

WIND POWER



# CASE STUDY

## OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE SERVICES FOR WIND FARM IN POLAND

SGS supported Park Wiatrowy Suwalki Sp. z.o.o. (PWS) with Owner's Representative Services in establishing its first Wind Farm in Poland, consisting of 18 wind turbines.

### A TRADITION OF REPRESENTATION

SGS Poland has been providing project developers with valuable Owner's Representative Services for many years during the construction of new power plants or for the modernisation of existing ones. SGS acts as an independent advisor in this role, to ensure that all members of the project team work towards a common goal.

With an in-depth understanding of the power generation sector, SGS now offers investors Owner's Representative Services during wind farm development. This is now recognised as the most dynamically progressing technology in electric power production. The range of services covers both support during the pre-construction and the construction phases, from verification of the initial design plans to the supervision of a trial run and commissioning.

Trusting in the long-term experience and knowledge, Park Wiatrowy Suwalki Sp. z.o.o. (PWS), a company related to RWE Innogy awarded SGS Poland the contract to assume the Owner's Representative role during the construction of its first wind farm in Poland.

### DELIVERING A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT

The wind farm is located at a very favorable site in Suwalki, in the north-eastern part of Poland. It consists of 18 wind turbines of type SWT-2.3-93, supplied by Siemens Wind Power GmbH, each with a capacity of 2.3 MW.

Due to the poor local road infrastructure, it was necessary to build approximately 10 km of new roads and modernise over 20 km of existing ones. For this reason the SGS team also included an expert in roads. Road construction began in July 2008. The fact that Suwalki is situated in the coldest part of Poland, where winter lasts from December to April, resulted in tight time schedule. All the 18 foundations had to be ready before the onset of winter; as such construction work is impossible to carry out at low temperatures. The final wind turbine foundation was completed by early December 2008.



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## QUALITY COUNTS

The first turbine components were delivered by Siemens on 27 March, 2009 and assembly started on 15 April, 2009. SGS opened an on-site office and appointed engineers to supervise the construction. The project was lead from the SGS office in Warsaw. The SGS team consisted of a site manager, two civil engineers, a road expert, an electrical engineer and a Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) expert as well as a safety officer. The SGS Inspectors worked in a close collaboration with the Park Wiatrowy Suwalki Sp. z.o.o. (PWS) Project Management.

Continuous Quality Supervision during production is essential to avoid future operational failures due to poor material quality, the wrong choice of materials or to welding faults. Therefore, SGS was asked to provide additional inspection of the wind turbine components. This included the QA inspection of nacelles, towers, hubs and blades at the manufacturers' workshops in Denmark.

SGS Wind Energy Services combines local knowledge with a global background. Our independent certification and inspection can improve trust in the projects and secure quality of both offshore and onshore wind farms.

**SGS IS THE GLOBAL LEADER AND INNOVATOR IN INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES. FOUNDED IN 1878, SGS IS RECOGNIZED AS THE GLOBAL BENCHMARK IN QUALITY AND INTEGRITY. WITH OVER 59,000 EMPLOYEES, SGS OPERATES A NETWORK OF OVER 1,000 OFFICES AND LABORATORIES AROUND THE WORLD.**