



Sustainability action · Project Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Balikesir Wind Park, Turkey

This wind park is contributing to the further development of renewable energy production in Turkey, a country that still largely depends on fossil fuels for electricity generation.

Project

The Balikesir Wind Park has a total nominal capacity of 142.5 MW. It involves the construction of 52 newly built GE-Energy wind turbines with a rated power of 2.75 MW each. The wind farm generates approximately 549'200 MWh of clean electricity per year.

In addition to the positive impact on the global climate, the project generates jobs. It also benefits the region it is located in by contributing to the infrastructure. Sheep and wild horses living in the region encounter no restrictions by the wind project.

They are allowed to roam freely on the sites for grazing. The construction of the wind farm led to neither direct nor indirect economic displacement. No sensitive areas or natural habitats were impacted.



Location

The project is located in the northwest of Turkey, near the town of Kepsut, which is part of Balıkesir Province in the Marmara region. The site is located on one of the windiest coastlines in Europe, the west coast of Canakkale and Bandırma Province. Here, the average yearly wind energy density exceeds between 200 and 300 W/m².

Project achievements

Socio-economic impact

- **The wind farms have helped to boost the local economy.** They have created local employment during their construction (100 jobs) and operation (20 jobs).
- **Wind farms facilitated technology and know-how transfer.** Their employees received training on maintenance, safety and operational issues.
- **The project owner contributed to funding of repairs at the EDeler Village Primary School and playground.** He also provided educational equipment to the Dereköy and Karaköy village primary schools.
- **The project owner provided funding** for repairing the Karakaya Village Mukhtar House and for the refurbishment of its library.
- By replacing fossil power from the grid, **air pollution and associated diseases are being reduced.**
- **During the construction of the power facility, 100 local jobs were created.** Presently, 20 people are employed in the operation of the wind farm.

Environmental impact

- The project provides enough clean energy to power over 93,000 households (assuming the average household size of 2.9 in Balıkesir province and average electricity consumption of 2018 kWh per capita in Turkey).
- At the same time, it avoids the upstream environmental and health impacts of fossil-fuel extraction, processing and distribution, such as respiratory illness and acid rain.
- The turbines use minimal ground space only for the poles, therefore their impact on the environment is close to zero.



Checklist Project 301616

Commercial Operation Date

57 wind turbines were commissioned at different stages between 17 August 2012 and 27 February 2013

Total capacity

142.5 MW

Estimated Annual Electricity Generation

549'200 MWh

Quality Assurance and Verification

Annual audit provided by PWC

Annual electricity verified by China Environmental United Certification Center

Transparency

RECs listed in GoldPower Register (<http://goldpower.net/goldpowerregister>)
Underpinning carbon credits retired in Gold Standard Markit Registry

Marketing material

High-resolution pictures available

Reportability

Meets GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance criteria

GoldPower credentials projects certified by



GoldPower credentials reportable under



thesouthpolegroup.com/renewable_energy

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