

## **TERNA: THE RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE NEW ITALY-TUNISIA CONNECTION ARE PRESENTED TO CITIZENS**

**Meeting held with the communities of Castelvetrano, Campobello di Mazara and Partanna in municipalities around Trapani affected by the new invisible energy bridge that will connect Europe and Africa**

**Terna has involved over 10,000 people through online communications and digital campaigns**

**Rome, 27 July 2021** – Today, Terna held a digital “Terna Meets” event with citizens of Castelvetrano, Campobello di Mazara and Partanna to share the results of public consultation on the Italy-Tunisia electrical interconnection project, which involves creation of an invisible energy bridge connecting Europe and Africa.

Terna has gathered and analysed all input received from local communities during the digital meetings organised at the end of 2020 with the municipalities in the province of Trapani affected by the new infrastructure.

The Italy-Tunisia electrical interconnection is one of the very first projects where Terna has digitally involved and engaged with local communities. The restrictions imposed due to the pandemic have been overcome by organising virtual meetings on the Teams platform — with over 100 active participants — and a web and social-network campaign that reached approximately 10,000 people across the area. Following public consultation, the Marinella di Selinunte area in the municipality of Castelvetrano has been identified as the preferred landing site for the connection.

This makes the project even more closely aligned with the needs and requests of the local area, thanks to the constant dialogue and discussion that the company establishes for all works.

The new connection will help to make Sicily a European energy hub for the management of energy flows, particularly from renewables, linking the Partanna electrical substation with a corresponding substation in Tunisia, on the Capo Bon peninsula.

The power line will have a continuous current of 600 MW and will be connected to the Italian electricity grid with a converter substation, created using architecture and colours that fit the landscape, located near the existing Partanna substation. From Partanna to the coast there will be an underground cable running along existing road routes, without altering the landscape and coastal landing area.

The project will now proceed with preparation of technical and environmental documentation, and at the start of next year it will be submitted for approval from the Ministry of Ecological Transition.