

DIRECTION

THE FUTURE OF WIND

Tatanka Ridge encompasses approximately 18,000 acres of primarily corn and soybean farms and cattle ranches. (Courtesy: Acciona)



Tatanka Ridge Wind Farm achieves commercial operation

Avangrid Renewables recently completed commissioning of the 154.8 MW Tatanka Ridge Wind Farm January 5, 2021. The facility's 56 wind turbines are in Deuel County, South Dakota, northeast of Brookings.

The facility is owned by Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC, which is jointly owned by Avangrid Renewables and WEC Energy Group.

Dairyland Power Cooperative has a power purchase agreement with Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC for 51.6 MW of renewable energy. Dairyland's portion of Tatanka Ridge's output will deliver enough renewable energy to power approximately 16,000 homes. The balance of the project's generation is contracted to a large commercial customer.

"Dairyland is pleased to work with Avangrid Renewables and WEC Energy Group on an efficient and sustainable facility that supports our transition to a lower carbon future," said Brent Ridge, Dairyland President and CEO. "Diversification of resources is a key element of Dairyland's Sustainable Generation Plan, making Tatanka Ridge a valuable addition to our cooperative's renewable energy portfolio."

Dairyland and Avangrid Renewables have collaborated twice before on wind-energy facilities, Barton Wind (Kensett, Iowa) and Winnebago Wind (Thompson, Iowa).

"Avangrid Renewables has been pleased to work with Dairyland Power to make Tatanka Ridge a reality," said Alejandro de Hoz, president and CEO of Avangrid Renewables. "Partners such as Dairyland have helped to build the wind industry in the Midwest and drive the transition to a clean energy future."

Tatanka Ridge encompasses approximately 18,000 acres of primarily corn and soybean farms and cattle ranches, leased from more than 100 landowners. Between land lease payments and taxes, the wind farm will provide \$1.7 million in local econom-

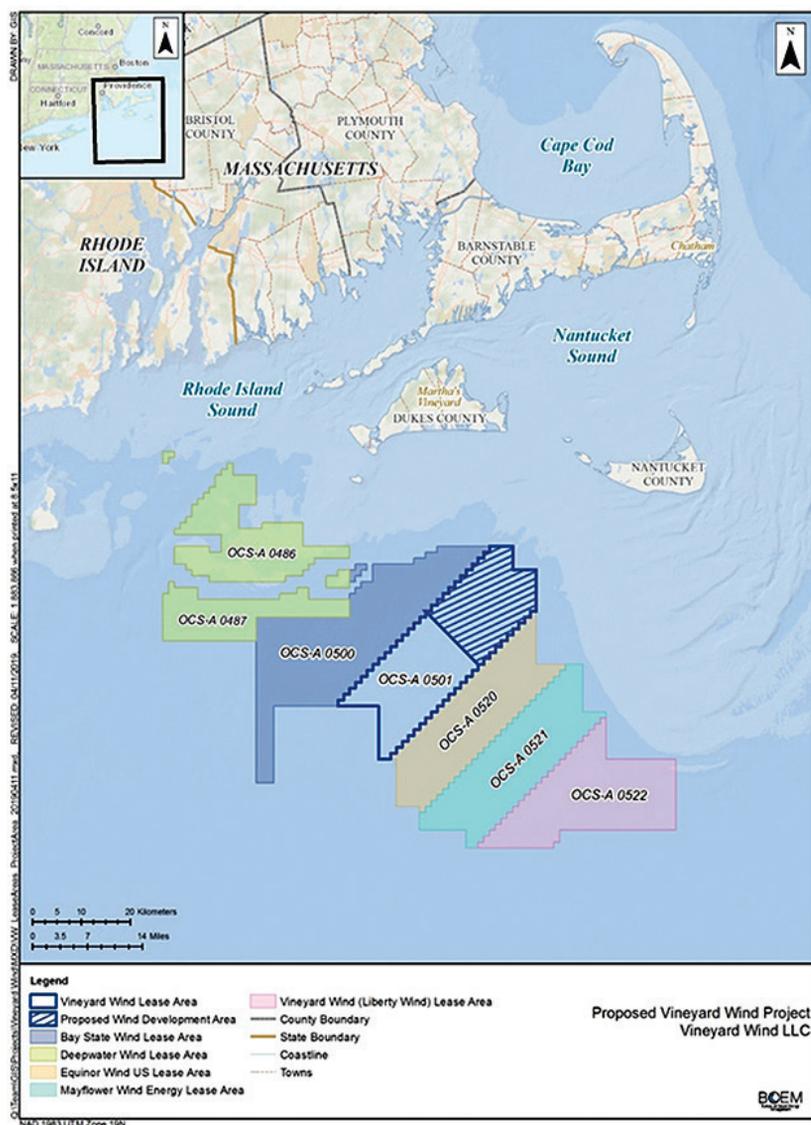
ic benefits annually over the life of the project.

