

## TERNA AND THE VENETO REGION: THE ACTION PLAN TO SUPPORT THE SAFETY, EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE VENETO ELECTRICITY GRID HAS BEEN SIGNED

- *Significant investments planned for the development and renovation of the Veneto electricity grid*
- *Having heard the requests from the territory and held meetings with local institutions, the 380 kV "Dolo-Camin" underground electricity cable can be constructed*

**Venice, 21 January 2019** - The Governor of the Veneto Region, Luca Zaia, and Terna's Chief Executive Officer, Luigi Ferraris, today signed a programme agreement for non-routine interventions for the security of the electricity system and development in the region.

The aim is to support the promotion of sustainable development in Veneto and the economic and social relaunch of the areas affected by the exceptional weather events of November 2018, through the reconstruction and development of the region's electricity infrastructure. In this regard, the **Veneto Region and Terna will work to adopt the most advanced forms collaboration**, which envisage the **close participation of local Administrations and communities** in defining the necessary actions and works in the various areas.

The Agreement provides for an enormous investment in the implementation of critical works on the Veneto electricity grid, the most significant of which is the rationalisation project between Venice and Padua which will require over € 400 million.

### DEVELOPMENT WORKS FOR THE REGIONAL ELECTRICITY GRID

The planned works are fundamental for the security, efficiency and sustainability of the regional electricity grid. These include:

- *The rationalisation project between Venice and Padua which, having heard the requests from the territory and held continuous dialogue with the local institutions and citizens, today provides for the creation of the 380 kV Dolo - Camin underground electricity cable;*
- *The restructuring project for the Media Valle del Piave electricity grid, which is pending approval, will be transformed with the introduction of **underground cable technology running from the new substation in Polpet up to the Piave river for the future 220 kV Polpet - Scorzè power line.***
- *The Volpago Electrical Substation project and the rationalisation of the existing electricity grid, which plans for **26 km of new underground cable connections and the demolition of 51 km of overhead power lines.** Terna also confirms that this project is in no way related to the interconnection between Italy and Austria (as could be presumed from the 2018 Terna Development Plan) or to the transversal works in Veneto.*
- *The restructuring project for the Alto Bellunese electricity grid foresees the creation of a 150 kV **underground cable connection** between Cortina and Auronzo di Cadore, which is the result of a long process of dialogue and collaboration with the Veneto Region, the municipal administrations involved and the territory.*

## RESILIENCE WORKS: RENOVATION, MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING PLANTS

Terna is committed to implementing renovation works on the existing regional electricity grid, aimed at **increasing the stability and security** of the electricity transmission service as well as the infrastructure's **resilience** in the face of exceptional weather events. In this regard, the Company will increase its **plant renovation activities**, using not only **modern construction techniques which are more respectful of the environment**, but also using **high performance and innovative** materials and components.

These works will involve both entire power lines or simply parts of power lines, focusing on the more critical areas. In addition, the installation plan will be completed with new devices to help prevent layers of ice formation and the implementation of a **predictive maintenance** and asset management plan using the new technologies available.

## POWER LINE SAFETY: CORRIDOI VERDI PROJECT

Furthermore, to guarantee the increasing safety standards of power lines and to minimise the risk of conductors and pylons interfering with tall trees, the **Corridoi Verdi project** will be researched and developed **in close collaboration with the Veneto Region and the Regional Forest Authority**. The first large-scale project of its kind in Italy and Europe foresees the creation of ecological corridors along the routes of existing power lines in wooded areas through the selective planting of native plant species under controlled regrowth.

## INNOVATION: CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND AGREEMENTS WITH UNIVERSITIES

Lastly, **Terna is committed to opening and upgrading technological Centres of Excellence in the Veneto region and establishing agreements with Universities** to promote studies and research to better guide future choices in the construction of electricity infrastructure through graduate theses and graduate and/or post graduate papers, in other words promoting co-working experiences in shared workspaces made available by Terna.

*"The Region is equipped with an energy plan with which it aims to support the growth of its economic and social fabric, combining this with environmental sustainability" highlights Luca Zaia, President of the Region. "These are challenges which also involve infrastructure and plants, and which need to be increasingly efficient with a lower environmental impact. From this point of view, Terna's regional electricity grid development project, which also includes the laying of important underground connections, is in line with our objectives and acknowledges the needs expressed by the territories and, as well as improving the service, also looks at the security and quality of the environment".*

*Terna Chief Executive Officer Luigi Ferraris states, "We are very pleased to have signed this ambitious programme agreement which is part of the framework of investments aimed at the structural growth of the Country to enhance local situations. The works Terna is carrying out in close collaboration with the Veneto Region are the result of dialogue with the territory which today represents, along with the sustainability of the works and attention to the environment and territory, an essential value in Terna's strategy".*