

For immediate release

Höhlerberg Wind Farm Expansion: Last Site Agreement Signed

- **Four wind turbines with total rated capacity of 27 MW**
- **Region continues to develop strategically**
- **Fernwald municipality directly involved as landowner**

Munich & Oberkirch, Germany, 02/27/2026 - The wind turbine project in the Helgenwald forest in the German municipality of Fernwald has now cleared a crucial hurdle: The land lease agreement for the last site where wind turbines will be erected has been discussed, reviewed, and unanimously accepted by the Fernwald local council. This means that the project can continue to move along according to plan and that the next stages can now begin.

Key information

The four N175 wind turbines have a total height of 179 meters and a rated capacity of 27 MW. And as the owner of the land where they will be erected, the municipality of Fernwald is involved in the project. This means that the wind turbines will not just be supplying 14,000 four-person households in the region with green power, but also that the lease income derived from them will directly benefit the community.

“By signing this lease agreement, we’re clearly showing how we want our community to develop sustainably. This wind farm expansion will boost the regional creation of value and enable Fernwald to contribute proactively to the energy transition in a lasting manner – both economically and environmentally. It also goes without saying that when facilities that use renewables are built in the immediate vicinity of our community, we believe that it’s only right and logical that Fernwald benefit in a real way. So we will not be limiting ourselves to passively supervising this development, but are instead interested in actively helping shape it,” Mayor Manuel Rosenke said.

“Expanding the wind farm not only represents clear added value for Fernwald, but will also reinforce the region’s local energy infrastructure in the long term. To put it succinctly, projects like this show that community engagement and business investments can go hand in hand and deliver a solid and important contribution to our energy transition together,” confirms Nicolas Christoph, the Corporate Director of Wind Power, Solar, Hydro & Business Development at Koehler Renewable Energy.

Part of a bigger plan

The four wind turbines that will be erected in Fernwald are an addition to the Höhlerberg wind farm, which is already under construction. Windenergiepark Höhlerberg GmbH & Co. KG, which is developing and will be operating both the Höhlerberg wind farm and the expansion area in the Helgenwald forest, is a joint venture between Qair and Koehler Renewable Energy. Together, these two companies are pursuing a long-

term strategy with diversified approaches that includes not only this project, but also others in the region, with one example being the Steinbach solar farm. This means that the area is gradually growing into a key hub of renewable energy for the region, all while being accompanied by extensive nature and species conservation measures.

“By expanding the Höhlerberg project, we’re advancing a forward-looking project in the region. It highlights just how strong our joint commitment to the German state of Hesse is and how we’re focused on being continuously there on the ground where we’re needed. Also, we’re simultaneously boosting the regional creation of value and delivering long-term partnerships and dependable prospects for the community and landowners. At the same time, we’re doubling down on our commitment to the energy transition throughout all of Germany – gradually and in close coordination with the various relevant regions,” explains Qair Project Manager Anna Fritsch.

Next project stages – expansion area in the Helgenwald forest

As of this writing, the submitted application documents are being completed. Once this is done, a public hearing will be held by the Gießen regional board, which will in turn carry out all the associated activities required by law in order to ensure that the public has the opportunity to provide adequate input and participate in the process. Moreover, these activities include ensuring that all public agencies and entities, such as local authorities, are involved in the process as well. Qair and Koehler Renewable Energy expect for the process to be completed and the corresponding permit to be issued before the year is over.

Next project stages – Höhlerberg

The preparation work for construction at the Höhlerberg site was recently carried out, and the corresponding earthworks are slated to begin in mid-March of this year. This stage will include removing topsoil, preparing the foundation pits, and building an access road for vehicles and deliveries. Needless to say, all this construction work will be closely supervised with environmental and soil monitoring.

Once the aforementioned earthworks and access road are completed, things will be ready for the next stages in the construction project. Work on the project’s power lines is scheduled to begin in August of this year and will take around 60 days and be done by the end of October.

Finally, the foundations for the two Nordex N163 wind turbines will start being built at the end of June 2026 while earthworks are ongoing. The towers are then expected to be erected at the beginning of November, before the large turbine components are delivered in February of next year. This will be followed by the corresponding installation work, which should start in mid-March 2027 and take about two months before the turbines are put into operation in quick succession: The first wind turbine should go online in April 2027, followed by the second in May 2027.



*Figure: Höhlerberg wind farm between Lich, Fernwald, and Pohlheim (Germany).
Source: Koehler Group*

About Qair

Qair is an independent renewable energy company that develops, finances, builds, and operates projects in the areas of solar power, onshore and offshore wind power, hydropower, tidal power, battery storage, and green hydrogen production.

The group has 1.7 GW of capacity installed or in construction, and its 780 employees are developing a portfolio pipeline of 34 GW in 20 countries across Europe, Latin America and Africa. The company's goal is to position itself as a leading independent supplier of environmentally friendly energy solutions and play a proactive role in shaping the transformation of our energy systems.

Find more information at: qair.energy

About Qair in Germany

Qair Deutschland has sites in Munich and Leipzig and is a subsidiary of the Qair Group. It employs around 100 people in Germany, has extensive project experience in the field of renewable energy, and consistently engages in close and principled collaboration with all stakeholders in order to bring about a sustainable energy future.

Find more information at: www.deutschland.qair.energy

About the Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run from that moment to the present day. The group's core business activity lies in the development and production of high-quality specialty paper. This includes—among others—thermal paper, playing card board, beverage coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation paper, and also innovative specialty paper for the packaging industry. In Germany, the Koehler Group employs around 2,500 people across five production sites, with three additional sites in the USA. The group operates internationally, with an export share of around 70% in 2024, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.1 billion euros.

As an energy-intensive company, Koehler invests in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydropower, photovoltaics, and biomass with its Koehler Renewable Energy business unit. The Koehler Group has set a goal of producing more energy from renewable sources by 2030 than is required for its paper production operations.

With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, the Koehler Group is collaborating with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business segments “paper” and “renewable energy”.

Find more information at: www.koehler.com

About Koehler Renewable Energy

Koehler Renewable Energy has been a subsidiary of the Koehler Group since 2012, with its headquarters in Oberkirch in Southwest Germany. The company is helping to shape the energy transition both in Germany and abroad in a sustainable manner. In collaboration with business partners, numerous projects in the fields of biomass cogeneration, onshore wind power, photovoltaics, and hydropower have already been implemented. There is also a focus on new energy technologies. The experts at Koehler Renewable Energy manage all stages of the value chain: acquisition, planning, development, and smooth long-term operation of installations.

The experienced team has already implemented projects worth a total of several hundred million euros with various partners, generating over 267,000 MWh of electricity in 2023 as well as over 26,000 MWh of heat and over 431,000 metric tons of steam. This means that Koehler Renewable Energy is making a significant contribution to the Koehler Group's sustainability strategy, with the aim of offsetting all the energy required for Koehler Paper's paper manufacturing operations with renewable energy generated from its own installations by no later than 2030. In addition, Koehler Renewable Energy wants to position itself as a full-service provider for industrial power and heat customers, as well as a supplier of energy system solutions based on renewable energy.

Find more information at: www.koehlerrenewableenergy.com

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