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Elia completes phase one of the Brabo project

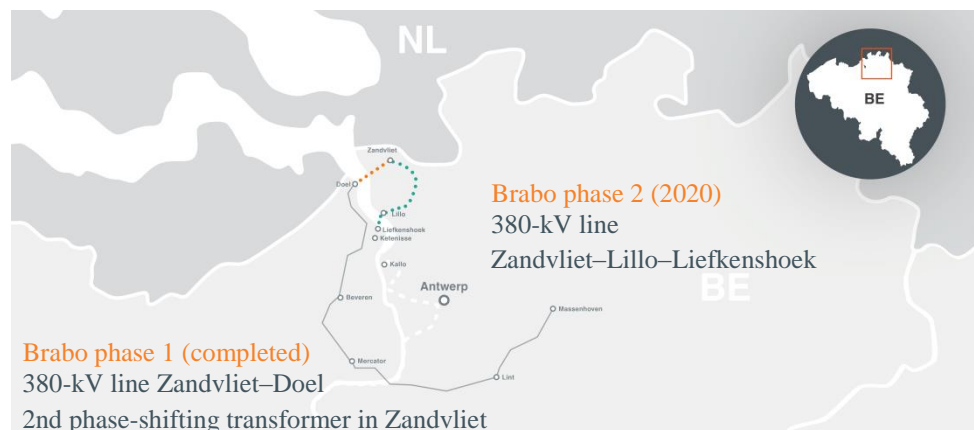
Security of supply boosted by commissioned phase-shifting transformer and upgraded HV line

Elia has completed phase one of the Brabo project. The second HV line between Doel and Zandvliet has been upgraded and on the Dutch border an additional phase-shifting transformer has commissioned. The Brabo project is part of ongoing efforts by Elia to enhance the security of supply in Belgium.

Double 380-kV line between Doel and Zandvliet

Over the past few months the existing 150-kV HV line between Zandvliet and Doel was upgraded to 380 kV. Consequently, there are now two 380-kV lines between Doel and Zandvliet.

When phase two of the Brabo project is complete (by the end of 2020), there will be a double 380-kV ring between the Zandvliet, Lillo and Doel substations, and the grid will be substantially stronger, especially the power supply to the Port of Antwerp. See the map.



Commissioning of second phase-shifting transformer in Zandvliet

One phase-shifting transformer already commissioned at the end of 2015. A transformer of this type is rather like a tap that regulates the supply of electricity. This transformer will spread power imported from the Netherlands across the grid more efficiently.

In total there are now 4 phase-shifting transformers on the Belgian-Dutch border. This is a major improvement in the reliability of the high-voltage grid.

Greater security of supply during critical phases

The installation of a double 380-kV line between Zandvliet and Doel and the additional phase-shifting transformer are important steps towards ensuring greater security of supply during critical phases of the winter period. If one or more of the

nuclear facilities in Doel is unavailable, more electricity can now be imported from the Netherlands.

Further work on the 380-kV ring around the Port of Antwerp

With phase 1 of the Brabo project complete, Elia is now working on the next stage of work. Phase 2 will see the 150-kV HV line between Zandvliet and Liefkenshoek (along the A12 motorway) replaced by a 380-kV line.

Together with the double 380-kV line between Doel and Zandvliet (Brabo I) on the other side of the River Scheldt, phase 2 will form a 380-kV ring around the Port of Antwerp.

For more information, see www.brabo.be.

About Elia

The Elia Group is organised around two electricity transmission system operators (TSOs): Elia Transmission in Belgium and 50Hertz Transmission, one of the four German transmission system operators, active in the north and east of Germany. With 1,900 employees and a transmission grid comprising some 18,300 km of high-voltage connections serving 30 million consumers, the Elia Group is one of Europe's top 5 TSOs. It efficiently, reliably and securely transmits electricity from generators to distribution system operators and major industrial consumers, while also importing and exporting electricity from and to neighbouring countries. The Group is a driving force behind the development of the European electricity market and the integration of energy generated from renewable sources.

In addition to its system operator activities in Belgium and Germany, the Elia Group offers businesses a range of consultancy and engineering services.

The Group operates under the legal entity Elia System Operator, a listed company whose reference shareholder is municipal holding company Publi-T.