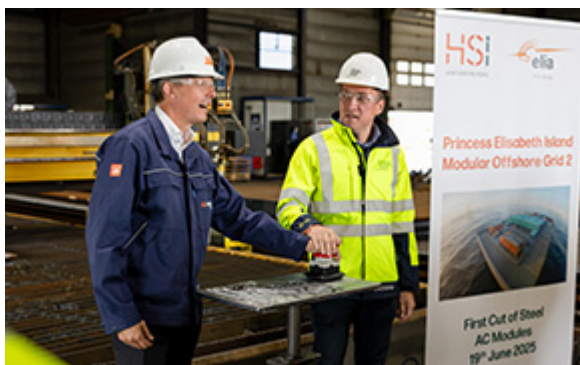# Elia presents its new adequacy and flexibility study for Belgium (2026–2036)

The study shows that electrification and digitalisation are driving a transformation of the Belgian electricity system. While adequacy is ensured in the short term, additional capacity will be needed from 2028 onwards. The capacity remuneration mechanism (CRM) remains a critical pillar. However, complementary structural measures could be considered to safeguard long-term reliability. The study also finds that flexibility is becoming increasingly important on both the demand and supply sides for managing growing volatility and periods of oversupply.

Find out more about the study

Start of HVAC works for Belgian offshore energy hub

A new milestone has been reached in the development of Belgium's Princess Elisabeth offshore energy hub. Construction of the high-voltage alternating current (HVAC) infrastructure officially began with a first steel-cutting ceremony. The HVAC substations will house essential components such as power transformers and gas-insulated switchgear (GIS). For the next stage of the project - high-voltage alternating current (HVDC) - the federal government aims to develop an alternative concept at a lower cost.

The ambition remains the same: to further develop and optimise wind production capacity in Belgium's second offshore wind zone, while also creating a second interconnector with the United Kingdom.

Read the press release

Key milestone reached in upgrade of Berlin's 380-kV diagonal power link

50Hertz has celebrated the completion of construction work on the first section of the 380-kV Berlin diagonal power link. This strategic project aims to upgrade the high-voltage line in the German capital, part of which runs underground. On 27 June 2025, the tunnel boring machine reached the exit shaft at the Berlin-Mitte substation, marking the end of a 7-km tunnel excavation. Located 20–30 metres underground, the new tunnel will boost the security of Berlin's electricity supply.

Following the successful tunnel breakthrough, the interior of the tunnels and shafts is now under construction. The gradual electrical commissioning of the new line is scheduled to begin in 2027.

Read the press release

Eurogrid secures €750 million commercial paper programme

The commercial paper programme will enable 50Hertz's parent company, Eurogrid, to diversify its funding sources further, complementing its long-term financial instruments such as green bonds, revolving credit facilities, and green loans facilitated under the KfW programme. It will serve as a flexible and cost-effective instrument to support the short-term grid investment programme. With its strong A- S&P rating and stable outlook, Eurogrid can secure attractive capital market financing through this programme.

Read the press release

Elia and 50Hertz's new offshore service centres take shape

Construction of the Elia offshore service centre in the port of Ostend is making good progress. Located on the quayside with direct access to the jetty, the building will serve as a base for maintenance and repairs of offshore infrastructure. Housing offices, a warehouse with a workshop, a crisis room, and meeting rooms, the building will enter service in early 2026. Meanwhile, construction work on 50Hertz's Rostock Offshore Quarter is also progressing.

On a site area of 25,000 square metres, a multifunctional building complex - including modern offices, workshops, and storage areas - is being built directly on the quayside.

Elia Group general meetings approve 2024 financial results

Elia Group held its ordinary and extraordinary general meetings on 20 May 2025. The general meetings approved the 2024 financial results and the payment of a dividend of €2.05 per share. The ordinary general meeting appointed three new directors, two of whom are new independent directors, and reappointed one independent director. The extraordinary general meeting approved a twofold capital increase for employees of Elia Group and its Belgian subsidiaries, totalling up to €8,000,000.

Read the press release

Elia gains access to MARI, the European platform for exchanging tertiary balancing energy

This platform enables European transmission system operators to exchange mFRR balancing energy. As with the PICASSO platform, which Elia joined in 2024, MARI provides access to the least costly balancing energy beyond Belgium's borders, within a wider area. Elia's access to MARI not only bolsters grid security but also plays a key role in the growing integration of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar.

Read the press release

INNOVATION

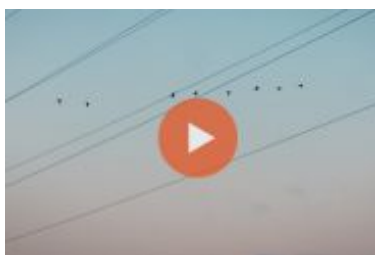## Open Innovation Challenge puts human capital at the heart of the energy transition

Elia Group is proud to announce the 2025 edition of its Open Innovation Challenge (OIC). Under the slogan 'People First', OIC 2025 invites start-ups, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and innovative teams from around the world to help develop solutions that will enhance the experience, safety, and development of personnel as the energy transition gathers pace. The deadline for submissions is 24 July 2025.

Watch the video

Find out more

SUSTAINABILITY

Elia tests new system that makes its overhead power lines more visible at night

In a European first, Elia has installed special ultraviolet (UV) spotlights on a high-voltage pylon along the Bruges-Slijkens overhead power line. The spotlights project UV light onto the overhead line, making it more visible at night to certain bird species but not to humans.

The hope is that this will reduce the number of collisions between birds and overhead lines. The trial – the first of its kind in Europe – is part of SafeLines4Birds, a six-year LIFE project co-financed by the EU, which will also provide additional bird markers on various lines in Belgium.

Watch the video

Read the press release