Fantanele-Cogealac wind farm generates 600 MW

CEZ Group has started and connected to the power grid the Fantanele-Cogealac wind farm in Dobrogea (south-east), with the existing 240 wind turbines generating 600 megawatts, according to a company's release.

The wind farm supplies over 1 million households per year with electricity.

The last wind turbine at Fantanele-Cogealac was connected to the national grid at end-November 2012.

'With the Fantanele-Cogealac wind farm, CEZ is making a major contribution to the growth of Romania's production of renewable energy. Before this project, Romania's installed wind capacity stood at 14 megawatts only,' said CEZ Project Manager Ondřej Šafář.

The nacelles of the turbine were supplied by the GE factory in Salzbergen, Germany. The blades of the rotors and the towers came from Germany, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Poland and China. The size of the parts - a rotor blade is almost 50-metre long - and their number entailed complex planning. Carrying all the parts for each wind turbine from the Black Sea port of Constanta to the construction site of the project required twelve transport modalities. In peak periods, as many as 25 cranes were used simultaneously, in one of the largest construction sites in Europe.

In early 2011, GE announced that its fleet of wind turbines of the 2.5 MW series had exceeded two gigawatts of installed capacity globally, i.e. a quantity of cleaner electricity enough to supply approximately 1.4 million households with power. Today, these turbines operate in 19 countries worldwide, of which 14 in Europe, and have reached a volume of 7 million hours of operation.