

Press release

Kansai EPCO and RWE team up for floating offshore in Japan

Tokyo, 23 August 2021

Kansai Electric Power (Kansai EPCO) and RWE Renewables (RWE) have signed an agreement to jointly study the feasibility of a large-scale floating offshore wind project off the Japanese coast. The two companies agreed to further strengthen their existing relationship and leverage the complementary strengths of both companies, in support of Japan's goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Sven Utermöhlen, COO Wind Offshore Global of RWE Renewables: "We see great potential for floating wind farms worldwide - but especially in countries with deeper coastal waters, like Japan. Floating wind could help to raise untapped potential off the Japanese coast. As one of the world's leading offshore companies, RWE is already progressing innovation in the growing floating wind sector. With Kansai EPCO we have a partner by our side whose local expertise complements our global experience and technical know-how, and who shares our values and ambition to drive the growth of offshore wind in Japan."

Nozomu Mori, Director, Representative Executive Officer, Executive Vice President of Kansai EPCO: "As a leading company of zero-carbon energy, we have declared that Kansai Electric Power Group is aiming for carbon neutrality throughout the entirety of its business activities including power generation by 2050. We believe that development of floating offshore wind farms will be the key to achieve this. RWE is our important partner in the UK offshore wind business. We believe that our existing relationship can be extended for safe and stable offshore wind operation in Japan, by combining Kansai EPCO's experience and expertise in domestic electricity business and RWE's global equivalent in offshore wind."

Partnership represents a strong combination of expertise in offshore wind

RWE has a world class track record along the entire offshore wind value chain - from development, construction and production, to route to market. In addition, the company is currently working on three floating demonstration projects in Norway, Spain and the US to test different concepts for floating foundations. In Japan, RWE is also studying the feasibility of bottom-fixed offshore wind projects in various regions, including Akita and Niigata prefectures.

Kansai EPCO as a leading company of zero-carbon energy, is proactively studying ways to maximise the introduction of renewable energy sources and propel them into mainstream power sources. The company is working to develop more than 2 gigawatts of new renewable energy sources, with the goal of increasing its installed capacity of 6 gigawatts in Japan and overseas by the 2030s. In Japan, Kansai EPCO is promoting the development of offshore wind projects in various regions, including Akita, Yamagata and Nagasaki Prefectures. In Europe, the company has been involved in two offshore wind projects, including one in collaboration with RWE.

Through this second collaboration the two companies strengthen their partnership further.

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A picture for media use is available in the [media library](#). On the picture: Shinichi Kato, Country Chair Japan of RWE Renewables, und Nozomu Mori, Representative Executive Officer and Executive VP – The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. (from left to right)

RWE Renewables

RWE Renewables is one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. With around 3,500 employees, the company has onshore and offshore wind farms, photovoltaic plants and battery storage facilities with a combined capacity of approximately 9 gigawatts. RWE Renewables is driving the expansion of renewable energy in more than 20 countries on five continents. From 2020 to 2022, RWE Renewables targets to invest €5 billion net in renewable energy and to grow its renewables portfolio to 13 gigawatts of net capacity. Beyond this, the company plans to further grow in wind and solar power. The focus is on the Americas, the core markets in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

Kansai Electric Power

Kansai EPCO is one of the Japan's leading electric power companies. With around 9,000 employees, the company has renewable, nuclear and thermal energy with a combined capacity of approximately 29 gigawatts. The Kansai EPCO Group declared "Zero Carbon Vision 2050" in February, 2021. In an effort to create a sustainable society, the Kansai EPCO Group, as a leading company of zero-carbon energy, is aiming for carbon neutrality throughout the entirety of its business activities including power generation by 2050 in order to combat global warming, while striving to increase energy independence to secure energy supply, with priority given to safety. Kansai EPCO Group is working to develop more than 2 gigawatts of new renewable energy sources, with the goal of increasing its installed capacity of 6 gigawatts in Japan and overseas by the 2030s. Kansai EPCO Group will continue to contribute to the spread and expansion of renewable energy with the understanding of the local community.

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