

For immediate release

Koehler Renewable Energy receives approval for Höhlerberg wind farm project with two wind turbines

- **Joint project between Koehler Renewable Energy and Qair Deutschland**
- **Preparation work for construction to start in the fall of 2023**
- **Planned power output will cover the needs of around 7,000 homes**

Oberkirch, Germany, 05/09/2023 – After nearly five years of planning, the preparation work for building the Höhlerberg wind farm in Middle Hesse with two wind turbines is scheduled to start this year. The wind farm is a joint project between Koehler Renewable Energy and Qair Deutschland, and the original permit application was submitted back in 2018 to the regional board in Gießen. The planned wind turbines will be erected in the administrative area of the town of Lich and the Fernwald municipality. Two Nordex N163 wind turbines were approved in March 2023, and should deliver approximately 28,000 MWh a year, which corresponds to the annual power consumption of around 7,000 homes.

Sustainability: A key element of the company's strategy

As far as the team at Koehler Renewable Energy is concerned, building these wind turbines is another step on the way to achieving the Koehler Group's sustainability goals. Nicolas Christoph, the head of the Wind Power, Solar, Hydro & Business Development Division at Koehler Renewable Energy, explains: "We're really happy that we were able to get another approval under our belts with the Höhlerberg project. This wind farm is another important milestone in our implementation of the Koehler Group's sustainability strategy, and should bring us one step closer to the Koehler 2030 Promise." The company's goal is to generate more energy from renewable sources using its own plants than it requires for the production of its paper by 2030. In order to achieve this, the Koehler Group has prepared a roadmap with concrete actions, including not only energy efficiency measures, but also, and above all, expanding its own renewable energy facilities.

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Preparation work for construction scheduled to start in the fall of 2023

Initial preparation work for construction should start in the fall of 2023, with the first step being clearing the sites for the wind turbines in a forest area on the Höhlerberg hill. The clearing work will include permanent clearing areas that will remain that way throughout the turbines' service life, as well as temporary clearing areas that will be reforested once the turbines have been erected. To compensate for this unavoidable impact on nature, the company is taking project-specific reforestation and other environmental compensation measures, which have been clearly defined since the construction permit was obtained.



Figure: Visualization of the two planned wind turbines for the Höhlerberg wind farm project / image rights: 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.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.koehlerenergy.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 70% in 2021, and brings in an annual turnover of around 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.

In addition, with its Koehler Innovative Solutions business unit, Koehler is dedicated to developing new business areas outside of special paper production and energy production.

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

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