

Corporate communication

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Press release

Energy transition: large-scale hydrogen technology project qualifies for the next round

HySCALE100 – large-scale hydrogen production and green methanol synthesis to decarbonise the value chains of two major industries, petrochemicals and cement

Hemmingstedt, Germany, May 2021 – The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) and the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) have approved the project proposal put forward by Raffinerie Heide GmbH, Holcim Deutschland GmbH, Hynamics Deutschland GmbH and Ørsted Wind Power Germany GmbH for the next stage of the European IPCEI (Important Project of Common European Interest) initiative. This makes the project called HySCALE100 one of the few projects in Germany that is being assessed by the ministries and prepared for an evaluation at European level.

All four companies are already collaborating successfully on the Reallabor WESTKÜSTE100 project, which is in receipt of EU funding. The HySCALE100 project is independent of this, however.

The planned project addresses major climate protection goals with large-scale hydrogen production and the decarbonisation of two primary industries (petrochemicals and cement). It sets out to link renewables, petrochemicals and the cement industry systemically throughout an integrated value chain in the future. The idea is to produce green hydrogen on a large scale and convert it into synthetic raw materials using CO₂. Together with a cement produced sustainably in this way, this process results in a broad range of e-fuels, e-chemicals and e-methanol.

The project creates an opportunity to ramp up renewables in Germany's western coastal region of Schleswig-Holstein and thereby decarbonise the consortium's existing industrial plants. Commissioning is scheduled for 2025 and 2027, respectively..

The second round of the funding scheme has now been initiated. At this stage, the substance of project portfolio will be examined. Innovation and quality, national aspects, IPCEI criteria and costs will all be considered. Qualifying for the second round does not necessarily mean that the project will receive funding.

About IPCEI

IPCEI is the abbreviation for 'Important Project of Common European Interest'. An IPCEI is therefore an important transnational initiative which benefits Europe as a whole and makes a major contribution to growth, employment and competitiveness in European industry and business. An IPCEI must underpin the strategic objectives of the European Union (EU), be implemented by several Member States, be co-financed by the companies/institutions involved, have positive spill-over effects throughout the EU, and pursue highly ambitious research and innovation goals. It must therefore go well beyond the international state of the art in the relevant sector.

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[BMW - „Wir wollen bei Wasserstofftechnologien Nummer 1 in der Welt werden“: BMWi und BMVI bringen 62 Wasserstoff-Großprojekte auf den Weg](#)

(Only available in German)

About Raffinerie Heide

Based in Dithmarschen (Schleswig-Holstein), Raffinerie Heide GmbH is the most northerly crude oil processor in Germany. The company has an annual processing capacity of 4.5 million tonnes of crude oil, equal to the oil demands of the entire state of Schleswig-Holstein. The refinery with a medium-sized ethos, which was founded in 2010, produces traditional petroleum products such as petrol, diesel and aviation fuel. It also produces light heating oil and base materials for the chemicals industry. Raffinerie Heide, which is one of the most complex refineries in Europe, is among the best in the continent in terms of utilisation and availability thanks to its strict standards of care in relation to maintenance.

With sites in Hemmingstedt and Brunsbüttel, the company is also working hard to prepare for a new, greener future. Raffinerie Heide is striving to actively help shape the energy transition in Germany, focusing on the use of alternative raw materials and renewables. Raffinerie Heide is working with other partners on the use of renewable electricity and the production of green hydrogen by means of electrolysis. Read more about the refinery of the future: www.future-heiderefinery.com