

Press release 5 October 2023

## ENGIE speeds up the net-zero carbon transition of energy-intensive companies in Belgium by concluding a series of Corporate Power Purchase Agreements

ENGIE has signed 5-year Corporate Power Purchase Agreements with 5 key players in the Belgian economic landscape.

From December 2023 until December 2028, ENGIE will manage part of the energy flow produced by offshore wind farm C-Power and dispatch it to each of the 5 corporates.

Agristo, Aluminium Duffel, Pfizer Puurs, Proximus and Umicore have subscribed to a total of 70 MW of offshore wind capacity, supplying the equivalent of the annual consumption of nearly 65,000 households (approximately 161,000 MWh per year). This helps them limit the carbon footprint of their operations in Belgium and allows them to avoid 90,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

## Further agreements of this type are expected in the coming months.

The C-Power wind farm was the first far shore wind farm in the Belgian North Sea and is fully operational since 2013. It is located on the Thornton Bank, a sand bank at approximately 30 kilometres off the Belgian coast, and consists of two zones, counting 54 wind turbines for a total capacity of 325 MW.

The energy from the Northeast area of the C-Power wind farm (24 wind turbines) will be managed by ENGIE, and offered to energy-intensive industries as a short-time solution to help them limit the carbon footprint of their operations. While these Corporate Power Purchase Agreements are already well established among companies abroad, Belgian companies have started to embrace this option as well, leading to these and possible new agreements of this type in the near future.

**Thierry Saegeman, CEO of ENGIE Belgium**: "Through its diverse and growing portfolio, ENGIE can supply its professional customers with locally sourced renewable energy to accelerate the decarbonization of their industrial activities. By 2030, we aim to help all our customers worldwide avoid 45 million tonnes of  $CO_2$  emissions yearly. Green PPAs with large industrial actors deliver an important contribution towards this goal, and demonstrate our ability to accompany them on their own path to net-zero carbon."

**Peter Vos, Energy Manager Agristo :** "Agristo has a strong focus on growth, and we want this to be a sustainable one. We are going for 50% renewable energy and a 50% reduction of our energy-related emissions, two challenging goals for an energy intensive organisation as Agristo. PPA's are a logical

next step in addition to our ongoing investments in on-site renewable energy. I strongly believe that collaborations throughout the whole value chain will be indispensable to shape a bright, sustainable future. This PPA allows us to speed up the race against 1.5°C global warming and make our yellow fries even more green."

Hans Andries, Senior Manager Energy & Risk of Aluminium Duffel: "Our company plays a vital role as a producer of aluminium rolled products used in various industries, including automotive and construction. The renewable electricity will be used for our casting, rolling and finishing installations, as well as for the electrically heated furnaces. This agreement marks a significant step forward in our commitment to renewable energy and our ongoing efforts to reduce our carbon footprint."

Luc Van Steenwinkel, Site Lead Pfizer Puurs and Vice President Pfizer Biotech Operations: "As one of the largest production and packaging sites in the pharmaceutical industry in Europe, we want to be a pioneer in terms of a sustainable productions process and renewable energy. That ambition is not something new. It goes without saying that this PPA underlines our ambition to operate  $CO_2$  neutral by 2030 and net zero by 2040."

**Catherine Bals, Sustainability Lead of Proximus:** *"At Proximus, we are conscious of the impact we have on the environment and hence have set ourselves an ambitious Net Zero target by 2040. Therefore, next to being extremely vigilant about our electricity consumption and pursuing continuously efficiencies, what we source is equally important. While we made the switch to 100% renewable electricity for our own operations already back in 2019, in the coming years, our aim is to work with more local electricity sources through investments in PPA's and longer-term partnerships with Belgian wind and solar plants. The agreement presented today is an important enabler to realize this ambition, accounting for 20% of our power need for the next five years."* 

**Géraldine Nolens, Executive Vice President ESG and General Counsel at Umicore**: "Umicore is committed to its Climate Action Plan, which includes achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions for scope 1 and 2 by 2035 and using only renewable electricity sources in Europe for our production by 2025. The use of renewable sources such as wind and solar energy and the securing of power purchase agreements, including those we have signed with our partner ENGIE, are key in reaching our ambitious targets."

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