

Press release

RWE and Koehler Paper sign green power agreement

- 10-year contract for up to 175 gigawatt hours annually from 2023 onwards
- RWE supplies green certificates of origin from Dutch onshore wind farm Waddenwind / Koehler Paper converts further part of production to green electricity

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RWE Supply & Trading and Koehler Paper have agreed on a long-term green power supply of up to 175,000 megawatt hours per year. The green power certificates come from the Dutch 54-megawatt Waddenwind wind farm in the Groningen region, which has been connected to the grid since the beginning of the year. RWE Supply & Trading combines the certificates of origin into a green power supply and integrates them into Koehler Paper's procurement portfolio.

Green electricity for paper production

Koehler Paper (part of the Koehler Group) produces high-quality speciality paper. The new production line at the Kehl site was converted to green electricity at the beginning of 2021. Thanks to this contract, production at Koehler Paper's Kehl site is largely climate-neutral.

“By taking this step, we are saving around 100,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year. We are thus underlining our claim to carry the concept of sustainability through the entire value chain of our paper production,” says Dr. Stefan Karrer, Chief Operating Officer of the Koehler Group. The family-owned company has set itself the goal of producing in a climate-friendly manner and thus making a contribution to the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement. Koehler is sticking to these goals, despite the enormous unexpected challenges resulting from the current energy crisis.

“We are pleased to support Koehler Paper in the realisation of its sustainability strategy,” says Dr Hendrik Niebaum, Head of Commodity Solutions at RWE Supply & Trading. “The demand for CO₂-free electricity supplies from renewable sources is growing strongly. The cooperation with Koehler Paper and Waddenwind shows the potential in the European market.”

The contract has a term of ten years and is valid from 2023.

For further enquiries:

Sinje Vogelsang
Media Relations
RWE Supply & Trading GmbH
T +49 201 5179-5941
M +49 152 5790 5704
E sinje.vogelsang@rwe.com

Alexander M. Stöckle
Spokesperson
Koehler-Gruppe
T +49 7802 81-4749
M +49 151 11448057
E alexander.stoockle@koehler.com

RWE Supply & Trading GmbH

RWE Supply & Trading is the interface between RWE and the energy markets around the world. Approximately 1,600 employees from over 50 different countries trade (renewable) electricity, (green) gas, commodities and CO₂ emission allowances. Accurate market analyses and a high degree of customer centricity enable them to create innovative energy supply solutions as well as risk management concepts for industrial operations. The trading entity also ensures the commercial optimisation of RWE's power plant dispatch and markets electricity from renewables. In addition, there are the legally independent RWE gas storage companies in Germany and Czech Republic under the umbrella of RWE Supply & Trading.

Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run from the beginning until today. The Group's core business is the development and production of high-quality speciality paper. This includes thermal paper, playing card board, drink coaster, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, groundwood board, sublimation paper and, since 2019, innovative speciality paper for the packaging industry. In Germany, the Koehler Group with its approximately 2,500 employees has five production sites, three more are located in the USA. The group operates internationally, with exports accounting for 70 % in 2021 and 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 through its Koehler Renewable Energy division. The Koehler Group has set itself the goal of producing more energy from renewable sources than is needed for paper production by 2030. With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, Koehler is also dedicated to the development of new business areas outside of speciality paper production and energy generation. More information at www.koehler.com

Waddenwind wind farm

The board of Windfarm Waddenwind has been successful in the development and realisation of the Oostpolder project. Windfarm Oostpolder gets its name from the area of the same name, directly to the south of seaport Eemshaven in the province of Groningen in the Netherlands. Behind this project are 13 passionate farmers, who have formed a partnership under the name Waddenwind. The overall project took about 4 years, from license to realisation. The first pile was driven on September 25th 2020 and the first renewable energy was generated on January 7th 2022. A milestone in this project. With a yearly goal of 200 million kilowatts.

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