

## Press release

## More solar power for Neuland Hambach – RWE and municipalities expand collaboration

- **NEULAND HAMBACH GmbH takes a 49 percent share in a photovoltaic plant of RWE**
- **Plant close to German village Niederzier in operation since summer 2025**
- **Joint portfolio now includes three solar farms and one battery storage facility**
- **Over 109,000 modules generate solar electricity for 19,000 households**

Essen, 5 February 2026

The municipalities around Hambach opencast mine and RWE are setting an example for the energy transition by expanding the [partnership they entered into in 2024](#). Via a joint project company with RWE, NEULAND HAMBACH GmbH, which represents the interests of neighbouring municipalities Elsdorf, Jülich, Kerpen, Merzenich, Niederzier and Titz, purchased 49 percent of a photovoltaic plant developed and installed by RWE. The plant close to the village of Niederzier has a capacity of around 14 megawatts peak (MWp) and has been in operation since summer 2025.

The partners now jointly operate three large solar farms and a battery storage facility at the Hambach opencast mine. A total of over 109,000 solar modules have an electric output of 61 MWp and can supply the equivalent of around 19,000 households with green electricity each year. The battery storage facility has a capacity of 8 megawatt hours, helping adapt electricity feed-in even more flexibly according to demand. In addition, the municipalities have the option to participate via NEULAND HAMBACH GmbH in new renewable energy projects by RWE in the future.

**Katja Wünschel, CEO RWE Renewables Europe & Australia:** “The fact that municipalities are participating in these solar projects shows that the energy transition meets with acceptance when people can help shape it. We as RWE remain an integral part of the region. We are investing together and creating long-term benefit locally. In this way, the energy transition is becoming a project of the entire region.”

**Dr Lars Kulik, RWE Power board member responsible for the Lignite division:** “Combining solar plants with a battery storage facility enables us to use the space at Hambach opencast mine in a sensible and sustainable manner. This is another example of how we are driving forward structural change in the region with value-enhancing projects and side by side with the local municipalities.”

**Frank Rombey, Mayor of Niederzier:** “Revenues from the photovoltaic plant give us the leeway to actively participate in shaping how the area is used in the future. This makes structural change tangible and meets with acceptance by local people.”

**RWE continues to forge ahead with the expansion of renewable energies in the Rhenish region**

RWE operates nine onshore wind farms and nine [photovoltaic plants in the Rhenish region](#) – four of which have integrated battery storage systems. Further wind and solar farms are under construction and in the planning stage.

**For further enquiries:** Sarah Knauber  
Press Spokesperson  
RWE Renewables GmbH  
M +49-162-2544489  
E [sarah.knauber@rwe.com](mailto:sarah.knauber@rwe.com)

**RWE Neuland Solar Farms**

			Operational since
Ground-mounted photovoltaic plant RWE Neuland Solar Farm	12 MWp	8.4 MWac	2024
Battery storage facility	4.1 MW	8.1 MWh	2024
Ground-mounted photovoltaic plant RWE Neuland 1 Solar Farm	35 MWp	29.6 MWac	2024
Ground-mounted photovoltaic plant RWE Neuland 3 Solar Farm (Niederzier)	14 MWp	12 MWac	2025

**Image materials for media use** are available at the [RWE Media Centre](#) (Source: RWE).

**RWE**

RWE is leading the way to a modern energy world. With its investment and growth strategy, 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 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. Thanks to its integrated portfolio of renewables, battery storage and flexible generation, as well as its broad project pipeline of possible new builds, RWE is well positioned to address the growing global demand for electricity, particularly driving by further electrification and artificial intelligence. 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.*

**Data Protection Regulation**

*The personal data processed in connection with the press releases will be processed in compliance with the legal data protection requirements. If you are not interested in continuing to receive the press release, please inform us at [datenschutz-kommunikation@rwe.com](mailto:datenschutz-kommunikation@rwe.com). Your data will then be deleted, and you will not receive any further press releases from us in this regard. If you have any questions about our data protection policy or the exercise of your rights under the GDPR, please contact [datenschutz@rwe.com](mailto:datenschutz@rwe.com).*