

Press Release

Vonovia SE
Philippstrasse 3
44803 Bochum

Klaus Markus
Head of Corporate Communi-
cations
Phone +49 234 / 314 - 1149
klaus.markus@vonovia.de

Nina Henkel
Phone +49 234 / 314 - 1909
Nina.henkel@vonovia.de
www.vonovia.de

Vonovia Lays Foundation Stone for New Headquarters in Bochum

- **North Rhine-Westphalia's State Minister for Economic Affairs, Garrelt Duin, emphasizes the significance of the project for the state**

Bochum, September 27, 2016 – Vonovia SE has reached a major milestone in the construction of its new headquarters in Bochum: In the presence of North Rhine-Westphalia's State Minister for Economic Affairs, Garrelt Duin, and the Mayor of Bochum, Thomas Eiskirch, the foundation stone for the six-story building was laid today. The new headquarters provide space for up to 1,000 employees and are scheduled for completion by the end of 2017. The move to the new building is planned for spring 2018.

After the opening remarks by Vonovia CEO, Rolf Buch, who emphasized the city of Bochum's high level of commitment, State Minister for Economic Affairs Duin said in his welcome speech on behalf of the state government: "The Ruhr region provides companies with the best possible opportunities. And this is reflected in the massive investment made by Vonovia in Bochum. The DAX company is and remains an important regional employer. The laying of the foundation stone today also shows the entrepreneurial diversity in North Rhine-Westphalia."

"I am absolutely delighted with Vonovia's decision to remain in Bochum and to build its new headquarters here. The fact that the Bochum-based DAX group is investing in its own property is something that I see as strong sign of confidence in the future viability of the location," said Mayor Eiskirch. "We know that there were certainly other interested parties. We worked flat out to complete the development plan in a period of only eight months – carefully considering all of the aspects involved, in particular with regard to the concerns our city's residents."

The Chairman of Vonovia's Supervisory Board, Dr. Wulf Bernotat, highlighted the company's further strategic development: "Vonovia has strengthened its position as the market leader. Its clear strategy and the strong management team at the helm of the company make Vonovia a sought-after partner for policymakers, the real estate sector and the service industry. The architecture of our new headquarters is a good fit

for our company and provides us with the space we need to continue our successful development.”

Rolf Buch expressed his thanks to all of those involved: “Bochum is the place in which we became the company we are today. So it is only logical for our new headquarters to be located here. The move is also a sign of our commitment to the Ruhr region and to the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. I would like to give my express thanks to the city and to the business development authorities for their excellent collaboration. Together with the residents of Bochum, we want to continue providing impetus for a modern housing industry at our new location.”

The H-shaped office building covering an area of around 30,000 square meters is being constructed on the corner of Universitätsstrasse/Wasserstrasse down to Philippstrasse. The construction site has already been set up, with groundwork having already started that is expected to last four months. According to current planning, construction of the shell is scheduled to take place from October. Work on the interior will follow completion of the shell in spring 2017. The external installations will be set up in parallel to the construction phase in the second half of the year. In addition to office space, the building will also feature an employee restaurant with around 600 seats. There are also plans to create 500 parking spaces to begin with. The building construction itself meets ecological standards and is to be nominated for a Gold certificate awarded by the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB Gold). Vonovia has commissioned Goldbeck, from Bielefeld, to construct the building. As one of the leading companies in the systems construction of office buildings, Goldbeck architect Phillip Halatschev has submitted the functional draft of the new building.

Further information can be found in the press section:

<https://www.vonovia.de/Ueber-Vonovia/Presse/Uebersicht>

About Vonovia

Vonovia SE is Germany’s leading nationwide residential real estate company. Vonovia currently owns and manages around 340,000 residential units in all of Germany’s attractive cities and regions. Its portfolio is worth approximately € 24 billion. An additional 54,000 or so third-party apartments are also managed by Vonovia. As a modern service company, Vonovia focuses on customer orientation and tenant satisfaction. Offering tenants affordable, attractive and livable homes is a prerequisite for the company’s successful development. Accordingly, Vonovia makes long-term investments in the maintenance, modernization and senior-friendly conversion of its properties. The company will also be creating more and more new apartments by realizing infill developments and adding on to existing buildings.

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The company, which is based in Bochum, has been listed on the stock exchange since 2013 and on the DAX 30 since September 2015. Vonovia SE is also listed on the international indices STOXX Europe 600, MSCI Germany, GPR 250 and EPRA/NAREIT Europe. Vonovia has a workforce of 6,900 employees.

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