

An 'Aracnocóptero' in the wind farm of Sierra Dueña de Iberdrola in Salamanca. : EL NORTE

Iberdrola increases wind energy production in the community by 19.5%

With its 1.450 megawatts installed, Castilla y León contributed 26.8% to the company

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VALLADOLID. Iberdrola increased, during the month of May, 19.5% the generation of electricity in its wind farms in Castilla y León, when compared

with the same period of the previous year, reaching 301.2 million kilowatt hours (kWh) The company has installed in the community a power that exceeds 1,450 megawatts (MW), installed

in 50 wind farms - 17 wind farms in Burgos; 4 in León; 6 in Palencia; 16 in Soria; 2 in Valladolid; 4 in Zamora and one in Salamanca—.

Castilla y León has been the community that has contributed the most wind production to Iberdrola in May, 26.8% of the total wind generation in Spain, which has registered 1,124 million kilowatts.

The company has invested more than 1.6 billion euros in the region since 2002, which in its opinion shows "its decisive role so that wind has become the main reference in the development of clean energy and one of the engines of the regional economy", he says in a statement.

In Castilla y León, this area has a staff of 102 people although it generates a large number of indirect jobs not only in the construction and commissioning of its renewable facilities but also in the operation phase of the same, which are around 14 people per 100 megawatts (MW) installed.

Indigenous workers

Specifically, more than 90% of the operators of the wind farms and of the indirect positions created during their exploitation come from the municipalities where the installation has been developed and almost half of the jobs generated in Spain have been created in rural areas. Likewise, this type of jobs requires continuous training due to the high technology with which the wind farms are operated, thus generating quality jobs.

Throughout 2014, 91% of Iberdrola's production in Spain was free of emissions, thanks to the fact that 72% of all the power installed by the company in the country does not emit CO2.

The power company obtains the National Award for Innovation and Design in internationalization

Iberdrola was the winner of the 2015 National Innovation and Design Awards, in the category of internationalization, awards that recognize the contribution of companies, professionals and entities to the development of innovation and design. The jury especially valued the group's global wind energy leadership. "Iberdrola has become the largest renewable energy company thanks to a brave and innovative industrial project, very solid and based on a sustainable growth strategy", the company said in a statement.

Together with Iberdrola, Manuel Torres Martínez has won in this edition, in the innovative trajectory modality; the University of Córdoba, in the Innovative Public Procurement modality; and Nature Bissé, also in the internationalization category. In addition, the National Design Awards have been for Jaime Moreno Medina, in the category of Professionals, and Marset Iluminación, in companies.

These awards, granted by the Secretary of State for I+D+i, were created in 1987 by the Ministry of Industry and the BCD-Barcelona Design Center to reward those who use design in an exemplary way in their innovation strategies.

Iberdrola recalled that it has invested 170 million euros during 2014 in the area of Research, Development and Innovation (I + D + i), which represents an increase of 7% over the previous year. The company allocated the bulk of this investment to the development of smart grid projects, clean generation, offshore wind and new technologies and business models.