For immediate release

Wind Farm Wetzlar-Blasbach: Assembly of the wind turbines in full swing

- **Large components successfully delivered**
- **Assembly of the first wind turbine in the final stages**
- **Scheduled completion by the end of the year**

Oberkirch, Germany, 11/29/2023 – The spectacular transportation of the large components of the two wind turbines from the loading site in Fellinghausen to the planned wind farm in Blasbach began in just the last few weeks. This project is the first wind turbines from Koehler Renewable Energy in Germany, which not only planned and implemented the wind farm, but will also operate it. The transportation of the rotor blades in particular, requires special measures due to the length of the component. The 75-meter-long rotor blades are transported using so-called self-propelled vehicles. These are special vehicles which, thanks to complex technology, can turn the component and tilt it up to 60 degrees in order to maneuver the long component through the sometimes narrow roads and serpentines on the transportation route. The self-propelled vehicles were controlled by two highly experienced specialists who have already transported hundreds of rotor blades. Leonard Lehnhoff, Project Manager at Koehler Renewable Energy, who is following the transportation and installation of the systems on site with great excitement, is relieved with the progress so far: "The cooperation between all parties involved is particularly important in such tricky projects, as it plays a decisive role in ensuring that everything runs smoothly. At this point, I can only emphasize how positive the cooperation with all partner companies and public bodies has been, and without which the realization of this project would not have been possible.

Installation of the wind turbines has started

The rotor blades were initially all stored temporarily on a prepared area at the entrance to the wind farm, from where they were transported on low-loaders to the final location of the wind turbines. While the rotor blades were being delivered, the assembly of the two turbines began. First, the six tower segments are connected together. This is followed by the nacelle, including the hub, which is over 17 m long. A special crane was then used to pull the individual rotor blades upwards and connect them to the hub. The main crane boom is 166 meters long and equipped with 225 tons of counterweights to safely move the parts of the turbines that weigh several tons.

Construction progress is determined by the weather

The further progress of the installation of the wind turbines is highly dependent on the upcoming weather conditions. Wind conditions in particular play a decisive role in the handling of the large components. Therefore, it is currently only possible to make a rough prediction of how things will progress.

The dismantling and relocation of the main crane from the first wind turbine to the second is planned for the upcoming week in order to start the assembly of the second turbine. Weather permitting, both turbines can be completed by the end of the year.

Caption: A specialized crane is used to assemble the wind turbine components, which weigh several tons / Source: Koehler Group

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More on 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 268,000 MWh of electricity each year as well as over 23,000 MWh of heat and over 638,000 metric tons of steam (as at June 2022). 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.

Mehr Informationen unter: https://www.koehlerrenewableenergy.com

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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, drinks coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation papers, and also innovative specialty papers for the packaging industry since 2019. 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 75% in 2022, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.3 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, Koehler is collaborating with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business segments “paper” and “renewable energy”.

Find more information at: https://www.koehler.com

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