

Press release

Construction begins at Willingrade solar park. GP JOULE bundles competences in one place.

Citizens can participate in the plant.

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You simply can't miss it. Something big is being built in Willingrade, Groß Kummerfeld (Segeberg district) - a solar park. South of the B205 and above the Neumünster - Bad Oldesloe railway line, work is already in full swing. Construction began on 05 October. The almost 6-hectare, 5-megawatt plant is to be completed and commissioned in spring 2022. GP JOULE, a company specialising in renewable energies with its headquarters in North Frisia, is in charge of the project from start to finish. Citizen participation is already being planned.

About 10,200 solar modules have to be installed. A lot of preparatory work was necessary to reach this stage. "We have been involved in the project since the beginning when the land for the construction had to be secured," says Lina Petersen, project manager at GP JOULE. "The next planning stages, such as the approval procedure, designing the plant and collaborating closely with the municipality was also in our hands." Now the construction is being carried out, from preparing the ground to assembling the substructure and modules, to grid connection and commissioning.

GP JOULE will also be in charge of the subsequent technical and commercial management. "We see it as a clear advantage for ensuring plant quality if all competences are permanently bundled in one place," says Petersen. In this way, you already know during the planning and construction phase what is important for achieving the best possible return on an investment later on.

Citizen participation possible

After commissioning, citizens will have the opportunity to participate in the solar park with a so-called subordinated loan. A subordinated loan is a loan that is serviced after other loans and receives higher interest in return. An information event will be held in Willingrade next spring.

And what comes after the end of the plant's term?

Solar modules have a lifespan of 25 to 40 years. In the course of this period GP JOULE's technical management counteracts a drop in performance using close-meshed monitoring. There are various options for the time after that. Deconstructing the plant would also be possible without any problems. "Module manufacturers are obliged to take back and recycle solar panels. The costs for this are already integrated into the project volume and thus amortised well before the end of the term," says Petersen. In addition, there are good options for continuing operation, for example repowering, direct power marketing or the connection to storage technologies such as hydrogen electrolysis. Here again, the benefits of only having to travel short distances applies. "Our experts in PV and hydrogen project planning can work directly with their colleagues in technical service and

commercial management." When the time comes, we can find the best solution for what to do with the park together. "And what's good for the shareholders, too," adds Lina Petersen.

Images





BU Proposal: View of the construction site in Willingrade. A solar park with 5 megawatts of power is being built here.

Image rights: GP JOULE, for use free of charge in connection with reporting on the solar park in Willingrade.

About GP JOULE

Founded in 2009 based on the belief that a 100 per cent renewable energy supply is feasible, GP JOULE is now a system provider for integrated energy solutions from solar, wind and biomass power as well as being a partner at the supply level for electricity, heat, hydrogen and electromobility. This makes GP JOULE a pioneering company in the area of cross-sector linkage. Some 400 people work for the medium-sized group of companies in Germany, Europe and North America. GP JOULE holds the 2019 Schleswig-Holstein Business Environmental Award.

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