

In order to create conditions for the transition of Bulgarian to low-carbon economy, a total of 255 million euros from the European grants will be used by Bulgarian electricity transmission system operator ESO.

ESO and the Ministry of Energy held a public debate on the operator's development plans for the 2021-2026 period. Three main areas of implementation are envisaged: modernization of the management, planning and administration systems, modernization of the electricity transmission network so that it can flexibly absorb the increased electricity flows and increase the possibility of connecting new RES to the network, its management and balancing.

The plan envisages the introduction of modern digital tools to provide the necessary flexibility, security, reliability and rapid response in the management of the power system in low-carbon generation. The aim is to modernize both the substations and the telecommunications infrastructure so as to organize "electricity highways" throughout the country and with neighboring countries. The implementation of the activities envisaged in the plan will also lead to an increase in the interconnection capacities with neighboring countries.

Deputy Minister of Energy Zhecho Stankov stressed that this need is becoming more and more palpable in connection with the entry of more renewable energy sources into the energy mix and in view of the challenges posed to the Bulgarian energy sector by the EU Green Deal. According to him, the digital transformation of ESO as the precondition for low-carbon economy has no alternatives.