiming at the conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes or services</p> <p>Experimental development may comprise prototyping, demonstrating, piloting, testing and validation of new or improved products, processes or services in environments representative of real life operating conditions where the primary objective is to make further technical improvements on products, processes or services that are not substantially set. This may include the development of a commercially usable prototype or pilot which is necessarily the final commercial product and which is too expensive to produce for it to be used only for demonstration and validation purposes.</p> <p>Experimental development does not include routine or periodic changes made to existing products, production lines, manufacturing processes, services and other operations in progress, even if those changes may represent improvements.</p>

### 7.3.2 *The amount of support depends on the size of the enterprise*

The maximum support level that an enterprise can obtain also depends on the size of the enterprise. If the applicant is a small or medium sized enterprise, the support level may be increased by 20 and 10 percentage points respectively, as laid down in Article 25 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.

When assessing the size of an enterprise, account must be taken of the number of employees, annual turnover and balance sheet total. The size of an enterprise is defined according to Table 2. For example, in order to be classified as a medium-sized enterprise, it is necessary to have fewer than 250 employees and *either* the company's annual turnover *or* the balance sheet total is less than the amounts

<sup>4</sup> The definitions are set out in Article 2, points 84 to 87 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014. There is a link on the call's web page.

shown in the table below (i.e. EUR 50 million and EUR 43 million respectively). Also important for the assessment of the size of an enterprise is the enterprise's relationship with other enterprises, primarily the owner, and the degree of control exercised by other enterprises over the enterprise. This is described in Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014. See also the Commission's user guide on the definition of SMEs.

 Table 2. Definition of the size of enterprises<sup>5</sup>

<b>Size</b>	<b>Number of employees*</b>	<b>Annual turnover or balance sheet total**</b>
Small enterprise	< 50	≤ 10 mill. €
Medium sized enterprise	< 250	≤ 50 mill. € or ≤ 43 mill. € respectively
Large enterprise	≥ 250	> 50 mill. € or > 43 mill. € respectively

\*) Employees refers not only to wage earners but also to owners working in the company without being employees and to consultants in a position of dependence on the enterprise.

\*\*) Information from the last approved financial year is taken into account. In order for a threshold to be considered to have been passed, the company must have had higher or lower figures for two consecutive years.

The table below shows the maximum support level that can be provided to actors for research and development projects. However, the Swedish Energy Agency may grant a lower support level.

Table 3. Overview of maximum support levels

<b>Type of research and development</b>	<b>Small enterprise</b>	<b>Medium sized enterprise</b>	<b>Large enterprise</b>	<b>Non-economic actors*</b>
Feasibility study	70%	60%	50%	100%
Fundamental research	100%	100%	100%	100%
Industrial research	70%	60%	50%	100%
Experimental development	45%	35%	25%	100%

\*) For example, universities and research institutes.

<sup>5</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014, Annex 1, Article 2. There is a link on the call's web page.

### **7.3.3 Supplements to support levels**

A supplement of not more than 15 percentage points may, under certain conditions, be provided when the project constitutes effective collaboration<sup>6</sup> between enterprises or between enterprises and organisations for research and the dissemination of knowledge, where the project relates to industrial research or experimental development. In order for such a supplement to be given, certain special conditions must be met.

In collaboration between enterprises, at least one of the enterprises must be an SME unless the project is implemented in at least two EU Member States.<sup>7</sup> None of the enterprises may account for more than 70 per cent of the eligible costs.

In a collaboration between an enterprise and one or more organisations for research and dissemination of knowledge, the research organisation must have the right to publish its own research results. The research organisation must also account for at least 10 per cent of the eligible costs.

If the project does not constitute such a collaboration, a supplement of not more than 15 percentage points may nevertheless be provided if the results of the research project, which relate to industrial research or experimental development, are *widely disseminated* through conferences, publications, open databases or free or open software.

The supplement for SMEs may be combined with the supplement for effective collaboration or with the supplement for wide dissemination. However, the support level may never exceed 80 per cent of the eligible costs.

