



Opening ceremony in Achtrup, Germany

Friday, 27th of May, saw the opening ceremony of one of northern Germany's largest PV power plant in the village of Achtrup in Schleswig-Holstein. The 8.3 MWp solar installation which was connected to the grid in October 2010 was built by SunEnergy Europe GmbH, Hamburg, and Solar-Energie Andresen GmbH, Sprakebuell, as mutual EPC contractors. The PV plant which is situated some 15 kilometers south of the Danish border produces nearly 8 Gigawatt hours electricity per year which equals more than four times the annual demand of the Achtrup population. Among the guests were numerous prominent political and economical figures from within the region.

The mere dimension of the solar installation left a deep impression on party's spokesman for energy issues in Schleswig-Holsteins state parliament Detlef Matthiessen: >>All over Northern Germany we see such public participation projects come into blossom. PV power plants of this size contribute to a high degree to our future electrical power supply. This means not only can nuclear power plants go offline but plans for new coal fired power stations will be rendered obsolete.<<

Olaf Schulze who holds the same position for the Social Democrats, pointed out the high level of the citizens' support for regional clean energy projects: >> Schleswig-Holstein's Western coast is a prime example for how public participation in solar power regional value creation leads to a wide spread of consumer acceptance.<<

PV power plant Achtrup was completed in two parts on a total area of 19.3 hectares of former farmland. The electrical power is produced by more than 40,000 name brand Hyundai solar modules and fed into the public grid. FeCon inverters are used to transform the power from DC to AC. Compared with conventional power production the PV plant leads to annual carbon dioxide emission reduction of 4,600 tons.

>>The PV power plant has been running for seven months now and features outstanding results far above the estimated energy production figures. This shows once again that Northern Germany's coastal region is by any means competitive to solar energy produced in the South>>, SunEnergy's CEO Dr Hartwig Westphalen states. The Hamburg based company was responsible for the planning and execution of construction in co-operation with Solar-Energie Andresen GmbH. The latter developed a special kind of sub-structure specifically designed to withstand the extreme Northern German windloads. The two

companies who have been working together on numerous PV projects for several years now celebrate their mutual success in Achtrup.



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