

Arbetsmiljöverket

(Swedish Work Environment Authority)

## **SHK assessment of response from the Swedish Work Environment Authority (SHK report RO 2017:01)**

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The 22 February 2017 the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority (Statens haverikommission – SHK) published the report RO 2017:01 about an accident with a wind turbine in Lemnhult, Vetlanda municipality. In the report two safety recommendations were issued to the Swedish Work Environment Authority. The Swedish Work Environment Authority has responded to the safety recommendations and described the measures taken.

The first recommendation concerned the need to develop the checklist that the Swedish Work Environment Authority uses in market surveys of wind turbines (*RO 2017: 01 R4*). The measures reported by the Work Environment Authority are such that SHK assesses the recommendation as taken care of (closed - adequate response).

The second safety recommendation (*RO 2017: 01 R5*) concerned the need to deepen the Swedish Work Environment Authority's inspections and revisions in accordance with the Machinery Directive to ensure that the machine / wind turbine meets the requirements for safety throughout its lifetime. The Swedish Work Environment Authority has outlined its possibilities for requesting the necessary self-checks to be carried out by manufacturers and property owners. Furthermore, the Authority has stated that a separate case has been initiated regarding Vestas.

To begin with, it cannot be understood from the response if the separate case that has been initiated relates to the current wind turbine, to all the turbines in the current park or to all wind turbines in Sweden manufactured by Vestas. However, it is less important because SHK's safety recommendation refers to controls and inspections of wind turbines generally in Sweden. In this regard, the Swedish Work Environment Authority only states that there are certain supervisory possibilities. However, it does not indicate if any increase of ambition is intended. Therefore, SHK's recommendation that controls and inspections should be deepened cannot be regarded as being answered in substance. SHK assesses the recommendation as not taken care of (closed – not adequate response).

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