

Press release

RWE signs PPA with 5 UK Co-operatives to supply renewable energy across over 400 locations

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RWE, the UK's largest power generator and a global leader in renewable energy and five independent retail co-operatives – Lincolnshire Co-op, Scotmid Co-op, East of England Co-op, Southern Co-op and Central Co-op, who led on the deal – have signed a landmark 10-year corporate power purchase agreement (CPPA) to supply electricity from renewable energy sources to over 400 locations across the UK.

Starting the 1st of April 2025, the long-term contract will provide up to 53 gigawatt hours (GWh) of green electricity per year, enough to power over 400 retail stores, funeral homes, travel agents and more. Sourced from the London Array offshore wind farm in the outer Thames Estuary, this agreement will see significant savings for the five co-operatives throughout the lifetime of the CPPA.

The offshore wind farm London Array is operated by RWE and owned by a consortium of four partners: RWE (30%), Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, Greencoat UK Wind PLC, and Masdar Energy UK Limited. It has 175 wind turbines and an installed capacity of 630 megawatts. From the time of its fully commissioning in 2013 until September 2018, it was the largest offshore wind farm in the world.

This agreement is a significant milestone in the co-operative movement's journey towards sustainability. By securing long-term renewable energy, these five independent co-operatives are not only reducing their carbon footprint but also reinforcing their commitment to ethical business practices and environmental responsibility. The agreement was made possible through a collaboration with Inspired PLC, the UK's leading energy and sustainability advisor, who negotiated the CPPA, and Shoosmiths LLP, who led the legal negotiations. Notably, this deal was executed in just three months, less than half the usual timeframe, demonstrating the expertise and efficiency of the partnerships involved.

Pictures for media use and more information of the London Array windfarm can be found here.



For further enquiries: Regina Wolter

Media Relations RWE Supply & Trading GmbH T+49 201 5179-5024 M+49 152 06855300

E regina.wolter@rwe.com

RWE Supply & Trading GmbH

RWE Supply & Trading is the interface between RWE and the energy markets around the world. Over 2,000 employees from around 90 different countries trade electricity, gas, commodities, and CO2 emission allowances. Accurate market analyses and a high degree of customer centricity enable them to create innovative energy supply solutions as well as risk management concepts for industrial operations. The trading entity also ensures the commercial optimisation of RWE's power plant dispatch and markets electricity from RWE. In addition, there are legally independent RWE gas storage companies in Germany under the umbrella of RWE Supply & Trading.

About the Co-operative Independent Society Members

The co-operative movement in the UK has a 180-year heritage, built on democratic ownership, ethical trading and community investment. Co-operatives are businesses owned and run by their members, ensuring profits are reinvested locally to build stronger communities. This year marks the UN International Year of Co-operatives, celebrating their global impact in creating a fairer, more resilient economy.

The Independent Society Members (ISMs) - Central Co-op, East of England Co-op, Lincolnshire Co-op, Scotmid Co-op, and Southern Co-op - are five independent co-operative businesses operating across multiple sectors, including food retail, funeral services, travel, property and more. They are committed to reinvesting in their communities, supporting local economies and championing co-operative values, from tackling food waste to campaigning for fairer working conditions. Collectively, they continue to drive positive change for their members and the wider society.

About Inspired PLC

Inspired has been recognised with the London Stock Exchange's Green Economy Mark since 2020 for its environmental and strategic advice and support to clients and have held our position in the Cornwall Insight ranking as the leading advisor for industrial and commercial consumers since 2018.