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EMBARGOED UNTIL 3rd APRIL 2019

European Commission announces selection of winning consortium led by eclareon, The Renewables Consulting Group and WindEurope to harmonize health and safety across wind energy

Brussels, Belgium – 3rd April 2019 – The European Commission has confirmed that a consortium led by eclareon, The Renewables Consulting Group (RCG) and WindEurope has been selected by the Commission to explore health, safety, and environment (HSE) best practice in the wind power sector. The “wind harmony” study will examine the alignment of HSE standards from construction, through operation and maintenance, to decommissioning, covering both onshore and offshore wind sites.

Europe is recognised as a leader in the global wind power industry, with the European wind energy market expected to reach 320 gigawatts by 2030¹. The European Commission is seeking to understand the potential need and opportunities for enhancing the alignment and harmonisation of HSE standards across Europe and in the process lay the foundations for effective global standards for wind power.

This initiative is seen as crucial for the European wind power industry, with its strong manufacturing, development, and construction base, as it seeks to influence technological development worldwide. The consortium will identify the opportunities to advance the safe, healthy, cost-effective and responsible development of the wind power industry by facilitating the harmonisation and alignment of HSE standards.

Berlin-based international renewable energy policy consultants eclareon GmbH (“eclareon”) has teamed up with global advisory firm, The Renewables Consulting Group (“RCG”) and wind industry advocates, WindEurope. The expert consortium will review best practice and innovation to support the onshore and offshore wind power industry deliver safer projects worldwide. The consortium has been

¹ www.ewea.org/fileadmin/files/library/publications/reports/EWEA-Wind-energy-scenarios-2030.pdf

selected by the Commission to lead on this project, with the final contract expected to be signed imminently.

Christoph Urbschat, Managing Partner, eclareon, marked the tender award:

“eclareon is delighted to bring our significant public sector policy experience to this important safety initiative. We have been at the forefront of analysing European renewable energy policy and we are excited to be involved in helping translate Europe’s best practice to deliver a safer global industry.”

Alan Chivers, Chairman, RCG, commented:

“From the early days of wind energy, local regulatory differences have caused confusion and undoubtedly added time and cost to projects. Convergence of health and safety standards in Europe will create and deliver a significant cost reduction pathway. RCG has long-supported international harmonisation, contributing to greater understanding, increased workforce mobility, and efficiency. The team assembled will deliver incredible value and ultimately a safer industry.”

The substantial contract with the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy will deliver an analysis of current and proposed health and safety legislation across Europe and establish a methodology to qualify, assess and prioritise where alignment at a European level could be beneficial. The consortium will work closely with all stakeholders in the wind energy sector.

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About The Renewables Consulting Group

RCG is a specialized expert services firm supporting the global renewable energy sector. From strategy to implementation, the company serves businesses, governments, and non-profits around the world with technical and management consulting services for both mainstream and emerging renewable energy technologies. RCG works with the public sector, private equity and financial services firms, utilities and project developers, equipment manufacturers, and engineering and construction companies for on- and off-shore wind, solar, and emerging technologies including wave and tidal and energy-storage projects. RCG is headquartered in London, and has offices in New York, Tokyo and elsewhere. For more information, visit our website at www.thinkrcg.com or connect with us on Twitter via @thinkrcg

About eclareon

Founded in Berlin in 2000, eclareon is an internationally operating consulting firm focusing on renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate policies. We advise public clients on the political, economic and legal frameworks of European and global energy markets. In particular, we develop support scheme design options, barrier removal strategies and economic analyses. Based on the results, we analyse the viability of innovative operating models for renewable energy projects and suitable financing schemes. Furthermore, we support companies in the identification of successful business models and strategies for their market entry.

The eclareon Policy Department researches and analyses the political and legal frameworks of renewable energy markets as well as of energy efficiency, climate strategies and environmental protection. For renewable energies, our main focus includes the definition of support scheme design options, the removal of non-cost barriers, the legal-economic analysis of renewable energy business models as well as the integration of renewables into national grids and markets. Regarding climate policy strategies, we are specialised in monitoring greenhouse gas reduction policies.

About WindEurope

WindEurope is the voice of the wind industry, actively promoting wind power in Europe and worldwide. We have over 400 members, active in over 35 countries. In addition to wind turbine manufacturers with a leading share of the world wind power market, our membership encompasses component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, developers, contractors, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies, and consultants. This combined strength makes WindEurope Europe's largest and most powerful wind energy network.

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