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Power Transmission System Operators are working full speed and across borders to keep the light on in Europe and to restart an ever greener economy

The Electricity Transmission System Operators of Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland are regularly coordinating their efforts to do the utmost to limit the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on people, electricity supply and the economy in Europe. “We need to jointly ensure the stability of the electrical system, the service continuity and the operation of our network infrastructures, which represent the real backbone of the interconnected electricity system on a continental scale”, the CEOs of the high-voltage system operators are saying jointly. “Energy has always been an essential component of European partnership. While the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting the life of our citizens and the European economy with full force, electricity remains more than ever crucial for daily life, health services and more generally to all critical activities.”



Our main concern is of course to keep the light on and to ensure electrical comfort for health care services totally dedicated to the crisis: Therefore our highest priority is to keep our staff healthy – especially those who are working in critical positions like the national control centres or indispensable staff for priority preventive maintenance works and urgent damage repairs on our grids



– The CEOs of the high-voltage system operators of Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland

The companies are exchanging regularly about their prevention plans and specific measures. These start with hygiene and health protection measures for staff members, but also with the preparation of different case scenarios in which our grids would have to be operated with reduced staff.



Contact

Corporate Communication | Marleen Vanhecke | M +32 486 49 01 09 | marleen.vanhecke@eliagroup.eu

Elia Group

Boulevard de l'Empereur 20 - Keizerslaan 20 | 1000 Brussels | Belgium
Heidestraße 2 | 10557 Berlin | Germany

The companies are cooperating with their national authorities for taking the necessary actions to help ensure secure power system operations, functioning markets in times of declining electricity demand and priority maintenance operations where necessary.

"Anticipating a secure operation of the power system and preparing our infrastructures and the security of the electricity system are integral parts of our missions of general interest. Wherever possible and sensible, our companies are continuing to work on construction projects, electrical connections and maintenance operations that are needed now and in the near future for a sustainable and affordable power system."

"Keeping the lights on physically is the first step. And with the Green New Deal in mind we are also already actively preparing how to best support the restart of an ever greener economy as soon as possible."

"The modernisation of the electricity systems and the integration of renewable energy sources in our countries are also a growth program that secures and creates jobs" the CEOs are stating. "Keeping the electricity system future proof, supporting the energy transition, the national plans and the European Green New Deal in line with the Paris Agreement is our joint mission and will be a stable growth motor in all our countries in the years to come."

The electricity Transmission System Operators' Executive Officers signatories of this declaration so far are:

François BROTTE, RTE

Gerhard CHRISTINER, APG

Luigi FERRARIS, TERNA

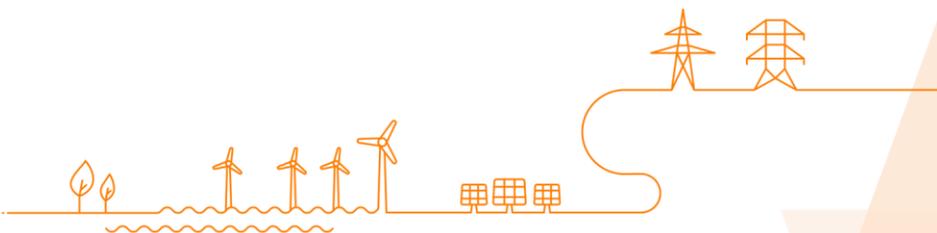
Roberto GARCIA, REE

Klaus KLEINEKORTE, AMPRION, CTO

Chris PEETERS, ELIA Group

Manon van BEEK, TENNET

Yves ZUMWALD, SWISSGRID



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About Elia Group

One of Europe's top five players

Elia Group is active in electricity transmission. We ensure that generation and consumption are balanced around the clock, supplying 30 million end users with electricity. With subsidiaries in Belgium (Elia) and north-east Germany (50Hertz), we operate 19,271 km of high-voltage connections. As such, our group is one of Europe's top 5. With a reliability level of 99.999%, we give society a robust power grid, which is important for socio-economic prosperity. We also aspire to be a catalyst for a successful energy transition towards a reliable, sustainable and affordable energy system.

We make the energy transition happen

By expanding international high-voltage connections and integrating ever-increasing amounts of renewable energy generation, Elia Group promotes both the integration of the European energy market and the decarbonisation of our society. At the same time, we are innovating our operational systems and developing market products so that new technologies and market parties can access our grid, thus making the energy transition happen.

In the interest of society

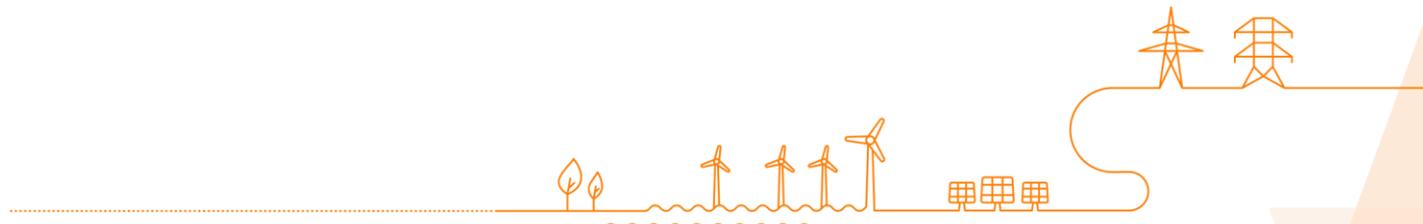
As a key player in the energy system, Elia Group is committed to working in the interest of society. We respond to the rapidly changing energy mix, i.e. the increase in renewable energy, and constantly adapt our transmission grid. We also ensure that investments are made on time and within budget, with a maximum focus on safety. When we carry out our projects, we manage stakeholders proactively by establishing two-way communication with all affected parties very early on in the development process. We also offer our expertise to our sector and relevant authorities to build the energy system of the future.

International focus

In addition to its activities as a transmission system operator, Elia Group provides various consulting services to international customers through its subsidiary Elia Grid International (EGI). Elia is also part of the Nemo Link consortium that operates the first subsea electrical interconnector between Belgium and the UK.

Elia Group is a listed holding company whose core shareholder is the municipal holding company Publi-T.

More information: [eliagroup.eu](https://www.eliagroup.eu)



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