

Paris and Dublin, 23 October 2024

Neoen launches construction of Ballinknockane solar farm (79 MWp) in Ireland

- Neoen announced the construction start of 79 MWp Ballinknockane solar farm, which will be the first utility-scale solar farm in County Limerick, West of Ireland
- Ballinknockane solar farm was awarded in the Republic of Ireland's RESS 2 auction in 2022
- Omexom has been appointed as EPC contractor for the solar plant and TLI Group for the construction of the 110kV onsite substation
- The solar farm is expected to be energised mid-2026 and fully operational in the first half of 2027
- Including Ballinknockane, Neoen's Irish capacity in operation or under construction reaches 190 MW

Neoen (ISIN code: FR0011675362, mnemonic: NEOEN), one of the world's leading independent producers of exclusively renewable energy, has provided notice to proceed to Omexom and TLI Group under EPC (*Engineering, Procurement and Construction*) turnkey contracts, respectively for the solar plant and the 110 kV onsite substation, signalling the start of construction of Ballinknockane solar farm.

Ballinknockane solar farm was successful in Ireland's RESS 2 auction in 2022 and will benefit from a CfD (Contract for Difference) mechanism valid until 2040. With an initially planned capacity of approximately 61 MWp, the solar farm has been upgraded to 79 MWp. The solar farm will be Neoen's first transmission-connected project in Ireland, and the first utility-scale solar farm in County Limerick. Ballinknockane is scheduled to be energised in mid-2026 and commissioned in the first half of 2027.

The solar farm will generate enough energy to power 16 000 homes, preventing the emission of around 21,000 tonnes of CO₂ a year. Committed to sharing benefits with the local community, Neoen will implement a Community Benefit Fund for local community initiatives, totalling over €1.8m over the asset's lifetime. The solar farm will also incorporate agrisolar in the form of sheep-grazing. Finally, several measures will be implemented to improve the biodiversity on site: planting of tree & hedge, bird boxes, bug hotels and biodiversity meadows.

Adding Ballinknockane, Neoen's capacity in operation or under construction in Ireland now reaches 190 MW, including three solar farms (totalling 58 MWp) and eight wind farms (totalling 53 MW) in operation. The construction start of Ballinknockane solar farm comes a few weeks after Neoen was one of the main winners of the Republic of Ireland's RESS 4 auction with two new solar projects totalling 170 MWp.

Contact

Neoen

communication@neoen.com

International media

OPRG Financial

Fabrice Baron
+33 1 53 32 61 27
fabrice.baron@omnicomprgroup.com

Irish media

FleishmanHillard

Paul Bradley
+353-1-6188444
paul.bradley@fleishmaneuropa.com

Cyril Perrin, Managing Director of Neoen Ireland, commented: « *I would like to thank the teams of Neoen, Eirgrid, Limerick City & County Council, Omexom and TLI Group for their hard work and dedication, as well as our gratitude to host landowners for their partnership and trust. We are proud to take part in the economical and sustainable ambitions of the Shannon Estuary region. Ballinknockane solar farm is a great lever to diversify the energy mix in Limerick and contribute to Ireland's 2030 climate targets.* »

Xavier Barbaro, Neoen's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, added: « *The launch of the construction of the Ballinknockane solar farm combined with the success of our projects at the RESS 4 auction is an opportunity for Neoen to restate and renew its ambition for Ireland. We opened our Irish office five years ago and our efforts are bearing fruit! Thanks to the commitment of our teams and the quality of the projects we are developing in solar, wind and storage, we are accelerating the energy transition in Ireland and in the rest of the world.* »

About Neoen

Founded in 2008, Neoen is one of the world's leading independent producers of exclusively renewable energy. With expertise in solar power, wind power and storage, the company plays an active role in the energy transition by producing competitive, green, local energy on four continents. After a six-fold increase in the last six years, its capacity in operation and under construction stands at over 8.7 GW.

Neoen's flagship operations are France's most powerful solar farm (375 MWp) in Cestas, Finland's largest wind farm (404 MW) in Mutkalampi, one of the world's most competitive solar plants in Mexico (El Llano, 375 MWp) and two of the world's most powerful large-scale storage plants, both in Australia: Hornsdale Power Reserve (150 MW/193.5 MWh storage capacity) and the Victorian Big Battery (300 MW/450 MWh).

A high-growth company, Neoen is targeting 10 GW in operation or under construction by the end of 2025. Neoen is listed in Compartment A of Euronext's regulated market in Paris (ISIN code: FR0011675362, Ticker: NEOEN) on the SBF 120, CAC Mid 60 and S&P 600 indices.

For more information: www.neoen.com

Contact

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