

GENERAL REGULATION FOR TESTING FLOATING WIND TURBINE PROTOTYPES AT THE MARINE ENERGY R&D PLATFORM OF CATALONIA, PLEMCAT

This document has been composed in line with the agreements and mandates established during the Board of Trustees meetings of the IREC Foundation held on the 15th of June and the 8th of September 2023. It also incorporates decisions made by the PLEMCAT Commission. The document will be presented for ratification at the next regular meeting of the IREC Foundation's Board of Trustees, with its approval being subject to this ratification.

The purpose of this document is to outline the general regulations governing the testing of floating wind turbine prototypes at the R&D&I Platform for Marine Energies of Catalonia (referred to as the PLEMCAT Platform or PLEMCAT). This is for operators who are granted a specific testing zone and an electrical grid connection point, in line with the final resolution of the call for prototype testing at PLEMCAT, published on the PLEMCAT website (<https://www.irec.cat/ca/research/strategic-initiatives/plemcat>).

Phase 1 of PLEMCAT is focused on R&D activities related to the testing of floating wind turbine prototypes, the assessment of materials and components, and other activities linked to marine energies.

It is expected that PLEMCAT will connect via a 66 kV submarine electrical evacuation line to distribute the energy generated during the testing phase. The PLEMCAT platform will be situated in the area designated as LEBA II by the Levantine-Balearic POEM, in the Gulf of Roses, 16-24 km off the northern coast of Catalonia.

AUTHORISATIONS

The utilisation of the Platform's infrastructure by the prototype operator allocated a testing zone will be in line with this regulation and as detailed in the contract to be formalised between IREC and the prototype operator. This contract is dependent on IREC obtaining the necessary administrative licences and authorisations for the installation and commissioning of the PLEMCAT Platform.

It will be the responsibility of the prototype operator to obtain, at their own expense, all the necessary administrative authorisations and licence for the installation and commissioning of their prototype at PLEMCAT.

IREC will oversee the procurement of the relevant authorisations and licences for the installation and commissioning of the PLEMCAT Platform, facilitating the installation and operation of the operators' prototypes for R&D&I testing.

DURATION OF OCCUPANCY IN THE TESTING ZONE

A minimum occupancy period of 5 years is established for the testing zone, which can be renewed, if applicable, twice more for periods of up to 5 years each.

The approval of each extension and its duration depends on the submission of a prior technical justification for the request and approval by the PLEMCAT Commission, currently consisting of members from the Institut Català de l'Energia (ICAEN), the General Directorate of Energy of the Generalitat of Catalonia, and the Catalonia Institute for Energy Research Foundation (IREC).

The PLEMCAT Commission will assess requests for extensions differing from the period specified in this section, provided they are submitted before the expiry of the initially agreed term and are adequately justified.

FEE ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCOMMODATION SERVICE FOR FLOATING WIND TURBINE PROTOTYPES

Each year, IREC will determine a monthly fee to be paid by operators installing their prototypes on the PLEMCAT Platform. This fee accounts for the accommodation service of their prototypes, as well as other services related to the Platform's infrastructure, such as monitoring, control, tracking, security, access, and electrical grid connection, among others.

Through this fee, IREC will cover all its PLEMCAT Platform operations, as well as contingencies for repairs and replacements of its infrastructure elements.

The fee amount to be paid by the operators will be based on the seabed area reserved for anchoring the prototypes. A limiting factor for the prototype proposals to be installed is the maritime domain occupancy concession available to IREC, i.e., the water layer, which cannot be exceeded by the total prototypes hosted on the Platform. Regardless of the actual seabed area occupied by the anchoring of each specific prototype, the fee is accrued based on the maximum seabed area planned for the anchoring of the prototype in each testing zone or position occupied.

The PLEMCAT Platform comprises three testing zones, each with different projected seabed anchoring areas. The first two testing zones, which are identical, are designed for a radius of up to 800 metres. The third testing zone is designed for a radius of up to 450 metres.

Prototypes intended for the first two testing zones, with a maximum radius limit of 800 metres each, will incur a fee of 60,100 euros monthly (excluding VAT) from the notification by IREC of the PLEMCAT Platform's availability for the installation of the prototypes, expected in the latter half of 2025.

On the other hand, Prototypes intended for the first two testing zones, with a maximum radius limit of 800 metres each, will incur a fee of 60,100 euros monthly (excluding VAT) from the notification by

IREC of the PLEMCAT Platform's availability for the installation of the prototypes, expected in the latter half of 2025.

The fees will be updated annually based on the annual CPI. In any case, IREC will review the actual expenses incurred by the PLEMCAT Platform in the previous year and, if applicable, to ensure the self-sustainability of the PLEMCAT Platform, will notify the Platform users of any updates that need to be made to the fee amount.

