

Orascom Construction Announces the Full Commercial Operation of Egypt's Largest Renewable Energy Project Ahead of Schedule



Orascom Construction PLC (NASDAQ Dubai: OC; EGX: ORAS) announces that construction and commissioning at Ras Ghareb Wind Energy project in Egypt is complete 45 days ahead of schedule. With this milestone in place, the wind farm has been fully connected to the grid and ready for commercial operation at maximum capacity as of 31 October 2019.

This project has enjoyed tremendous success on multiple levels and highlights Orascom Construction's ability to once again combine fast-track construction, the highest levels of HSE, financing expertise, and collaboration with world class partners and international financial institutions. It also reiterates the Group's strategy to build a portfolio of investments and Operation & Maintenance (O&M) projects that provide recurring income and cash flows, complementing the Group's core Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) business.

The wind farm has a power generation capacity of 262.5 MW and is the first renewable energy Independent Power Producer (IPP) project of its kind and size in Egypt. The project is executed on a build-own-operate (BOO) scheme by Ras Ghareb Wind Energy SAE, a company established by a consortium of ENGIE (France), Toyota Tsusho Corporation/Eurus Energy Holdings Corporation (Japan) and Orascom Construction. The generated power is sold under a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company (EETC). Orascom Construction was the EPC contractor for the civil works and electrical systems, and owns a 20% stake in the project.

Construction and commissioning was complete 45 days ahead of schedule despite a challenging contractual construction period of 24 months. As the project's construction contractor, Orascom Construction completed all 125 wind turbine foundations 73 days ahead of schedule and energized the substation 31 days ahead of schedule. These milestones enabled the partial start of commercial operation for a portion of the wind farm since June 2019. Furthermore, Orascom Construction completed over 3.5 million man hours without Lost Time Injury (LTI) on the project.



The consortium arranged non-recourse project financing from The Japan Bank for International Corporation (JBIC) in coordination with Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and Société Générale under a Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI) cover. Commercial International Bank (CIB) Egypt is acting as working capital bank and Attijariwafa Bank provided an equity bridge loan to Orascom Construction.

Osama Bishai, CEO of Orascom Construction, commented, "We are very pleased to complete Egypt's largest renewable energy project significantly ahead of schedule. This project highlights our construction and financing capabilities along with the successful collaboration with our international partners, financial institutions and the client. We remain focused on expanding our portfolio of recurring income projects."

About Orascom Construction PLC

Orascom Construction PLC is a leading global engineering and construction contractor primarily focused on infrastructure, industrial and high-end commercial projects in the Middle East, Africa, the United States, and the Pacific Rim. The Group has consistently ranked among the world's top contractors and is ranked number 42 on ENR's 2019 Top 250 International Contractors list. Orascom Construction PLC also develops and invests in infrastructure opportunities, owns 50% of BESIX Group, and holds a construction materials and facilities management portfolio. For more information, please visit www.orascom.com.

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