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CEE Group Acquires a 19.8 MW Wind Farm



CEE Group is acquiring the Gollenberg wind farm under construction in Rheinland-Pfalz. (Courtesy: Jens Christian Berger)

The Hamburg-based CEE Group continues to expand its wind portfolio and is acquiring the Gollenberg wind farm under construction in Rheinland-Pfalz. The seller is Juwi Energieprojekte GmbH, which is also responsible for the construction stage as general contractor. The wind farm comprises six Vesta V126 turbines. The hub height is 137 meters, the rotor diameter is 126 meters, and the wind farm's total capacity amounts to 19.8 MW.

After commissioning, the turbines will supply environmentally friendly power to about 15,000 households each year. The wind farm was expected to be fully connected to the grid at the end of January.

CEE Operations, which manages the CEE Group's power plant portfolio, will be responsible for commercial operations. Juwi Operations and Maintenance GmbH will assume responsibility for technical operations. This is the fifth

project the CEE Group and Juwi have implemented jointly.

"By acquiring Gollenberg, CEE has also managed to continue the growth strategy in the wind segment in Germany in an extremely challenging market environment," said Detlef Schreiber, CEE Group's CEO. "Together with our reliable partners, we also intend to continue to grow outside our core markets."

"The Gollenberg wind farm clearly demonstrates that turbines can be operated profitably in the long term even at so-called low-wind sites thanks to modern inland technology," said Michael Class, Juwi Group's CEO. "We are very pleased to have implemented this project with the CEE Group."

The Gollenberg wind farm increases the CEE Group's renewables portfolio to about 556 MW. In 2017, CEE's energy plants are expected to produce about 880,000 MWh of power from renewable sources.

The Juwi Group is one of the world's leading companies in the area of renewable energy.

The renewable energy pioneer with a strong regional presence offers project development and EPC services as well as products and solutions for the energy turnaround. Company activities are mainly projects with solar and wind.

So far, Juwi has realized more than 900 wind turbines with a total capacity of more than 2,000 MW at more than 150 sites globally. ↴

Source: CEE Group

For more information,
go to cee-group.de

Lagerwey Building the First L136 4.5 MW Turbines for Growind

Wind-turbine manufacturer Lagerwey has received an order from Growind to build two L136 4.5 MW wind turbines in the Eemshaven in the northern part of the Netherlands. The L136 is the largest onshore IECII platform on the market.

Lagerwey's latest turbine has greater onshore capacity than any other. While other platforms are only capable of withstanding average wind speeds of up to 7.5 meters per second, Lagerwey's turbines can handle up to 8.5 m/s. This reduces the cost per kWh generated.

The Lagerwey turbines will replace two old wind turbines in the port of Eemshaven, which already have been dismantled. In January, the new foundations for the L136s were constructed in the same locations.

Construction work on the first new turbine will be-

gin in March. This turbine will be completed by the end of April, creating enough energy for more than 5,000 households.

The second turbine will be constructed at the end of 2017 using the Lagerwey Climbing Crane. It will be the first time the Climbing Crane will be used following its presentation in June 2016.

The turbines have a hub height of 132 meters and a rotor diameter of 136 meters, resulting in a tip height of just more than 200 meters, making them the tallest onshore wind turbines in the Netherlands. ↴

Source: Lagerwey

For more information,
go to www.lagerwey.com

Allete Clean Energy Plans Expansion of North Dakota Wind Farm

Allete Clean Energy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Allete, Inc. will work with Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU) to expand the Thunder Spirit wind farm in North Dakota, reaching the 150-MW permitted capacity of the facility Allete Clean Energy developed in 2014 and 2015.

Allete Clean Energy secured a 25-year power purchase agreement with MDU to purchase energy from the expansion near Hettinger, North Dakota, about 100 miles southwest of Bismarck.

Under the agreement, MDU, a division of MDU Resources Group also has the option to purchase the expansion when it is complete as it did with the first phase of Thunder Spirit.

In 2014, Allete Clean Energy acquired the rights to build the 107.5-MW first phase of Thunder Spirit, which comprises 43 turbines and generates enough electricity to power about 30,000 homes. After the project was completed in 2015, MDU bought Thunder Spirit from Allete Clean Energy for \$200 million and operates the wind farm for its customers.

