

Press release

RWE creates preconditions for constructing a hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plant in Weisweiler

- **To start approval planning, RWE awards contract for a hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plant to an Italian-Spanish consortium**
- **Final investment decision for building the power plant will only be made once the grid connection and the regulatory framework have been determined**

Essen, 28 July 2023

RWE plans to build hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plants at its own former power plant sites in Germany by 2030 to help achieve the goal of phasing out coal 2030. By awarding the contract to an international consortium, RWE has now laid the foundations for building a hydrogen-capable combined-cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power plant with an output of 800 megawatts at its Weisweiler site by the end of the decade.

The approval planning for the plant will begin immediately. The ordering of the power plant components and the commissioning of the construction are subject to a final investment decision.

Roger Miesen, CEO RWE Generation SE: "With the commissioned approval planning, we advance to keep open the chance of completion by 2030. RWE is ready to make a contribution to green supply security by building hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plants, thus enabling the phase-out of coal in 2030. To achieve this, the political course needs to be set quickly: only when the hydrogen grid connections are secured and the economic operation of the power plants is made possible by suitable framework conditions, we can make final investment decisions."

The German government had announced that it would soon create a regulatory framework for tenders for hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plants, in which the company intends to participate. According to the recently presented plans for the expansion of the hydrogen infrastructure, the German national authority for grid regulation, the Weisweiler site could be close to a hydrogen pipeline.

In a tender process for the planned plant, a consortium of Ansaldo Energia (Italy) and Técnicas Reunidas (Spain) was selected. The contract that the partners have now signed includes the approval planning for the power plant as the first step. This is the prerequisite for RWE to quickly start implementation as soon as the framework conditions are right.

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The two other contract tranches include the ordering of central power plant components and the construction of the plant. They will be triggered once all the necessary permits have been obtained and there is clarity about the overall economic viability of the project. According to current planning, this could be the case in 2025, so that the plant could start producing electricity by the end of the decade.

The planned plant should already be technically capable of using at least 50% of hydrogen at the time of starting operations. All plans will also be designed in such a way that conversion to the use of 100% hydrogen is possible from 2035 onwards.

RWE is also examining the construction of hydrogen-ready gas-fired power plants at other sites.

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RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With an extensive investment and growth strategy, the company will expand its powerful, green generation capacity to 50 gigawatts internationally by 2030. RWE is investing more than €50 billion gross for this purpose in this decade. The portfolio is based on offshore and onshore wind, solar, hydrogen, batteries, biomass and gas. RWE Supply & Trading provides tailored energy solutions for large customers. RWE has locations in the attractive markets of Europe, North America and the Asia-Pacific region. The company is responsibly phasing out nuclear energy and coal. Government-mandated phaseout roadmaps have been defined for both of these energy sources. RWE employs around 19,000 people worldwide and has a clear target: to get to net zero by 2040. On its way there, the company has set itself ambitious targets for all activities that cause greenhouse gas emissions. The Science Based Targets initiative has confirmed that these emission reduction targets are in line with the Paris Agreement. Very much in the spirit of the company's purpose: Our energy for a sustainable life.

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