Norway electricity regulations

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The Norwegian Energy Regulatory Authority (NVE-RME) is the national regulatory authority for the electricity and natural gas markets in Norway. Our main statutory objective is to promote socioeconomic development and environmentally sound energy system with efficient and reliable transmission, distribution, trade and use of energy.

Under the current Norwegian regulation, the TSO (Statnett) approves the technical design of generators, network units and industry connections, before units may connect to the transmission and higher voltage distribution grids. This is pursuant to § 14 and § 20 of the Norwegian regulations for system operation (in Norwegian). Statnett is ...

This page provides an overview of Norway"s legal framework for the energy sector and water resources management. It has been important to develop a comprehensive legislative framework including requirements to obtain licences for various purposes.

The Regulations apply to all activities where professional electrical competence is required, as defined in the Regulations for electrical enterprises and qualifications to work on electrical installations and electrical equipment. In this context, the "owner" of the enterprise is defined as being the owner of the

We are a member of the European Union Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER), the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER), the Nordic Energy Regulators (NordREG) and International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER).

The connection codes specify functional requirements for generators (RfG), demand connections (DCC) and HVDC connections, including DC connected power park modules (HVDC). The connection codes, once ratified, will be part of Norwegian regulations.

Network codes and related guidelines are a set of rules drafted by ENTSO-E, with guidance from ACER. The codes facilitate the harmonisation, integration and efficiency of the European electricity market. More information regarding the network codes and related guidelines are available at https:// and https://

Statnett has developed a national guideline that presents the minimum technical requirements it requires for approving connection to the transmission and higher voltage distribution grids. This national guideline is called FIKS (functional requirements in the power system). Today"s requirements in FIKS cover hydro, wind and thermal power plants with an installed capacity greater than 1 MVA, as well as grid units and to a minor extent large industry connections.

NVE requested Statnett to review the technical requirements in the connection codes, in close collaboration

with national stakeholders. Three separate stakeholder groups were established, each working with one of the three connection codes. The national industry associations within the energy sector selected the participants among their stakeholders, based on technical expertise. The composition of each stakeholder group represented a cross section of the industry, to ensure that all relevant technical issues were addressed.

The end product of the review is a description of how the connection codes will introduce changes to today"s practice for technical requirements for grid connection, and Statnett"s recommendation for implementation of the connection codes in Norway. If there is no consensus of certain technical requirements in the stakeholder groups, the deviating opinions from the stakeholders are described, together with Statnett"s recommendations.

Norway"s legislation is intended to ensure that all the different interests are heard and considered, and that projects are subject to government control and conditions that safeguard different interests. Another important objective is to ensure effective management of our resources. Security of energy supply and a well-functioning power market are key considerations here.

Before making use of water for electricity production, a developer must have ownership rights to the waterfall. A non-state developer must hold a licence under the Waterfall Rights Act in order to acquire such rights. The Act does not apply to small-scale power projects or run-of-river hydropower plants under the limit of 4000 natural horse powers. The overall purpose of the Waterfall Rights Act is to ensure that hydropower resources are managed in the country"s best interests through public ownership of hydropower resources at national, county and municipal levels.

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