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TERNA: THE NEW BOLANO-ANNUNZIATA POWER LINE, CONNECTING SICILY AND CALABRIA, AUTHORIZED

Final approval from MASE for the submarine connection between the provinces of Messina and Reggio Calabria

The project will enhance the exchange capacity between Sicily and the mainland up to 2,000 MW, supporting the integration of renewable energy sources

Investment of €128 million

Rome, 23 September 2024 – The Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) has authorized the 'Bolano-Annunziata', the 380 kV alternating current submarine power line by Terna that will connect Sicily and Calabria.

For the realization of the project, which is strategic for the Sicilian grid and the entire national electricity system, the company led by Giuseppina Di Foggia will invest €128 million.

The infrastructure will increase the interconnection capacity between Sicily and the mainland to up to 2,000 MW, benefiting the development and integration of renewable energy sources planned in Southern Italy. Furthermore, the connection will also improve grid meshing and operational flexibility, making the electrical systems of Southern Italy and the Island even more secure.

“We welcome the final approval for this strategic project, that reaffirms Terna’s commitment to developing the Sicilian electrical grid and increasing interconnections,” said Giuseppina Di Foggia, CEO and General Manager of Terna. “With the new infrastructure, the Island will be connected by three 380 kV power lines to the mainland, which will make the integration of the growing renewable energy production in Sicily even more efficient within the national electrical system.”

The project includes several interventions: the main one involves laying an approximately 7.5 km submarine power cable that will connect the Calabrian coast in the province of Reggio Calabria to the Sicilian coast in the province of Messina. Additionally, Terna will build two new underground power lines from the landing points of the submarine cable to the electrical stations of Annunziata in the Municipality of Messina and Bolano in the Municipality of Villa San Giovanni, which will be approximately 3 km on the Sicilian side and about 500 meters on the Calabrian side.

The entire power line will also be equipped with a fiber optic connection for data transmission. Currently, Sicily and Calabria are connected by two 380 kV power lines: the 'Sorgente-Rizziconi' connection (between Scilla and Villafranca), which went into service in 2016, and the 'Bolano-Paradiso' line, dating back to the 1980s. For this second infrastructure, Terna is currently modernizing the land section within the municipality of Messina.