### **7.3.4 De minimis aid**

Financing can also be provided to enterprises through so-called de minimis aid. Where support is provided in the form of de minimis aid, the conditions laid down in Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (EUT L 352, 18.12.2013, p. 1).

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<sup>6</sup> Effective collaboration, according to Article 2, point 90 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 refers to collaboration between at least two independent parties to exchange knowledge or technology, or to achieve a common objective based on the division of labour where the parties jointly define the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its implementation and share its risks, as well as its results. One or several parties may bear the full costs of the project and thus relieve other parties of its financial risks. Contract research and provision of research services are not considered forms of collaboration.

<sup>7</sup> Or in a Member State and in a country which is a Contracting Party to the EEA Agreement.

As a general rule, de minimis aid may be granted up to the equivalent of EUR 200,000 over a three-year period. To an enterprise that performs road freight transport on behalf of others, de minimis aid may be granted up to the equivalent of EUR 100,000 over a three-year period. In connection with the application, the enterprise must therefore provide a certificate to the Swedish Energy Agency of all other such aid received by the enterprise in the last three years.

#### **7.4 Co-financing**

The part of the eligible costs of the project not covered by support from the Swedish Energy Agency is referred to as co-financing. This may for example be

- working hours
- cash
- experimental costs

Co-financing in forms other than cash shall consist of actual and auditable costs incurred during the project period.

Note that the Swedish Energy Agency may impose higher requirements for co-financing of the costs of recipient enterprises than required by Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014. The Swedish Energy Agency may also require co-financing of non-economic actors to which the agency grants support according to the letter of appropriation for the Swedish Energy Agency (e.g. universities, higher education institutions, municipalities and research institutes).

Public funds may not be included in the co-financing of the costs incurred by an enterprise. An example of this is co-financing from an actor whose activities are to some extent financed by, for example, the use of municipal or government funding. If the actor co-finances part of the enterprise's costs, the enterprise may not count the part that consists of public funds in its eligible costs.

For non-economic actors, public funds, such as a university's framework appropriations, can be used as co-financing.

## **8 What happens once my application has been submitted?**

Your application will be assessed by experts appointed by the Swedish Energy Agency. It is the version of the application that you submitted before the closing

date of the call that is assessed. We do not accept additions after the deadline, apart from those that we have expressly asked for. The overall opinions of these experts will be conveyed in the form of advice to the Agency.

The Swedish Energy Agency may request that you submit a supplement to the application if we find reason to do so.

The Swedish Energy Agency performs a credit check applicant enterprises.

Based on the above, as well as on the Swedish Energy Agency's own assessment of the extent to which the project meets the call criteria and a weighing up against the Agency's project portfolio in the field of wind power, the Agency will reach a decision to either approve or reject your application. This decision will be made no earlier than 2 November 2020, shortly after which you will be notified about the decision we have reached and the reasons for doing so.

## 9 If you are granted support

In order for funding to be paid, a competent representative of the recipient (e.g. an authorised signatory) must confirm receipt of the Swedish Energy Agency's decision and that the conditions for support have been accepted.

Payment of the funding is made according to a payment plan that is described in the decision that was sent to you. For more information about payment, see the appendix with conditions that is sent along with the decision on your funding.

## 10 The call is part of the VindEL programme

The VindEL programme is intended to contribute to a sustainable and renewable electricity grid through research into and the development of technologies, systems, methods and issues related to wind power. The programme has a total of SEK 217 million at its disposal over the period 2017-2024.

The intention of the programme is to hold an annually recurring call. This is the fourth annual call for the VindEL programme. Initiatives under the umbrella of the programme address the areas of need identified in the Swedish Energy Agency's Strategy for Wind Power, currently *Resource-efficient Wind Power*

*under Swedish Conditions, the Role of Wind Power in Society and the Environment, Integration in the Electricity Grid, Knowledge Dissemination and Expertise, and Business Development.*

## 11 If you have any questions

The Swedish Energy Agency will be happy to answer any questions regarding the call itself; however, we are unable to comment on or make recommendations regarding project concepts. Applications for Category A projects do however have the option of submitting a draft proposal and receiving limited written feedback, see Section 3.1.1 above.

