

Press release

Ireland, Wednesday 12 May 2021

Siemens Energy wins grid stability contracts from ESB, Ireland

- State-of-the-art Reactive Power Compensation systems from Siemens Energy to support the power supply at three sites in South West Ireland
- Static Compensator technology helps manage grid stability
- Construction will begin in summer 2021 and will be completed in 2023

Siemens Energy has been awarded three contracts from ESB, Ireland's leading energy company, to provide state-of-the-art Static Compensator (SVC PLUS) technology to manage grid stability at its three substation sites in South West Ireland.

Siemens Energy will provide a full turnkey package including, design, build and a five-year maintenance package. The three projects, located at Ballyvouskill in County Cork, Ballynahulla in County Kerry and Thurles, County Tipperary, will be built concurrently, with construction due to begin in the coming months. The projects will take two years to complete.

As the lead contractor for the projects, Siemens Energy will work with local contractors on the civil work needed, and it is anticipated around 100 local jobs will be supported across the three project sites.

Nick O' Mahony, Managing Director, Siemens Energy Ireland, said: "Globally, Siemens Energy has vast experience in helping grid operators strengthen grid resilience. These projects, combined with the recent synchronous condenser project at Moneypoint, will play a vital role in keeping the lights on across the country."

Dave Dwyer, Networks Project Manager, Engineering and Major Projects at ESB, said: "These are the very first STATCOM's to be deployed by ESB Networks on the Transmission System and we are delighted to work with Siemens Energy on this project. These projects will make a significant

contribution to meeting Ireland’s ambitious renewables targets and help decarbonize the electricity grid as a whole.”

As the energy transition proceeds at pace, many large power plants, which would have provided reactive power, are being decommissioned and replaced with renewable generation. This means grid operators around the world are responding by building STATCOM systems to help keep the grid stable despite the increase in fluctuating power supplies from renewable and distributed energy sources.

Reactive power supports grid voltage during long-distance large-scale power transmission. By using reactive power, the grid voltage can be increased or decreased, and electricity can be efficiently transmitted.

STATCOM systems stabilize fluctuations in the grid by absorbing or feeding in voltage-supporting reactive power, depending on the requirements. This approach significantly reduces the risk of voltage drops and blackouts.

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Siemens Energy is one of the world’s leading energy technology companies. The company works with its customers and partners on energy systems for the future, thus supporting the transition to a more sustainable world. With its portfolio of products, solutions and services, Siemens Energy covers almost the entire energy value chain – from power generation and transmission to storage. The portfolio includes conventional and renewable energy technology, such as gas and steam turbines, hybrid power plants operated with hydrogen, and power generators and transformers. More than 50 percent of the portfolio has already been decarbonized. A majority stake in the listed company Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy (SGRE) makes Siemens Energy a global market leader for renewable energies. An estimated one-sixth of the electricity generated worldwide is based on technologies from Siemens Energy. Siemens Energy employs more than 90,000 people worldwide in more than 90 countries and generated revenue of around €27.5 billion in fiscal year 2020. www.siemens-energy.com.