In July 2020, Avangrid Renewables announced the sale of an 85 percent ownership interest in Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC, to WEC Energy Group of Milwaukee. This transaction closed in December 2020.

MORE INFO avangridrenewables.com

BOEM to resume review of Vineyard Wind project

In support of the Biden administration's goal to address climate change and promote offshore renewable energy production, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) recently



The Vineyard Wind project would be about 12 nautical miles offshore Martha's Vineyard and 12 nautical miles offshore Nantucket in the northern portion of its lease area. (Courtesy: BOEM)



Around the world, 14 Vaisala facilities are powered by renewables. (Courtesy: Vaisala)

announced it intends to resume the environmental review of Vineyard Wind's proposed offshore wind project.

"Offshore wind has the potential to help our nation combat climate change, improve resilience through reliable power, and spur economic development to create good-paying jobs," said BOEM Director Amanda Lefton. "BOEM is committed to conducting a robust and timely review of the proposed project."

BOEM will resume the environmental review of the Vineyard Wind Project and proceed with development of a Final Environmental Impact Statement.

On January 22, 2021, Vineyard Wind submitted a letter rescinding its temporary Construction and Operations Plan (COP) withdrawal and requesting that BOEM resume review

of the 800-MW wind-energy project offshore Massachusetts. The proposed project would be about 12 nautical miles offshore Martha's Vineyard and 12 nautical miles offshore Nantucket in the northern portion of its lease area. Vineyard Wind had paused the Department's consideration of its proposal while it reviewed whether the use of Haliade-X turbines warranted any modifications to their COP.

President Joe Biden issued an executive order on January 27, 2021, that called for the Interior Department to identify steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters. Interior has initiated a review of processes and procedures to date as it re-invests in a rigorous renewable energy program.

MORE INFO www.boem.gov/vineyard-wind

Vaisala achieves its target to use 100% renewable electricity

As a member of the RE100 initiative, Vaisala, a global leader in weather, environmental, and industrial measurements, has achieved its target to use 100 percent renewable electricity by the end of 2020.

The goal covered all Vaisala's facilities with significant energy consumption around the globe and was reached with the combination of self-produced clean energy in Finland and the United States as well as green electricity from local energy companies. Among Finnish companies, Vaisala is the first technology company and second overall to achieve the RE100 target. In to-

tal, 17 companies in the Nordics have committed to RE100.

Sustainable solutions and business practices have always been at the core of Vaisala. In 2015, Vaisala joined RE100, the Climate Group's global initiative encouraging the world's most influential companies to make a 100 percent renewable electricity commitment within a clear timeframe. Vaisala set the target to use 100 percent renewable electricity in its facilities by the end of 2020.

"As the environmental and economic impacts of climate change increase, we need to implement different mitigation practices," said Kai Öistämö, president and CEO of Vaisala. "We see that the private sector needs to be a key driver of change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy. Therefore, I am proud to say Vaisala has achieved the important goal of using 100 percent renewable electricity."

