

# The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

# Rating Report

# **ACT Wind (Pvt.) Limited**

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Rating History						
Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch	
20-Jun-2024	A+	A1	Stable	Maintain	-	
23-Jun-2023	A+	A1	Stable	Maintain	-	
23-Jun-2022	A+	A1	Stable	Upgrade	-	
25-Jun-2021	A	A1	Positive	Maintain	-	
24-Dec-2020	A	A1	Stable	Maintain	-	
26-Dec-2019	A	A1	Stable	Maintain	-	
26-Jun-2019	A	A1	Stable	Upgrade	-	
27-Dec-2018	A-	A2	Stable	Maintain	-	

### **Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers**

Tapal, Ismail and Akhtar groups has set up a 30MW wind power plant - Act Wind (Pvt) Limited ("Act Wind" or "the Company") in Jhimpir, under the Policy for Development of Renewable Energy for Power Generation, 2006 which offers a guaranteed internal rate of return, cost indexation, and pass-through tariff structure. The project revenues and cash flows are exposed to two main risks. First; wind risk. Under the upfront tariff regime, any variability in wind speeds is to be borne by the Company, due to which its cash flows may face seasonality. Second; operational risk. The Company has to maintain the plant's capacity factor at 31% annually, and is ready to deliver electricity to CPPA-G, CPPA-G is liable to pay the whole tariff even if no purchase is done. Comfort is drawn from HydroChina - the O&M operator - having both international and local market experience. The Company has adequate insurance coverage. During the period, 6MFY24 Act wind recorded sales revenue of PKR ~1,667mln against the sales of PKR ~678mln in the corresponding period (6MFY23). The Company posted a Net Profit of PKR ~768mln in 6MFY24 as compare to the Loss of (PKR ~58.9mln) in 6MFY23. The company's profitability metrics decline in FY23 due to reduced operational performance caused by government led curtailments and lower wind resources. However, profits and generation rebounded during the current fiscal year owing to better offtake from the Government and improved wind speed. The overall liquidity profile remained robust, with timely receivables collection from CPPA. Working capital requirements of The Company are fulfilled through in-house adequate cash flow generation, without any utilization of short term borrowing lines. Free cash flows of the Company are in a comfortable position to make timely debt repayments. Act Wind has repaid over ~75% of its debt on time without availing benefit of forbearance period, facet of strong financial profile and working capital management.

Sustained good financial discipline and upholding strong operational performance in line with agreed performance levels remain key rating drivers. The company's repayment behavior, from internally generated cashflows, would be considered positive for ratings.

Disclosure		
Name of Rated Entity	ACT Wind (Pvt.) Limited	
Type of Relationship	Solicited	
<b>Purpose of the Rating</b>	Entity Rating	
Applicable Criteria	Methodology   Correlation Between Long-term & Short-term Rating Scales(Jul-23),Methodology   Independent Power Producer Rating(Jul-23),Methodology   Rating Modifiers(Apr-24)	
Related Research	Sector Study   Power(Jan-24)	
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### The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

### Profile

Plant The 30MW wind farm is set up on a Build, Own, and Operate (BOO) basis over 197 acres of land near Jhimpir village of Sindh. ACT Wind is a Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer (RE IPP) operating under the Renewable Energy Policy 2006 by the Alternative Energy Development Board (AEDB).

Tariff ACT WIND opted for the Upfront Tariff for Wind Power Projects by NEPRA. Under the 2013 NEPRA tariff determination for wind IPPs, the Company has a generation tariff (levelized tariff for years 1-20) of US¢ 16.6932 (PKR 16.2926) per Kilowatt hour (KWh) at the time of the financial close. Upon COD, on 9th November 2016, the Company filed for tariff adjustment the new levelized tariff was adjusted upwards to PKR 18.45 per kWh. Currently, the updated tariff is PKR 31.734 after indexation for the quarter April-June 2024.

**Return On Project** ACT WIND's key source of earnings is the revenue generated through the sale of electricity to the power purchaser. Debt Servicing comprises the non-escalable component while ROE, Insurance, Fixed and Variable O&M costs are part of the escalable component. The IRR of the project, as agreed with NEPRA, is 13%.

