

PRESS RELEASE

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Sweco to connect Lithuania to the European grid

Sweco has been given a key role in the development of the largest transmission line in Lithuania. The line is an important component of Lithuania's efforts to increase its energy independence. The contract is worth over EUR 860,000.

In a new assignment, Sweco has been chosen to plan a new 400 kV power transmission line between the Lithuanian city of Alytus and the Polish border.

"The transmission line will have the highest voltage ever built in Lithuania, and will also create an interconnection to the European grid and facilitate the exchange of power with other EU member states. This will be a critical step towards Lithuania's goal to increase its energy independence," says Eva Nygren, President of Sweco Sweden.

Swedish and Lithuanian consultants from Sweco are collaborating in the assignment, which has been divided into two parts. The first of these involves preparation of an environmental impact assessment and a territorial planning document for construction of the new transmission line. In the second, Sweco will design and draft a plan for upgrading of a transformer station in Alytus. The station will be equipped with a technologically advanced solution for interconnection between the countries, a so-called back-to-back converter.

At the EU's request, Lithuania will shut down the nuclear power plant at Ignalina on 31 December 2009. As compensation for this, the EU is contributing funding for the new power line that will connect Lithuania to the European power grid. Sweco's consultants in Lithuania have been previously involved in connection with decommissioning of the Ignalina plant, where they are providing technical and environmental expertise.

Sweco's client is Lietuvos Energija AB, the owner and operator of the Lithuanian power system. Sweco's work is scheduled for completion in December 2010.

Sweco is a provider of international consulting engineering services with combined expertise in engineering, environmental technology and architecture. The Group has annual sales of approximately SEK 5.5 billion and 5,300 employees in ten countries. The company has projects currently underway in some 80 countries worldwide. Sweco is listed on NASDAQ OMX Stockholm AB.

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