



Press release

Huge milestone reached for Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

- **Development Consent Order granted for Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm**
- **RWE-led project is planned for the north Wales Coast, west of operational Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm**
- **Target to be operational before 2030, with power production to be equivalent to needs of 500,000 homes**

Wales, 20. September 2023

Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, Claire Coutinho has today granted consent to Wales' largest renewable energy investment this decade, RWE's Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm, representing a major step forward for the north Wales project.

The project will be located alongside the operational 576 megawatt (MW) Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and will create hundreds of skilled jobs during construction and operation, both directly and throughout the supply chain.

The development is being led by RWE, the UK's leading power producer, which also operates north Wales' other offshore wind farms, Gwynt y Môr, North Hoyle and Rhyl Flats. Awel y Môr is planned to be operational before 2030 with a maximum of 50 turbines at a maximum height of 332 meters. It will become Wales' largest renewable energy project.

The awarding of the Development Consent Order by the Secretary of State is the culmination of more than five years work. The team is now awaiting the granting of the necessary marine licence from Natural Resources Wales, in order to progress the project into construction.

Tamsyn Rowe, RWE Project Lead for Awel y Môr, said: "With the Development Consent Order for Awel y Môr now in place, we have achieved a major milestone on our journey towards delivering an offshore wind farm capable of powering more than half a million homes with clean, renewable energy.

We hope to secure our marine licence in the coming months, plus carry out offshore site investigations on the seabed as we begin to finalise plans for construction. To that end, I would

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also encourage any company with an interest in potentially joining the supply chain for Awel y Môr to sign up to RWE's Supplier Transparency Engagement Programme."

The team is also working on plans to prepare the local supply chain so that the immediate region as well as the wider UK can potentially reap the benefits of the multi-billion investment which the project represents. In addition to Awel y Môr, RWE is also supporting Grŵp Llandrillo Menai in the development of its new £11.2m Rhyll Campus, which will house our UK wind turbine technician apprenticeship scheme.

Danielle Lane, RWE's Director of Development for UK and Ireland, added: "Set alongside the UK's first commercial scale offshore wind farm at North Hoyle, which RWE continues to operate, Awel y Môr is firmly at the heart of our plans for renewable energy generation. However, to make this happen, Government will need to ensure a suitable CfD auction that is fit for purpose and capable of unlocking the fantastic clean energy and investment opportunities that Awel y Môr and our broader offshore wind portfolio represent for the UK's supply chain and its ambitions to expand offshore wind, decarbonise the energy system and achieve net zero. As the largest power generator in the UK, we have ambitions to invest up to £15bn in new clean energy projects and infrastructure by 2030, with north Wales set to continue in its key role."

RWE has more than two decades' experience in offshore wind in the UK, having developed and built the country's first commercial-scale offshore wind farm at North Hoyle. Since then, RWE has established 10 offshore wind farms across the UK and is currently building the 1.4 gigawatts (GW) Sofia offshore wind farm, off the east coast.

RWE has a strong future pipeline in the UK and is involved in four of the UK's seven offshore wind extension projects, plus two Round 4 Dogger Bank South projects. In north Wales, RWE is also progressing plans for onshore wind farms at Gaerwen and Alwen. The company is also exploring offshore floating wind projects, including in the Celtic Sea region.

RWE is developing Awel y Môr, in a Joint Venture with partners Stadtwerke München (30 per cent) and Siemens Financial Services, the financing arm of Siemens (10 per cent).

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Note to editors:

For more information visit www.awelymor.cymru/. More information on the STEP initiative can be found here: [Supplier Transparency Engagement Programme \(STEP\) \(rwe.com\)](#). An explainer on the CfD scheme can be found in the [March edition of the Awel y Môr newsletter here](#)

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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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