

Blackout of April 28, 2025

Statement

Lisbon, April 29, 2025 – The **Portuguese Renewable Energy Association (APREN)** considers that the power outage that affected Portugal and several other European countries yesterday is a clear warning of the urgent need to strengthen the resilience of the European electricity system.

APREN also emphasizes that renewable energy sources were neither the cause of the incident nor did they delay its resolution, as confirmed by several experts in recent hours.

The goal of ensuring European energy sovereignty — to stop depending on oil and natural gas-producing countries — can only be achieved through the use of renewable energy sources. APREN advocates for three key areas of action:

1. **Strengthening electrical interconnections with Europe**, an essential condition for a more balanced system that is better prepared to respond to crisis situations. Improving connectivity between countries not only reduces risks and increases stability but also allows electricity projects to become more economically viable and efficient.
2. **Increasing Europe's renewable energy capacity**, in line with the objectives of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP 2030) of various European countries. For this energy transition to occur safely and effectively, it is essential to reinforce system redundancy and ensure that the grid infrastructure keeps pace with the expansion of renewables.
3. **Investing in the electricity grid and its management and administration**, so it can integrate growing volumes of renewable energy production and respond reliably to rapid fluctuations in electricity demand and supply.

These three areas are further supported by two European Commission documents: the *Clean Industrial Deal* and the *Action Plan for Affordable Energy*.



APREN also commends the swift response of REN – Redes Energéticas Nacionais, which managed to restore a significant part of the electricity supply in a short period of time, ensuring system stability and preventing more serious consequences.

The energy transition cannot take place without a clear investment strategy for electricity transmission and distribution networks, as well as in storage systems and grid flexibility. The event of April 28 showed that the path toward a cleaner electricity system must go hand in hand with the development of a more robust, interconnected, and technologically advanced grid.