RED ELÉCTRICA DE ESPAÑA

Grupo Red Eléctrica

Press release

According to data from the 'The Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2021'

55% of electricity generation in Andalusia in 2021 was renewable.

- Green energy production increased by 12.8% in 2021 compared to 2020.
- Andalusia is the region with the second largest installed renewable power capacity in Spain, with a total of 8,565 MW.

Seville, 18 March 2022

Andalusia is one of the regions in Spain leading the way in renewable energy. In 2021, generation from these technologies reached 55%, the highest annual share recorded to date in this region. With a total of 16,252 GWh, 12.8% more than in 2020, it became the third region in Spain with the highest amount of green GWh produced in 2021, a ranking that in 2021 was only surpassed by the regions of Castilla y Leon and Galicia. This data is included in the 'Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2021', a document that Red Eléctrica de España publishes annually that includes the main power generation indicators in the Spanish energy sector and which was presented at an event held today.

For the Chairwoman of Red Eléctrica, Beatriz Corredor, "the energy transition is today more necessary than ever. It is the only way to achieve energy sovereignty in Europe and is an indisputable lever for the recovery that lies ahead. We have been working on this path for years and the figures for 2021 are an unmistakable sign that we are taking firm steps forward in this transition and doing so at a good pace. Furthermore, an essential instrument for driving this transition will be the 2021-2026 Electricity Grid Planning, which will be approved shortly and will allow us to comply with the path set by Spain's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP)".

In 2021, Andalusia produced a total of 29,570 GWh, 5.7% more than in the previous year. Combined cycle was the leading technology in the region's generation mix with 28.4%, followed closely by wind power accounted for almost a quarter of all production in Andalusia (24.4%). Solar photovoltaic ranked third, producing 41% more than in 2020 and accounted for 16.6% of the total generation mix in the region. Both wind and photovoltaic have recorded all-time highs in terms of contribution to the mix. They were followed by cogeneration (15.3%) and solar thermal (6.8%) which, with 2,016 GWh, made Andalusia the region in Spain with the highest production (in GWh) of this technology.

The significant contribution of renewables to generation in Andalusia has meant that production coming from zero-carbon energy technologies represented 55.3% of the region's mix in 2021.

This boost to the green transition in Andalusia has been possible thanks to the progressive renewable transformation of its power generation fleet. Once again, in 2021, Andalusia was the region in Spain with the second highest installed renewable power capacity, with 8,565 MW of green power capacity, second only to Castilla y Leon. The development of solar thermal in the region is particularly noteworthy with 1,000 MW of capacity commissioned at year-end, which enables it to continue being the leading region in Spain for this technology, accounting for 43.4% of the national total.
As a result, half of Andalusia's power generation fleet is already renewable (51.2%). Last year, Andalusia added 330 MW of new solar photovoltaic capacity and 44 MW of new wind power capacity and decommissioned 1,120

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MW of coal-fired capacity. As a result of this evolution, the region closed 2021 with a total installed power capacity that stands at 16,727 MW. Combined cycle continues to be, with 35.6% of the total, the leading source in the generation mix, followed by wind (with 21%) and solar photovoltaic, with a share of 17.8%.

With regard to the electricity demand registered in Andalusia in 2021, the data included in Red Eléctrica's preliminary report shows a total of 39,660 GWh, which represents an increase of 1.6% over the previous year and accounts for 15.5% of the total consumption nationwide.

The energy transition, unstoppable in Spain

At a national level, the figures for 2021 once again demonstrate Spain's strong commitment to renewables. In total, green energies produced 121,305 GWh, almost 10% (9.7%) more than in 2020 and reached a record share of almost 47% (46.7%) in the total generation mix nationwide.

In this regard, noteworthy is wind power generation which was the leading technology in 2021 with a share of 23.3% of the total generation mix nationwide. Thus, thanks to the wind, electricity produced using this technology generated 10.2% more than in the previous year. The increase experienced by solar photovoltaic energy has also been very significant. After increasing its installed power capacity by 28.8% through the addition of more than 3,300 MW, it increased its electricity production in 2021 by 36.7%.

After wind energy, the next technology that contributed the most to the generation mix was nuclear, which, although having generated 3.1% less than in 2020, still reached a share of 20.8%. Nuclear was followed by combined cycle (17.1%), hydro (11.4%) and solar photovoltaic (8%). Of note is that coal-fired generation continued its decline and reached a share in the mix of just 1.9%.

This greater presence of renewables in the generation mix in 2021 has contributed to reducing CO_2 eq. emissions associated with electricity production, which registered an all-time low in 2021.

The share of renewable technologies in the national power generation fleet also continues to grow. At year-end 2021, taking into account the addition of 4,000 MW of new green energy capacity, renewable technologies represented 56.6% of the total national production capacity (112,846 MW). Wind energy, which was the technology with the largest installed power capacity in Spain, is followed by combined cycle (23.3% share of the total mix nationwide), hydro (15.1%) and solar photovoltaic (13.3%).

For its part, electrical energy demand has continued to make progress in its recovery after the impact of the pandemic. At year-end 2021, annual demand stood at 256,387 GWh, a figure that is 2.5% higher than in 2020. After having factored in the influence of seasonal and working patterns, the figures regarding consumption remain basically the same.