OPERATIONAL REGIME FOR THE SALE OF ENERGY GENERATED BY THE PROTOTYPES

IREC, as the holder of the access and connection point of the PLEMCAT Platform and, where relevant, registered as an electricity-producing installation in the appropriate administrative register, will contract with an electricity market agent for the sale of energy generated by the prototypes installed on the PLEMCAT Platform at market price.

Of the 100% of the revenue received from the energy market agent for the generated energy (once management expenses have been deducted), in line with the foundational purposes of the IREC Foundation and as stipulated in the Programme Contract 2023-2026 between IREC and the Administration of the Generalitat de Catalunya, IREC will deduct a variable percentage as detailed below. This is to contribute to a fund designed to promote and support new R&D&I projects and platforms, or their extensions, focusing on energy, environment, and climate change.

This variable percentage will depend on the capacity factor recorded in the previous month for each prototype. Understanding that the capacity factor, which indicates efficiency, is determined by dividing the energy generated in the month by the prototype by its estimated maximum potential energy (i.e., maximum power multiplied by the total hours in the month):

- If the average capacity factor recorded during the previous month is below 20%, 6% of the net income received from energy sales will be deducted.
- If the average capacity factor recorded during the previous month is above 20% and below 40%, 9% of the net income received from energy sales will be deducted.
- Whereas, if the average capacity factor recorded during the previous month is equal to or exceeds 40%, IREC will deduct 12% of the net income from energy sales.

The remaining part of the net income received by IREC for the energy generated on the Platform will be subject to a monthly settlement. This will be communicated to the prototype operators, who will then invoice IREC annually for the amount corresponding to this percentage as payment for the energy produced by their prototypes.

PROVISION OF GUARANTEE

Prototype operators using the PLEMCAT Platform test zones and the connection point to the electricity grid must provide a guarantee to the Caixa General de Dipòsits. This guarantee should be equivalent to two monthly instalments of the fee mentioned in the section "Fee associated with the prototype accommodation service". This is a prerequisite for proceeding with the formalisation of the contract detailing the terms and conditions of use of the PLEMCAT Platform.

This initial guarantee will be released when the prototype owner-operator informs IREC that the subsequent guarantee has been established.

According to the projected timeline for the start of the PLEMCAT Platform's activity, expected in the latter half of 2025, 6 months before the completion of the works and technical installations of the basic infrastructure of the Platform. IREC will notify user companies of the provision of a new guarantee for 12 monthly instalments of the fee, equivalent to one year's fee, as well as the anticipated date for access to the connection point to the electricity grid.

This secondary guarantee will be released once IREC confirms that the prototype operator has fulfilled the obligations outlined in the contract between IREC and the prototype owner-operator. This contract specifies the terms and conditions of use of the PLEMCAT Platform. The release will also be contingent upon verifying that there are no outstanding responsibilities tied to this guarantee.

UNOCCUPIED CONNECTION POINTS AND THEIR AVAILABILITY

If a connection point to the electrical grid within the Platform becomes unoccupied before the end of the occupation period stipulated in the respective contract formalised between IREC and the prototype's operator, IREC will enact the guarantee as specified in the contract. Subsequently, IREC will announce an open and public call on the PLEMCAT website for the allocation of the test area and the electrical connection point that has become available.

In these calls, being recognised as a classified applicant and having a priority order on the waiting list from IREC's final decision on the allocation of a test area and connection point in phase 1 of PLEMCAT will be considered a valuation criterion. This will be awarded 10% of the total maximum score outlined in the call.

The classification and priority order of the proposals submitted to the aforementioned calls that remain on the waiting list will become invalid the day after the contract between IREC and the prototype owner-operator is formalised. This contract will allocate a test area and an electrical connection point.

CONTRACT FORMALISATION

Given the tight schedule for accepting or declining the grants from the "RENMARINAS DEMOS" call across all its sub-programmes and modalities, IREC's final decision on the call for prototype testing in PLEMCAT, detailing the classification and priority order of the proposals with the final allocation of a test area and connection point in phase 1 of PLEMCAT, will be published on the PLEMCAT website on 29th September 2023. If objections are raised to the final decision published on 22nd September 2023 on the PLEMCAT website, IREC's final decision on the call for prototype testing in PLEMCAT will be announced on 2nd October 2023. Awardees must express their acceptance of the award and their intention to begin the procedures for contract formalisation no later than 14h on the working day following the date of the aforementioned decision's publication on the stated dates.

Failure to express acceptance within this timeframe will be interpreted as a decline.

In the event of a decline, IREC will notify the next classified entity as per the aforementioned Resolution. This entity will then have the specified period to express their acceptance.

The contract between IREC and the prototype operator will be formalised within a maximum of 90 days from the aforementioned communication.

This contract will also cover the terms of the scientific-technological collaboration between the prototype owner-operator and IREC, set within the framework of the research and technological development activities to be carried out on the PLEMCAT Platform.

It should be noted that any amendments to this regulation must receive approval from the PLEMCAT Commission.

Catalonia Institute for Energy Research Foundation (IREC)

In Sant Adrià de Besòs, on 27th September 2023.