



Multi-Million Transformer Threesome at Zaya Substation Completed: Last Large Power Transformer Has Arrived

The new APG infrastructure in the Weinviertel region secures the energy supply and improves the utilization of climate-friendly wind energy all over Austria

Wien/Neusiedl an der Zaya, September 14, 2021 – On September 6, the third large power transformer (LPT) arrived at the Zaya substation of Austrian Power Grid (APG), which is currently under construction. The 300-ton steel colossus is intended to be part of the new transmission line that crosses the Waldviertel region and is going to be brought on line in the summer of 2022 according to schedule. APG invests a total of approximately 200 million euros in the sustainable energy future not only of the region but also of Austria as a whole.

Impressive heavy-load transport

Three LPTs worth a total of 16 million euros are part of the mega-project. The largest of them, a 380/220 kV transformer worth 8 million euros, was already delivered in three parts in the spring. Among other things, its function is to connect the Austria-wide APG grid to the Continental Europe Synchronous Area.

The two “smaller” 380/110 kV transformers (with a length of 13 and a height of almost 10 meters) were delivered in July and early September, respectively. The two LPTs weigh approximately 300 tons each and were first transported by train from the Siemens factory in Weiz to Hohenau an der March. The final 10 km from the train station to the substation in Neusiedl an der Zaya were covered on the road by a special heavy-load vehicle. The costs for each transport: approximately four million euro. Each transformer has a power of 300 megavolt-ampere and APG project coordinator Andreas Pischel describes their function as follows: “The high-performance transformers will connect the regional grid of the EVN subsidiary Netz Niederösterreich to the trans-regional grid of APG. They are, in a manner of speaking, the heart of the substation Zaya and they make sure that the wind energy that is produced in the Weinviertel region can actually be used. All over Austria.”

New infrastructure for ensuring the energy transition & security of supply

The construction works for the transmission line and the substation started in the autumn of 2019. APG’s company spokesperson Christoph Schuh about the large-scale infrastructure project: “Our 200 million euro investment scheme in the Weinviertel region is a major contribution to successfully implement the energy transition and the electrification of businesses, industry and society. In addition, the state-of-the-art infrastructure will be crucial for the security of supply not only in the province of Lower Austria but in Austria as a whole. In 2021 alone APG invests approximately 357 million euros in the domestic energy system all over Austria and intends to invest a total of 3.5 billion euros until 2031 to make sure that Austria can achieve its climate and energy targets.”



About Austrian Power Grid (APG)

Austrian Power Grid (APG) is Austria's independent transmission system operator in charge of monitoring and managing the nationwide transmission network. Its infrastructure ensures the electricity supply in Austria and is thus the lifeline of the country, its population and its businesses. The APG network totals a length of about 3,400 km and is operated, maintained and continuously adapted to the increasing challenges of economy and society by a team of more than 600 specialists. The capacities of the APG grid are the precondition for a sustainable and secure power supply in Austria and a successful energy transition. APG's staff develop suitable market products, have an excellent knowledge of physics and ensure security and efficiency of supply for Austria. With an investment volume of 357 million Euros in 2021 for the expansion and renovation of the grid infrastructure, APG will provide an important impulse for the domestic economy. Until 2031 APG will invest a total of approximately 3.5 billion Euros in grid expansion and renovation projects, which amounts to approximately 17 percent of the total of 18 billion Euros which the energy industry will invest in the grid infrastructure over the next ten years. In the Sustainable Brand Rating 2021 APG has been voted number one in the category 'public utility infrastructure' for the second consecutive time.