

Network Development Plan 2021 regarding the investment projects and long-term planning for the transmission grid of Vorarlberger Übertragungsnetz GmbH

The liberalisation of the energy markets and the increase of renewable energy sources require ambitious efforts in planning transmission- and distribution grids in Europe for the future demand. The long-term grid development planning is an integrative part of measures for ensuring the security of supply and the system reliability in this highly dynamic and complex environment.

According to § 29a in conjunction with § 29 art. 1 let. p of the Vorarlberger Elektrizitätswirtschaftsgesetz (EiWiG) the transmission system operator in Vorarlberg has to submit a ten year network development plan to the national regulatory authority each year. It has to be consistent with the regional and Community-wide network development plan.

Prior to the submission of the network development plan 2021 for the planning period 2022-2031 the transmission system operator has to consult with all relevant stakeholders according to § 29a art. 5 EiWiG.

The current projects of Vorarlberger Übertragungsnetz GmbH (VUEN) incorporate measures, which are of national and international interest with regard to a coordinated grid development. One main focus of VUEN is to ensure the cross-border interconnections of the transmission grid in Vorarlberg to the adjacent grids in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. On the one hand VUEN is keen to cope with the future increasing load flows in its transmission grid, which will be strongly influenced by the wider load flow situation in the area of Lake Constance (German: Bodensee) and beyond. On the other hand, the safeguarding of secure and reliable supply in Vorarlberg is one of our major objectives.

List of the projects included in the Network Development Plan 2021 of VUEN:

- Increasing the transmission capacity between the 220-kV- and 380-kV-switchgear in the substation Bürs
- Bodenseestudie; Long-term network development study in the Lake Constance region
- Erweiterung und Ertüchtigung der 220-kV-Schaltanlage im Umspannwerk Meiningen

The Network Development Plan 2021 of VUEN is open for consultation until 23th July 2021. All interested parties are invited to provide their comments in written form to the consultation paper (only available in German) as of 1st June 2021. If a respondent would like VUEN to treat their contribution with confidentiality, this must be explicitly mentioned in their submission.

Following the public consultation period, VUEN will take the comments into consideration when finalising the network development plan.