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## PRESS RELEASE

### RWE and DEME Offshore install collars on offshore foundations

- **RWE-patented technology to be deployed for the first time at the Kaskasi offshore wind farm**
- **New monopile foundation collars increase load-bearing capacity**
- **Offshore construction works to start in the third quarter of 2021; start of commercial operations planned for summer 2022**

An innovative foundation technology is to be introduced at RWE's Kaskasi offshore wind farm. For the first time ever in the renewables industry, special collars will be installed around the monopile foundation at seabed level. The 'collared monopile' is designed based on a RWE patent. The new technology will provide additional support for lateral loading, increase the bearing capacity and improve the structural integrity of the entire foundation, especially in difficult ground.

RWE Renewables has signed a contract with DEME Offshore for the transport and installation of the new foundation technology at RWE's 342-MW Kaskasi offshore wind farm, located in the German North Sea, 35 kilometres north of the island of Heligoland. DEME Offshore is delighted to partner with RWE in this pioneering project, which highlights how both companies are focusing on further refining innovative technologies and new concepts in the renewables sector.

**Sven Utermöhlen, Chief Operating Officer Wind Offshore Global at RWE Renewables, says:**

"At our Kaskasi offshore wind farm we use innovative technologies that will set standards throughout the offshore industry. The collared monopile, a patented solution developed in-house, will help to increase stability in difficult ground. Furthermore, Kaskasi will be the first commercial offshore wind farm in the world to use an improved installation method to drive all monopile foundations to target penetration. The vibro pile driving technique will reduce both installation time as well as noise emissions for marine life. This showcases our technical expertise as the second biggest player in offshore wind globally and means that we will continue to be at the forefront of the evolution of technology in this industry."

**Bas Nekeman, Business Unit Director Northern Europe at DEME Offshore, emphasises:**

"The Kaskasi collar installation project is a good example of how we can bring added value to our clients. Our versatile fleet of offshore installation vessels enables us to deploy the ideal vessel for this project

and, in close collaboration with our client, we are tailoring the installation techniques and minimising any potential risks.”

**Collared monopiles improve behaviour of entire structure**

When target penetration is reached, the innovative foundation collars will be implemented at three locations. The detailed design was developed by the German civil engineering company JBO based on the RWE patent. Bladt Industries was selected as manufacturer.

DEME Offshore will transport the three collars from the manufacturer’s load-out port in Aalborg, Denmark, to the Kaskasi construction site near Heligoland. Then the DEME Offshore team will install the steel collars around three of the 38 monopile foundations for which DEME Offshore will deploy the versatile jack-up vessel ‘Neptune’. The collar will be installed at seabed level in water depths of up to 25 m. The space between collar and monopile foundation will be filled with grout material to create a stable connection. RWE will carry out accompanying tests to verify that the collar improves the structural behaviour in comparison to standard monopiles.

**More than 400,000 homes powered with green electricity**

It is expected that the Kaskasi wind farm will start commercial operations in summer 2022. Once all wind turbines are fully operational, the wind farm will supply the equivalent of more than 400,000 homes with green electricity.

**About DEME**

DEME is a world leader in the specialised fields of dredging, solutions for the offshore energy industry, infra marine and environmental works. The company can build on more than 140 years of know-how and is a front runner in innovation and new technologies.

DEME's vision is to work towards a sustainable future by offering solutions for global challenges: a rising sea level, a growing population, reduction of CO2 emissions, polluted rivers and soils and the scarcity of natural resources.

DEME can rely on 5,200 highly skilled professionals and a modern fleet of over 100 vessels. In 2019 the company achieved a turnover of 2.62 billion euros.

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**About RWE Renewables**

RWE Renewables, the newest subsidiary of the RWE Group, 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 15 countries on four continents. By the end of 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.

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