



GUIDANCE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SUPPORT FOR MEASURES

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1 Who can apply for support and for which measures?

1.1 Who can apply?

The following businesses can apply for support from the NOx Fund:

- Businesses with existing or planned NOx-taxable emissions in Norway prior to the measure.
- Businesses without taxable NOx emissions, but which are covered by certain NACE codes in the NOx Agreement. This mainly covers land-based process industry.

As a general rule, the owner of the emission source shall apply for and receive the support. The NOx Fund may make exceptions where appropriate.

1.2 Which NOx-reducing measures can receive support?

The NOx Fund provides support for technical measures that reduce taxable NOx emissions, and which do not in any case have to be carried out due to statutory requirements, tender requirements, breakdown/damage, and necessary upgrading/maintenance, or which are to be regarded as already decided. Several different measures may be assessed jointly as one application.

For vessels that have already carried out measures that substantially reduce NOx emissions (at least to Tier III level), support for new measures can be calculated based on the emissions before the original measure was carried out.

This is particularly advantageous for vessels with SCR systems that wish to apply for support for energy efficiency measures. Support for energy efficiency is then calculated based on the NOx emissions before the SCR was installed, but will be adjusted somewhat downward depending on the scope of the previous SCR support.

Measures eligible for support can be divided into four main categories:

Abatement technology	Energy efficiency
• Installation of SCR, EGR, SNCR or equivalent abatement technology that reduces the NOx factor. • Engine replacement that triggers statutory requirements for IMO Tier III NOx factor. • Other measures that reduce the NOx factor on engines, boilers and gas turbines. • Process optimization in land-based industry • Measures that reduce emissions from flaring.	• Technical installations on existing sources that reduce energy consumption. • Substantial logistics and fleet optimization involving additional investments in physical installations, ships and/or onshore infrastructure.
Conversion to low-emission fuels	Fleet renewal
• Equipment for operation on (bio-)LNG or electricity (incl. batteries). • Equipment for shore power on board vessels and establishment of shore power facilities on land. • Equipment for new green energy carriers that provide reduced NOx emissions (for example hydrogen, ammonia, methanol, biocoal).	• New ships with low NOx emissions (at least equivalent to NOx Tier III) that replace continued operation of vessels with higher emissions. A genuine phase-out effect must be documented.

1.3 When should the applicant contact the NOx Fund before applying?

It is advisable to inform the NOx Fund that you are preparing an application. Contact the NOx Fund before submitting the application if you are unsure whether the project falls within the support scheme, how to delimit the measure, or how to calculate the support.

This may be particularly relevant for:

- Projects that do not clearly fall under the descriptions in the guide
- Projects that combine several technologies or measures
- Projects where there is uncertainty about the relationship to statutory requirements or tender requirements
- Projects where it is also relevant to apply for support from other support schemes

1.4 How is the support determined and paid out?

Grants for NOx-reducing measures are calculated based on the measure's estimated costs and annual NOx reduction, the applicable support rate, maximum support share, and maximum support amount. The grant provides an upper limit for the support amount.

Support is paid out after the measure has been implemented, once both the measure cost and NOx-reducing effect in actual operation have been documented and verified. This normally happens gradually (typically quarterly) over up to 12 months. Support paid out may be lower than the granted support amount if the documented NOx reduction or measure cost is lower than assumed during application processing.

1.5 How much support can I get?

The maximum support amount is calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Support [NOK]} = \text{Annual reduced NOx [KG]} \times \text{Support rate [NOK per KG]}$$

- The applicable support rate is NOK 900 per kg of annual NOx reduced.
- The support cannot exceed 60% of the measure cost.
- The maximum grant is NOK 100 million.
- A business cannot have a sum of undecided grants exceeding NOK 100 million

1.6 What can be included as measure cost?

The table below gives examples of costs that can and cannot be included in the project's measure cost.

Can be included in the measure cost	Cannot be included in the measure cost
Own effort on the project Engineering/project planning Approval/testing Purchase of equipment Transport of equipment Installation and testing	Studies and preliminary studies (possibly a separate application) Financing costs Lost income due to downtime Expenses for alternative production units (for example replacement vessels) while the measure is being carried out.

2 Important terms and limitations

2.1 Deadlines

The following deadlines apply to the processing of applications to the NOx Fund:

- Applications should be received at least 4 weeks before the board meeting at which the application is to be considered.
- Grant letters are normally sent out within 1 week after the board's consideration. The decision letter will state an application-specific deadline for the investment decision.

Deadlines for the decision on the measure

The grant letter will set a deadline for deciding the measure. A measure is deemed to have been decided when a contract has been entered into for the delivery of equipment or the performance of work of such a scope that the implementation of the measure is in reality committed to.

If this deadline is not met, the NOx Fund will withdraw the grant. The applicant may then reapply.

Deadlines for start-up with reduction effect of the measure

- The latest deadline for start-up with reduction effect of the measure is 31 December 2028. Granted support lapses for measures with effect only after this date.
- The last date for including operating data for verification of the measure is 31 March 2029, with the final deadline for submission of the self-declaration to the NOx Fund being 30 April 2029.

2.2 Minimum support share and scope of reduction

No support is given for measures where the NOx Fund's support share amounts to less than 10% of the measure cost. Exceptions may be made for projects that provide large and important NOx reductions. This is a case-specific assessment.

No support is given for measures that provide less than 1 tonne of NOx reduction over one year of operation.

