

For immediate release

Vice President of the German Bundestag Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) Learns About the Koehler Group's Climate Strategy at the Company's Greiz Site

- **Koehler's first wind farm in Germany successfully commissioned**
- **Obstacles to local wind farm projects in Thuringia**
- **Vice President of the German Bundestag welcomes the Koehler Group's ambitious climate strategy**

Germany, Oberkirch, 05/08/2024—Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Vice President of the German Bundestag and member of the Bundestag for Thuringia, visited the Koehler Group at its Greiz site to learn about the company's Climate Strategy. She also gained an overview of the consequences of the planned changes to the Thuringian Forestry Law during her visit.

Koehler's First Wind Farm in Germany Successfully Commissioned

Paper production is an energy-intensive business. Drying paper requires quite a bit of thermal energy, and running paper machines requires a lot of electricity. The family business, which employs around 2,500 people worldwide, has been investing in renewable energy for over ten years already. With Koehler committing to generate more energy from renewable sources with its own facilities than it consumes producing paper by 2030 at the latest, the group is making a decisive contribution to the energy revolution. In February of this year, the Koehler Group successfully commissioned its first wind farm in Germany—several wind turbines in Scotland have already been operating successfully for a number of years.

Obstacles to Local Wind Farm Projects in Thuringia

The Koehler Group has been involved with wind farm projects in the immediate vicinity of the Greiz site in Thuringia for some time now. Designating and obtaining approval for potential areas for further wind turbines are among the obstacles faced at Koehler Paper's Greiz site. Generating local green electricity is essential for securing the location's long-term future. After all, as a family business, the Koehler Group has always thought in terms of generations, rather than quarters.

Vice President Welcomes the Koehler Group's Ambitious Climate Strategy

The Vice President of the German Bundestag Katrin Göring-Eckardt seemed impressed on her visit to Greiz. The Koehler Group is a great example of how sustainability and profitability can go hand in hand. Koehler is making a huge contribution to climate neutrality in Germany and providing an impressive example of how even energy-intensive companies can tackle this transition successfully. Udo Hollbach, Managing

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Director of the Koehler Paper site Greiz, added: “As a business, we need planning reliability. When it comes to the self-supply of green energy within the industry, as is being called for by politicians, we are facing immense challenges here in Greiz. Converting the power plant at Koehler’s site in Thuringia to fine wood fraction will save more than 24,000 metric tonnes of CO₂ per year, and represents another step towards achieving the goals set out in the Koehler Group’s Climate Strategy.



Figure: Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Vice President of the German Bundestag and member of the Bundestag for Thuringia, visited the Koehler Group at its Greiz site to learn about the company’s Climate Strategy. Left to right: Udo Hollbach, Managing Director Koehler Paper Greiz, Jens Kämpfer (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Lars-Helge Peters, Greiz Mill Director, and Alexander Stöckle, Press Spokesperson Koehler Group visiting the Koehler site Greiz.

Source: Koehler Group

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2030 Sustainability Strategy

With its Climate Strategy, the Koehler Group is helping achieve sustainable development goals in the area of climate and environmental protection. The Climate Strategy roadmap sets out how the company plans to fully replace fossil fuels with renewable energy.

About the Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run from that moment to the present day. The group's core business activity lies in the development and production of high-quality specialty paper. This includes—among others—thermal paper, playing card board, beverage coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation paper, and also innovative specialty paper for the packaging industry since 2019. In Germany, the Koehler Group employs around 2,500 people across five production sites, with three additional sites in the USA. The group operates internationally, with an export share of around 67% in 2022, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.3 billion euros.

As an energy-intensive company, Koehler invests in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydropower, photovoltaics, and biomass with its Koehler Renewable Energy business unit. The Koehler Group has set a goal of producing more energy from renewable sources by 2030 than is required for its paper production operations.

With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, Koehler is collaborating with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business segments “paper” and “renewable energy”.

Find more information at: <https://www.koehler.com>

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