# Solarduck and RWE Launch Offshore Floating Solar Project in Dutch North Sea



**SolarDuck and RWE Install Offshore Floating Solar Project in Dutch North Sea**

SolarDuck, supported by RWE, has launched its Merganser offshore floating solar (OFPV) project. This pilot project aims to test and demonstrate key aspects of offshore solar technology, including structural, mooring, and electrical designs, and to collect data on manufacturing, assembly, installation, and maintenance for large-scale deployment.

The Merganser project, with a capacity of 0.5 megawatt peak (MWp), is located approximately 12 kilometers off the coast of Scheveningen in the Dutch North Sea. It features six interconnected platforms designed to withstand extreme offshore conditions. These platforms are anchored in water depths of 20 meters, using a system that keeps critical components dry and stable.

RWE, which will continue to provide offshore technical support, sees the project as a significant learning opportunity for offshore renewable energy, especially in regions with high sunlight but low wind speeds. SolarDuck's triangular platforms float several meters above the water, adapting to wave movements to maintain system integrity.

The design recently received the world’s first certification for OFPV from Bureau Veritas. Over the next two years, the project will be monitored remotely with over 180 sensors tracking various performance metrics. Dutch research institute Deltares will also study the project’s ecological impact.

The successful installation of Merganser is attributed to collaboration among SolarDuck, RWE, and various partners including TNO, TU Delft, MARIN, Deltares, Damen Shipyards, TMA, and Norsk Hydro.

For media use, pictures are available at RWE’s Media Centre.