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21 July 2022

Enel Green Power South Africa connects Soetwater Wind Farm to the national grid







 An additional 147MW of capacity is added to the national grid as Enel Green Power South Africa's Soetwater Wind Farm achieves commercial operation.

Johannesburg, 21 July 2022 - Soetwater wind farm, which is located in a remote part of the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality in the Northern Cape, will be able to generate 585 GWh every year, potentially averting the emission of approximately 600,000 tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere annually. The wind farm features Vestas V136-4.2 MW wind turbines, the largest on the African continent to date.

Awarded to Enel Green Power in April 2013 as part of round four of South Africa's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP), the wind form is supported by a 20 year Power Power

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"The construction process was hampered at times by stop/start delays in response to COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions. The hard lockdown in 2020 – in particular – resulted in difficulties relating to the transportation of people between provinces, as well as the transportation of experts and commissioning teams from other parts of the world. This highlights, all the more, what a significant achievement this is for both the project team, and the country," he adds.

EGP RSA is committed to playing a crucial role in helping the country solve its energy crises using renewable energy solutions. It also employs local staff and hires local contractors in the construction process, with the aim of promoting meaningful socioeconomic and enterprise development. At the peak of the construction phase, the project employed 1,160 people.

As part of its Creating Shared Value initiative, EGP RSA has assisted underserved communities in close proximity to the wind farm in the following ways:

- An educational support programme, which included the installation of twelve interactive smartboards for Roggeveld Primary School and Sutherland High School, both located in Sutherland, the closest town to the wind farm.
- To offset the devastating impact of the nationwide lockdown on vulnerable communities, EGP RSA donated food relief parcels to approximately 200 families made up of women, children and the elderly. The initiative was undertaken in close consultation and support of the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality.
- In partnership with local municipalities, EGP RSA donated close to 1.1 tons of wooden pallets to local community members and organisations, which will be used for recreational, housing and educational purposes.

Notably, additional projects such as community leadership training, youth skills development a drug and substance awareness campaign, further educational support to

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protocols relating to Covid-19," he concludes.

Enel Green Power[®], within the Enel Group, develops and operates renewable energy plants worldwide and is present in Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and Oceania. A world leader in clean energy, with a total capacity of more than 54 GW and a generation mix that includes wind, solar, geothermal, and hydroelectric power, as well as energy storage facilities, Enel Green Power is at the forefront of integrating innovative technologies into renewable energy plants.

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