2.3 Statutory requirements

Measures that follow from statutory requirements are not supported by the NOx-Fund. This applies, among other things, to measures triggered by minimum requirements in public tenders or requirements under the Pollution Control Act.

For vessels and projects included in public tenders (including national and county municipal connections), the emission level in the contract entered into is used as the reference condition. This means that the NOx-Fund can only provide support for emission reductions beyond what follows from the contractually stipulated emission level. Support may be given only if the contracting authority has clarified, before the tender announcement, that the NOx-Fund support will trigger an emission reduction in the contract.

2.4 SCR system

For SCR-systems without an IMO Tier III-certificate, the NOx-factor shall be determined by measuring emissions with and without urea dosing. Document that the system functions satisfactorily upon commissioning and thereafter at least every 5th year. Further requirements for emission measurement and documentation are set out in the NOx Fund's own guidelines.

2.5 The NOx Fund and Enova

Support from both the NOx Fund and Enova for different parts of a measure and costs in a total project is possible. Co-financing on the same cost basis is in principle not permitted, except in exceptional cases following further assessment (see more information on the NOx Fund's website). If you need clarification on the relationship between support from the NOx Fund and Enova, contact the NOx Fund before submitting the application.

2.6 Other limitations and assessments

In addition to the general support conditions above, the following applies:

- Measures that in any case must be carried out as a result of maintenance, breakdown/damage, replacement or changed activity are not supported.
- Engines that have previously been downgraded below the tax threshold (750 kW), and which have been upgraded above the tax threshold, must be able to demonstrate at least one year of taxable NOx reporting at the time of application in order to qualify for support.
- The Ministry of Finance has determined that financial support from the NOx Fund is a taxable benefit, and that payments to the NOx Fund are tax-deductible.

3 How the application process works



3.1 Submission of application

The business prepares the application for support, possibly with assistance from others. The NOx Fund can provide clarification as needed. Submit applications for support for NOx-reducing measures digitally via the Business sectors NOx Fund (Næringslivets NOx-fond) application portal.

3.2 Processing and prioritisation

The NOx Fund processes all applications, and DNV quality-assures them. If an application is incomplete or requires further information, the NOx Fund will contact the applicant.

If the total support amount in incoming applications exceeds the fund's available resources, the NOx Fund must prioritise between the projects. Prioritisation may mean that applications that would otherwise receive support are reduced, postponed, or rejected.

3.3 Board decision and grant of support

Once the application has been fully processed, the NOx Fund's board reviews it at one of its meetings and decides on support based on the NOx Fund's recommendation for the individual application. The NOx Fund publishes board meeting dates on its website.

After the board meeting, the NOx Fund informs the business of the decision. If an award is granted, the business receives a grant letter describing the support and conditions.

All applications are treated confidentially until a decision on support has been made. If the business also wishes the decision to be kept confidential, it must justify this specifically in the application. As a general rule, the NOx Fund applies openness regarding awarded support. Any confidential treatment of the decision applies until the business has made its investment decision.

3.4 Implementation of the measure

The business implements the measure in accordance with the application and the grant. If significant changes occur in the project, or if the measure is postponed or cancelled, the business must inform the NOx Fund without undue delay. A significant change in the project's content may trigger a revised application process and decision.

3.5 Self-declaration and verification

After installing and putting the measure into operation, the business must submit a self-declaration via the NOx Fund's application portal. The self-declaration must document that the measure has been implemented, the costs incurred, and the operating documentation used to calculate the achieved emission reduction. The business is normally required to report operating data for 12 months before receiving full support.

The business can submit the self-declaration in several instalments in order to have the support paid out gradually over the 12-month period. It is recommended that the first self-declaration be submitted about three months after the measure has been put into operation and has an emission-reducing effect. The first self-declaration should normally include confirmation of the measure's implementation, documentation of the measure cost, any emission measurement, and the first period of operating data. Operators then normally report further operating data quarterly. Typical operating data include consumption of relevant fuel types and electricity in NOx-taxable operation, urea consumption, continuous emission measurements (if available), and other indicators of the

measure's use and effect.

DNV assists the NOx Fund with quality assurance of the self-declaration. Based on the submitted documentation and completed quality assurance, the NOx Fund determines the NOx reduction that forms the basis for the support payment linked to the self-declaration. After 12 months, the total support is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Payment [kr]} = \text{Annual verified NOx reduction NOx [KG]} \times \text{Support rate [NOK per KG]}$$

Support paid out cannot exceed the original grant amount or 60% of the documented measure cost. The annual verified NOx reduction is normally calculated according to the following main principle:

$$\text{NOx reduction} = \text{NOx emissions without the measure} - \text{NOx emissions with the measure}$$

NOx emissions without the measure:

The estimated emissions without the emission-reducing effect from the measure, given actual documented operation (e.g. fuel consumption) after implementation.

NOx emissions with the measure:

The actual emissions with the measure in operation.

3.6 Payment of support

Based on verification of the information in the self-declaration, the NOx Fund prepares a payment letter and sends it to the applicant by e-mail for information. The applicant does not need to confirm/sign this information.

The NOx Fund pays out the support amount stated in the payment letter.

3.7 Follow-up afterwards

After final verification and payment, the NOx Fund will monitor the emission unit's presence in Norway (for mobile sources) and the degree of use.

Repayment of support in full or proportionally may become relevant. Conditions for this are described in the grant letter

Sanctions from the NOx Fund must also be expected if the business fails to comply with the obligation to operate the emission-reducing measure for as long as the NOx Agreement exists or for as long as the grant letter requires.