

According to data from the 'The Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020'

46.5% of electricity generation in Cantabria in 2020 was carbon-free

- The region reaches a level of carbon-free generation that is 12.3% higher than that recorded in 2019.
- Renewables increased their share in the region's generation mix by 5.6 percentage points compared to the previous year.
- Cogeneration leads the generation mix and is responsible for more than half of the production in Cantabria.

Santander, 12 March 2021

In 2020, 46.5% of all the electricity generated in Cantabria came from carbon-free technologies. Specifically, production from clean energy sources increased last year by 12.3%. This data is published in the 'Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020', a publication prepared by Red Eléctrica de España (REE) that collates the main annual figures of the Spanish electricity system for 2020 and which REE presented today at an event held at the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge.

For the Chairwoman of Red Eléctrica, Beatriz Corredor, "the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan sets ambitious, but also realistic and achievable goals to mitigate climate change by moving towards a new system in which renewable energies are the cornerstone. And along this road towards the energy transition, the electricity sector plays a key role due to its decarbonisation potential."

The report also highlights that renewable energies increased their share in the generation mix of Cantabria by 5.6 percentage points compared to the 2019 figure and reached a share of 23.7% of the total.

The main technologies leading the generation mix were cogeneration (51%), pumped storage (22.8%) and hydro (11.7 %). In 2020, there was a notable increase in pumped-storage generation (43.1% higher than in 2019). On the other hand, cogeneration and hydroelectric generation fell 47.3% and 17.2%, respectively.

For its part, consumption in Cantabria fell by 6.2% in 2020, a figure slightly higher than the fall recorded in Spain as a whole (-5.6%).

On the other hand, Cantabria's power generation fleet has not experienced significant milestones in 2020 and remains stable with 800 MW of installed power capacity. Pure pumped storage and cogeneration are the main technologies installed in the region and together account for 80% of the total.

2020, Spain's greenest year on record

Renewables produced 44% of the total energy generated in Spain last year, making 2020 the *greenest* year since national records began in 2007. In total, 110,450 GWh were generated from natural and inexhaustible resources such as wind, sun and water, which represents an increase of 12.8% compared to the data for 2019.

The report, which includes the key performance indicators regarding the electricity sector in Spain over the past year, highlights the record production of wind power, responsible for more than a fifth of the total annual generation, and solar photovoltaic, which recorded an increase of 65% compared to the values for 2019. These two



renewable technologies were responsible for 21.9% and 6.1%, respectively, of the total annual electricity generation in Spain in 2020.

Achieving this increase in renewable production in Spain would not have been possible without the installation of new MWs of renewable power. At the end of 2020, Spain's complete power generation fleet had increased its renewable power capacity by 4,015 MW, with solar photovoltaic being the technology that has risen the most, with a growth of 29.5% compared to 2019, followed by wind power, which has grown by 5.3%, making it the leading technology nationwide.

In addition, during the past year, 3,950 MW of coal-fired power capacity were decommissioned in Spain, which contributed to the fact that as at 31 December 2020, the total installed renewable power capacity accounted for 53.8% of Spain's overall production capacity.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had direct consequences on electricity consumption, which in Spain fell to 249,819 GWh, a drop of 5.6% compared to 2019. After having factored in the influence of seasonal temperatures (+0.1%) and working patterns (-0.1%), electricity demand maintained the same variation as in gross terms, falling 5.6 % compared to the previous year.