



Elia publishes its adequacy and flexibility study

Elia has published its biennial study that explores both Belgium's adequacy and flexibility needs and the measures required to guarantee security of supply for the period 2024-2034. Electrification is spreading across society both earlier and at a faster speed than predicted. This is creating additional capacity needs, which can be addressed by the country's capacity remuneration mechanism. Flexible consumption has the potential to flatten consumption peaks and manage the variability of renewable energy sources, so directly contributing to security of supply. Flexibility is an important lever for reducing capacity needs linked to Belgium's rising electricity demand.

[Read the press release](#)

[Read the study](#)

Princess Elisabeth Island presented to Queen Máxima and Queen Mathilde



Our CEO, Chris Peeters, had the privilege to meet their Royal Highnesses Queen Máxima of the Netherlands and Queen Mathilde of Belgium during the Dutch royal couple's state visit to Belgium. Our CEO had the opportunity to briefly present the Belgian energy island to them, which bears the name of Princess Elisabeth, the Duchess of Brabant. Queen Máxima enquired about whether the Belgian island would eventually be linked to the Netherlands. The Belgian Federal Minister for Energy, Tinne Van der Straeten, confirmed that this possibility is currently being explored.

Agreement reached regarding Bornholm Energy Island



The German and Danish governments have signed an agreement relating to the German-Danish Bornholm Energy Island project. The agreement creates the conditions for Energinet and 50Hertz to join forces and allocate responsibility for different tasks related to the realisation of the innovative electricity hub that will be built on the island of Bornholm in the Baltic Sea, including responsibility for the construction of several hundreds of kilometres of 525 kV DC offshore and onshore cables. At least 3 GW of offshore wind power capacity will be made available to both countries' energy markets via Bornholm Energy Island in future.

[Read the press release](#)

New power-to-heat plant inaugurated in Hamburg



50Hertz took part in the inauguration of a new power-to-heat plant in Hamburg. This unit will convert wind power from northern Germany into green district heating and hot water. With its 80 MW capacity, the unit will supply up to 27,000 households in Hamburg with green district heating. It will therefore help to prevent up to 100,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions every year. Additionally, 50Hertz has signed a new contract for the construction and operation of another power-to-heat plant in Leipzig. In future, the total capacity of the power-to-heat portfolio which will be available to reduce grid bottlenecks will be increased to more than 200 MW.

[Read the press release](#)

Pilot project launched to simplify electric vehicle charging



In a first for Germany, 50Hertz, decarbon1ze, LichtBlick and Stromnetz Berlin are working on a pilot project which aims to simplify electric vehicle charging. The underlying IT processes for this simplified approach are currently being tested. As part of this new approach, the power offtake at a public or semi-public charging station is no longer exclusively linked to the station's operator; instead, consumers are also able to use their own suppliers via their respective billing systems.

[Read the press release](#)

InterOPERA consortium's first meeting hosted by Elia Group



Elia Group hosted the InterOPERA general assembly last week at our headquarters in Brussels as it met for the first time since the consortium was launched six months ago. The consortium was formed to ensure that future high-voltage direct current (HVDC) systems used across Europe will be compatible and interoperable by design, so ultimately supporting the establishment of a meshed offshore multi-vendor multi-terminal HVDC grid. This meshed grid will be crucial for developing and harnessing the North Sea's full renewable energy potential as Europe moves towards net zero. The consortium was launched by the European Commission and is being coordinated by the SuperGrid Institute.

[Watch the video](#)

STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT NEWS



Making science more engaging for young people

To make science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) more engaging for younger learners, we recently took a group of fourth, fifth and sixth year primary pupils on a day trip to the Parc d'Aventures Scientifiques, a science and adventure centre in Mons.

The pupils spent the day exploring all things STEM at the centre – and, importantly, learning that science is for everyone. This excursion was organised as part of our partnership with Da's Geniaal / C'est Génial.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



Elia shares its experience of managing ecological corridors

On 14 and 15 June, Elia took part in a workshop organised by the Renewables Grid Initiative which covered the development of ecological corridors under high-voltage lines.

Nearly 30 participants from all over Europe took part in the event, during which Elia staff shared the experience they had gained since the Elia LIFE project was launched with the French transmission system operator RTE. Ecofirst, the company responsible for creating these corridors in Belgium, also attended the event and presented their summary report that demonstrates the benefits of these corridors for biodiversity.

[Read the press release](#)



34 falcons born along our lines

This spring, Elia celebrated the birth of 34 falcons along the Tienen-Sint-Truiden high-voltage line. In 2006, we installed our first nesting box for falcons along this line, in order to help the endangered species prosper. Since then, as part of our commitment to biodiversity, we have installed 9 more nesting boxes along the same line.

Every year, to check if falcon chicks have been born in one of our nesting boxes, one of our technicians climbs up one of our pylons. If the nesting box contains chicks, they are carefully placed in a special pouch and carried to the foot of the pylon where they are measured, ringed and registered by an approved ringer. The chicks are then returned to their nest, and experts are able to track their movements and better protect them.

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