



World Wind Energy Association

Head Office:
Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 5
53113 Bonn
Germany

Tel. +49-228-369 40-80
Fax +49-228-369 40-84
secretariat@wwindea.org
www.wwindea.org

28 August 2006

Press Release

Power Purchase Agreement for Sub-Saharan Africa's first IPP Wind Farm signed

WWEA welcomes agreement between City of Cape Town and Darling Wind Farm as milestone

Bonn/Cape Town (WWEA) – Almost three years after the 2nd World Wind Energy Conference was held in Cape Town, the Mayor of the City of Cape Town, Helen Zille, and the CEO of Darling Wind Farm, Hermann Oelsner, signed recently a 20-year contract for the supply of green electricity from the Darling Wind Farm. The Power Purchase Agreement was the last remaining milestone required for financial closure of the first Sub-Saharan African IPP wind farm project.

The wind farm will comprise in the first initial phase of four 1,3 MW wind turbines. The project finance partners are the Danish Development Agency Danida, the Central Energy Fund, and the Development Bank of South Africa. The Darling Wind Farm will be the first commercial wind farm in South Africa and in Southern Africa. The project is the first step to harvest the huge potential of wind energy, which is in abundance available for clean energy generation in Southern Africa.

The power purchase agreement is part of a major Draft Energy and Climate Change Strategy of the City of Cape Town according to which it will source 10 % of all its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2020. It comes at a time when the City of Cape Town is experiencing repeatedly electricity shortages and blackouts caused by technical and security problems in the only commercial nuclear reactor in Africa situated very close to Cape Town in Koeberg.

Hermann Oelsner, CEO of the Darling Wind Farm: "The ratification of the Power Purchase Agreement is facilitating a unique and innovative partnership between local and foreign private investors, the National and the Local Government and the community of Darling which will be an equity shareholder in the project. This is the beginning of a totally new industry, in terms of Government's new initiative for job creation, with a high potential of local content in research and development, equipment manufacture, creation of infrastructure and operation of plant. The Western Cape region may follow the success story of regions like in Denmark, in Northern Germany or in Spain where the wind industry already belongs to the biggest employers."

WWEA Secretary General Stefan Gsänger: "We see this first IPP wind farm in Africa as a milestone for the achievement of a sustainable energy supply in South Africa and on the whole of the African continent. WWEA would like to encourage the City of Cape Town and the South African Government to extend this approach of decentralised investment in the renewable energy sector and to harvest the abundant wind potentials that could supply all electricity that South Africa needs. South Africa should now set up appropriate national legislation for an accelerated wind power deployment. Once again South Africa could thus underline its leadership function on the continent by encouraging the use of environmental friendly, inexhaustible energy sources and by creating favourable conditions for a new industry, resulting in thousands of new, sustainable and high-qualified jobs."

For further information please contact:

- World Wind Energy Association:
Stefan Gsänger, Secretary General,
Tel. +49 228 369 40 80, secretariat@wwindea.org
- Darling Wind Farm:
Hermann Oelsner, Chief Executive Officer,
Tel. +27 22 492 3095, oelsnergrp@waccess.co.za

.....

The World Wind Energy Association: Basic information

WWEA is the global voice for wind energy. Currently, WWEA represents the wind sector in 80 countries on all continents; amongst the WWEA members are national associations, scientific institutes and companies. WWEA works for the complete substitution of fossil and nuclear sources by renewable energies with wind energy as one cornerstone. The WWEA Head Office is situated in Bonn/Germany close to the UN Campus.

Further information: www.wwindea.org

.....

WWEA Events:

5th World Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition

New Delhi, India, 6-8 November 2006:

Organised by WWEA jointly with the Indian Wind Energy Association InWEA.

Further information: www.wwec2006.com

.....

6th World Wind Energy Conference & Renewable Energy Exhibition

Argentina, 2007:

Organised by WWEA jointly with the Argentine Wind Energy Association AAEA.

.....

7th World Wind Energy Conference & Renewable Energy Exhibition

Toronto, Canada, 2008:

Organised by WWEA jointly with the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association.

.....

WWEA Publication:

International standard yearbook for wind energy:

Wind Energy International 2005/2006

including 65 country reports, 45 special reports

Download order form from www.wwindea.org