

Breaking ground: New Evonik gas power plant will cut CO₂ emissions by up to one million metric tons per year

- **New combined cycle power plant replaces last coal-fired plant at the Marl Chemical Park**
- **Siemens Gas and Power acts as a general contractor (EPC) in the turnkey construction project**
- **Siemens Financial Services arranges customized financing**

Today the foundation for a new combined cycle power plant owned by Evonik was laid at the Marl Chemical Park. Thomas Wessel, member of the Evonik Management Board, Dr. Jochen Eickholt, designated CEO of Siemens Energy AG, Dr. Rainer Fretzen, Managing Director of Evonik Technology & Infrastructure GmbH, Heiko Mennerich, head of the Evonik Energy & Utilities Division, Dr. Jörg Harren, site manager of the Marl Chemical Park, and Werner Arndt, Mayor of the City of Marl, together placed a time capsule as the foundation stone on the construction site. The plant is scheduled to be commissioned in 2022, marking the end of Evonik's coal-based power and steam production operations after more than 80 years. The construction work for the power plant, which will very flexibly and resource-efficiently generate electricity and steam in two units in a combined heat and power process, is right on schedule. The specialty chemical company will operate "Marl Power Plant VI," as it is officially called, in combination with its existing gas-fired power plants.

The project volume is in the lower triple-digit million Euro range. Along with a new control center building, the highly efficient power plant is being developed and built as a turnkey project by Siemens Gas and Power as the general contractor (EPC) in close collaboration with Siemens Financial Services (SFS). Backed by its many years of expertise in the energy sector, SFS has developed a customized financing structure together with Siemens Gas and Power. SFS will join forces with the KfW IPEX-Bank and the Landesbank Baden-Württemberg (LBBW) to finance the new plant.

“We are building the future of Germany as an economic and industrial center,” remarks Thomas Wessel. “The chemical industry provides convincing answers to the major challenges of the 21st century. Many people talk about improvements. We make them possible. We implement them. In breaking ground for our new power plant, we’re not only laying the foundation for a secure future energy supply for production processes at the Marl Chemical Park, we’re also significantly contributing to greater sustainability.” Evonik will replace an old coal-fired power plant with the new, highly efficient, and modern combined cycle power plant. This step will cut the group’s CO₂ emissions by up to one million metric tons per year and reduce the direct annual greenhouse gas emissions of its plants around the world by nearly one fifth. This is an important contribution toward achieving Evonik’s key climate target of cutting absolute greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2025.

Dr. Andreas Pinkwart, Minister for Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization, and Energy for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, commented: “The investments in the Marl Chemical Park sends a strong signal that goes beyond city limits. Building the highly efficient combined cycle power plant ensures a climate-friendly energy supply over the long term and secures jobs for highly qualified personnel. It demonstrates that North Rhine-Westphalia remains the right place for modern industrial companies, for innovative production, and for future-secure jobs.”

“We are happy to assist Evonik in reducing its emissions,” said Dr. Jochen Eickholt. “Building this power plant shows that Siemens Gas and Power is driving decarbonization in Germany. Efficient industrial power plants that are ready for the requirements of digitalization are an important step here.”

“Any company that wants to carry out future-oriented projects must have innovative partners on board,” said Veronika Bienert, CFO of Siemens Financial Services. “With our many years of expertise in the energy sector, we at Siemens Financial Services have developed a customized financing structure together with KfW IPEX-Bank and LBBW, one that is designed specifically for the project’s requirements. Siemens Gas and Power is providing the necessary technology. Today’s groundbreaking ceremony is the result of this close collaboration.”

With its new power plant, Evonik will ensure the economical and future-viable energy supply for the Marl Chemical Park, the company’s largest production location, over the long term. The plant will have an electrical capacity of 180 megawatts, which corresponds to the power

consumption of nearly 500,000 homes.

The steam generators supplied by Duisburg-based Standardkessel Baumgarte GmbH will be able to produce up to 440 metric tons of steam per hour, which is especially important for production in the chemical park. In the future, approximately 2,000 homes will also be supplied with district heat from the site's integrated steam grid.

The plant has a highly flexible load control system, which enables it to help balance out the fluctuating infeed of renewable energy into the transmission grid – an important and indispensable building block for a successful transition to a new energy mix.

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