MDU granted Allete Clean Energy the right to devel-

op the 13- to 16-turbine Thunder Spirit expansion, with major construction on the \$85 million project expected to start in May 2018. Allete Clean Energy has qualified the Thunder Spirit expansion site for federal renewable energy production tax credits.

"We are pleased MDU has selected us to expand the Thunder Spirit Wind project and look forward to partnering with them, area landowners, and Adams County officials as well as North Dakota regulators on this exciting project that will deliver additional carbon-free energy to serve its customers," said Allan S. Rudeck Jr., president of Allete Clean Energy. "This transaction strengthens Allete Clean Energy's renewable energy repertoire and is consistent with ACE's multipronged growth strategy to expand its clean energy project portfolio by pursuing acquisitions and new builds with long-term power sales agreements, build-transfers, and renewal investments of existing facilities."

The Thunder Spirit expansion helps MDU meet its energy needs.

"Our relationship with Allete Clean Energy on the first phase of Thunder Spirit Wind proved to be a winning formula," said MDU President and CEO Nicole Kivisto.

“We are in need of additional energy to meet our growing demands, and with the easements, interconnection to the grid, and permits already in place from the first phase of Thunder Spirit Wind, it makes this a great project for Montana-Dakota.”

In addition to developing this expansion for MDU, Allete Clean Energy owns and operates wind generation facilities in Minnesota, Iowa, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. ↵

Source: Allete Clean Energy

For more information,
go to www.allete.com



Allete Clean Energy will help expand the Thunder Spirit wind farm in North Dakota.
(Courtesy: Allete Clean Energy)

Pattern Development Completes Financing for Wind Project in Japan

Pattern Energy Group LP (Pattern Development) and Green Power Investment Corporation (GPI) have completed financing of the 33 MW Green Power Otsuki GK (Ohorayama Wind) power project. Pattern Development and GPI are joint venture partners on the Ohorayama Wind project in Kochi Prefecture, Japan.

“We are making steady progress on our commitment to develop 1,000 MW of new renewable energy sources in Japan, demonstrating the value of our partnership with GPI,” said Mike Garland, president and CEO of Pattern Development. “Together with GPI we have completed two solar facilities in Japan and are moving forward on Ohorayama Wind. We also have a broad and deep pipeline

of new wind and solar projects, including several in the advanced stages of development.”

“Ohorayama is our first wind project to reach financial close and start construction since we joined hands with Pattern in early 2014,” said Toshio Hori, CEO and founder of GPI. “This achievement is a reflection of the effectiveness of our partnership, and we are excited about further executing on our portfolio of mature development assets. We expect our next project, a 126 MW wind farm in Aomori prefecture, to reach financial close and commence construction by mid-2017. It is anticipated to be the largest wind project in Japan.”

Ohorayama Wind has a 20-year power purchase agreement with Shi-

koku Electric Power Company for 100 percent of the output from the facility. The project is under construction and expected to reach completion in March of 2018.

In 2016, Pattern Development and GPI announced the completion of two solar power projects in Japan — the 14 MW Kanagi Solar PV facility in Shimane prefecture of Japan, and the 42 MW Futtsu Solar PV facility in Japan’s prefecture of Chiba.

Affiliate company Pattern Energy Group Inc. has previously added the Ohorayama Wind facility to its list of identified Right of First Offer (ROFO) projects. ↵

Source: Pattern Development

For more information,
go to www.patterndev.com

122,000 Acres of Offshore North Carolina up for Auction

Furthering President Barack Obama’s comprehensive Climate Action Plan to create American jobs, develop domestic clean energy resources, and cut carbon pollution, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Acting Director Walter Cruickshank recently announced that

122,405 acres offshore Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, will be offered in a commercial wind lease sale March 16.

“(The) announcement demonstrates how our collaborative efforts with Federal, state, and local partners over the past eight years have built a foundation to harness the enormous potential of offshore wind

energy,” Jewell said. “The lease sale underscores the growing market demand for renewable energy and strong industry interest in meeting that demand.”

