Press release
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European energy security

NGE completes the converter station for the Celtic Interconnector, the first electricity link between France and Ireland

NGE completes converter station for first France-Ireland electricity link: a major step forward for Europe's energy security

NGE has announced the upcoming commissioning of the Ar Merzher converter station in France, delivered in partnership with Siemens Energy, as part of the Celtic Interconnector project, on behalf of transmission system operators RTE (France) and EirGrid (Ireland).

This project marks a major milestone in the delivery of the first electricity interconnector between France and Ireland. With a capacity of 700 MW, equivalent to the electricity consumption of 450,000 households, the link will help strengthen security of supply, support the integration of renewable energy sources and accelerate Europe's energy transition.

A strategic link between France and Ireland

With a total length of 575 km, including 500 km under the sea, the Celtic Interconnector will connect the La Martyre substation in Brittany (western France) to the Knockraha substation in County Cork (Ireland).

Since July 2023, NGE has been carrying out the civil engineering and infrastructure works for the Ar Merzher converter station. This facility will convert direct current transmitted via the submarine cable into alternating current for injection into the French electricity grid, and vice versa, enabling power exchanges between the two countries.

Main works are scheduled for completion in May 2026, with energisation planned from June 2026 and full commissioning expected by 2028.

A project serving the energy transition

Through this project, NGE demonstrates its ability to deliver complex infrastructure contributing to Europe's energy challenges. It supports the strengthening of cross-border interconnections, improves the resilience of electricity networks, and accelerates the transition towards low-carbon energy sources.

"This project is emblematic of our capacity to bring together the full breadth of expertise required to deliver a complex and ambitious scheme that supports Europe's energy sovereignty. It is fully aligned with our strategic roadmap and reflects our commitment to playing an active role in the ecological transition."

Stéphane Perez, Chief Executive Officer NGE

"This is the first link between the Republic of Ireland, a member of the European Union, and mainland Europe. We aim to facilitate the flow of energy across Europe. Mutual support between European countries remains an act of sovereignty. Everyone benefits from each other's decarbonised energy."
Rémi Courtial, Project Director for the Celtic Interconnector, RTE

"At Siemens Energy, we are proud to have completed the construction of the Ar Merzher converter station infrastructure with local partners on behalf of our client RTE. Throughout the construction phase, we met high quality standards to ensure the durability of the structure and enable the operation of all process

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equipment. We are now entering the final phase of the project, the commissioning of the equipment."
Alexandre Pinson, Project Manager, Siemens Energy

Project summary:
- 575 km electricity link, including 500 km under the sea
- 700 MW exchange capacity (equivalent to 450,000 households)
- 4,300 m³ of concrete poured
- 120 foundations constructed
- 4,000 m² of raft slab
- 15 km of ducts installed
- 7 km of copper cables laid

About NGE

NGE – Nouvelles Générations d'Entrepreneurs – is France's fourth-largest construction group. It delivers both major infrastructure projects and urban and local development works. With expertise across financing, design, construction and maintenance, the Group has established itself as a leading player in delivering infrastructure that addresses the economic and environmental challenges of local territories. Its entrepreneurial model is driven by a strong employee shareholding structure (founders, executives and employees hold 72% of the Group's capital), complemented by the French investment fund Montefiore (28%). With €5 billion in revenue, NGE operates in around twenty countries, supporting public and private clients in financing, designing and delivering transformation projects in water, mobility, urban regeneration, energy and telecommunications. NGE's 25,000 employees are proud to contribute to building infrastructure that is transforming the world.

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