

According to data from the 'The Spanish Electricity System Report 2022'

Ceuta, the only territory in Spain without renewables

Ceuta's electricity demand in 2022 totalled 195,399 MWh, 1% less than in 2021.

If the electricity interconnection between the autonomous city and the mainland were in service, Ceuta could receive renewable energy at levels similar to those of the mainland.

Ceuta, 23 March 2023

In 2022, in a context in which Spain closed the year with a renewable share of 42.2% in its total generation mix, the only territory nationwide without renewables was the Autonomous City of Ceuta. Its small size and its electrical isolation from the mainland system are the main reasons why Ceuta is the only electricity system in which all the energy generated and consumed generates pollution.

These facts are part of the data included in the 'Spanish Electricity System Report 2022' and in the 'Renewable Energy Report 2022', documents drafted by Red Eléctrica that set out the key indicators regarding the Company's performance as Spain's TSO (Transmission System Operator) and which have been presented at an event held today.

For Beatriz Corredor, Chairwoman of Redeia, Red Eléctrica's parent company, "the 2022 data showcases that Spain is one of the drivers of renewable energy in the European Union. Furthermore, everything points to the fact that thanks to the efforts made last year, 2023 will prove to be a great year for the green transition in which Spain is currently immersed".

As Ceuta's electricity system is electrically isolated from the mainland, the amount of electricity generated is equal to the amount of electricity demanded. Thus, the energy generated and consumed in Ceuta in 2022 was 195,399 MWh, almost all of which came from diesel generators (99.8%) and gas-fired turbines (0.2%). Ceuta's electricity production is equivalent to 0.1% of the national total.

Ceuta's power generation fleet, which at the end of 2022 had a capacity of 91 MW, showed no variations with respect to the previous year and was entirely made up of polluting technologies based on diesel generators (85% of the total) and gas-fired turbines (15%).

Thus, the subsea electricity interconnection between Ceuta and the mainland, included among the electricity infrastructure projects to be carried out as part of the 2021-2026 Transmission Grid Planning, is an opportunity for the autonomous city to advance in the

energy transition and reduce its dependence on fossil fuels. Furthermore, it will allow Ceuta to increase its security of supply by having the support of the mainland electricity system and, additionally, it will benefit from the integration of renewable energy produced on the Spanish peninsula, which in 2022 represented 43.7% of the mainland generation mix.

Electricity demand in 2022 was 1% lower this year than in the previous year, with 26 July being the day with the highest electricity consumption, reaching 638 MWh, a far cry from the 723 MWh recorded on 15 December 2008, when the autonomous city registered its all-time high.

Spain, a driver of renewable energy in Europe

At a national level, the data included in both reports show that, in 2022, Spain continued to demonstrate its leadership in renewable energy in the European Union. It is second only to Germany in terms of installed renewable power capacity and also in terms of installed wind power capacity. In the case of solar power, Spain is the third country with the most capacity in service after Germany and the Netherlands.

In terms of electricity generation obtained from these technologies, Spain is the second European country that produces the most energy from wind and the sun after Germany.

This has been possible thanks to the increase in Spain's renewable power generation fleet. During the past year, renewable energy technologies added 5.9 new GW of capacity to the Spanish power generation fleet. Of these, 4.5 GW were solar photovoltaic and 1.4 GW were wind.

This new momentum has enabled wind to account for 22% of the generation mix and solar photovoltaic for 10%, with both technologies registering all-time annual highs regarding production. In total, renewables, as a whole, accounted for 42% of the total generation mix nationwide in 2022. The drop of nearly 40% in hydroelectric generation has prevented the overall share of renewables in the generation mix from surpassing previously existing all-time highs.

Thanks to this renewable energy potential, Spain was able to support its neighbouring EU countries. It should be noted that, for the first time since 2015, the year closed with an exporter exchange capacity balance that stood at nearly 20 TWh, which is the highest value ever recorded.

For its part, during 2022, the demand for electricity in Spain showed a decrease of 2.4% compared to the previous year, recording a total demand that stood at 250.4 TWh. After having factored in the effects of seasonal and working patterns, annual demand nationwide for 2022 registered a fall of 3.3% year-on-year.