

ABB wins service order for renewable energy connection in the North Sea

Contract to support reliable transmission from the DoIWin2 wind farms follows order win for the power link

Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 18, 2011 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has won an order from the Dutch-German transmission system operator, TenneT to provide maintenance services for the DoIWin2 link bringing power from offshore wind farms, located in the North Sea, to the mainland German grid.

This contract follows ABB's success earlier this year when it won an order worth around \$1 billion to supply the power link itself, which was the biggest power transmission order in ABB's history. DoIWin2 will deploy the world's largest offshore HVDC (high-voltage direct current) system with a rating of over 900 megawatts (MW), keeping electrical losses to less than 1 percent per converter station. The completed link will be capable of supplying more than 1.5 million households with clean wind-generated electricity.

"Service and maintenance are key elements in the efficient and reliable operation of these advanced offshore renewable energy transmission links and we are pleased to support TenneT with our technical expertise and competence in this area," said Peter Leupp, head of ABB's Power Systems division. "This also reinforces our growing focus on service as a key business driver."

As part of the maintenance contract, ABB will keep up the land- and sea-based HVDC converter stations connecting the wind farms via an offshore platform to the grid. The three-year contract for an undisclosed sum has extension options. The order was booked in the third quarter.

DoIWin2 will have onshore and offshore HVDC converter stations and 135 kilometers of underwater and underground DC cables. With a rated voltage of 320 kilovolts (kV), the link will have the highest voltage level of extruded cable ever used for HVDC transmission. Scheduled to be operational in 2015, DoIWin2 links the 400 MW Gode Wind II wind farm and other offshore wind farms to the grid. It will avoid more than three million tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year in support of Germany's ambitious renewable energy plans to replace its fossil-fuel-based generation.

DoIWin2 is the third offshore wind connection order for ABB in Germany, following the 800 MW DoIWin1 link awarded last year and the earlier BorWin1 project. ABB was previously entrusted by TenneT to provide maintenance services for the BorWin1 and DoIWin1 offshore wind farm transmission connections.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 130,000 people.

For help with any technical terms in this release, please go to: www.abb.com/glossary

For more information please contact:

Media Relations:

Thomas Schmidt; Antonio Ligi
(Zurich, Switzerland)
Tel: +41 43 317 6568
media.relations@ch.abb.com