### Ownership

Ownership Structure ACT WIND is equally owned by three groups; Tapal Group (33%), Ismail Group (33%), and Akhtar Group (33%).

Stability Stability in the IPPs is drawn from the agreements signed between the company and power purchaser. The stability factor is considered strong.

Business Acumen The Tapal group is engaged in marketing of industrial plants and properties including power plant systems, and mechanical and electrical products. The group has experience in power generation through TEL – a 126MW Residual Furnace Oil-based power plant that currently provides electricity to K-Electric. Ismail Industries Limited, one of the country's largest consumer goods company. It manufactures a wide range of confectionery; biscuits, snacks, and packaging films under the brand names of Candyland, Bisconni, SnackCity and Astro Films respectively. Akhtar Group is primarily engaged in the business of denim manufacturing through Akhtar Textile Industries (Private) Limited. Akhtar group has also entered in dairy field in 2009 (Dayfresh).

**Financial Strength** Company's sponsors have the ability to support the entity both on a continuing basis, and support in times of crisis. Additionally, financial strength of the sponsors is considered strong as the sponsors have well diversified profitable businesses.

### Governance

Board Structure BOD comprises nine members including the CEO. Each sponsor has three representatives on the Board.

Members' Profile Mr. Maqsood Ismail is currently the Chairman of the board. he board has a vast experience in various sectors including but not limited to finance, accounting, project management, and construction and manufacturing.

Board Effectiveness Company's board members conduct board discussions where important matters related to the plant's efficiency, and monthly budget are discussed Financial Transparency Company's external auditor, BDO Ebrahim & Co. ranked as "A" category auditor by SBP, expressed an unqualified opinion on the company's financial statements as at end-Jun23.

### Management

Organizational Structure IPPs are generally featured by a flat organizational structure, mainly comprising finance and technical staff, while the engineering, construction and operations of the plant are outsourced.

Management Team Mr. Adnan Tapal, the CEO, has been spearheading the company since assuming management control of the company. Mr. Tapal carries with him over two decades of experience in various fields of industry. He is supported by an experienced management team.

Effectiveness Company's effective management played a significant role in empowering the organization through its progressive results. Additionally, management's effective decision-making cause processes more systematic while the robustness of control systems is considered a reflection of strong management, which is positive.

Control Environment The company takes advantage of advanced I.T. solutions to deliver comparatively better on many fronts. Moreover, the Company's quality of the I.T. infrastructure and the breadth and depth of activities performed has remained well satisfactory.

### Operational Risk

**Power Purchase Agreement** As per the agreement, if the plant is available at the contracted capacity of 31% and is ready to produce and sell electricity to the power purchaser, the power purchaser will be liable to pay the Company the whole of the tariff even if no purchase is done. The payment is calculated on the basis of expected kWh production for the day multiplied by the applicable tariff.

**Operation And Maintenance** ACT has negotiated O&M contract with HydroChina for a period of 10 years, which commenced from the COD in October 2016. HydroChina has extensive expertise in engineering, design, and operations of Renewable Energy projects both within and outside of China.

**Resource Risk** Resource variability risk is unique to the RE IPPs. As the wind farm's key resource is wind, it is exposed to wind risk. Wind risk as defined under RE policy 2006 as the risk of the variability of wind speed, and therefore of the effective energy output of the wind IPP. As per the Upfront Tariff, the entire risk related to wind variability would be absorbed by the ACT WIND.

Insurance Cover The company has adequate insurance coverage for property damage and business interruption

### Performance Risk

**Industry Dynamics** The installed capacity within the CPPA-G system as of FY 23 stood at 42,362 MW. This capacity is distributed among various energy sources, with thermal generation accounting for 25,490 MW, hydroelectric contributing 10,635 MW, wind power providing 1,838 MW, solar energy contributing 530 MW, biomass (bagasse) generating 249 MW, and nuclear power adding 3,620 MW. The total generation in CPPA-G area remained 128,623.87 GWh. This comprises of 52.09% from thermal, followed by 25.56% from from hydel, whereas nuclear and renewable contributes to 17.43% and 4.58% respectively. In order to balance the energy mix and to reduce dependence on imported energy, Govt. emphasize the transition towards utilizing renewable energy sources and indigenous fuels.

