RED ELÉCTRICA DE ESPAÑA

Grupo Red Eléctrica

Press release

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

Balearic Islands increases its renewable energy generation by 32% and beats its all-time annual high for green energy

- The commissioning of 46 MW of new solar photovoltaic power increased the share of this technology in the generation capacity on the Balearic Islands by 44.2%.
- 75.1% of the electricity generated in the Balearic Islands in 2021 came from combined cycle power stations, while the contribution of coal-fired plants was residual with a share in the mix that decreased by 80% compared to 2020.
- In 2021, the demand for electricity in the Balearic Islands increased by 11.8% compared to 2020.

Balearic Islands, 18 March 2022

In 2021, the Balearic Islands experienced a significant boost in renewable electricity generation. The increase in renewables, a process that began in 2020, has meant that coal-fired production in the generation mix of the Balearic Islands has virtually disappeared. This confirms the progress made in the Islands regarding the energy transition. In this context, renewables on the Balearic Islands produced 32.1% more than in 2020. 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)".

As was the case last year, in 2021 most of the electricity generated in the Balearic Islands came from combined cycle power stations, which contributed a share of 75.1% to the overall generation mix of the Balearic Islands. It should be noted that solar photovoltaic energy was the technology that increased its generation the most, with 58.7% more than in the previous year. As a whole, renewable energy produced in the Balearic Islands closed the year at 312,843 MWh, accounting for 6.7% of the total.

The efforts made in the Balearic Islands to advance in the green transition are also reflected by the increase in installed renewable power capacity: at year-end, the Balearic Islands had a total of 149 MW of installed solar photovoltaic capacity, 44.2% more than in 2020. In this regard, renewable power capacity accounted for 9.4% of the total power generation fleet in the Balearic Islands in 2021.

At the same time that renewable generation grew, in 2021, the use of coal-fired production has declined dramatically and has actually become a residual energy source; the share of coal in the Balearic Islands' system only contributed 1% to the Islands generation mix. This represents a drop of almost 80% compared to the previous year when coal-fired generation registered a drastic reduction (with a share of only 6.3% in 2020), due to the hourly limitations established for this type of generation in the archipelago since December 2018 and the

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reduction in installed coal power capacity. At year-end, this technology accounted for only 11.8% of the power generation fleet on the Balearic Islands.

The electricity link that connects the mainland with the Balearic Islands has made it possible to cover 16.1% of the energy demand on the islands with production generated on the Spanish peninsula. The interconnection enables the Islands to receive electrical power from the mainland's diversified energy generation mix, which in turn provides more renewable energy, which meant that in 2021 13.9% of the energy consumed in the Balearic Islands was covered with green energy.

In 2021, electricity demand on the Islands experienced a recovery. Specifically, demand was 11.8% higher than in 2020, a year that registered a significant drop in energy consumption due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase in demand in the Balearic Islands is higher than in the country as a whole, where consumption increased by 2.5% compared to 2020.

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.