

**“House of Future Energy” opens in Wunsiedel, Germany**

## Working together for the future of energy supply

- **The German energy provider SWW Wunsiedel and Siemens open the “House of Future Energy”**
- **Siestorage, currently the biggest battery storage system in Bavaria, Germany, launches with a capacity of 8.4 megawatts**
- **A technology partnership for the WUNsiedler Weg concept**
- **SWW is the first public utility company on the MindSphere IoT platform**

SWW Wunsiedel GmbH and Siemens are working together as technology partners on innovative ways to shape the decentralized power supply of the future. Their first project is the Siestorage battery storage system, which is expected to stabilize the local power grid with a capacity of 8.4 megawatts. As part of the partnership, SWW Managing Director Marco Krasser, State Secretary Franz Josef Pschierer, and Siemens CTO Roland Busch opened the “House of Future Energy” in Wunsiedel, Germany. This permanent exhibition provides information about the “WUNsiedler Weg Energie 2.0” climate protection concept as well as the technologies and business models that can be used to implement the energy transition cost-effectively.

“With WUNsiedler Weg, we are focusing on a consistent climate and energy strategy by 2030,” SWW CEO Krasser said during the ceremony. “We have accomplished a great deal over the past few years. With Siemens as our technology

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partner, we are now furthering the development of Wunsiedel as a smart city."The strategic approach was underscored by a high-level lecture program on the future of energy, with presentations by experts from the business community and politics. "In Wunsiedel, we can get a glimpse of the future of energy," said Bavarian State Secretary Franz Josef Pschierer. "This project demonstrates practical solutions for smart ways to interconnect the energy systems. The centralized approach of the WUNSiedler Weg concept is unique, exemplary, and will serve as a motivating force far beyond our region."

SWW received the Public Utility Award in 2016 for resolutely pursuing a regional and climate-compatible energy supply strategy. The public utility company relies on a technology partnership with Siemens to further expand the system into an autonomous service area with island grid capability. The Siestorage energy storage system is one of the first joint projects. With 8.4 megawatts, it is currently the biggest battery storage system in the municipal network and will go into operation shortly. Additional projects will follow, including a power-to-gas plant and the universal data networking of the entire system landscape on the Siemens MindSphere IoT platform. As a utility 4.0, SWW will in the future use the existing Siemens control system functions in the form of "software as a service" on a cloud-based platform. Selected data from the control system will also be provided on MindSphere, where it can be analyzed, evaluated, and used for SWW and its end customers in new business models.

"Smart cities are the wave of the future," said Siemens CTO Roland Busch. "By providing innovative technology, we support Wunsiedel on the way to digitalization." Speaking about the energy storage system, Busch noted, "With its wide range of power generation components, Wunsiedel's power supply is a prime example of a decentralized approach that is linked to the energy market. Our solutions incorporate renewable energy sources into the grid, ensure grid stability, and,

combined with MindSphere, demonstrate optimization and savings potential.” As part of this research network, the University of Bayreuth will provide support for a future “field trial lab for energy of the future.”

At the same time, the “House of Future Energy” is intended to provide citizens with information by offering many models for energy transition technologies and interactive presentations. “We want to set things in motion,” Krasser says. “The future of energy starts here!” For example, a central monitor displays the live data of the Wunsiedel distribution grid, including all relevant energy sources and loads. For teaching purposes, this data can also be modified in a simulation in order to explain the relationships between the renewable energy sources and the physical needs of the grid.

“Wunsiedel is therefore more than just a festival city. It is also an energy city, making it a municipality on the way to becoming a smart city,” says Mayor Karl-Willi Beck. Today’s event also marks the beginning of the biennial Wunsiedel Energy Days, as Mayor Beck points out. This event will take place every two years in Wunsiedel, providing an opportunity to discuss the latest issues relating to the energy transition and the results of the WUNsiedler Weg Energie 2.0 concept.

This press release and a press photo are available at

[www.siemens.com/presse/wunsiedel](http://www.siemens.com/presse/wunsiedel)

More information on WUNsiedler Weg is available at [www.s-w-w.com](http://www.s-w-w.com)

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Joint Press Release  
from **Siemens and SWW Wunsiedel**

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**SWW Wunsiedel GmbH** is a classic multi-utility company with divisions that focus on energy, water, heating, fiber optics and swimming pool operation. The company was founded in 1908 as municipal enterprise of the city of Wunsiedel. In 2001, following deregulation of the energy markets, it was turned into a GmbH (limited-liability company). The city of Wunsiedel indirectly holds a 100% stake in the company. To better connect the infrastructure with electricity, water and optical fiber, WUN Infrastruktur KU was founded in 2013 as a wholly owned subsidiary of the city. The municipal enterprise holds 94% of the shares in SWW, while the city holds the remaining 6% directly. SWW Wunsiedel GmbH supplies seven politically independent townships with electricity and supplies water to the city of Wunsiedel and its districts. The townships supplied include Bad Alexandersbad, Brand, Ebnath, Kulmain, Nagel, Neusorg, Tröstau and Wunsiedel. SWW supplies around 20,000 residents with electricity and maintains a total of 520 km of pipelines and 200 transformer substations. SWW Wunsiedel GmbH ensures a reliable water supply for approximately 10,000 residents with more than 20 springs, 4 wells, 155 km of pipeline and 5 water towers. The company is further expanding its heat supply by building “satellite CHP plants with connected district heating grids.” In doing so, SWW strengthens an active and intelligent network of power and heat with an integrated energy system. The company's strategic goal is to ensure a sustainable, future-viable, cost-effective and regional power supply. To this end, it plans to increase value creation in the region and reduce CO2 emissions by eliminating fossil fuels as much as possible. Another goal is to have the citizens share in the energy supply as much as possible. The WUNsiedler Weg Energie strategy was developed in 2001 for this purpose and has already been extensively implemented. During the course of implementing this strategy, new companies have in the past been formed with strategic partners. More information is available at [www.s-w-w.com](http://www.s-w-w.com).

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