

In the meantime, the second prototype was built. In the course of commissioning, cracks were discovered in parts of the rotor during a routine inspection in November 2022, which could have been safety-relevant and had to be analyzed. For this reason, commissioning work for trial operation was interrupted for the time being until the situation was clear.

Monitoring of the plant showed that the cracks did not continue. Analysis of the measurement data showed the forces acting on the rotor arms. In order to find the origin of these forces, various possibilities were considered and systematically examined in order to determine appropriate measures for further action.

The dismantling work of the damaged rotor was started in mid-March. Due to high wind speeds, the work had to be interrupted for safety reasons. During this time, it was possible to observe how the rotor swung up in certain wind conditions and how, as a result, one of the pre-damaged rotor arms buckled. At the end of March, this could be released from the rotor hub in a controlled manner. Damage to the lattice tower had to be accepted in the process. Extensive safety and cordoning-off measures meant that at no time were employees or passers-by in danger.

The further course of action is currently being discussed. On the one hand, it is the safety precautions that must be observed at all times that are delaying a quick solution, and on the other hand, it is also the parts of the turbine that may still be intact and whose whereabouts must be decided.

The manufacturer, Agile Wind Power AG, will inform again as soon as the next steps are clear.