The Kitty Hawk lease sale is the latest effort in the Obama Administration’s renewable energy program at the U.S. Department of the Inte-

rior, which recently marked the operational launch of the nation's first offshore wind farm off the coast of Rhode Island, and the lease sale for more than 79,000 acres offshore New York. To date, BOEM has held six competitive lease sales, which have generated more than \$58 million in high bids for more than 1 million acres in federal waters.

The Kitty Hawk lease area begins about 24 nautical miles from shore and extends 25.7 nautical miles in a general southeast direction. Its seaward extent ranges from 13.5 nautical miles in the north to 0.6 of a nautical mile in the south.

"This is a significant milestone for North Carolina and our country as we continue to make progress on diversifying our nation's energy portfolio," Cruickshank said. "BOEM looks forward to overseeing a successful lease sale in March, to contribute to the region's energy supply and assist local governments in achieving their goals for energy independence and job creation."

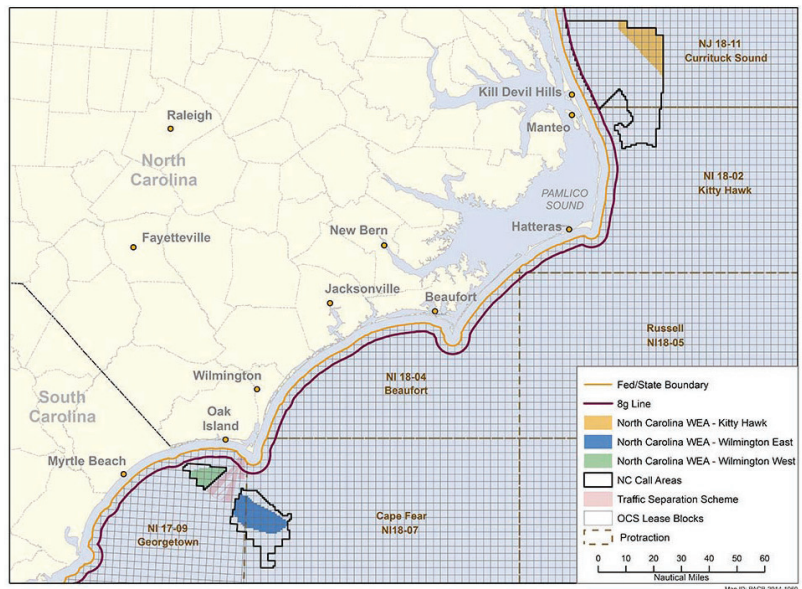
The announcement also identified nine companies BOEM has deemed legally, technically, and financially qualified to participate in the upcoming lease sale:

- Avangrid Renewables, LLC
- Enbridge Holdings (Green Energy) LLC
- Shell WindEnergy Inc.
- Northland Power America Inc.
- Wind Future LLC
- Outer Banks Ocean Energy, LLC
- PNE Wind USA, Inc.
- Statoil Wind US LLC
- wpd offshore Alpha LLC

The Final Sale Notice contains relevant information, such as deadlines and milestones for bidders, the area available for leasing, lease provisions and conditions, auction details, criteria for evaluating bids, award procedures, and lease execution.

Under the terms of the Final Sale Notice, which was published in the Federal Register on January 19, the lease area will be auctioned as Lease OCS-A 0508.

In September 2015, BOEM published a revised environmental assessment (EA) for commercial wind-lease issuance and related activities within the three North Caro-



Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) in North Carolina. (Courtesy: BOEM)

This is a significant milestone for North Carolina and our country as we continue to make progress on diversifying our nation's energy portfolio.

lina Wind Energy Areas (WEA) (i.e., Kitty Hawk WEA, Wilmington East WEA, and Wilmington West WEA) offshore North Carolina. The EA considers reasonably foreseeable environmental and socioeconomic impacts from issuing a renewable energy lease and conducting site characterization (e.g., surveys) and assessment (e.g., installation and operation of meteorological towers and buoys) activities in the designated offshore area.

As a result of the analysis in the revised EA, BOEM issued a Finding of No Significant Impact, which concluded that reasonably foreseeable environmental effects associated with the issuance of commercial wind leases and related activities would not significantly affect the environment.

The Wilmington East and Wilmington West WEAs, due to their proximity and shared attributes, have been coupled with the planning and leasing process for the South Carolina Call Areas. ↵

Source: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

For more information, go to www.boem.gov/North-Carolina