

Statement from Vestas Wind Systems

Aarhus, 06 September 2014

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Vestas proud to install 1st large-scale wind farm using stealth blade technology. Big technological step but other options also available.

In June 2014, Vestas signed an agreement with EDF Energies Nouvelles to supply wind turbines to the Ensemble Eolien Catalan project at Perpignan in southern part of France. The 88 MW project included an option for EDF EN to purchase an additional eight MW, which they are now doing.

In addition to being one of the largest onshore wind projects in France, the Ensemble Eolien Catalan wind farm will be a demonstration project for a technology that reduces the radar reflection of the wind turbines. The technology is similar to the stealth technology known from various military applications.

Vestas first tested this technology on a wind turbine in 2011, and two additional test turbines were installed in 2013.

In some instances, military or civilian radar system operators have objected to plans to build new wind farms in the vicinity of radar installations. Applying stealth technology on the wind turbines is one method of mitigating the concern that some radar system operators have expressed. In many cases, however, it is more cost-efficient to upgrade the radar systems to better distinguish among wind turbines and other moving objects.

The technology to be used at the Ensemble Eolien Catalan wind farm is intended to meet the specific needs of this individual project. Vestas has no plans to offer this technology as a standard solution to the market.

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