

**FRIEDRICH VORWERK wins the civil engineering contract for a 43 km long section of the SuedLink electricity highway as part of a joint venture with a total award volume of several hundred million euros**

Tostedt, May 13, 2025 – Friedrich Vorwerk Group SE (ISIN DE000A255F11), a leading provider in the field of energy infrastructure, has been awarded the civil engineering contract for a section of the SuedLink high-voltage direct current line by transmission system operator TenneT as part of a joint venture. The contract for the approximately 43-kilometer-long section from Wischhafen in Lower Saxony to the Stade/Rotenburg (Wümme) district border has a total volume of several hundred million euros and will be implemented by a joint venture consisting of the FRIEDRICH VORWERK Group (Friedrich Vorwerk and Bohlen & Doyen) as well as the construction companies Matthäi and Wilhelm Wähler. The FRIEDRICH VORWERK Group's share in the joint venture is 40%.

The first preparatory works on the section are scheduled to start as early as the second quarter of 2025. As soon as the final construction permit has been issued, which is currently expected in the coming weeks, the commissioned civil engineering work can begin immediately in order to ensure the planned completion in the second half of 2026. Due to sensitive ecosystems and numerous crossings of roads and rivers, significant parts of the cable line will be realized using the closed construction method by means of horizontal directional drilling (HDD). Both Bohlen & Doyen, as part of the FRIEDRICH VORWERK Group, and the Wähler Group have extensive capacities and decades of experience in the field of horizontal drilling technology, meaning that these specialized services can also be covered by their own resources.

The SuedLink project, planned by the transmission system operators Tennet TSO and TransnetBW, is one of the largest infrastructure projects of the energy transition, which is intended to transport wind energy via underground cable connections from the north of Germany to the major consumption centers in the south. With a total length of around 700 km and a transmission capacity of 4 gigawatts, it uses high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission technology to enable low-loss energy transport. SuedLink makes a significant contribution to Germany's CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral energy supply and thus supports the German government's climate targets. Construction is scheduled to be completed by 2028 and will be realised in sections, some of which are still in the process of being awarded.

In view of the urgent need to expand the German and European electricity grid, a large number of high-voltage transmission lines are currently being planned and are to be implemented successively over the coming years. The current Electricity Grid Development Plan 2037/2045 (2023) envisages a total investment volume of over € 250 billion for this purpose. Due to its broad service and technology portfolio and decades of experience in the field of underground cable construction, FRIEDRICH VORWERK expects demand in this area to remain strong in the future.

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