Please bear in mind that we tend to receive a great many calls on the final day of the call and that it may therefore be difficult to obtain help at that time. The Swedish Energy Agency is only available to answer question until 16:00, after which you should not expect to receive assistance and support. We offer support until 16:00 of the day the call closes.

Technical support for our eChannel

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The VindEL programme

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## Appendix

### **Conditions for projects granted**

The conditions applicable to projects granted will be set out in the Swedish Energy Agency's decision on funding granted. Below is a description of the conditions.

#### **General**

The Energy Agency's decision on support is based on an agreed project and cost plan. The part of the costs not covered by funding from the Swedish Energy Agency shall be covered by own resources or by funds from other financiers. The funding recipient is responsible for financing cost increases that occur during the project period. The Energy Agency's decision on funding, which does not relate to the current financial year's support funds, shall apply only on condition that the Swedish Energy Agency has the necessary funds at its disposal.

Moving costs between cost types is accepted up to 10 per cent within each cost type, provided that the overall framework does not change. Larger changes require the Swedish Energy Agency's approval.

### **Section 1 Costs that are eligible for support**

#### ***General requirements***

Eligible costs means the costs incurred by the funding recipient in carrying out its part of the project. What costs are eligible in a project and the proportion of these costs that the funding recipient can receive support for depends on the basis on which the Swedish Energy Agency has taken its decision on support. The grounds for support are set out in the Energy Agency's decision on support.

In order to be eligible, the cost shall:

- be reasonable and must have arisen for the implementation of the project,
- be actual and auditable, which means that they can be found in the recipient's accounts. For example, a recipient cannot be funded for work carried out without pay. Nor may the costs be estimated,
- be borne by the recipient, which means that a recipient may only include its own costs as entered in its accounts,
- be determined in accordance with good accounting practice, and

- have arisen in the project and during the project period set out in the decision on support. Costs incurred before or after the project period specified in the decision are not eligible.

In the accounts, the project costs shall be accounted for in such a way that they are distinguishable from the organisation's other transactions.

### ***Payroll costs***

#### ***Direct costs***

Direct costs for personnel (salary and related costs) shall be recognised as payroll costs to the extent that these persons work in the project. Related costs refers to social contributions according to law, compulsory pension provisions, compulsory insurance and contributions, as well as holiday pay. Since the payroll costs must be auditable, the funding recipient must report the hours worked in the project. Note that the payroll costs shall be real. They must not therefore be estimated or a flat-rate.

For universities and higher education institutions, the full cost principle that they apply applies.

For all other funding recipients, i.e. which are not universities or higher education institutions, payroll costs should be differentiated in terms of personnel category. However, the following ceiling amounts apply to payroll costs unless otherwise stated in the Swedish Energy Agency's decision on support:

Category 1 - Senior salaried staff and senior researchers: a maximum of SEK 825 per hour

Category 2 - Technical staff: a maximum of SEK 550 per hour

Category 3 - Routine tasks: a maximum of SEK 300 per hour.

If the payroll costs are lower than the ceiling amount for the applicable category, the lower amount (i.e. the actual payroll cost) shall apply.

#### ***Indirect costs***

Indirect costs (overhead costs) are general costs that do not arise as an immediate result of the project during the project period. This applies to salaries and fees to staff who do not work specifically on the project, such as staff working on finance or administration that are not project-specific, but also remuneration to management functions such as the CEO and board members.

Universities and higher education institutions may receive funding for indirect costs under the full cost principle they apply.

Funding recipients other than universities and higher education institutions not engaged in economic activities (e.g. municipalities and institutions that are not engaged in economic activities) may receive funding for indirect costs of not more than 30 % of their eligible direct costs for personnel (salary and related costs). This also applies if a funding recipient carries out both economic and non-economic activities, provided that the project is carried out in the non-economic activities.

Funding recipients that are enterprises (funding recipients that carry out economic activities) cannot receive support for indirect costs. This also applies if a funding recipient carries out both economic and non-economic activities, if the project is carried out in the economic activities.

