

## Press release

Date 30/11/2015

50Hertz Transmission GmbH

EC

### **Building permit granted for phase shifters - higher stability for German and Czech power grids**

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- **Building preparations for phase shift transformers on German-Czech interconnectors will be finished before the year ends.**
- **Better control over the power flows between Chemnitz-Röhrsdorf and Hradec**

*Chemnitz-Röhrsdorf* – A decision has been made in favour of the construction of phase shifter transformers (PST) between Germany and the Czech Republic. Last week, the transmission system operator responsible for the north-east of Germany, 50Hertz, received the necessary immission protection licence from the environmental agency of the city of Chemnitz. The PSTs enable improved control of the cross-border power flows between Germany and the Czech Republic. The transformers function as a sort of adjustable grid valve to control and direct unplanned power flows in the direction of Central and Eastern Europe. They help ensure stability in the German and Czech electrical grids and increase the transfer capacity available for cross-border electricity trading.

Before the year is out, the construction site on the premises of the Röhrsdorf substation should be prepared. The phase shift transformers are planned to be operational by late 2017. In addition to the building permit, the approval also concerns noise control: a sound proofing building constructed around the transformers will ensure that the noise level of the substation does not exceed the admissible limit values.

Czech transmission system operator CEPS will also use phase shifters. These will be installed in Hradec and are expected to go online in early 2016.

With over 950 collaborators, **50Hertz** handles the operation and the expansion of the transmission network. Furthermore, the company is responsible for the management of the overall electrical system throughout the German Länder of Berlin, Brandenburg, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. As transmission system operator active in the Central European market, 50Hertz is responsible for the secure integration of renewable energies, the development of the European electricity market and for maintaining a high level of security of supply. Since 2010, Belgian grid operator Elia and Australian infrastructure fund IFM Investors are shareholders of 50Hertz, holding stakes of 60% and 40% respectively. As a European transmission system operator, 50Hertz is part of the Elia Group and a member of ENTSO-E, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity.

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