

PRESS RELEASE

Aspiravi expands its share in Northwind to 40% *Further growth in offshore wind energy*

Harelbeke, 1 October 2014 – Green energy producer Aspiravi is expanding its interest in the offshore wind farm Northwind to 40%. This expansion will provide a firmer Belgian foothold in the offshore wind energy sector. The aggregate capacity of Aspiravi's installations is 466 MW and they produce green power equivalent to the average annual use of 425,000 households.

Aspiravi Offshore, Parkwind and Sumitomo Corporation finalised the agreement of April 2014 regarding the shareholding structure and the collaboration within the offshore wind farm Northwind. As of 1 October 2014, Aspiravi Offshore will take a 40% interest in Northwind, while Parkwind and Sumitomo will each hold a 30% stake.

Simultaneously, A&P Wind Services nv has been set up by Aspiravi Offshore and Parkwind to operate and maintain the offshore wind farm.

Strong Belgian foothold in offshore

With this expansion, and alongside its land-based activities, Aspiravi is creating a strong Belgian foothold in offshore wind energy, an important and future-focussed growth sector. If Belgium is to obtain 20% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020, it must continue to work on expanding both onshore and offshore wind energy.

Northwind: 72 wind turbines on the Lodewijkbank in the North Sea

Northwind is one of seven wind farms off the coast of Zeebrugge. The farm encompasses 72 wind turbines that have an aggregate capacity of 216 MW. The electricity production is equivalent to the average annual consumption of 230,000 households. Construction at sea commenced in April 2013 and the offshore wind farm became fully operational in June of this year.

Aspiravi (Aspiravi Holding nv, Aspiravi nv, Aspiravi Offshore nv and Aspiravi Offshore II nv) develops, finances, builds and operates projects for the production of green energy, including a biomass power station and wind energy projects across Belgium, in the North Sea and abroad.

All of the projects in which Aspiravi is involved have an aggregate output capacity of 466 MW and can therefore produce enough green energy to cover the average annual consumption of 425,000 households. This production of renewable energy prevents emissions of 680,000 tons of CO₂ per year.

The shareholders of Aspiravi are 96 Belgian municipalities (represented by their holdings CREADIV, EFIN, FINEG and NUHMA) and the Vlaamse Energie Holding (VEH). www.aspiravi.be

For more information: An Schaubroeck | +32 473 902 960 | an.schaubroeck@aspiravi.be