Generation The plant has the capacity to produce 262,800,000Kwh of electricity, the generation during FY23 declined due wind speed variation. However, the generation in 6MFY24 increased and looks promising to yield better results in FY24. During 6MFY24 the Company generated revenues of PKR 1,667mln (FY23: PKR 1,935mln, 6MFY23: PKR 678mln).

**Performance Benchmark** The contracted efficiency of the plant is 31% and availability has been set up to 88%. The plant during 6MFY24 owing to good wind speed performed according to the agreed efficiency of 31%.

# Financial Risk

**Financing Structure Analysis** Debt financing constitutes 75% of the project cost i.e. PKR 6,008mln. It is priced at 3-month KIBOR plus 3% per annum. The debt has a 10 years repayment period, started from Apr'17, with payments to be made in twenty consecutive semiannual installments. DSRA account is being maintained by the Company through SBLC that is equal to one upcoming principal and Interest payment. As at end-Dec23, the principal PKR 2,909mln is outstanding.

Liquidity Profile As at end-Dec23, total receivables of the company stood at PKR 1,674mln (FY22: PKR 1,339mln).

Working Capital Financing The Company is managing its working capital from internal cashflows generated. At Dec23, Net working days stood at 135day (Dec22: 277days). The Company has not utilized any short-term borrowing lines to meet it working capital so far.

Cash Flow Analysis At Dec23, FCFOs of the Company stood at PKR 946mln (Dec22: PKR 122mln) due to better generation, reflecting healthy cashflows and resulting in better coverages. Interest Coverage increased to 2.2x (Dec22: 0.3). However, the loans are payable in US\$ due to which variations can be faced due to PKR vs USD \$ parity.

Capitalization The company has a moderately leveraged capital structure and stood at 44% at end-Dec23 (Dec22: 55.4%), representing 100% project-based long-term loan.

