



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

## The ETR of la Gomada will start operating after next summer

The installation reaches 28% of the country's maximum consumption and can distribute it to La Massana and Ordino

The aim is to lighten the rest of the stations and facilitate the connection to renewable production

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The Distribution Transformer Station (ETR) in Gonarda will come into operation after the summer of 2023. This was announced yesterday by FEDA's Director of Energy, Marc Calvet, during a visit to the facilities that included the presence of various authorities and residents of the area. In this sense, the main function of the ETR is to release load from other installations in the country, as well as to allow the development and growth of the distribution network of the northern valleys. In fact, the infrastructure, which was described as «technologically very advanced» responds to the energy transition and was designed taking into account several criteria in the field of landscape integration, security, sustainability and respect for the environment.

«This station has been created to provide an outlet and accommodate new energy demands», Calvet pointed out while assuring that, precisely, the ETR will allow «the urban development of the northern valleys». In this sense, the installation is capable of reaching up to 28% of Andorra's maximum consumption to diversify and distribute it between Massana and Ordino. «We have duplicate transformers that allow us to operate at 50% of total capacity. If there is ever an incident, we will be able to guarantee the necessary demand», he pointed out.

On the other hand, and in relation to the rejection expressed by some residents of the area at the beginning of the project, Calvet considered that FEDA has been able to respond to all their concerns and has achieved all the commitments in the field of landscape integration, security and acoustic emissions. «The return from the neighborhood of the area is satisfactory», affirmed the Director of Energy of FEDA. Likewise,



► FEDA's Director of Engineering, Marc Calvet, during the visit to the new facilities.

the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainability, Sílvia Calvo, added that «it is an open door to understand that these infrastructures are integrated, are sustainable and, therefore, should not worry the public».

As for the origin of the energy, Calvet highlighted that, in this case, it is imported from centers in France and Spain that have renewable cer-

tificates of origin. However, he recalled that one of the objectives is to increase national production up to 30%.

The Gonarda infrastructure, in this sense, is a high to medium voltage electrical power transformation and distribution station (from 110 kilowatts to 20 kilowatts). The electricity is transported to the ETR at high voltage and transformed there

to medium voltage to be able to distribute it to La Massana and Ordino. However, it will benefit the whole country, because it will respond to the demand needs of the coming years, while easing the burden on the rest of the stations, and it will facilitate the connection of new production facilities with renewables. In addition, the ETR uses high-voltage switchgear with encapsulated technology



**Marc Calvet**

FEDA ENERGY DIRECTOR

«We have duplicate transformers that allow us to operate at 50% in case there is ever an incident»

**Sílvia Calvo**

ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

«It must be understood that these infrastructures are integrated, are sustainable and should not worry anyone»

installed inside which provides a reduction of space up to 1,300 square meters. The power transformers have been designed in compliance with the most demanding European regulations regarding the environment and a biodegradable synthetic ester oil is used which provides greater safety and respect for the environment.

Finally, Calvo indicated during statements to the press following the visit to the facilities that the country is not late in imposing the mandatory energy measures. «Now the tourists and the cold are coming, and now is when consumption will be important and we will have to take one more step», said the minister, as reported by ANA. ≡

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GENERAL COUNCIL

# The resignation of four doctors from the Emergency Department aggravates the saturation

Albert Font points out that part of the overload is the result of attention that could be solved in primary school

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The Minister of Health, Albert Font, acknowledged yesterday that moments of «tension» are being experienced in the hospital's Emergency Department which have been aggravated by the fact that four doctors have leave due to work leave who, as of now, are already being covered. In this way, he emphasized that one of the professionals has already joined and two others are in the process of procedures so that they can provide service immediately. Apart from these additions, Font emphasized that another of the solutions being put on the table is for the Medical Permanences Service to be in operation every weekday during the Christmas holiday period, to respond to current needs.

Thus, the minister stated that there is an «overload» of the Emergency Service due to diseases that could «be solved in primary care», and he recalled that there is already a commission created to analyze the solutions that could implement to ensure that all these more banal pathologies do not end up collapsing the Emergency Service. In this way, he admitted that what «worries» him is «the use that is made» of the service, since the fact that pathologies that should not go to the Emergency Department end up going there means that «an increase in price», since a system sized for other needs is used, and a «saturation of the service».