"By rapidly switching to 100 percent renewable power, Vaisala is leading by example and showing it makes business sense — even in these challenging times," said Mike Peirce, Corporate Partnerships Director at the Climate Group. "Vaisala's success will inspire others to strive for the same goal and walk the talk on sustainable technologies — if we're to halve emissions this decade, there's no time to lose."

Following the initiative, Vaisala took several actions to ensure 100 percent renewable electricity in its facilities with significant energy consumption. In total, 14 Vaisala facilities around the world are powered by renewables. The target was achieved with a combination of self-produced energy and green electricity products purchased from local energy companies.

About 94 percent of the electricity that Vaisala's facilities consume comes directly from renewable sources, mainly from wind power. This 94 percent comprises Vaisala's largest facilities, where it is possible to affect consumption with self-produced energy and local green energy. For instance, Vaisala's manufacturing sites in Finland and the United States use

solar panels to produce clean energy.

The remaining 6 percent consists mostly of small office facilities where Vaisala is not the sole proprietor of the building and therefore cannot directly choose to consume renewable electricity. This remaining part was covered by purchasing unbundled renewable energy attribute certificates from the market. An energy-attribute certificate is a market-based instrument that proves that 1 MWh of renewable energy has been produced in the same region. With these certificates, Vaisala was able to cover electricity consumption on those sites that cannot negotiate their own electricity contracts.

Throughout its 85-year history, Vaisala has created innovations that help to build a better future by mitigating environmental impacts but also adapting to them. Vaisala's solutions for weather and environment as well as for industrial sectors help customers to make smart decisions concerning weather events and the use of energy and other resources. For instance, wind-energy operators and biogas producers can get reliable measurement data on their operations and thus produce sustainable energy efficiently. In this way, Vaisala helps to increase the amount of and access to clean energy globally.

"The positive handprint of our business is formed through our multitude of measurement solutions," Öistämö said. "We are strongly involved in the renewable energy industry through our customers, but it is also essential that we advance the use of renewable energy sources in our own operations."

MORE INFO vaisala.com

Energy heavyweights to rejuvenate older European wind parks

Combining more than 100 years' experience in energy, green finance, and M&A across its senior team, NeXtWind recently launched its strategy to become Europe's next major green inde-

pendent power producer (IPP).

Backed by established sustainable investors including Crestline Investors, Ferd, and ARB Investment Partners, the company will initially seek to acquire and rejuvenate older, most likely teenage, wind parks in Germany.

Working with local communities and partners to bring new life, higher performance, and shared benefit to existing sites, NeXtWind's strategic goal is to acquire and transform a portfolio in excess of 1GW of end-of-regulatory-life European assets.

"The older wind sites tend to have the best locations but the worst efficiencies," said Ewald Woste, NeXtWind CEO. "We've assembled the expertise and funding to ensure that these sites are not lost to a diminishing baseline of clean power. Indeed, with smart investment and management, we expect to double the average wind harvest from these pioneering parks. With Germany phasing out coal and nuclear generation, this is important work."

"The energy transition must keep moving forward and an increasingly important ingredient to that will be the rejuvenation of Europe's early green energy parks," said Lars Meyer, Chief Investment Officer at NeXtWind. "In Germany alone, we estimate that some 15 GW of teenage onshore wind capacity will soon need to navigate today's market complexities and determine a proactive plan for a future that looks very different to the present. It's an extremely fragmented market in need of consolidation, modernization, and significant investment."

With an active M&A pipeline already in place, NeXtWind was expected to complete the acquisition of its first sites soon. Acquired sites will either be repowered or undergo lifetime extension works. The company is negotiating framework agreements with some of Europe's largest utilities in order to facilitate the signature of future Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). ↗

MORE INFO www.nextwind.de