

## **Construction Completed on First phase of Meerwind Süd | Ost Wind Farm – 80 Monopiles successfully installed.**

BERLIN, April 24, 2013 – WindMW today announced the successful completion of its first phase of construction with the successful ramming of 80 Monopiles for its 288 MW wind farms in the German North Sea, Meerwind Süd | Ost. Upon completion, the 80 turbine project will be one of the largest offshore wind farm in the German North Sea.

Said Jens Assheuer, WindMW CEO: “This is an important milestone for Meerwind Süd | Ost. We are pleased to have foundations laid and Monopiles placed on time and on budget and will be commencing with the next phase of construction expeditiously.”

Sean Klimczak, Senior Managing Director of the majority shareholder, Blackstone commented: “It is a good feeling to know that we are a step closer to our goal of delivering clean energy to 360,000 German households. Blackstone is proud to be a part of the country’s “Energy Transition” and, with this investment a partner in Germany’s clean energy future.”

“This project will help Germany eliminate approximately one million tons of carbon emissions per year,” said Jens Assheuer.

Last weekend, the final foundation was loaded onto the Zaratan, transported and installed 23 kilometres north of Helgoland.

In September of last year the first foundations were transported out to site. The transition pieces will now be installed at the same time as the cable. The erection of the wind turbines is now anticipated for the summer months.

Meerwind Süd | Ost is located 23 km off the German island of Helgoland in the North Sea and will utilize Siemens 3.6 MW wind turbines. Construction is scheduled to be completed later this year. 2,000 jobs were created to manufacture the 100,000 tons of equipment needed for the wind farm. Following construction, Meerwind Süd | Ost will employ 80 highly skilled people to operate and maintain the field.

WindMW is developer and operator for the construction and commissioning of Meerwind Süd and Meerwind Ost Offshore Wind Farms. WindMW is a joint venture between Blackstone and Windland Energieerzeugungs GmbH. The overall investment amounts to 1.2 billion Euros.

### **About Blackstone**

Blackstone is one of the largest alternative asset managers in the world, with more than \$205 billion in assets under management, and is a leading global private equity firm and energy private equity franchise. Since its inception in 1985, Blackstone has invested over \$42 billion of equity in 172 transactions across the globe. Blackstone is currently investing out of Blackstone Capital Partners VI (“BCP VI”), a \$16.7 billion diversified general purpose private equity fund, and Blackstone Energy Partners (“BEP”), a \$2.5 billion energy-focused private equity fund. Blackstone’s private equity investments in the energy sector are funded jointly by BEP and BCP VI, which together represent over \$5 billion of equity capital allocated to energy.

Over the last decade, Blackstone has built a leading energy sector private equity investing franchise with an extensive track record of investing in partnership with talented management teams seeking to capitalize on their growth opportunities and realize the full potential of their assets. Led by David Foley, the Chief Executive Officer of BEP, this dedicated team of professionals has committed and invested more than \$7.5 billion of equity in over 25 energy transactions, across a broad range of geographies and throughout the energy value-chain: upstream, midstream, services & equipment, downstream and power. Power companies represent a significant share of Blackstone's capital commitments to the energy sector and remain a key focus area for new investments. Blackstone's current portfolio of power investments includes: Sithe Global, Moser Baer, Monnet, Global Offshore Wind and PQ Energy.

Further information is available at [www.blackstone.com](http://www.blackstone.com). Follow us on Twitter @Blackstone.

### **About Windland**

Windland was founded in 1990 as one of the first dedicated wind power developers in Germany. Since 2000, Windland has concentrated on offshore wind development and were the original developers of the project.

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### **Contact:**

#### **Blackstone**

Christine Anderson  
The Blackstone Group  
(212) 583-5263, (646) 943-3404  
Christine.Anderson@blackstone.com

#### **WindMW GmbH**

Knut Schulze  
Barkhausenstraße 4  
(0471)30930362, (0151)52633730  
schulze@windmw.de