In this sense, he added that this situation is caused by «the difficulty of the user to see the primary care doctors come to his home»



►► A snapshot of the response of the Minister of Health, Albert Font, during session.

**The minister wants to prevent the general director of the SAAS from being «a scapegoat» for situations where he has no responsibility**

and, on the other hand, by a question of reimbursement, since in the hospital is 90%. Be that as it may, despite recognizing that there is this more general problem, Font stated that what is needed in the first instance is to «deal with the current situation» and close the recruitments necessary to cover the positions that have currently been uncovered.

Questioned by the non-affiliated general counsel, Carine Montaner, about his trust in the general

director of the SAAS, Font declared that the relations have «always been cordial» and that the «differences» that they may have had «have been resolved through conversations techniques».

In addition, he acknowledged that it would be positive to conduct a survey on the working climate at SAAS, as suggested by the minister, but he stressed that what would be necessary is to prevent the current director general from being «a scapegoat» of situations

about for which he has no responsibility.

Finally, as part of his intervention yesterday in the question session to the Government of the General Council, the head of Health stated that another solution that is on the table in order to improve the service is the separation of the SUM and Emergency, and recognized the improvement that can mean that all emergencies are processed through 112, as reported by the ANA. ≡

COMPANY

# Grifols is studying the sale of 2,000 million in assets to reduce debt

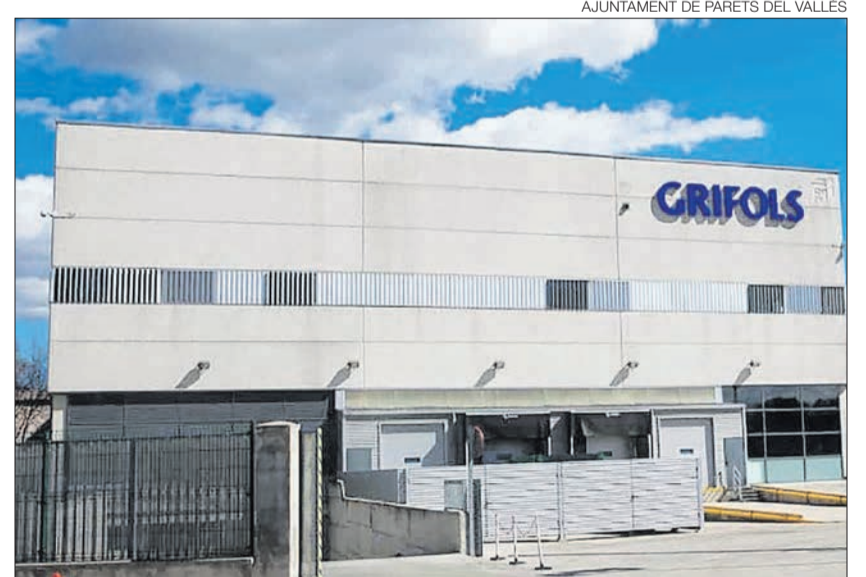
Pharmaceuticals is one of the Ibex companies that has fallen the most this year

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The Catalan multinational Grifols has on the table the possibility of selling assets for a value of 2,000 million euros. This action would serve to send a message of calm to the mar-

kets, as a signal of confidence to investors, and as a tool to reduce a debt that exceeds 9,000 million - enlarged in the last instance by the purchase of Biotest. And the fact is that pharmaceuticals is, today, one of the companies listed on the Ibex-35 that has performed worse this year, with a drop of more than a third of its value. Specifically, the company would be studying to divest itself of its diagnostic area and/or its busi-

ness in China - which corresponds to its stake in the company Shanghai RAAS, acquired in 2020. However, the pharmaceutical industry could also have the door open to the entry of venture capital firms into its shareholding. This option had always been ruled out by the top, controlled by the management family, but it could finally be a reality given the losses recorded on the stock market. ≡



►► The Grifols factory in Parets del Vallès.

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