

## **TERNA: THE DEMOLITION OF THE “ACIREALE-FONTANAROSSA” LINE IN THE PROVINCE OF CATANIA BEGINS**

**The first phase of the works will involve the removal of 9 km of overhead line and a total of 39 pylons in densely populated areas in the municipalities of Catania and Misterbianco**

**The project is part of the plan to rationalise and modernise the electricity grid of the Metropolitan City of Catania, in which Terna will invest over € 50 million**

**Rome, 6 July 2022** –Terna has launched the first stage of the works to demolish the 150 kV “Acireale-Fontanarossa” line. The Company will remove over 9 kilometres of overhead connection and 39 pylons which currently occupy densely populated residential areas in the municipalities of Catania and Misterbianco, freeing up around 10 hectares of land.

Once the first stage of the works is complete, over the coming years Terna will remove other sections of the same connection and the “San Giovanni Galermo-San Giovanni La Punta” and “San Giovanni La Punta-Viagrande” overhead lines.

The project is part of the wider plan to rationalise and modernise the electricity grid in the Metropolitan City of Catania, which will provide greater system reliability and sustainability and in which the operator of Italy’s national grid will invest over € 50 million.

Last April, the Department of Energy and Public Utilities of the Sicilian Region authorised the construction of two underground power lines in nine municipalities of the Metropolitan City of Catania, aimed at increasing the meshing of the local electricity grid which, in the summer, experiences a sharp increase in energy demand due to the influx of tourists to the region.

The redevelopment plan for the electricity grid in Catania is part of the Programme Agreement for projects to improve the security of the electricity system and to develop the regional territory, signed by the Sicilian Region, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and Terna, on 18 September 2019, with the goal of optimising synergies and pursuing complete environmental, territorial and social sustainability in terms of energy via close participation of local administrations and the population when defining electricity development actions and projects.

Following the Programme Agreement, in October 2021 Terna, the Municipality of Catania and the Metropolitan City of Catania signed agreements to fund significant territorial redevelopment activities associated with the new electrification projects.