

According to data from the '2019 Spanish Electricity System Preliminary Report'

## Renewable generation in the Region of Asturias reached 33.2% in 2019

- Hydro, with 18.9%, and wind, with 11.7% of the total generation, were the two renewable technologies with the highest share in the Region's generation mix throughout the year.
- In 2019, electricity generation in Asturias stood at 10,119 GWh, slightly higher than the electricity demanded in the Region, which was 9,404 GWh.

Oviedo, 12 March 2020

The Region of Asturias generated a total of 10,119 GWh during 2019, 21% less than the previous year, a decrease mainly due to lower coal-fired generation. However, production in Asturias coming from renewables reached 33.2% of the total, according to the data included in the '2019 Spanish Electricity System Preliminary Report' published by Red Eléctrica de España.

In 2019, coal-fired generation was once again the technology with the highest production in Asturias, which, with 3,546 GWh, albeit reducing its generation by 52.6% compared to 2018, ended the year with a 35% share in the Region's generation mix. The reduction in coal-fired generation led to an increase in electricity production coming from technologies which do not emit CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reaching 33.3% of the total.

Coal was followed by combined cycle with a share of 21.8% and then by hydro and wind. Other technologies such as renewable waste, cogeneration, pumped storage and other renewables, with a combined share of less than 7%, helped complete the overall generation mix in the Region.

The installed capacity of the complete set of generating facilities in Asturias has not experienced any change since 2018 and remains at 4,512 MW, of which 31.4% is renewable.

For its part, electricity demand in Asturias was 11.5% lower than that registered in 2018 and reached 9,404 GWh, representing 3.6% of the total demand in Spain in 2019, which stood at 264,550 GWh.

### The national electricity system, increasingly 'greener'

At national level, unequivocal progress is also being made on the road towards the energy transition. In 2019, the increase in installed renewable power capacity meant that for the first time ever these technologies already account for 50% of the country's total generation capacity (110 GW in total). As a whole, the complete set of generating facilities in Spain has grown by 5.9%. Combined cycle continues to be the leader in installed power capacity (23.8% of the total) but it is closely followed by two renewable sources: wind (23.3%) and hydro (15.5%).

Specifically, this past year 6,539 'green' MWs were commissioned, which has meant an increase of 13.4% in renewable generation capacity compared to 2018. The set of renewable generating facilities closed 2019 with an



---

overall installed power capacity of 55,195 MW, of which 47% correspond to wind, 16% photovoltaic and 37% belong to other 'green' technologies.

This firm backing for clean energy sources has meant that, of the 260,713 GWh of electricity generated nationwide in Spain in 2019, 37.5% was produced using these technologies. Wind power generation was 9.3% higher than in 2018, occupying third place in the mix with a share of 20.8% after nuclear power (21.4%) and combined cycle (21.2%). Also noteworthy is the decline in the share of coal whose production fell by 66% in 2019 - the lowest level since records began.

Consequently, the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with electricity generation have experienced a notable reduction compared to 2018 (23% less), totalling 49.6 million tonnes, the lowest figure in the history of the Spanish electricity system.

For its part, electricity demand nationwide closed 2019 at 264,550 GWh, slightly lower than in 2018 (1.6% less). After factoring in the influence of seasonal patterns and working days, the decrease stands at 2.5% compared to the previous year.

With regard to coal-fired technology, the year closed with an unprecedented event in the history of the peninsular electricity system: the so-called 'zero' carbon or, what equates to a whole day without generating a single MWh using this fossil fuel. This happened on 14 December and occurred on four further occasions during that month (December 21, 22, 24 and 25).