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PKR mln

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited				PKR ml
Act Wind (Pvt) Limited	Dec-23	Jun-23	Jun-22	Jun-21
Power	6M	12M	12M	12M
BALANCE SHEET				
1 Non-Current Assets	4,709	4,894	5,265	5,63
2 Investments	201	-,074	5,205	41
3 Related Party Exposure	-	_	-	-
4 Current Assets	1,910	1,576	1,980	2,19
a Inventories	-	-	-	-,1>
b Trade Receivables	1,674	1,145	1,339	1,85
5 Total Assets	6,819	6,470	7,245	8,24
6 Current Liabilities	240	256	238	19
a Trade Payables	171	182	137	8
7 Borrowings	2,909	3,312	3,988	4,52
8 Related Party Exposure	-	-	-	-
9 Non-Current Liabilities	1	1	0	
10 Net Assets	3,670	2,902	3,018	3,53
11 Shareholders' Equity	3,670	2,902	3,018	3,53
INCOME STATEMENT				
1 Sales	1,667	1,935	2,125	2,06
a Cost of Good Sold	(448)	(774)	(644)	(6.
2 Gross Profit	1,220	1,162	1,481	1,45
a Operating Expenses	(34)	(57)	(59)	(6
3 Operating Profit	1,186	1,105	1,422	1,39
a Non Operating Income or (Expense)	18	30	35	4
4 Profit or (Loss) before Interest and Tax	1,204	1,135	1,457	1,43
a Total Finance Cost	(432)	(781)	(545)	(5)
b Taxation	(4)	(7)	(7)	
6 Net Income Or (Loss)	768	347	905	92
CASH FLOW STATEMENT				
a Free Cash Flows from Operations (FCFO)	946	705	1,255	1,25
b Net Cash from Operating Activities before Working Capital Changes	946	705	1,255	1,25
c Changes in Working Capital	(440)	289	428	(1.
1 Net Cash provided by Operating Activities	506	994	1,684	1,12
2 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Investing Activities	(143)	17	383	
3 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Financing Activities	(403)	(1,140)	(1,952)	(1,1
4 Net Cash generated or (Used) during the period	(40)	(129)	115	
RATIO ANALYSIS				
1 Performance				
a Sales Growth (for the period)	72.3%	-8.9%	2.7%	-12.4%
b Gross Profit Margin	73.1%	60.0%	69.7%	70.4%
c Net Profit Margin	46.0%	18.0%	42.6%	44.9%
d Cash Conversion Efficiency (FCFO adjusted for Working Capital/Sales)	30.3%	51.4%	79.2%	54.4%
e Return on Equity [ Net Profit Margin * Asset Turnover * (Total Assets/S)	42.9%	11.3%	28.0%	25.8%
2 Working Capital Management				
a Gross Working Capital (Average Days)	154	234	274	326
b Net Working Capital (Average Days)	135	204	255	305
c Current Ratio (Current Assets / Current Liabilities)	8.0	6.2	8.3	11.5
3 Coverages	2.2	0.0	2.2	2 -
a EBITDA / Finance Cost	2.2	0.9	2.3	2.5
b FCFO / Finance Cost+CMLTB+Excess STB	1.0	0.4	1.0	1.2
c Debt Payback (Total Borrowings+Excess STB) / (FCFO-Finance Cost)	2.8	-43.9	5.6	6.0
4 Capital Structure	44.20/	52 20/	56.00/	56 20/
a Total Borrowings / (Total Borrowings+Shareholders' Equity)	44.2%	53.3%	56.9%	56.2%
b Interest or Markup Payable (Days) c Entity Average Borrowing Rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
C Linny Average Dorrowing Rule	26.2%	21.4%	12.8%	10.6%
# Notes				



# Corporate Rating Criteria

Scale

### Credit Rating

Credit rating reflects forward-looking opinion on credit worthiness of underlying entity or instrument; more specifically it covers relative ability to honor financial obligations. The primary factor being captured on the rating scale is relative likelihood of default.

	Long-term Rating
Scale	Definition
AAA	<b>Highest credit quality.</b> Lowest expectation of credit risk. Indicate exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments
AA+	
AA	Very high credit quality. Very low expectation of credit risk. Indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.
AA-	
<b>A</b> +	
A	<b>High credit quality.</b> Low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions.
<b>A</b> -	
BBB+	
BBB	Good credit quality. Currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.
BBB-	
BB+	Moderate risk. Possibility of credit risk developing. There is a possibility of credit risk
вв	developing, particularly as a result of adverse economic or business changes over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.
BB-	
$\mathbf{B}$ +	
В	<b>High credit risk.</b> A limited margin of safety remains against credit risk. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.
B-	
CCC	Very high credit risk. Substantial credit risk "CCC" Default is a real possibility.
CC C	Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic developments. "CC" Rating indicates that default of some kind appears probable. "C" Ratings signal imminent default.
D	Obligations are currently in default.

	Short-term Rating
Scale	Definition
<b>A1</b> +	The highest capacity for timely repayment.
A1	A strong capacity for timely
	repayment.
A2	A satisfactory capacity for timely
	repayment. This may be susceptible to
	adverse changes in business,
	economic, or financial conditions.
A3	An adequate capacity for timely repayment.
	Such capacity is susceptible to adverse
	changes in business, economic, or financial
A4	The capacity for timely repayment is more
	susceptible to adverse changes in business,
	economic, or financial conditions. Liquidity
	may not be sufficient.



\*The correlation shown is indicative and, in certain cases, may not hold.

Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing) Indicates the potential and direction of a rating over the intermediate term in response to trends in economic and/or fundamental business/financial conditions. It is not necessarily a precursor to a rating change. 'Stable' outlook means a rating is not likely to change. 'Positive' means it may be raised. 'Negative' means it may be lowered. Where the trends have conflicting elements, the outlook may be described as 'Developing'.

