

# Turbine problems



**Small Wind Turbine  
Testing Workshop**

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# NREL's approach

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- Make sure the personnel/turbine is safe
- Document symptoms, gather data, circumstances
- Contact manufacturer as soon as practical
- Follow manufacturers written instructions to fix or troubleshoot if the fix is “easy” otherwise:
- Arrange for the manufacturer to perform the repair

# Things to watch out for

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Avoid going too far in troubleshooting and possibly damaging things

Avoid making changes to the turbine system, it is tempting to “improve” something

- Sealing something that does not look watertight
- Tightening a bolt that seems too loose
- Increasing guy wire tension
- Installing bigger wire size

Make sure the manufacturer (or installer) signs off on the original installation and any changes

# Stop testing

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- Depends on who pays for the testing
- If problem occurs repetitively without any noticeable improvements in the design
- Test or project report will document what happened. Ultimately the certifying body will have to make call if test is acceptable.