



PRESS RELEASE

The latest application note from Copper Development Association discusses the various project phases in the development of a 10 MW onshore wind farm, clearly identifying the critical decisions to be made during each phase to ensure a financially viable project.

During the feasibility stage, the fundamental action is the initial site selection and the assessment of the wind resources. This allows the ultimate energy yield to be estimated which, together with the achievable the feed-in tariff, determine the financial viability of the project. Hence, it is vital that the assessment is as accurate as possible. All aspects of the project are discussed, including planning permission, which can be a major hurdle, risk assessment, financing and technical feasibility.

Once the decision to build has been made, the project can proceed to the pre-build stage in which the detailed design decisions are made, including how to comply with planning requirements, the requirements of grid connection (including the feed-in contract), selection of suppliers and detailed financing. The building stage requires careful quality control followed by detailed commissioning and testing to prepare for handover to the operator.

The application note concludes with a financial analysis that demonstrates the importance of correct assessment of the yield and the negotiation of a sufficiently high feed-in tariff.

The 'Wind Power Case Study' is just one of over 30 application notes forming the 'Power Quality and Utilisation Guide'. This eight-section guide covers technical and financial considerations and is aimed at electrical engineers, facilities managers and contractors. All material has been reviewed by the Chief Editor, David Chapman, and is approved for CPD by the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

The Power Quality and Utilisation Guide has been produced as part of the Leonardo Energy pan-European education and training programme. Individual application notes and a fully searchable pdf collection can be downloaded from www.cda.org.uk/pqp/pqag.htm. Alternatively, a fully searchable set of Application Notes on CD can be obtained, free of charge, by contacting helpline@copperdev.co.uk.



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