

## **TERNA, TYRRHENIAN LINK: THE CONVERTER SUBSTATION WILL BE IN CARACOLI, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TERMINI IMERESE (PA)**

**Terna has evaluated all the potential locations considered during the public consultation phase with the authorities, associations and citizens involved**

**An application will be made by the end of the month for authorisation for the construction of the West Section, which will connect Sicily and Sardinia**

**The project, in which Terna will invest approximately €3.7 billion, will allow for the better integration of renewable sources and confirm the island's role as an energy hub for the Mediterranean**

**Rome, 12 April 2022** – Terna, the Italian national grid operator, has announced — during the course of a virtual meeting with authorities, associations and citizens — that the converter substation for the West Section of the Tyrrhenian Link, in Sicily, will be constructed in Termini Imerese, in Contrada Caracoli (Palermo), near the existing electrical substation.

This decision, which was taken following investigations into a variety of potential locations and evaluations of all the comments received during the public consultation started in September 2021, is the result of the fruitful relationship built on discussion and dialogue between Terna and the citizens, associations and municipal authorities of Termini Imerese and the Sicilian Region.

The converter substation for the West Section of the infrastructure will not only be located close to the existing electrical substation, but also near the converter substation of the East Section, which will connect Sicily to Campania, thus limiting land use and the impact on the territory. It will be linked through an underground cable that will run through the Termini Imerese industrial area to the Fiumetorto landing point of the undersea cable.

At the end of April, Terna will submit applications to the competent ministries seeking authorisation for construction and operation, communicating the locations chosen and confirmed for the West Section of the Tyrrhenian Link. In November 2021, meanwhile, the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition signed off on the launch of the authorisation process for the East Section.

Moreover, during the coming months, Terna will continue to communicate with the municipal authorities of Termini Imerese to develop ideas and initiatives for territorial enhancement.

“The infrastructure – declared the Mayor of Termini Imerese, Maria Terranova – will make Sicily the main energy hub of the country. The meeting with the Municipal Council of the city, strongly desired by the Administration, had the aim of evaluating and sharing strategic solutions in the interest of the

community, but also of the extraordinary historical, artistic and archaeological heritage present in our territory".

The construction of the Tyrrhenian Link, a strategic project for the Italian electricity system, will involve around 250 companies. The new infrastructure will allow for greater exchange capacity between the different market zones and a more effective use of the flows of energy from renewable sources. Furthermore, it will play a decisive role in improving the reliability of the grid, contributing to the safety of the electricity system and its ability to cope with the expected decommissioning of coal plants and the most obsolete fuel oil plants with a higher environmental impact.

The new interconnection is a state-of-the-art project that will involve the construction of two 1000 MW direct current undersea power lines, for a total length of 950 km. The infrastructure will be fully operational in 2028, but the first cable — related to the East Section — will be up and running in late 2025.