

TERNA LAUNCHES NEW RULES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

Del Fante: “A new pact between all players is required. Infrastructure development and environmental protection the two pillars of industrial growth of the country”

Rome, March 17, 2015 – The needs of infrastructure development can and must be reconciled with those of environmental safety. Indeed, the more companies will be environmentally sustainable, the greater will be their economic growth, with important and positive implications for society as a whole.

This is the main message of the conference organized by Terna, during which “**The new rules for environmental safety**” were presented.

Taking part in the event, held in Rome today, in addition to the Chairwoman, **Catia Bastioli**, the CEO, **Matteo Del Fante**, and the Head of the Corporate Affairs Division, **Giuseppe Lasco**, were also the Minister for the Environment, Land and Sea, **Gian Luca Galletti**, the President of ANCI, **Piero Fassino**, the President of Legambiente, **Vittorio Cogliati Dezza**, **Simona Bonafè**, Member of the EU Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Commission and the CEO of the Piepoli Institute, **Nicola Piepoli**.

A stimulus to the discussion came from the results of **a survey by the Piepoli Institute** on the various aspects of environmental safety. A survey from which it emerged, as salient points, that **as much as 61% of companies surveyed consider an increase in environmental standards to be positive for their own development**; on the other hand, that **76% of companies consider putting the environment at the center of the economy as a great development opportunity**.

The debate then focused on the challenges that companies will face in the coming years: finding a new point of equilibrium between economic growth and environmental protection. A challenge which, for Terna, leveraging its expertise in the field, can be met with a strategy that integrates, in an overall view, activities often considered as “compartmentalized” and which, on the contrary, must go hand in hand. This is the model, which Terna was among the first to adopt in Italy, of “**integrated safety**” in which the various areas (IT, environment, labor, electricity system) are in complete synergy.

More specifically, there are **7 new rules**, illustrated during the speech of Giuseppe Lasco, which Terna has decided to propose and share with the institutions and with companies.

First of all, it is necessary to reverse the perspective that sees competitiveness and the environment as contradictory factors and instead consider **the environment as a company resource**, to be protected on a par with human resources and assets, able to facilitate and not hinder competitiveness. It is then necessary to **take a long term view**, i.e. invest today in protecting the environment to be competitive tomorrow, as demonstrated by the experience of Terna thanks to a decision taken years ago in favor of the environment, and which has translated, just to mention a few examples, into the **elimination of 1,700 old pylons**, freeing an area equal to 2,400 football fields, into the **installation of 800 single pole pylons**, which have a footprint 15 times less than traditional pylons, **with an investment of over 80 million euros**, into the **construction of environmentally sustainable electricity lines - only the 6 main ones** already completed or in progress **have an overall value of 3.5 billion euros**. And also, the need to adopt

environmental **governance that** clearly indicates within the organization people and roles, even better if integrated with occupational safety. Fourth, invest in **staff training** on environmental issues. Although not a legal requirement, it is very important to create a shared culture with regard to environmental protection, for which every employee should feel personally responsible. This means, therefore, to consider training as an opportunity for the company which can ensure not only economic but also, and above all, social and reputational returns. Also in this regard, Terna has invested a lot, setting up its own high-quality training centers where, **in 2014 alone, 72,000 training hours dedicated to safety and the environment were delivered**. No less important is the issue of **prevention**. It is indeed very appropriate that companies, in addition to applying procedures once an emergency has occurred, adopt a structured and adequate environmental risk management tool, fully integrated with other risk management systems, able to keep potential environmental risks under control with a preventive approach. Included in this context is the “construction site integrated safety project”, with the objective of all-round control during every phase (design, works assignment, execution) of safety in the **230 construction sites that Terna has in operation throughout Italy, for a total of 2.8 billion euros**. Seventh and final rule, **environmental certification of qualified suppliers**. A virtuous approach to environmental issues cannot fail to involve one’s suppliers; for this reason it is important that every company adopts a qualification system, of the integrated type, in order to select the most virtuous and environmentally respectful companies, including environmental certification among the necessary requisites. This is the approach with which **over 400 qualified companies, with more than 20,000 employees**, today work with Terna.

“Responsibility towards the environment will increasingly be a factor in company growth – said Matteo Del Fante. Terna’s history shows that the more safety and environmental protection take on a strategic importance in the life of companies, the greater is also their economic growth. A collective effort is therefore required, a new pact involving all players, in order that infrastructure development and environmental protection are perceived not as antagonists but as the two pillars on which the industrial growth of the country is based.”