### **Section 2 Payment of funding**

Payment of funding is made, unless otherwise specified in the decision, during each financial year of the project period without prior requisition. The funding covers VAT only when this arises as a net cost to the funding recipient (applies only to universities and higher education institutions). Verification of the reported cost items shall be submitted to the Swedish Energy Agency on request. Funds that have not been used shall be refunded. Advances can be provided up to a maximum of 30 per cent of the total amount of funding (for universities and higher education institutions only). 15 per cent, or another percentage as shown in the decision, of the funds granted may be withheld until final reporting according to Section 5 has been received and approved by the Swedish Energy Agency.

### **Section 3 Employer relationship**

The Swedish Energy Agency is not an employer or client of the funding recipient or any other who the funding recipient hires for the project. The Energy Authority does not therefore make deductions for taxes, social security contributions etc.

### **Section 4 Notification obligation regarding financing**

The funding recipient is obliged to inform the Swedish Energy Agency immediately in writing about funding for the project in the decision that is applied for or obtained from other than the Swedish Energy Agency.

**Section 5 Reporting obligation**

Reports and questionnaires as described below shall be submitted in accordance with the instructions of the Swedish Energy Agency. If any additional specific reports are required, this is stated in the decision.

***Annual report***

Universities and higher education institutions are obliged to submit, on the Swedish Energy Agency's request, an annual report for each financial year, regarding the combined activities of the institution and/or research group.

***Status reports***

A status report on the activities of the project shall be submitted at the request of the Swedish Energy Agency. This shall include a description of the project's activities and results to date and a financial statement. In addition, the Swedish Energy Agency may request that the report contains a technical status report. The status report shall be submitted to the Swedish Energy Agency no later than the date specified in the decision.

***Financial Reporting - only applies to enterprises***

Financial reports shall be submitted once or twice a year on a special form provided by the Swedish Energy Agency or obtained from the agency's website ([www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)). The reports shall be submitted no later than the date specified in the decision.

***Final report***

The final report shall report the project results and include a description of the implementation and goal achievement of the project. The report shall also include a summary of the project results in English of a maximum of 200 words. The report shall be submitted to the Swedish Energy Agency no later than the date specified in the decision.

A financial final report shall be submitted no later than the date specified in the decision on a special form provided by the Swedish Energy Agency or obtained from the agency's website ([www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)).

**Questionnaires**

At the end of each year, you as a funding recipient must complete a questionnaire and submit it to the Swedish Energy Agency. We collect information from all funding recipients on behalf of the government, to report a number of results in indicator form in our annual report.

**Section 6 Changes**

Significant changes within the project and cost plan approved by the Swedish Energy Agency shall be notified to the Swedish Energy Agency for review and approval in advance. If any circumstance of material significance occurs, which leads to the suspension or delay of the project etc., the funding recipient shall promptly inform the Swedish Energy Agency. The funding recipient is obliged to immediately notify any change of name and address.

**Section 7 Publication**

The project results shall be published. Publication shall be done in accordance with good international practice for the publication of research results.

The funding recipient has the right to protect the results with patents or other intellectual property protection rights and to delay publication until any application for such protection rights has been submitted to the relevant patent office. If the funding recipient intends to protect the results, this shall be communicated to the Swedish Energy Agency. The application to the patent office shall be submitted without delay. If the funding recipient wishes to delay publication for reasons other than the above mentioned or refrain from the publication of certain results, the written consent of the Swedish Energy Agency shall be obtained on a case-by-case basis.

All presentations of the project shall indicate that the work has been carried out with the support of the Swedish Energy Agency.

**Section 8 Rights to results**

The funding recipient or the rights holders of the results hold the commercial right of use of the project results and have the right to grant or transfer the rights to others.

If the rights to project results are transferred to an enterprise that performs economic activities, compensation corresponding to the market price for such rights shall be provided (only applies to universities and higher education institutions).

**Section 9 Right to scrutiny**

The Swedish Energy Agency or person(s) appointed by the Swedish Energy Agency (e.g. certified public accountant) have the right to monitor the work and to view documents that may provide information about the technical and

financial development of the project. In order to allow scrutiny, the Swedish Energy Agency has the right to issue specific instructions for accounting.

