RED ELÉCTRICA DE ESPAÑA

Grupo Red Eléctrica

Press release

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

Extremadura increases its installed solar photovoltaic power capacity by 121% in 2019 and debuts in wind power

- This firm backing for solar photovoltaic has helped place this source as the third technology in the Region's generation capacity, behind hydro and nuclear power.
- The installed power capacity that use renewable sources already represents 68.6% of the overall set of generating facilities in Extremadura.
- In 2019, 99.7% of electricity in the Region was produced without emitting CO_2 emissions, thus making this the Region with the highest share of clean technologies in its electricity generation mix.

Mérida, 12 March 2019

2019 has shown that Extremadura is taking determined strides forward regarding the energy transition process. The Region has increased its installed solar photovoltaic power capacity by 121%, reaching a record 1,247 MW at the end of 2019. As a whole, during this period, renewable energy has experienced notable growth – 19.4% –, reaching its all-time high. With 4,449 MW, it already represents 68.6% of the complete set of generating facilities in Extremadura (6,484 MW in total), according to the data included in the '2019 Spanish Electricity System Preliminary Report' published by Red Eléctrica de España.

This firm backing for solar photovoltaic has helped place this source as the third technology in the Region's generation capacity, behind hydro and nuclear power. In 2019, wind energy was debuted in the Region of Extremadura, with the first 39 MW of this technology being installed.

Regarding electricity generation, nuclear has been the leading technology, with 16,315 MW in 2019, representing 77.6% of the total electrical energy produced in the Region. This is followed by thermal solar, with 2,043 MW and a 9.7% share, and photovoltaic solar, with 1,191 MW and a 5.7% share. The predominance of these technologies in the mix has meant that in 2019 a total of 99.7% of the electricity was generated without emitting CO2 emissions. In fact, Extremadura is the region with the highest share of clean technologies in its electricity generation mix.

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

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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 CO2 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.