

**For immediate release**

## **Koehler commissions new collaborative project with Vento Ludens Ltd.: Four run-of-river power plants in Scotland**

- **Four of four planned hydroelectric power plants in Scotland commissioned**
- **Commissioned on time despite restrictions due to coronavirus pandemic**
- **Four run-of-river power plants supplying more than 2800 average British households and saving more than 4300 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> each year**

**Oberkirch, Germany, 02/06/2021** – Koehler Renewable Energy, part of the Koehler Group, has successfully completed the joint project with Vento Ludens Ltd. and fully commissioned four more run-of-river power plants in the Scottish Highlands near Greenfield Burn.

These power plants are part of a portfolio which includes the construction of a total of six run-of-river power plants. The four new power plants were constructed after winning the tendering process run by the Forestry Commission Scotland (now Forestry and Land Scotland) in 2014. The first two projects in Kelburn and Ledard were successfully completed as early as 2017. With four more hydroelectric power plants being commissioned, the portfolio has now been completed with this project.

“In retrospect, we chose a very challenging time to implement this project. Despite the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, including the temporary suspension of building work, we are proud to have now completed the construction on time. The first of the four plants began supplying electricity back in December 2020,” says Alan Mathewson, Head of Project Development at Vento Ludens.

Nicolas Christoph, Division Head Wind Power, Solar, Hydro & Business Development at Koehler Renewable Energy adds: “The wet climate in Scotland as well as the mountainous terrain provide the perfect conditions for hydroelectric projects. Thanks to their long service lives, these projects are ideally suited to the long-term strategy of family companies like Koehler and Vento Ludens. The lockdown measures made the construction phase a lot more difficult but the outstanding project management on site and the excellent collaboration with colleagues in Scotland made it possible to successfully perform commissioning without any significant delays.”

In run-of-river power plants, some of the river water is directed through a water turbine. This converts the potential energy of the water into a mechanical rotary motion which drives a generator. The kinetic energy of the water is then converted into mechanical and ultimately into electrical energy. The four run-of-river power plants in the Highlands of Scotland generate enough power to supply more than 2800 average British households. This enables savings of more than 4300 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. The advantage of this technology is the reliability. Apart from seasonal fluctuations, run-of-river power plants produce electricity at a very consistent rate and around the clock.

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*Image: With a total of four more run-of-river power plants, Vento Ludens and Koehler Renewable Energy produce enough renewable energy to supply more than 2800 average British households with power. Source: Vento Ludens Ltd.*



*Image: The generator in the "Power House" generates electrical energy. The removed water is then fed back to the stream bed. Source: Vento Ludens Ltd.*

### **More about the Koehler Group**

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run to this day. The Group's core area of business is the development and production of high-quality, specialty paper, including thermal paper, playing card board, drink coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation paper, and, since 2019, innovative specialty paper for the packaging industry, too. In Germany, the Koehler Group, with its more than 2,000 employees, has five production sites, as well as three more in the USA. The Group operates on an international level, with an export ratio of 70% in 2020 and annual revenue of €770 million.

As an energy-intensive enterprise, Koehler invests in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydroelectric power and biomass. The Koehler Group has committed itself to producing more energy from renewable sources than is needed for paper production by 2030.

More information is available here: <https://www.koehler.com>

### **More on Koehler Renewable Energy**

Koehler Renewable Energy (KRE) has existed since 2012 as a subsidiary of the Koehler Group. Since then, it has implemented numerous projects in the area of wind energy, photovoltaics, hydroelectric power, and cogeneration. KRE's experts manage all stages of the value chain: acquisition, planning, development and smooth long-term operation are guaranteed thanks to the employees' many years of expertise.

In the coming years, KRE aims to achieve continued growth. The experienced team has already implemented projects worth a total of several hundred million euros with various partners, generating over 320,000 MWh of electricity each year as well as over 545,000 MWh of heat and over 780,000 tonnes of steam (as at: November 2020). Koehler Renewable Energy also makes an important contribution to the Koehler Paper Group's sustainability strategy with the objective of using 100% renewable energy by the year 2030.

The company is based in Southwest Germany. KRE plans and operates projects in Germany and abroad.

More information at: <https://www.koehlerenergy.com>

### **More on Vento Ludens**

Vento Ludens has been implementing and operating regenerative energy generation plants since 1996. In Germany, Scotland, England, Ireland, Switzerland, and Norway, projects are implemented based on water, wind, and solar energy. The projects implemented until now cover the equivalent energy requirement of a city the size of Regensburg. The company is based in Jettingen-Scheppach, Bavaria, with subsidiaries based in the UK and Switzerland.

More information at: [www.ventoludens.de](http://www.ventoludens.de)

Vento Ludens is part of the HW group of companies, which unites various business areas under one roof: renewable energies, board games, and logistics through to modern printing technology. The largest company in the group is Ludo Fact GmbH, which produces up to 17 million board games and puzzles each year for around 200 games publishing companies. The “Games & Puzzles” business division includes Ludo Packt GmbH & Co. KG, the US subsidiary Ludo Fact USA LLC., Ludo Ligna S.R.L in Romania, digital printer Friedmann Print Data Solutions GmbH, as well as Höhn Display + Verpackung GmbH and joint venture O.K. Oriens Karton s.r.o. in the Czech Republic.

The group employs a total of around 900 employees across eight locations.

More information at: [www.ludofact.de](http://www.ludofact.de), [www.ludofactusa.com](http://www.ludofactusa.com), [www.friedmann-print.de](http://www.friedmann-print.de), [www.hoehn-gruppe.com](http://www.hoehn-gruppe.com)

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