The Swedish Energy Agency also has the right to follow up completed projects by requesting follow-up reports, which must be formulated and submitted in accordance with the instructions of the Swedish Energy Agency. Such reports may be requested on three occasions within a ten-year period after the final report date.

### **Section 10 Change of decision**

On the funding recipient's written request with justification, the Swedish Energy Agency may allow a change in the disposition time and/or grant a deferral of reporting.

### **Section 11 Repeal of decision**

The Swedish Energy Agency may decide that unused funds shall be withheld or that funds that have been paid but not yet been used shall be refunded if:

- a) the conditions for project funding have changed
- b) the project is not being performed in accordance with the agreed project plan
- c) there is no prospect of achieving satisfactory results in the project within a reasonable period of time (e.g. due to substantially changed conditions or the competition situation) or if the planned continuation of the project cannot be considered as assured (e.g. due to insolvency if the funding recipient is an enterprise)
- d) the funding recipient fails to sign and return a copy of the appendix with conditions to the Swedish Energy Agency.

### **Section 12 Recovery of amounts paid**

Amounts paid together with interest 8% (eight per cent) above the applicable reference rate may be reclaimed with immediate effect if:

- a) the funding recipient does not provide the prescribed reports referred to in Section 5
- b) the funding recipient uses the funding for purposes other than that set out in the agreed project plan

c) the project is not being performed in accordance with the agreed project plan

d) the funding recipient does not generally comply with its obligations under the appendix with conditions or the specific conditions in the decision.

### **Section 13 Withholding of funding**

The Swedish Energy Agency has the right to stop the further payment of funds until a decision has been taken to refuse payment or to recover funds granted according to sections 11 and 12. Such a halt to the further payment of funds may also include payments to other projects administered by the same institution, enterprise or equivalent administrative unit, if the Swedish Energy Agency so decides.

### **Section 14 EU government support rules**

As a condition of funding, the support measures may be repealed or amended and the support recovered if the European Commission has found, by means of a decision that has become final or the Court of Justice of the European Union has found that the support is contrary to Article 107 of the Treaty on Functioning of the European Union. Decisions to repeal or amend the support measures are taken by the government. The conditions for repayment of funding are determined in each case.

### **Consent to access to information**

The Swedish Energy Agency makes available information on projects financed by the agency on the agency's website ([www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)). There, the public can search for information about ongoing and completed research projects based on different search words, such as research subject, research organisation, project title and project manager. The funding recipient is responsible for ensuring that holders of any copyright have consented to access to information and shall ensure that the copyright holder has the right to give consent in each case. The Swedish Energy Agency's decision on granting funding is accompanied by a form of consent to access to information. By signing the document, the competent representative of the funding recipient agrees/does not agree that information not covered by confidentiality under the Public Access and Secrecy Act (2009:400) that is contained in the project may be made available to the public.

### **Consent to personal data processing**

The Swedish Energy Agency makes available information on projects financed by the agency on the agency's website ([www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)). The

Swedish Energy Agency's decision on granting funding is accompanied by a form of consent to personal data processing. By signing the document, the project manager consents/does not consent to their personal data being processed by the Swedish Energy Agency in order to be made available to the public on the agency's website. More information about how the Swedish Energy Agency processes personal data can be found on the Swedish Energy Agency's website ([www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)).

### **Public documents and confidentiality**

In principle, all post and e-mails to the Swedish Energy Agency become public documents. This means, among other things, that the public and the media have the right to request access to the content. Letters and decisions sent from the Swedish Energy Agency are also public documents. The right to access to public documents is part of the principle of public access to official records.

However, the Swedish Energy Agency may not disclose information covered by confidentiality under the Public Access and Secrecy Act. This means that a document or certain information in a document may be protected by confidentiality. A confidentiality review is therefore carried out before a document is disclosed in each case.

For example, confidentiality applies to an individual's business or operating circumstances, inventions or research results if it can be assumed that the individual will suffer injury if the information is disclosed.