

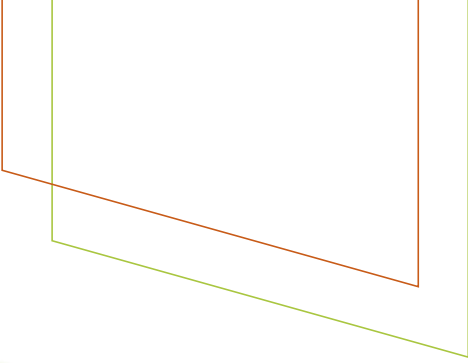
**Environmental
Report**
summary document

2009



RED ELÉCTRICA DE ESPAÑA





We carry out all our activities in compliance with strict environmental criteria as established in the principles assumed in our environmental policy.

The principal cornerstones of action of our environmental commitment are centred on the following:

- Caring for the natural environment in which our facilities are installed.
- Management and conservation of the biodiversity.
- Fight against climate change. Energy efficiency and saving.
- Other actions in the area of environmental management and control.

ISO 14001
Certification
of all our
activities and
facilities



100%
of the projects
are submitted
to an evaluation of
an environmental
nature

Caring for the natural environment where our facilities are installed

Electricity is essential for the development of all societies and the well-being of its citizens. The activities required for the transmission of that electricity under secure conditions, from the generation points to those where it is consumed, requires the development of infrastructures which lead to determined effects on the natural environment.

To avoid or minimize those effects, in Red Eléctrica we apply strict environmental criteria in all stages of grid development.

Grid planning stage

- Collaboration with the Ministry of Industry in the strategic environmental evaluation of the 2008-2016 Infrastructures Plan.
- Collaboration with the autonomous communities in the development of the regional plans.

Project stage

- Environmental assessment of all projects for new facilities.
- Definition of better siting and routes.
- Definition of preventive and corrective measures.

Construction stage

- Environmental supervision to ensure compliance with the environmental requirements.
- Verification of the efficiency of the preventive and corrective measures put in place.

Maintenance stage

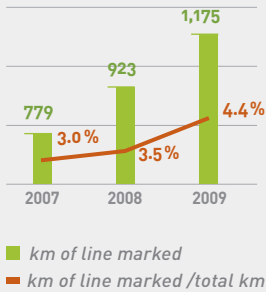
- Definition of the environmental requirements to be observed during works.
- Revision and audit of the degree of compliance with the environmental requirements.





Actively working on the conservation of the biodiversity

Marking of lines with bird flight diverters



The REE Forest

Project for the compensation of emissions that involves the planting of treed areas in a deteriorated natural area. In 2009, 162 ha of meadow lands in Badajoz have been more densely populated with trees.

Protection of fauna

- Interruption of construction works of facilities during the nesting period of sensitive species.
- Marking of electricity lines with bird flight diverter devices to prevent the collision of birds.
- Developing of research projects focused on the prevention of effects on fauna.

Protection of flora

- Hanging of cables with helicopter or by hand and use of boom crane for hoisting electricity line towers in protected spaces.
- Increasing the height of line towers to protect woodlands.
- Restoring areas with indigenous species affected by facility construction activities.
- Interruption of works during forest fire risk season.
- Maintenance of security corridors to prevent fires.
- Forest fire prevention training days.
- Research and innovation in the work processes.

Contribution to the conservation of the biodiversity

In collaboration with specialised entities, we work on the development of diverse research studies and projects focused on the biodiversity conservation, such as; the measures tried out for the **improvement of the habitat of Steppe birds** (especially the Great Bustard) or the **re-introduction of the Black Vulture** in Catalonia.

Climate change and efficiency

Fight against climate change

The fight against climate change represents a significant challenge for Red Eléctrica. To this effect, we have undertaken the following commitments:

- Build an electricity infrastructure grid that facilitates the development of renewable energies and the High Speed Train.
- Integrate the highest possible amount of renewable energy generation into the electricity system under secure conditions
- Implement energy efficiency measures, develop demand side management tools and actively participate in research forums and projects, such as the electric vehicle.
- Reduce to the minimum the emissions derived from our activities, primarily those related with SF₆ (Sulphur hexafluoride).

Red Eléctrica eficiente

We have created the internal brand “Red Eléctrica eficiente” to encompass and identify all those actions that promote energy efficiency and a reduction in basic consumptions.

Implementation of efficiency measures

- Replacing current lighting elements for more efficient ones.
- Installation of recharging points for electric vehicles.
- Progressive reduction in the use of paper through the use of electronic formats and media in our publications and in the training schools (Paperless Classroom).
- Holding meetings via videoconferencing.
- Definition of the efficiency requirements that the company vehicles must comply with.
- Promoting sustainable mobility amongst employees.

Compensation of
2,430 tonnes
of CO₂
by planting
8,100
Holm oaks

(in the REE Forest)





Other environmental actions

Waste management

We manage the different waste in compliance with the legal requirements and the contamination prevention criteria. The main lines of action to achieve an optimum waste management are focused on:

- Striving to achieve the maximum waste segregation.
- Working closely with our suppliers to determine the best waste management options.
- Promote good practices by means of training and awareness programmes.

Protection against accidents

Amongst the potential environmental accidents which may occur when carrying out our activities, the most significant are oil spills, as well as fires due to line failure.

Thanks to the application of preventive and corrective measures, these accidents occur on very few occasions and their consequences are generally not significant.

Amongst the different measures that are carried out, in 2009 we have again held informative training days regarding the prevention of forest fires targeted at forest agents, agents of the Nature Protection Service (Seprona), environmental technicians of the provincial delegations and fire brigades.

Control of electric and magnetic fields

Thanks to the preventive measures that are applied in the design of the facilities, the levels of electric and magnetic fields stay below levels recommended by the Council of the European Union. Nonetheless, we keep up to date with scientific advances and we develop research projects in this field.



**3,109
hours**
training to
employees
*(an increase of
7% on 2008)*

Actions against noise contamination

During 2009, work has continued on the measurement of the noise generated at substations. In all cases, the levels measured are within the limits established by legislation.

Relation with stakeholders

Instilling awareness and training of employees in environmental matters is one of the keys that ensure that our activities and works are carried out in strict compliance with environmental criteria. In 2009, specialised training in environmental matters was received by 15% of the workforce, with a total of 3,109 hours dedicated to this training.

Regarding external relations, we make our environmental demands extensive to those suppliers whose services may have potential effects on the natural environment and we establish an ongoing dialogue with the authorities, local communities, specialised entities, research organisations and environmental groups.



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