



Newsletter

Federal Government endorses Belgian Energy Island as spearhead project for EU COVID-19 recovery fund

The Federal Government and Elia Transmission Belgium (Elia) have signed an agreement relating to financial support offered up as part of the Recovery & Resilience Facility (RRF). The fund was established by the European Commission in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic to support future-oriented investments being undertaken by Member States. The RRF aims to make Europe's economy greener and more robust - two objectives that are even more relevant given the current energy crisis. The signing of the protocol which governs the €99.7 million grant being given to Elia took place in the presence of the Minister of Energy, Tinne Van der Straeten, the State Secretary for Economic Recovery and Strategic Investment, Thomas Dermine and Stefaan de Rynck, head of the European Commission's Representation in Belgium.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)

More transmission capacity between Belgium and France



On 2 December, Elia and RTE, the Belgian and French transmission system operators, officially inaugurated the reinforced high-voltage line of Avelgem-Avelin. The inauguration was attended by the Walloon Energy Minister, Philippe Henry, and representatives of the French government. The Avelgem-Avelin connection is now equipped with HTLS conductors that have a higher transmission capacity (p6 GW rather than 3 GW).

Thanks to this advanced technology, twice as much power can now be exchanged between the two countries. A reinforced European backbone will improve security of supply for both countries, will facilitate the integration of renewable energy sources into the energy system and contribute to the establishment of a more integrated European grid.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)

Elia Group publishes study on industry electrification



Our latest study, "Powering Industry towards Net Zero", demonstrates that the decarbonisation of industry is occurring at lightning speed. Electrification is playing a key role in this. Having access to low-carbon electrons at stable and affordable prices is crucial. By 2030, industrial electricity consumption in Germany and Belgium will increase by 40% and 50% respectively. In preparation for this study, Elia Group talked to more than 50 companies in Belgium and Germany to ensure the voice of industry and its needs were heard. The video below features some of them.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)

Information sessions on flexibility in industry



Flexible consumption is crucial for helping to keep a grid which comprises increasing amounts of renewable electricity sources in balance. As a large consumer of electricity, industry is playing a key role in this - as was made clear in our latest study (see above). Besides offering up balancing services, there are also other possibilities and benefits for interested parties. Flexible consumption is a win-win: it can reduce a user's total energy costs and it supports the grid as renewable energy sources are integrated into it. Elia is organising a number of different information sessions in 2023 during which we will explain the benefits and possibilities that lie in the provision of flexibility.

[Register here](#)

Ministers De Croo and Van der Straeten visit offshore platform

On Monday 21 November, Elia Group welcomed Belgian Prime Minister De Croo and Federal Energy Minister Tinne Van der Straeten to the Equans construction site in



Hoboken for a tour of construction site of the offshore transmission platform Baltic Eagle. 50Hertz (the German subsidiary of Elia Group) and Iberdrola (a Spanish utility company) are jointly responsible for the platform. The platform is being built by the joint venture Equans – Smulders. The platform will be transported out into the German Baltic Sea early next year.

[Watch the video](#)

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Elia Group publishes quarterly statement



On Friday 25 November, Elia Group announced its Q3 results. These showed that significant progress had been made on its on- and offshore investment plans in Belgium and Germany. A second €750 million green bond was also issued by Eurogrid. Due to the acceleration of the energy transition and the increased renewable energy targets, the 5-year CAPEX plan (2023-2027) was adjusted for Belgium and Germany. It is now estimated at €15.9 billion.

[Read the press release](#)

Elia organises first Academic Board



In collaboration with Belgian universities, Elia has launched a new collaboration platform which will focus on the challenges faced by the Belgian energy sector. In particular, the working group is aiming to address subjects that have a direct impact on industry and end users. The first meeting in Brussels focused on two issues: the market and grid stability.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)



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