

## PRESS RELEASE

## Offshore Windfarm Wikingen supplies to 50Hertz grid

Official inauguration by Iberdrola and 50Hertz together with Christian Pegel, Minister of Energy for Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

- **Three years after the start of construction, the works on the submarine cable connection have progressed so far that the electricity can be supplied**
- **For the first time in Germany, a wind farm with 220 kV alternating current technology has been connected to the transmission system**
- **Baltic Sea attractive region for further offshore projects**

**(Berlin/Sassnitz, 29/10/2018)** Transmission system operator 50Hertz is making good progress for the Ostwind 1 offshore grid connection project, which started in 2015. After three years of construction, the submarine cable has been laid between the Wikingen offshore wind farm (Iberdrola) north of Rügen island and the connection point to the 50Hertz grid in Lubmin. Only residual works need to be performed now. The electricity, however, can already be fed into the grid.

“We wish to congratulate the Spanish company Iberdrola with the successful and early commissioning of the first wind farm in the German Baltic Sea. We are proud of our cooperation as partners,” said 50Hertz CEO Boris Schucht at the occasion of today’s official inauguration in Sassnitz. He also added: “This good European cooperation will successfully continue during the operational phase of this project and in the scope of the upcoming wind farm projects Baltic Eagle and Wikingen Süd. We are particularly grateful to the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, which is always a dependable supporter of the offshore projects and their connection, thus providing an active contribution to the energy transition”, Schucht continued.

### First connection of a wind farm in Germany using 220 kV alternating current technology

50Hertz started its investment project of 1.3 billion in the summer of 2015. A special milestone was the technically challenging installation of the Wikingen offshore substation in August 2016. The wind farm is connected to the grid at the grid connection point in the Lubmin substation. For the first time in Germany, the grid connection uses 220 kV AC (alternating current) technology, making a higher electricity trans-

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mission capacity possible. Until now, the connections of offshore wind farms in the German Baltic Sea consisted of 150 kV three-phase cable systems. At the Lubmin substation, the current is transformed to 380 kV and fed into the 50Hertz transmission system.

### **New projects in the Baltic Sea confirm its high attractiveness**

Dr Henrich Quick, Head of offshore projects at 50Hertz, emphasised that the Baltic Sea is an attractive region for the wind power industry because of its high wind yield, which need not fear comparison with the North Sea. This is not in the least demonstrated by the fact that Iberdrola is already in the starting blocks for two new Baltic Sea projects. In the years to come, the Spanish company will construct wind farms “Baltic Eagle” and “Wikinger Süd”. A new foreign investor is Belgian company Parkwind, with its project Arcadis Ost 1. The three wind farms with a total capacity of 730 megawatts should be connected to the German transmission system by three cable systems. The grid connection of the wind farm called Ostwind 2 will run mostly in parallel with the Ostwind 1 power link, underlined Dr. Quick.

### **About the Ostwind 1 project**

The Ostwind 1 project is part of the grid connection of the Westlich Adlergrund cluster and includes the connection of the Arkona and Wikinger offshore wind farms to the grid, based on development scenarios that were coordinated with a wide variety of parties (Offshore Grid Development Plan - O-NEP/O-GDP). The Ostwind 1 project's three cable sections cover 90 kilometres offshore and three kilometres onshore, ending at the 50Hertz substation of Lubmin. The licensing authorities for the construction and operation of the grid connections are the Ministry for Energy of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, competent for the land route and the sea route within territorial waters (12 nautical mile zone), and the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH), competent for the sea route in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). You can find more information on the project here:

<https://www.50hertz.com/de/Netzausbau/Leitungen-auf-See/Projekte/Ostwind-1>

**50Hertz** takes care of the operation and expansion of the transmission network with more than 1000 employees. In addition, the company is responsible for managing the overall electrical system in the federal states of Berlin, Brandenburg, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. As a transmission system operator at the heart of Europe, 50Hertz stands for the secure integration of renewable energies, the development of the European electricity market and the maintenance of a high standard of supply security. The shareholders are the Belgian transmission system operator Elia (80 percent) and the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW, 20 percent). As a European transmission system operator, 50Hertz is part of the Elia Group and a member of the European association ENTSO-E.