



Co-financed by the European Union

Connecting Europe Facility

Project Name: RES in north of Portugal

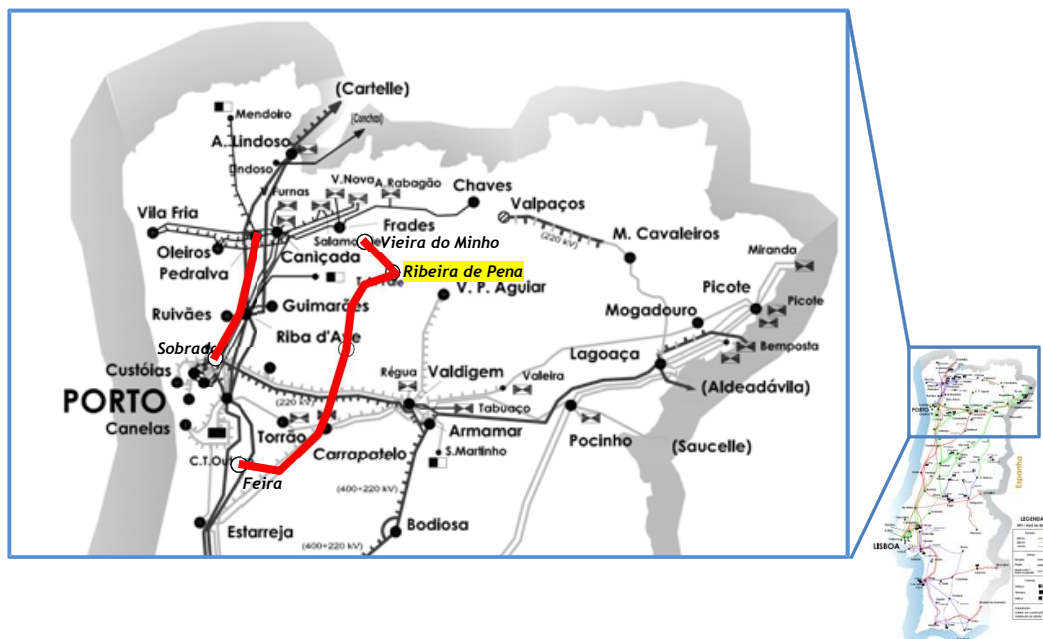
(PCI 2.16.1 and 2.16.3 in the EC 2017 PCI list (3rd list); Project 1 – TYNDP 2016)

Project Description:

This project allows the integration of new Hydro Power Plants from the Hydro National Plan located in the Northern region of Portugal (around 1400 MW of which 900 MW with pumping). These new amounts of power will increase the flows in the region that must be transported to the littoral coast and south of Portugal, which are the areas with more demand. Part of these flows will interfere and accumulate with the already existent flows entering in Portugal through the international interconnections with Spain on the North of Portugal, namely the 400 kV Alto Lindoso - Riba d'Ave - Recarei axis, thus increasing congestions in this axis, which justifies additional reinforcement needs in this area.

As a result of the accumulating flows on the existing interconnection axis located in Minho, this project is also relevant to ensure the 3000 MW interconnection capacity target between Portugal and Spain, while ensuring the integration of high levels of RES and the security of the system.

Integration of RES in north of Portugal: New double circuit OHL 400 kV Vieira do Minho – Ribeira de Pena – Feira along with the new substation of Ribeira de Pena; New double circuit OHL Pedralva – Sobrado 400 kV (initially with only one circuit installed).



This project is particularly relevant for the implementation of the EU energy policy targets (market integration and competition, sustainability and security of supply) namely for:

- Obtain economic and environmental benefits arising from the integration of new RES, with lower generation costs and from market competition;
- Reduce CO₂ emissions, contributing to improve the sustainability of European electrical system;
- Obtain complementarities from different generation technologies of renewable resources (namely hydro and wind);
- Obtain complementarities from Portuguese and Spanish Systems;
- Avoid interconnection capacity reductions and as a consequence, lower levels of competitiveness between agents;

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Public Consultations

The project under consideration is submitted to public consultation (i) as part of the approval procedure of the *Plano de Desenvolvimento e Investimento da Rede de Transporte (PDIRT)* (Development and Investment Plan of the Transmission Grid), which is conducted by the *Entidade Reguladora dos Serviços Energéticos (ERSE)* (Energy Services Regulator), (ii) during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which is conducted by the *Agência Portuguesa de Ambiente (APA)* (Portuguese Environmental Agency) and finally (iii) during the administrative and technical licensing, which is conducted by the *Direção Geral de Energia e Geologia (DGEG)* (General Directorate for Energy and Geology).