

## Press Release

### **Continued Cost Declines Expected for Onshore Wind**

#### **Costs as low as 3 to 4.5 cents per kilowatt-hour can be reached, new study finds**

Berlin, 30 May 2017 – A new study by Agora Energiewende predicts onshore wind electricity will become even cheaper in the coming years. The study concludes that the full cost of electricity at top sites in Germany could fall to between 3 and 4.5 cents per kilowatt-hour. This would represent a considerable decline from the 5.25 to 5.78 cents per kilowatt-hour achieved recently at the first German auction for onshore wind. At top sites globally – for example, in Morocco, Peru, and Mexico – electricity production costs have already fallen to as low as 2.7 to 3.4 cents per kilowatt-hour. Wind power is now one of the world's cheapest forms of energy.

This cost decline has been propelled by further growth in rotor surface area and turbine capacity. The higher cost of larger turbines is greatly exceeded by the additional revenues they produce. And while land leasing and maintenance costs are much higher in German than the international average, costs reductions in these two areas are possible as well.

"The technical potential of wind power has yet to be fully tapped," says Matthias Deutsch, co-author of the new study, entitled "Future Cost of Onshore Wind". "The considerable cost reductions that have been achieved with competitive bidding for solar energy and offshore wind are also possible for onshore wind projects."

The English-language study is available for download free of charge at [www.agora-energiewende.org](http://www.agora-energiewende.org). The study contains appendices detailing the assumptions and data used in the authors' calculations.

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