

## Press release

### World's first: RWE builds wind turbines on a sea dike dam in the Netherlands

- **Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm in Eemshaven demonstrates future opportunities for sea dikes**
- **Special climbing crane helps to construct wind turbines due to limited space**

Essen, 20 October 2021

**Katja Wünschel, COO Wind Onshore & Solar PV Europe & APAC RWE Renewables:**

“We are proud to be building Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm as the first of its kind worldwide with wind turbines on a sea dike dam. We are committed to bringing innovations forward like this, in order to further broaden and expand the opportunities in the field of sustainable electricity production. By combining knowledge, innovation and determination, we have added a new function to a sea dike dam in the Netherlands. The experience we gain from this project will be market leading, and will potentially open up further opportunities to build wind farms on dikes in other locations too. And of course: Safety and the integrity of the dike are our top priority.”

World premiere in Eemshaven: RWE builds the first wind turbines on a sea dike dam. The Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm in the Dutch province of Groningen will consist of three turbines. This is the first time that such a project has been undertaken. Due to limited space at the site of the dike a climbing crane is being used to install the top turbine components. So far, the foundations and the lowest turbine components of the wind turbines have already been built. One wind turbine has been fully completed, and the climbing crane has begun the further construction of the second wind turbine.

In recent years, RWE and Water Board Noorderzijlvest (the owner of the sea dike dam) have conducted meticulous research into the construction process and dike safety, as well as the impact of the project on the local environment. This has resulted in a highly specialized technical design which is now being implemented. The most important aspect of the design has been to guarantee the safety of the dike and its dam function. Wind Farm Oostpolderdijk, with a total installed capacity of 7.5 MW, is expected to be operational by the end of 2021.



In February, RWE concluded a [power purchase agreement \(PPA\)](#) with ASML, the world's largest supplier of lithography systems for the semi-conductor industry, for the purchase of green power generated by Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm and other projects.

### **Sustainable production portfolio in the Netherlands**

RWE is a globally leading player in the energy transition sector. The Netherlands is one of the strategic markets where the company wants to further expand its sustainable energy portfolio. RWE is currently operating seven onshore wind farms with a capacity of 268 MW (pro rata view) and two solar parks, in addition to its other business activities (gas, hard coal/biomass). Including Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm RWE is now constructing four new onshore wind farms in the Netherlands with a total capacity of 116 MW. Furthermore, RWE will add the first floating solar project to its sustainable portfolio, as well as a ground-mounted solar project. Both projects are part of Solar park Amer. In addition to this RWE is also working on the expansion of CO<sub>2</sub>-free flexible production capacity, as well as on the development of hydrogen projects, such as NorthH2, FUREC and Eemshydrogen, to help to green the industry.

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Pictures of Oostpolderdijk Wind Farm for media use (credit: RWE) are available at the [RWE Media Center](#).

#### **RWE Renewables**

*RWE Renewables is one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. With around 3,500 employees, the company has onshore and offshore wind farms, photovoltaic plants and battery storage facilities with a combined capacity of approximately 9 gigawatts. RWE Renewables is driving the expansion of renewable energy in more than 20 countries on five continents. From 2020 to 2022, RWE Renewables targets to invest €5 billion net in renewable energy and to grow its renewables portfolio to 13 gigawatts of net capacity. Beyond this, the company plans to further grow in wind and solar power. The focus is on the Americas, the core markets in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.*

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