



Elia temporarily postpones the signing of the HVDC contracts for the island

Due to the price increase for high-voltage direct current (HVDC) infrastructure, Elia Transmission Belgium is temporarily postponing the signing of the HVDC contracts for Princess Elisabeth Island. The decision was taken by the Board of Directors. The postponement will result in an approximate three-year delay to the overall project completion but will give the Belgian government more time to reach a consensus decision. Alternatives are feasible but require a joint action plan with all the parties involved. Construction of the artificial island (foundations) and implementation of the already-signed alternating current (HVAC) contracts remain on track, meaning that two of the three future offshore wind farms (700 MW + 1,400 MW) – representing 60% of the new Princess Elisabeth wind zone – can already go ahead.

[Read the press release](#)

Elia Group attends World Economic Forum in Davos



Elia Group was one of the initiators of the Belgium House in Davos, alongside AB InBev, Fluxys, Port of Antwerp-Bruges, John Cockerill, DEME Group, and Syensqo. Supported by the Belgian federal government, this initiative highlighted Belgium's leadership in innovation, clean tech, energy infrastructure, and international cooperation. Elia Group was represented by Bernard Gustin, who met key partners in the European energy transition and took part in a debate on 'Delivering Europe's Clean Energy Transition'.

Green loan to fund 50Hertz's offshore projects



Eurogrid GmbH, the parent company of 50Hertz, has signed a one-billion-euro, ten-year loan agreement with 12 banks as part of a KfW-backed green syndicated financing deal. The first project that will be funded by the loan is Ostwind 4, the first HVDC connection in the Baltic Sea, off the island of Rügen. The second is LanWin3, the first offshore grid connection to be built by 50Hertz in the North Sea, off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein.

[Read the press release](#)

Contracts signed for first HVDC connection in the Baltic Sea



The GE Vernova and Drydocks World consortium has won the EPCI contract to build the converter system for the Ostwind 4 project. The system will consist of offshore and onshore converters. The EPCI contract that 50Hertz has signed with the consortium covers all engineering services; procurement of the necessary components; and construction, transport, and installation of the offshore and onshore systems.

[Read the press release](#)

50Hertz welcomes EU support for Bornholm Energy Island project



The European Commission has awarded the Bornholm Energy Island funding of €645 million from its Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme. The project, jointly developed by 50Hertz and Energinet, involves transforming the Danish island of Bornholm into a major electricity hub. It will include a hybrid interconnector and a power centre with two converters and direct current connections to Denmark and Germany. The infrastructure will be used to harvest Bornholm's planned three gigawatts of offshore wind power and make it available to the German and Danish markets.

[Read the press release](#)

4.98 TWh of wind power generated in the Baltic Sea in 2024



Germany saw a 15% increase in its wind power generation in the Baltic Sea last year. The new Arcadis Ost 1 (Parkwind) and Baltic Eagle (Iberdrola Deutschland) wind farms, connected to the 50Hertz high-voltage grid via Ostwind 2, contributed to this rise. They have an output of up to 725 megawatts. Combined with the figures for the North Sea, offshore wind power generation in Germany reached 25.7 TWh.

Elia named Top Employer for the eighth time



Elia is once again one of Belgium's Top Employers. This is the eighth consecutive year that the transmission system operator has earned this accolade, achieving an overall score of 90.87%. This year, the jury highlighted the dimensions associated with the digitalisation and flexibility of our HR processes, with Elia achieving the maximum score each time. Elia showed the strongest growth in People Strategy, Digital HR, and Employee Listening. These excellent results also confirm our company's attractiveness and are a significant acknowledgement of all our employees.

[Read the press release](#)

INNOVATION NEWS



Take part in our next Hackathon on substation overload

This year's Elia Hackathon will take place from 18 to 20 March and is all about increasing substation efficiency. The acceleration of electrification means that our grid is in greater demand than ever.

Rather than simply expanding it, we're looking for smarter and faster ways to maximise what we already have. This is your chance to tackle a real-life energy challenge, work with top experts,

and develop sustainable solutions for the future.

Register by 5 March

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