

Press Release

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New Initiative for Sustainability and Innovation: Clean Energy Valley Schleswig-Holstein

Five economic development agencies from Schleswig-Holstein are spearheading the "Clean Energy Valley Schleswig-Holstein" initiative as an exemplary inter-municipal cooperation to promote innovative economic development for Schleswig-Holstein.

The northernmost federal state is a beacon of the energy transition with its strong commitment to renewable energies. The production, further processing and utilisation of hydrogen along the value chain promise not only ecological benefits but also economic added value. These factors are crucial for fostering a sustainable and future-oriented growth dynamic in Schleswig-Holstein.

The Kiel Economic Development Agency, the Neumünster Business Agency, the Development Agency Region Heide, the Development Agency for the Rendsburg Living and Economic Area and the Rendsburg-Eckernförde District Economic Development Agency jointly form the driving force behind this groundbreaking initiative. They are pooling their efforts to link established strengths with novel and creative innovation and commercial space development potential.

Clean Energy Valley Schleswig-Holstein spatially represents the west-to-east axis of Heide, Rendsburg, Neumünster and Kiel, symbolising a European region of the future in the True North. The region boasts extensive infrastructure for a sustainable energy, innovation and industrial future. Along this axis, Clean Energy Valley will consolidate its strengths to remain competitive at national and international levels.

The three main objectives are:

- settling of innovative companies and sustainable industry: joint development of inter-municipal commercial and industrial areas and critical infrastructure along the west-east axis.
- actively championing the Clean Energy Valley region and the opportunities for climate-friendly and pioneering development: combination of energy and business as a location factor and presenting it externally in collaboration with future partners.
- connecting partners and industry players to pool potential: ensuring skilled labour, sustainable growth and innovation for the region in the future.

Today, the economic development agencies signed a Letter of Intent at the European Hydrogen Week in Brussels. This underscores their commitment to actively collaborate in the development of the Clean Energy Valley Schleswig-Holstein as a pioneering applied integrated energy transition region in the True North and to propel the decarbonisation of the economy. This initiative is thus making an active contribution to achieving the state government's goals outlined in the coalition agreement - to develop Schleswig-Holstein into Germany's first climate-neutral industrial state.

The collaboration begins with a steering group, comprising the cooperation partners for strategic decision-making and a joint management team. The initial step, an assessment of crucial and relevant land areas for development along the west-east axis, has been completed. The next phase in this collaboration will focus on transitioning into permanent structures, development of appropriate concepts and integration of partners to achieve the goals.

Everyone is convinced: "Together we are shaping the future with Clean Energy Valley Schleswig-Holstein."

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Economic development agencies in Schleswig-Holstein participating:

