

# **Press release**

# More power – RWE to modernise Lasbek wind farm

- Four turbines with total capacity of 22.8 MW to replace six old ones
- Green electricity for equivalent of 18,000 households per year, municipalities to benefit financially
- RWE works with partners on innovative approaches to recycling of rotor blades from two turbines

Lasbek/Essen, 7 November 2024

Modern turbines for a higher green energy yield: RWE is driving forward the expansion of renewable energies in the Hamburg metropolitan region with the launch of the Lasbek repowering project. The wind farm in the municipality of Lasbek in the state of Schleswig-Holstein is undergoing extensive modernisation. Six wind turbines with a total capacity of 10.8 megawatts (MW) will be dismantled and replaced by four more powerful turbines with a total capacity of 22.8 MW. Preparations have begun with the construction of the site and the first roadworks, and work has also started on dismantling two old turbines. The new turbines are expected to be fully operational by the end of 2025.

**Katja Wünschel, CEO RWE Renewables Europe & Australia:** "Fast approval, fast implementation – Lasbek is a model project for the energy transition. The wind farm's modernisation not only benefits the climate, but also the municipalities in the vicinity of the wind turbines, which can look forward to additional revenues of up to 100,000 euros. Each new wind turbine at the Lasbek wind farm will generate more electricity in the future than the six turbines that have been in operation for 20 years combined. This shows how important repowering can be for the rapid expansion of renewable energies in Germany."

RWE is providing the rotor blades of two wind turbines that are being dismantled for the "BladeReUse" research project of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. This project, in which RWE and other partners\* are participating, aims to investigate how rotor blades from wind turbines can be recycled more sustainably and efficiently. The robust and durable composite materials are to be processed in such a way that they can be reused for products suitable for large-scale production. Specifically, the materials are to be used in noise barriers along motorways. Other parts of the turbines will be stored as spare parts for the RWE fleet.

To continue generating green electricity while the new modern turbines are being built, four other old turbines will remain connected to the grid for as long as possible. Efficiency and the conservation of resources will also be the focus of other construction work, with some of the gravel material removed from roads, and some crane hardstands being reused in the new wind farm.

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# How municipalities profit from wind power

RWE operates around 90 onshore wind farms in its home market. Participation of citizens and local authorities in renewable energy plants is a central element in promoting acceptance of the energy transition. With its climate bonus, RWE shares the proceeds from each kilowatt hour of electricity generated with all municipalities in Germany that are home to an RWE wind farm. In Lasbek, electricity production will increase more than fivefold after being repowered with larger rotors. The communities will receive up to 124,000 euros per operating year of the Lasbek wind farm, round €100,000 more than before. The additional income can be used to provide financial support for municipal facilities such as daycare centres, schools or fire departments.

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Pictures for media use are available at the RWE Media Centre (credit: RWE)

#### **RWF**

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. Between 2024 and 2030, RWE will invest 55 billion euros worldwide in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy, batteries, flexible generation, and hydrogen projects. By the end of the decade, the company's green portfolio will grow to more than 65 gigawatts of generation capacity, which will be perfectly complemented by global energy trading. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

## \* "Blade ReUse" pilot project

The <u>research project BladeReUse has</u> been set up to develop a method to reuse rotor blades in the infrastructure sector in a resource-efficient and low-carbon process. The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology is partnering on the project with the companies Amiblu Germany GmbH, Die Autobahn GmbH des Bundes, ICM-Composites GmbH & Co. KG, Leviathan GmbH, Rau Lärmschutzwände – Geosystem GBK GmbH and RWE. The pilot project is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action as part of the Technology Transfer Programme for Lightweight Construction (TTP LB).

## **Forward-looking statements**

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements reflect the current views, expectations and assumptions of management, and are based on information currently available to management. Forward-looking statements do not guarantee the occurrence of future results and developments and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual future results and developments may deviate materially from the expectations and assumptions expressed in this document due to various factors. These factors primarily include changes in the general economic and competitive environment. Furthermore, developments on financial markets and changes in currency exchange rates as well as changes in national and international laws, in particular in respect of fiscal regulation, and other factors influence the company's future results and developments. Neither the company nor any of its affiliates undertakes to update the statements contained in this press release.

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