

Grupo Red Eléctrica

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

Generation with renewables in the Region of Galicia reaches 65.2% in 2019 and sets an all-time high

Press release

- Wind and hydro are the leading technologies in electricity generation mix in the Region.
- Renewables already represent 67.3% of the complete set of generating facilities in Galicia, which increased its installed capacity by 4% compared to the previous year.
- Demand for electricity in Galicia fell by 9.4% and reached a total of 18,351 GWh in 2019.

Santiago de Compostela, 12 March 2020

During 2019, the Region of Galicia produced a total of 24,845 GWh, of which 65.2% was obtained using renewable technologies, which represents an increase of 9.7 percentage points compared to the previous year and sets an all-time high since records began. In addition, 65.4% of the Region's electricity was produced using technologies that do not emit CO2 emissions, the highest share since records began.

Wind power, which also set an all-time high since records began, was responsible for 35% of this year's generation in Galicia, and together with hydro, responsible for 28.4%, are the two leading technologies in the generation mix of the Region, according to the data included in the '2019 Spanish Electricity System Preliminary Report' published by Red Eléctrica de España.

Wind and hydro are followed by combined cycle, which contributed 13.9% to the total electricity production, cogeneration (10.1%) and coal-fired generation, whose production fell by 76.1% compared to 2018 and closed 2019 at 2,466 GWh, represented 9.9% of all the electricity generated in the Region. The remaining generation mix in the Galicia is made up of other renewables, which represented 1% and renewable and non-renewable waste, the contribution of which was 0.7% for each technology.

This increase in renewable production is due, in part, to the fact that 394 new MWs of wind and solar photovoltaic power capacity were commissioned, increasing the overall set of generating facilities in the Region by 4% bring it to 11,416 MW. Wind power became the leading technology in this distribution and represented a third of the generation capacity in the Region at the end of 2019, closely followed by hydro (32.6%), coal (17.2%), combined cycle (10.9%) and cogeneration (4.3%). The set of generating facilities is completed by other renewables, renewable and non-renewable waste and solar photovoltaic, with a combined representation equal to or less than 1% of the total.

Demand falls by 9.4% and represents 6.9% of the total in Spain

Electricity demand in Galicia was 9.4% lower than that registered in 2018 and totalled 18,351 GWh, which represents 6.9% of the overall 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

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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 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.