



## Media information

December 8, 2021

### Volkswagen drives expansion of renewable energies with a new wind farm in Sweden

- Green electricity for e-mobility: Volkswagen is the first car maker to support the extensive expansion of wind farms and solar plants in Europe
- Support for investments of around €40 million up to 2025
- Largest project in the portfolio to date: Volkswagen supports wind farm in Sweden with an annual capacity of some 100 GWh or an equivalent of 27,000 households
- It will be followed by about 20 further projects in Europe by 2025, generating a combined total of around seven terawatt hours of additional green power
- Volkswagen CEO Brandstätter: "E-mobility can only make an effective contribution to climate protection if electric cars are consistently charged with green power."

**Wolfsburg – Volkswagen intends to be net carbon neutral by 2050. That is why the company is going well beyond electrification of the car with its holistic decarbonization program "Way to Zero". Volkswagen is the first car maker to support expansion of renewable energies on an industrial scale – and will drive expansion of European wind farms and solar plants with around €40 million up to 2025. Volkswagen has now signed an agreement with wpd wind farm Onshore Aldermyrberget in Skellefteå, the largest project in its portfolio to date. Volkswagen's share of the wind farm generates some 100 GWh of electricity, or enough for 27,000 households. As a result, Volkswagen is living up to its responsibility as the market leader for electric vehicles in Sweden. In connection with net carbon neutral manufacturing of its ID. models, Volkswagen is now taking another big step towards its goal of net carbon neutral e-mobility over the entire life cycle.**



**New wind farm in Skellefteå, northern Sweden: Volkswagen supports electricity generation for 27,000 households**

As well as accelerating the transition to e-mobility and further expanding the ID. family as part of the ACCELERATE strategy, Volkswagen is supporting investments in wind farms and solar plants and thus increasing the amount of power from renewable energy sources available in the grid. In this way, the company is improving the carbon footprint of the ID. family and creating the basis for the net carbon neutral use of its electric fleet.

"Volkswagen is irreversibly on the 'Way to Zero.' Decarbonization and making mobility sustainable are at the focus of our activities. We are the first car maker to support the expansion of renewable energies on a large scale. Because e-mobility can only make an effective contribution to climate protection if electric cars are consistently charged with green power," says Volkswagen CEO Ralf Brandstätter.

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Besides the wind farm in Sweden, a new solar plant in Tramm-Göthen in northeastern Germany will go online at the beginning of 2022. The joint project with the energy company RWE has around 420,000 solar modules and is the largest independent solar project in Germany. It will be followed by about 20 further green electricity projects in countries such as Spain, the UK and Finland by 2025. All the projects are to generate a combined total of some seven terawatt hours of additional green power. That is equivalent to the capacity of more than 300 wind turbines and could cover the annual consumption of 600,000 households.

A key factor in achieving carbon neutral e-mobility is to be able to charge vehicles consistently with power generated entirely from renewable sources. This alone would reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by almost half compared with the standard EU electricity mix. Volkswagen already offers its customers green power for charging at home (Elli) and on the road (e.g. at IONITY charging stations). By making these investments in expanding renewable energies, the brand is going one step further and is supporting the creation of wind farms and solar plants in European regions with the highest sales of Volkswagen electric vehicles.

"We think and act regionally in our project decisions. Our focus is on engaging in renewable energies in particular where electric vehicles from Volkswagen are especially popular among customers. Our agreement with the wind farm in Sweden is therefore a logical step. With the biggest green power project in our portfolio to date, we are also living up to our responsibility as the market leader in electric vehicles in Sweden," says Andreas Walingen, Volkswagen's Chief Strategy Officer.

With a market share of 20 percent and 9,300 deliveries from January to November 2021, Volkswagen is the leader in electric vehicles in Sweden. The ID.4 has topped the model rankings for the past eight months, for example. More than 6,000 units of the top model were delivered net carbon neutrally to Swedish customers from January to the end of November. Sweden is thus a fine example of the success of Volkswagen's electric offensive and the ID. family in Europe: Volkswagen shipped around 290,000 electric vehicles to customers from January to October – a three-fold increase over 2020.

### **"Way to Zero" focuses on sustainable manufacturing and use of electric vehicles**

Volkswagen intends to be net carbon neutral by 2050 at the latest. The interim target is to cut carbon emissions per vehicle by 40 percent in Europe by 2030 (baseline: 2018). As a result, an average Volkswagen would emit around 17 tons less carbon dioxide. As well as accelerating the transition to e-mobility, the production (including supply chains) and operation of electric cars are to be made net carbon neutral. Added to this is the systematic recycling of the high-voltage batteries from old electric vehicles.

At the heart of the "Way to Zero" decarbonization program is the brand's ACCELERATE strategy aimed at stepping up the pace of the electric offensive. The goal is the full electrification of the new vehicle fleet. By 2030, at least 70 percent of all Volkswagen's unit sales in Europe will be all-electric vehicles – i.e. substantially more than one million vehicles. In North America and China, the share of electric vehicles in sales should be at least 50 percent. In addition, Volkswagen will be launching at least one new electric car each year.



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**About the Volkswagen brand:**

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present around the world in more than 150 markets and produces vehicles at more than 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2020, Volkswagen delivered around 5.3 million vehicles. These include best-sellers such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta and Passat. Currently more than 195,878 people are working at Volkswagen around the world. This includes more than 10,000 trading companies with 86,000 employees. Volkswagen is constantly driving the development of automobile construction. Electric mobility, smart mobility and the digital transformation of the brand are the strategic key topics of the future.

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