

Consultation on REC Solar's France project: A major first step towards a final decision

Munich, Germany – November 30, 2020: REC Solar France, the French subsidiary of Norwegian-headquartered and international pioneering solar company REC Group, has positively taken note of the decision by the French National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP) of November 4, 2020. The decision authorized the prior and mandatory public consultation process for REC Group's planned project to build a photovoltaic panel production plant in Hambach (France, Moselle region). The consultation will take place from December 14, 2020 to February 8, 2021. Beside physical presence at conferences and workshops, televised and digital participation tools will complement the process.

This preliminary consultation process is fully in line with the obligatory French regulatory procedure in terms of disclosing information and enabling public participation prior to decisions that could have an impact on the environment. Important to note is that the entire process and all decisions regarding the planned plant will hence fully comply with national and local environmental standards. REC Group welcomes the dialogue with the residents and regional stakeholders convinced that this will strongly contribute to a mutually beneficial and environmentally-sound project for all parties involved.

"For us at REC, it is important to stress the term 'preliminary' regarding this project. Considering the size and the level of investment required, many studies and evaluations have already been carried out, still there are a number of important steps to be taken before a final decision is made – this includes strategic considerations as well as regulatory approval", says Cemil Seber, Managing Director of REC Solar EMEA GmbH.

The planned project is divided into two phases. With completion of the second phase in 2025, REC Group plans to reach the production capacity of 9 million high-performance REC solar panels annually and employ over 2,500 employees. The new factory will thereby cover an area of almost 148,000 square meters. The premium solar panels will be based on a highly advanced solar PV technology and therefore deliver greater power density per m² compared to conventional mono PERC panels.

With the planned project, REC is adding to its long history in Europe regarding manufacturing and selling. In addition to its silicon production sites in Norway, REC Group is manufacturing 4 million high-quality solar panels annually at its state-of-the-art manufacturing site in Singapore. Implementing Industry 4.0 concepts, lead free cells, low temperature production as well as energy, water and waste saving programs, REC Group is continuously striving to minimize its carbon footprint.

Key figures of the project:



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About REC Group:

REC Group is a Norwegian-headquartered, international pioneering solar energy company dedicated to empowering consumers with clean, affordable solar power in order to facilitate global energy transitions. Committed to quality and innovation, REC offers photovoltaic modules with leading high quality, backed by an exceptional low warranty claims rate of less than 100ppm. Founded in Norway in 1996, REC employs 2,000 people and has an annual solar panel capacity of 1.8 GW. With over 10 GW installed worldwide, REC is empowering more than 16 million people with clean solar energy. REC Group has its headquarters in Norway, operational headquarters in Singapore, and regional bases in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific.

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