

4.1 Bidding Process for allocation of sub-blocks

- Potential sites will be identified for allocation through a bidding process under this model. Ministry in consultation with NIWE will identify offshore sea blocks to cater to the project capacities as per the set trajectory given above. These offshore sea blocks will be opened up for allocation from time to time.
- Each offshore sea block will be assigned with a minimum offshore installable wind power capacity that must be established by the selected developer. However, the selected OWPD is free to establish any additional capacity over and above the assigned capacity within the allocated block to optimize the offshore wind site utilization.
- The bids would comprise of a technical qualification criteria to evaluate the techno-commercial capability of the bidders.
- The bidder has to submit the technical bid as well as the commercial bid quoting the lease fee they wish to offer for interested offshore wind sea blocks.
- The financial bids of technically qualified bidders will only be opened and analyzed. This analysis will be held for every sea block independently.
- The offshore wind energy sea blocks will be allocated to the bidder offering the highest lease fee for a specific block.
- The blocks shall be provisionally allocated to the successful bidders for a period of five years, which can be further extended by 2 years subject to the progress of study/survey and project development.
- MNRE or its designated agency would issue the 'Letter of Consent' to the selected OWPD for carrying out the offshore wind measurements and other surveys after obtaining requisite clearances from concerned Ministries/Departments as per the National Offshore Wind Energy policy.
- The OWPD shall pay quoted lease fee during the period of 'Agreement to Lease', i.e. duration of study/survey, or till the period they would like to retain the exclusivity rights (which is a maximum of 5 years extendable to 7 years). The lease fee would be non-refundable.
- OWPD need to submit DPR and enter into concessionaire agreement and lease agreement (for a period of 30 years) for project development and sale of power under open access regime within a period of 5 years (extendable up to 7 years) from the date of 'Letter of Consent'.
- The OWPD shall commission the project within four years from the date of the "Concessionaire agreement". (A period of four years is considered sufficient for the OWPD to establish an offshore wind farm once the Stage II Clearances are obtained for the site, subject to any of extenuating circumstances like non-availability of evacuation arrangements, etc., that are beyond the control of the OWPD , in which case this could be extended but in any case the project must be set up within 5 years)
- The OWPD will have to pay the quoted Lease fee for the period starting from the date of commencement of 'Agreement to Lease' till COD of the project. Thereafter the OWPD would continue to pay the lease fee as per the floor price (prescribed in the to be notified lease rules)till the end of Lease Agreement.

Post expiry of the 5-year period, Ministry may grant extension on case to case basis after examination of the request from the developer. Post expiry of the 7 year period, all clearances issued to the relevant OWPD shall be withdrawn and the OWPD will be required to relinquish the lease and deposit the data acquired during the study/survey .