

The plan to modernise and increase the efficiency of the electricity system in the Bologna area is approved

TERNA: OVER 60 BILLION EURO TO MODERNISE THE ELECTRICITY GRID IN BOLOGNA

The works will enable the demolition of around 53 km of overhead power lines and the removal of around 14 km of old underground lines

Over 140 hectares of land formerly used by the electricity infrastructure will be restored

Roma, 7 May 2021 – The Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition has signed the authorisation decree for the reorganisation of the Bologna electricity grid, paving the way for the modernisation of the region's 132 kV network while avoiding the need to construct new electricity infrastructure north of the city.

As well as the municipality of Bologna, the works set out in the plan to restructure the electricity grid will also involve the municipalities of Casalecchio di Reno, Anzola dell'Emilia, San Lazzaro di Savena, Castel Maggiore, Castenaso, Calderara di Reno and Sala Bolognese, and are aimed at the development of a new, modernised electricity system able to guarantee a safer, higher quality and more resilient service for businesses and residents.

The works will also bring important benefits to the environment: as a result of the construction of approximately 39 km of underground power lines, it will be possible to demolish about 53 km of old overhead power lines and to dispose of about 14 km of obsolete underground power lines, allowing for the return of over 140 hectares of land affected by outdated electricity infrastructures.

This strategic project, in which Terna will invest over 60 million euro, is the result of the collaboration with regional institutions and ratified by the Memorandum of Understanding between Terna, the Emilia-Romagna Region, the municipalities involved and E-Distribuzione to define the location of the works. The project also seeks to develop the Bologna Tecnopolo, the centre dedicated to innovation, science and research, where operating standards will be improved by increasing withdrawals from the distribution grid and installing new high/medium voltage transformation technologies. Furthermore, in synergy with local institutions Terna has undertaken to share the schedule of the works and to collaborate with the municipal offices in charge in order to minimise any inconvenience caused by necessary construction site operations.

The project, which will involve 120 manual workers and technical experts and 50 local businesses, is part of the broader plan of works scheduled by Terna in Emilia-Romagna, with investments of over 250 million euro envisaged over the next five years to develop and modernise the regional electricity grid as part of the company's 2021-2025 "Driving Energy" Business Plan.

Over the coming weeks, Terna will begin the executive design of the project and commence all preliminary activities necessary to begin the works by mid-2022.