

INFORMATION

NOTE

Today at 12 noon the first MWh of clean energy was discharged into the power grid

Núñez de Balboa, operational: Iberdrola commissions Europe's largest photovoltaic plant

- The construction, which took one year, employed 1,200 workers at peak times - 70% of them from Extremadura
- The project added to the value chain with purchases worth 227 million euros from some thirty suppliers, many of them local
- The plant will generate clean energy to supply 250,000 people per year, and will prevent the emission of 215,000 tonnes of CO₂ every year
- Iberdrola's clean energy investment plan includes installing 3,000 MW of wind and photovoltaic energy by 2022

The largest photovoltaic plant in Europe has just come into operation, and today, at 12 noon, it discharged its first MWh of clean energy into the electricity grid. Iberdrola has succeeded in commissioning the Núñez de Balboa project - the biggest photovoltaic plant in Europe - in record time. It was built in just one year and completed last December.

Núñez de Balboa, with 500 megawatts (MW) of installed power and involving an investment approaching €300m, is between the towns of Usagre, Hinojosa del Valle and Bienvenida in Badajoz. The plant, which is being developed in collaboration with Ecoenergías del Guadiana, is a record-breaking renewable flagship project:

- *Millions of components:* the installation of 1,430,000 solar panels, 115 inverters and two substations requiring the delivery of a total of 3,200 containers. See more [here](#)
- *Job creation:* more than 1,200 employees were employed during peak period, 70% of them from Extremadura; See more [here](#)
- *Revitalising the industry:* building the plant has boosted the value chain with purchases worth €227 million from some thirty suppliers. See more [here](#)
- *Action against climate change:* the plant will generate clean energy to supply 250,000 people a year - equivalent to the populations of Cáceres and Badajoz combined - and will prevent the emission of 215,000 tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere per year. See more [here](#)
- *Green finance project:* Iberdrola received green financing from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO), Spain's state financial agency for the project. See more [here](#)
- *Promoting sustainable consumption:* in a pioneering move for Spain, the project will supply clean energy to major clients committed to sustainable consumption in the [banking](#), [telecommunications](#) and [distribution](#) sectors through long-term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs).
- *Education and training on renewables:* Iberdrola and the Councils of Usagre and the Commonwealth of Llerena are collaborating to train students at Campiña Sur Vocational School in Extremadura, with educational site visits and work experience programmes at the plant. See more [here](#)



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A further 1,300 MW in renewables in the pipeline in Extremadura

Iberdrola is focusing its renewable strategy in Spain in Extremadura, where it plans to install more than 2,000 MW of photovoltaic generation by 2022.

Following the commissioning of Núñez de Balboa (500 MW), the company has more than 1,300 MW in six renewable photovoltaic projects in the pipeline: Francisco Pizarro (590 MW) in Torrecillas de la Tiesa, Ceclavín (328 MW) in Alcántara, Arenales (150 MW) in Cáceres, Campo Arañuelo I, II and III (150 MW), in the district of Almaraz, and Majada Alata and San Antonio (50 MW each), in Cedillo. It also has 300 MW with grid access available to plan another photovoltaic project.

Iberdrola expects to start building Campo Arañuelo (Arañuelo I, II and III), with 150 MW of power in the near future. This development will create up to 200 jobs in the construction phase and have a high level of local involvement, since the engineering and environmental works have been awarded to Extremadura-based firm Ecoenergías del Guadiana and the power transformers will be supplied by Faramax. The project also includes an energy storage system with an innovative battery.

Clean energy relaunch plan in Spain

Iberdrola's plan to invest in renewable energies in Spain includes installing 3,000 new MW by 2022. By 2030, company expects to have installed 10,000 new MW. These projects will create jobs for 20,000 people.

Iberdrola leads Spain in renewable energies, with an installed wind power capacity of 6,000 MW and over 16,000 MW in renewable energy; an figure of around 32,000 MW worldwide. Its generation facilities are among the cleanest in the energy sector.

Iberdrola's commitment to a decarbonised economic model has led it to earmark 10 billion euros a year for investment in renewable energies, smart electricity distribution networks and storage technologies, on top of the 100 billion already invested since 2001. Of these, 25 billion have been invested in Spain.

About Iberdrola

[Iberdrola](#) is a global energy leader, the number one producer of wind power, and one of the world's biggest electricity utilities in terms of market capitalisation. The group supplies energy to almost 100 million people in dozens of countries including Spain, the United Kingdom (ScottishPower), the United States (AVANGRID), Brazil (Neoenergia), Mexico, Germany, Portugal, Italy and France. With a workforce of more than 35,000 people and assets in excess of €122 billion, it achieved a turnover of over €36.4 billion and a net profit of €3.4 billion in 2019.

Iberdrola is leading the transition towards a sustainable energy model through its investments in renewable energy, smart grids, large-scale energy storage and digital transformation, to offer the most advanced products and services to its customers. Thanks to its commitment to clean energy, Iberdrola is one of the companies with the lowest emissions and an international benchmark for its contribution to sustainability and the fight against climate change.



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