Rating Watch Alerts to the possibility of a rating change subsequent to, or, in anticipation of some material identifiable event with indeterminable rating implications. But it does not mean that a rating change is inevitable. A watch should be resolved within foreseeable future, but may continue if underlying circumstances are not settled. Rating watch may accompany rating outlook of the respective opinion.

Suspension It is not possible to update an opinion due to lack of requisite information. Opinion should be resumed in foreseeable future. However, if this does not happen within six (6) months, the rating should be considered withdrawn.

Withdrawn A rating is withdrawn on a) termination of rating mandate, b) the debt instrument is redeemed, c) the rating remains suspended for six months, d) the entity/issuer defaults., or/and e) PACRA finds it impractical to surveill the opinion due to lack of requisite information.

Harmonization A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.

Surveillance. Surveillance on a publicly disseminated rating opinion is carried out on an ongoing basis till it is formally suspended or withdrawn. A comprehensive surveillance of rating opinion is carried out at least once every six months. However, a rating opinion may be reviewed in the intervening period if it is necessitated by any material happening.

**Note.** This scale is applicable to the following methodology(s):

- a) Broker Entity Rating
- b) Corporate Rating
- c) Debt Instrument Rating
- d) Financial Institution Rating
- e) Holding Company Rating
- f) Independent Power Producer Rating
- g) Microfinance Institution Rating
- h) Non-Banking Finance Companies Rating

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## Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure

(Credit Rating Companies Regulations, 2016)

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(1) Rating is just an opinion about the creditworthiness of the entity and does not constitute recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security of the entity rated or to buy, hold or sell the security rated, as the case may be | Chapter III; 14-3-(x)

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- ii. PACRA, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee, and their family members, do not have any conflict of interest relating to the rating done by them | Chapter III; 12-2-(e) & (k)
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- (6) PACRA fulfills its obligations in a fair, efficient, transparent and ethical manner and renders high standards of services in performing its functions and obligations; | Chapter III; 11-A-(a)
- (7) PACRA uses due care in preparation of this Rating Report. Our information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed. PACRA does not, in every instance, independently verifies or validates information received in the rating process or in preparing this Rating Report | Clause 11-(A)(p).
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- (9) PACRA ensures before commencement of the rating process that an analyst or employee has not had a recent employment or other significant business or personal relationship with the rated entity that may cause or may be perceived as causing a conflict of interest; | Chapter III; 11-A-(r) (10) PACRA maintains principal of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)
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- (12) PACRA receives compensation from the entity being rated or any third party for the rating services it offers. The receipt of this compensation has no influence on PACRA's opinions or other analytical processes. In all instances, PACRA is committed to preserving the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. Our relationship is governed by two distinct mandates i) rating mandate signed with the entity being rated or issuer of the debt instrument, and fee mandate signed with the payer, which can be different from the entity
- (13) PACRA does not provide consultancy/advisory services or other services to any of its customers or to any of its customers' associated companies and associated undertakings that is being rated or has been rated by it during the preceding three years unless it has adequate mechanism in place ensuring that provision of such services does not lead to a conflict of interest situation with its rating activities; | Chapter III; 12-2-(d)
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- (19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings periodically, on annual basis; Provided that public dissemination of annual review and, in an instance of change in rating will be made; | Chapter III | 17-(b)
- (20) PACRA initiates immediate review of the outstanding rating upon becoming aware of any information that may reasonably be expected to result in downgrading of the rating; | Chapter III | 17-(c)
- (21) PACRA engages with the issuer and the debt securities trustee, to remain updated on all information pertaining to the rating of the entity/instrument; Chapter III | 17-(d)

## **Probability of Default**

(22) PACRA's Rating Scale reflects the expectation of credit risk. The highest rating has the lowest relative likelihood of default (i.e., probability). PACRA's transition studies capture the historical performance behavior of a specific rating notch. Transition behavior of the assigned rating can be obtained from PACRA's Transition Study available at our website. (www.pacra.com). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past; | Chapter III | 14-3(f)(vii)

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