PRESS RELEASE

Volker Klinkert becomes third Managing Director of VNG subsidiary BALANCE

Leipzig, December 1, 2022. From January 1, 2023, the wholly owned VNG subsidiary BALANCE Erneuerbare Energien GmbH (BALANCE), will have a third Managing Director. Volker Klinkert will join Thomas Fritsch (Managing Director for Business Development) and Friedrich Nollau (Commercial Managing Director) as the Managing Director responsible for the operation of BALANCE's 39 biogas facilities.

The 52-year old electrical engineer has played an active role in the company's growth from the moment he joined BALANCE in 2007. As part of his most recent role as regional manager, he was responsible for the biogas facilities in the South region.

"BALANCE has seen a lot of growth in recent years and is a player in an extremely dynamic market. This means that the operational side of the business is extremely complex. That's why we decided that our biogas subsidiary should be managed by a trio going forwards," explained VNG Board Member Hans-Joachim Polk.

The green gases biogas and biomethane represent an important growth area in the Group's VNG 2030+ strategy. Since 2006, BALANCE has offered a varied portfolio in the production of biogas, biomethane, renewable heat and renewable electricity. In line with its ambitious growth strategy, BALANCE operates 39 biogas facilities in northern and eastern Germany with a total installed capacity of around 165 MW_{RTO}. This enables BALANCE to supply around 50,000 households with renewable electricity and more than 53,000 households with green gas every year.

"Volker Klinkert provides the perfect combination of expertise and experience in the biogas segment to round out BALANCE's management team and expand our offering of needs-based and climate-friendly biogas. We have ambitious plans for BALANCE. Over the next few years, we will acquire additional facilities over the next few years, build new facilities and expand our existing facilities," continued Polk.

About BALANCE Erneuerbare Energien GmbH

BALANCE was established in 2006. With 39 facilities in north and eastern Germany, it is one of the leading operators of biogas facilities in Germany. The company has around 160 employees and supplies people throughout Germany with locally generated, reliable and carbon-neutral energy in the form of biogas, heat and power. BALANCE also develops innovative products at every stage of the value chain and is committed to boosting the profile of biogas in a sustainable energy economy.

Thanks to its ambitious growth strategy, BALANCE now has five times as many facilities as it did in 2018 and generates renewable energy with a rated thermal output of over 165 MW. This is enough for BALANCE to supply around 50,000 households with renewable electricity and up to 53,000 households with green gas every year. As a wholly owned subsidiary of VNG AG, BALANCE brings together all of the activities of the parent group in the field of renewable energy generation. For more information, go to www.balance-vng.de.

About VNG

VNG is a group of over 20 companies active in the European energy industry, employing more than 1,500 people. As the third largest gas importer and gas storage operator in Germany and operating, through subsidiary ONTRAS Gastransport

GmbH, a pipeline network covering 7,700 km, the group, which is headquartered in Leipzig, is central to the secure supply of gas in Germany. VNG supplies gas to around 400 municipal utilities and industrial customers, meeting around 20% of Germany's demand for gas.

In addition, with the "VNG 2030+" strategy, VNG is pursuing an ambitious path for its commitment in the field of renewable and decarbonised gases. VNG is already one of the leading producers of biogas in Germany and is actively involved in many projects to establish a CO_2-free hydrogen economy. Building on its core expertise in gas and critical infrastructure, VNG is working along the entire gas value chain to ensure a sustainable, climate-neutral and secure energy supply for the future. More at www.vng.de.