



18 March 2020

## PRESS RELEASE

### Successful installation of two offshore substations marks major milestone at the SeaMade offshore wind farm

**The two substations for the SeaMade offshore wind farm have been successfully installed in the Belgian North Sea. This installation marks a major milestone in the construction of Belgium's largest offshore wind farm.**

Each with a weight of 1,200 tonnes, the substations are the beating heart of the offshore wind farm. They transform the wind energy that is produced to 225 kV, which in turn allows the electricity to be brought to shore via Elia's Modular Offshore Grid (MOG). The export cable transmitting the electricity to shore has been installed earlier with DEME's cable installation vessel 'Living Stone'.

The installation of the substations was executed with heavy lift vessel 'Gulliver', operated by DEME's subsidiary Scaldis which is specialised in marine heavy lifting works. Earlier DEME's offshore installation vessel 'Innovation' installed all of the foundations, including those for the two substations.

**Bart de Poorter, General Manager DEME Offshore comments:** "Despite the challenging weather conditions over the past weeks the SeaMade project is firmly on track. The successful installation of the two offshore substations was only made possible thanks to the close cooperation between the SeaMade team and our partners Smulders, ENGIE Fabricom and Tractebel, as well as the highly skilled experts on board of our vessels."

**Mathias Verkest CEO SeaMade offshore wind farm comments:** "I am thrilled to see this oversized mecano being put together, bringing us closer step by step to the start of green energy production for 485.000 households as from autumn this year. A big thank you to the SeaMade team and all parties involved for the close cooperation and joined efforts to make this happen."

The installation of 58 turbines will begin in spring. DEME will deploy its offshore installation vessel 'Apollo', which recently performed the precision foundation piling operation at the Moray East offshore wind farm in Scotland. However, this will be the first turbine installation project for 'Apollo'. This versatile vessel has had a full orderbook since its inauguration in February last year.

In April cable installation vessel 'Living Stone' will start the installation of the inter array cables.

#### About DEME

DEME is a world leader in the highly specialised fields of dredging, solutions for the offshore energy industry, infra marine and environmental works. The company can build on more than 140 years of know-how and experience and has fostered a pioneering approach throughout its history, enabling it to be a front runner in innovation and new technologies.

DEME's vision is to work towards a sustainable future by offering solutions for global challenges: a rising sea level, a growing population, reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, polluted rivers and soils and the scarcity of natural resources.

While the company's roots are in Belgium, DEME has built a strong presence in all of the world's seas and continents, operating in more than 90 countries worldwide. DEME can rely on 5,200 highly skilled professionals across the globe. With a versatile and modern fleet of over 100 vessels, backed by a broad range of auxiliary

equipment, the company can provide solutions for even the most complex projects.

**Media contact DEME:**

Vicky Cosemans, Head of Communications DEME Group

[cosemans.vicky@deme-group.com](mailto:cosemans.vicky@deme-group.com)

T: +32 3 250 59 22