Press release

The Combined Power Plant – the first stage in providing 100% power from renewable energy

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The companies Enercon GmbH, SolarWorld AG and Schmack Biogas AG today presented the Combined Power Plant. Together with the Institute for Solar Energy Supply Systems (ISET) at the University of Kassel, these three companies have proved with this project that renewable energy can secure 100 per cent of energy supplies in accordance with demand. "The Combined Power Plant shows that renewable energy sources can supply sufficient electricity, can be controlled at any time, function in combination and can be balanced out across the grid," says Ulrich Schmack, Board Spokesman of Schmack Biogas AG.

The joint project from Schmack Biogas, SolarWorld and Enercon links 36 decentralized power plants based on wind, hydropower, solar and biogas energy so that they can supply electricity around the clock regardless of weather conditions and electricity demand. It takes advantage of the unequally distributed energy potential across Germany.

"The Combined Power Plant is scaled to meet 1/10,000th of the electricity demand in Germany using renewable energy. This scale corresponds to the annual electricity requirements of a small town with around 12,000 households, such as Stade. The Combined Power Plant therefore shows in miniature what is also possible on a large scale: 100 per cent electricity provision using renewable energy sources," emphasises Frank H. Asbeck, CEO of SolarWorld AG.

The wind and sun cannot be influenced, which places particular importance to the linkage of wind, solar and biogas plants. "The decentralised network enables wind, solar and biogas installations to be controlled like a conventional large-scale power station and thus meet Germany's fluctuating energy requirements," says Kurt Rohrig from ISET, explaining the Combined Power Plant's central control unit.

Further information on the Combined Power Plant can be found at www.unendlich-viel-energie.de/kombikraftwerk.

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