



PROGRESS MADE IN THE RECONNECTION OF THE TWO UCTE ZONES

Resynchronisation of the two UCTE zones that were split in 1991 as a result of the war events in former Yugoslavia has been a matter of priority to the UCTE for many years. However, it was not before the beginning of this decade that the proper preparation of the process could be started due to the development of positive political and economic relations between the countries involved, and due to the global importance of the reconnection that was recognised by large international communities including EU bodies, international financial institutions, and countries at the interface themselves.

Without reconnection, the creation of the South East European Regional Electricity Market envisaged by the Athens Memorandum would be put at risk.

The UCTE Executive Team for Reconnection coordinates all actions aiming at the integration of the whole UCTE area. During the year 2003, ET met important organizational prerequisites:

- the minimum grid configuration was defined
- the design of control blocks and sharing of responsibilities were outlined
- all back-up technical facilities (data links) were specified
- civil works of the grid restoration of key infrastructure were monitored by regularly updated inventory reports

The preparation of key documents – Resynchronization Program and Agreement on Operational Coordination – were well advanced at the end of 2003.

Without reconstruction of the infrastructure, it would not have been possible to carry out the resynchronisation. Major restoration of the damaged Ernestinovo substation in Croatia, managed by HEP and financed by the Croatian government, was completed in 2003, together with the construction of a new 400/110kV substation in Zerjavinec. Following intensive negotiations with the authorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the World Bank gave its no-objection-letter at the end of 2003 for financing the crucial projects – the restoration of the Mostar substation and the »Adriatic line« Mostar–Gacko and of the line Ugļjevik–Tuzla–Sarajevo–Mostar. Following successful negotiations of JPCC with contracting companies, all investments are likely to be completed in mid-2004. <<<