

Elia launches solidarity campaign to combat poverty

Solidarity is more necessary than ever in these extraordinary times, and Elia also wants to do its bit. This month, the members of the Management Committee are donating their full monthly salary to the King Baudouin Foundation's COVID-19 poverty fund. Elia employees can also make a voluntary contribution. Elia will match these donations up to a maximum of €75,000. Elia had also previously decided to donate the organisational budget for the Annual General Meeting (topped up to €100,000) to various King Baudouin Foundation funds. Due to the coronavirus crisis, the General Meeting will not take place physically.

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Getting back to work

In light of the easing of the coronavirus measures, we are gradually getting back to work, while still closely following the rules on social distancing and safety in general. Want to know how? Watch this video and find out!

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Onboarding during the pandemic

Some 50 new hires have begun working at Elia and 50Hertz in recent weeks. Onboarding is completely different during the coronavirus pandemic: no traffic jams or welcome lunches, but lots of Skype meetings and a range of digital challenges. Four new employees talk about their experiences in this video.

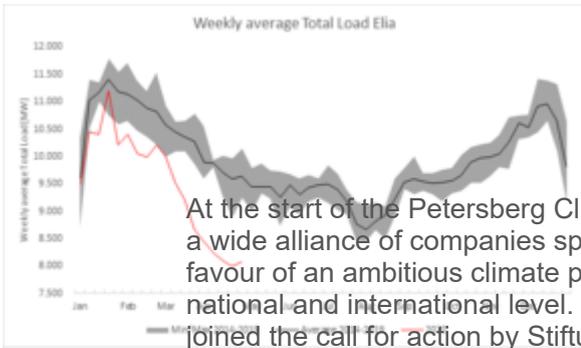
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First SuedOstLink contracts awarded

After a two-year tendering process, 50Hertz has awarded NKT and Prysmian PowerLink the contracts to design, manufacture and lay the 1,000-km-long underground high-voltage connection between Saxony-Anhalt and Bavaria as part of the SuedOstLink project. The SuedOstLink is key to Germany's energy transition and will mainly transport wind energy generated in northern Germany to consumption hubs in the south of the country. The project, a joint undertaking by German system operators 50Hertz and TenneT, is currently in the authorisation phase, with construction scheduled to begin in 2022. With a capacity of 525 kV (instead of the usual 320 kV), the underground cable will be able to transmit larger volumes of energy. This is the first time this technology has been used anywhere in the world.

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At the start of the Petersberg Climate Dialogue, a wide alliance of companies spoke out in favour of an ambitious climate policy at the national and international level. 501 companies joined the call for action by Stiftung Energie & Klima.

Electricity consumption up, but still low

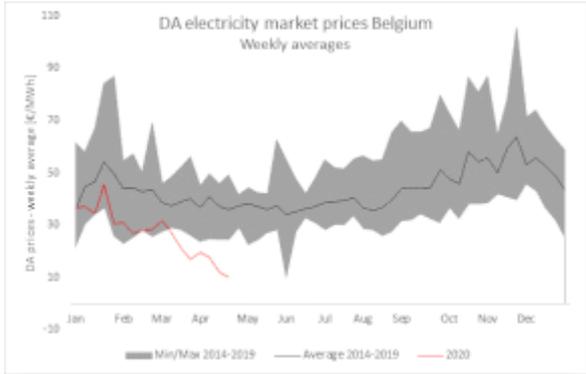
Het Electricity consumption in Belgium has risen slightly since May. This may indicate a cautious kick-start of the economy, but may also be due to the chilly weather. It remains to be seen how this upward trend will develop in the coming weeks with the gradual easing of the measures taken to combat the coronavirus. Consumption has fallen by an average of 15% since the start of the coronavirus crisis.

MORE INFORMATION

Electricity price hits record low

The electricity price on the short-term market hit a record low in April, at €14.7 per MWh. The cause is clear: enough electricity is being generated in both Belgium and its neighbouring countries, but demand is down. The impact on price may continue as long as demand remains low.

MORE INFORMATION



European TSOs want a greener economy

In a joint statement, high-voltage grid operators from eight European countries announced that they want to help stimulate an ever greener economy as soon as possible – a reference to the European Green Deal. In the meantime, they are doing everything possible to guarantee the health and safety of their employees at work and so keep the lights on during this crisis. Read the joint press release.

READ THE PRESS RELEASE

50Hertz supports initiative of Stiftung 2 Grad for an ambitious climate policy

At the start of the Petersberg Climate Dialogue a wide alliance of companies spoke out in favour of an ambitious climate policy at the national and international level. 50Hertz, too, joined the call for action by Stiftung 2 Grad. The signatories call on the German federal government to align the planned measures to support the economy so that these also contribute to the common goal of climate neutrality by 2050 in the long term, and as such reinforce the economy as well as society in a sustainable manner.



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€800 million bond issue a success

Elia has successfully launched an €800 million bond under its new €3 billion EMTN programme listed on the Luxembourg stock exchange's Euro MTF. The transaction highlights Elia's strong standing in the international capital markets, as it was 8.5 times oversubscribed and attracted demand from 330 investors in 32 countries.

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82 candidates for the fourth Open Innovation Challenge

82 start-ups from all around the world have signed up to the fourth Open Innovation Challenge. This year, the Elia Group is looking for digital security solutions. The finalists will pitch their concepts to a jury in September 2020, with the winner receiving €20,000 as well as the chance to turn their idea into reality within the Elia Group.

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Compliance tests successful at Norther wind farm

Elia has completed the specific compliance tests for Norther wind farm. With a capacity of 350 MW, Norther is currently Belgium's largest offshore wind farm. These tests are intended to check that the farm operates properly under both normal and critical conditions, ensuring the safety and optimum management of the electricity system.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



Mermaid-MOG connection tested

Tests have also been successfully carried out on the connection with the Mermaid offshore wind farm. The wind farm will be fully operational by the end of this year, with an installed capacity of 235 MW. Located approximately 50 kilometres offshore, Mermaid is the wind farm furthest away from the coast. We will also be testing the connection with Seastar within the next month. This is the last offshore wind farm to be connected to the Modular Offshore Grid (MOG), Elia's first offshore power hub.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Nemo Link intraday product stabilises Belgian grid

The Nemo Link intraday product contributed to the stability of the Belgian grid on 19 April, when Belgium's solar generation was much lower than forecast, resulting in imbalance prices of up to €359 per MWh. Nemo Link's intraday customers temporarily reduced exports to the UK, restoring the supply-demand balance in Belgium. The subsea interconnector between Belgium and the UK has been operational since January 2019.





Tree frogs thriving under electricity pylons

What is the connection between tree frogs and electricity pylons? Usually there isn't one, but in Limburg tree frogs are flourishing thanks to the natural corridor under our high-voltage line, which forms a sunny path through the woodland and makes it easy for this endangered species to migrate and feel completely at home.

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Interconnections

Imports and exports, monthly capacity auctions and price convergence in the CWE.

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System services

Volumes of reserves activated and fluctuations in imbalance prices.

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Consumption and generation

Generation and consumption data and Elia grid load curve

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MNA data

Belgian Bidding Zone day-ahead reference price table

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Total solar forecast

Actual photovoltaic generation and Intraday and Day-ahead forecasts.

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Total wind forecast

Aggregate forecasts (offshore and onshore) for wind power generation.

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Responsible publisher:
Pascale Fonck

Keizerslaan 20
B-1000 Brussels