

Press release

RWE builds large-scale solar farms alongside a motorway in Germany

- **Photovoltaic systems take shape on recultivated land at the Garzweiler opencast mine on both sides of the motorway A44n between Bedburg and Jüchen**
- **Total capacity exceeds 86 MWp; commissioning planned for end of 2025**
- **Approx. 141,000 solar modules will supply electricity for some 27,700 households**

Essen, 13 May 2025

RWE continues to keep up the pace with the expansion of its solar portfolio. The company is erecting several solar parks with a total capacity of 86.5 megawatts peak (74.6 MWac) along a motorway (A44n) in North Rhine-Westphalia. With about 141,000 solar modules, they will generate enough electricity to supply the equivalent of 27,700 German households with climate-friendly electricity. The project sites in the Rhenish region lie to the west and east of the motorway between the towns of Bedburg and Jüchen, and are on recultivated land at the Garzweiler opencast mine. The new photovoltaic panels are expected to start supplying electricity from the end of this year.

Katja Wünschel, CEO RWE Renewables Europe & Australia: “We are making every effort to drive forward the expansion of our solar portfolio, and are making increasing use of locations alongside motorways. These projects not only benefit from faster approval processes but in most cases also enjoy a much higher level of public acceptance. Our new solar plants along the A44n could thus serve as a role model for further projects in the region and beyond.”

Dr Lars Kulik, CTO Lignite at RWE Power: “The solar projects along the A44n emphasise that structural change and the expansion of renewables in the Rhenish mining area are moving forward at a strong pace. There is plenty of space in and around our opencast mines that we are also using for solar projects. The new plants are taking shape on recultivated land, and they are connected via the grid infrastructure at Garzweiler opencast mine. The employees of RWE Power also contribute their knowledge and experience to support the construction and subsequent operation of the solar plants. That means we are creating further prospects for our co-workers here in the region.”

Keeping up the pace for the expansion of solar energy in the Rhenish region

A strip of land alongside the A44n near Bedburg became the site of a photovoltaic system constructed by RWE last year. In the immediate vicinity, RWE is also trialling the combination of agriculture and green electricity generation at its [agrivoltaics demonstration plant](#). All in all, RWE operates seven [solar farms in the Rhenish region](#), four with their own integrated battery storage units.



In April, RWE began [construction of a new photovoltaic system at Hambach opencast mine](#). Near the township of Niederzier, more than 22,000 solar modules are being installed, which will collectively generate enough electricity to supply about 4,500 standard German households. Further photovoltaic projects in the region are at the planning stage.

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A map for media use is available at the [RWE Media Centre](#) (credit: RWE).

RWE

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. RWE is investing billions of euros in expanding its generation portfolio, in particular in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy and batteries. It is perfectly complemented by its global energy trading business. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

Forward-looking statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements reflect the current views, expectations and assumptions of management, and are based on information currently available to management. Forward-looking statements do not guarantee the occurrence of future results and developments and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual future results and developments may deviate materially from the expectations and assumptions expressed in this document due to various factors. These factors primarily include changes in the general economic and competitive environment. Furthermore, developments on financial markets and changes in currency exchange rates as well as changes in national and international laws, in particular in respect of fiscal regulation, and other factors influence the company's future results and developments. Neither the company nor any of its affiliates undertakes to update the statements contained in this press release.

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