



ECONOMY

## Electricity tariffs will become more expensive in 2023 if consumption is not reduced

A new package of savings measures will come into force from September with recommendations

The objective set by FEDA and the Government is to reduce spending between 15% and 20%



SFGA/JAVILADOT

►► Silvia Calvó, Albert Moles and David Hidalgo during the delivery of the FEDA Green Light seal in Grandvalira-Ensisa.

EL PERIÒDIC CANILLO

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The need to increase electricity rates during 2023 will depend on the expenditure generated this autumn-winter season, as explained by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainability, Silvia Calvó, who also assured that the Government has pledged not to increase prices until at least the end of 2022. However, and in the event that this increase is necessary during the coming year, such strong increases of 50%, 80% or 100% are not considered such as those adopted by neighboring countries.

At the same time, FEDA has contributed to curbing this problem caused by the crisis «helping in order to not affect companies and families», assessed Calvó. However,

this fact has meant that the parabolic has accumulated a deficit of more than 10 million. In this sense, the minister indicated that «we should not talk about savings, because FEDA is buying electricity at a loss» and, therefore, less electricity it buys from abroad, less losses and less need it will have to increase rates for next year.

Therefore, the Government and FEDA have the objective of achieving between 15% and 20% savings in energy consumption based on a new package of measures that the Executive plans to implement from September, both in the public and private sectors. Along these lines, the general manager of the company, Albert Moles, asserted that «it is a very good tool to get through this slump and it gets us used to looking at what we spend». Therefore, over the next few days, a series of

meetings will be held with the municipalities and employers to agree which of the measures that will be applied to them will be mandatory or recommendations. On the other hand, those that refer to the general administration will be of a tax nature,

and those aimed at citizens will only consist of various recommendations to be taken into account. In addition, «we also want to carry out a campaign to inform citizens what they can do from their homes in favor of this indispensable and essen-

### Ensisa receives the Green Light certificate from FEDA

►► The director general of FEDA, Albert Moles, gave the Green Light seal to the director general of Grandvalira-Ensisa, David Hidalgo, because it is the first company in Andorra to certify that all the electrical energy it consumes is of renewable origin. This distinction is valid for 12 months from its issue. In addition, the fact that all the energy consumed is of renewable origin makes it possible to reduce the CO2 emissions gene-

rated, and in the case of Grandvalira Soldeu-El Tarter it represents a reduction of its carbon footprint by almost 50%. For his part, Hidalgo indicated that obtaining the seal «is a very important step for us, and another step that accompanies the responsible action of all the workers in society, which is in line with our last 20 years», emphasizing at the same time Grandvalira's commitment to energy efficiency.



#### SILVIA CALVÓ

ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

«With everyone's behavior this winter we will be able to take stock and know how much we will have to increase rates»

#### DAVID HIDALGO

DIRECTOR DE GRANDVALIRA

«We are working on the optimization of consumption with the reduction of passive costs and the change of widgets»

#### ALBERT MOLES

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FEDA

«[The new package] is a very good tool to get through this slump and it gets us used to looking at what we spend»

tial saving until the winter ends», the minister remarked.

On the other hand, the ski resorts are the biggest consumer of energy in the country, since the expenditure represents between 5% and 7% of their income figure. Therefore, the general manager of Grandvalira-Ensisa, David Hidalgo, showed his commitment to energy reduction not only with the recent acquisition of the 100% sustainable electricity certification from FEDA, but «we are also working with the optimization of consumption with the reduction of passive costs such as insulation or schedules, snow cultivation and the change of old widgets for more efficient ones», he indicated.

However, Calvó remarked that «with the behavior of everyone this winter, of the companies, the citizens and the general administration, we will be able to take stock of the situation and know how much we will have to increase the rates, because FEDA cannot support anymore the current situation». ≡

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NEW FAMILY CODE

# People with disabilities celebrate legal independence

Risco hopes that the future specific law will finish polishing the pending fringes in labor and education matters

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With the image of the exit from the Dos Valires tunnel as a backdrop, the president of the Andorran Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities (Faapd), Jacint Risco, celebrated yesterday through a YouTube video that the new Family Code standardizes the United Nations (UN) convention regarding people with functional diversity. The text, which was approved on July 21st at the General Council, was published a couple of weeks ago at the BOPA and represents «the light at the end of the tunnel» of one of the group's historic struggles: the recognition of the legal capacity of the person. «Despite the fact that Andorra signed the international agreement in 2007 and ratified it in 2014, it has not been until now, in 2022, when it will finally apply it thus recognizing one of the most important points which is our independence in legal capa-

## The Faapd sees

«the light at the end of the tunnel» with the normalization of the UN convention, signed now 15 years ago

city. Until now, we needed someone to decide for us, but with the new code we are the ones who make the decision with the support of someone else, if necessary,» explained Risco. In this way, in addition to the recognition of legal personality, legal capacity is also included under equal conditions, the proportion of support measures to exercise legal capacity and safeguards to prevent abuse. In this sense, the text stipulates that when making decisions, the person must be provided with the relevant information, assisted in a way adapted to their abilities and avoid any kind of pressure, coercion, or undue influence.

However, there is still work to be



► A moment of the approval of the new Family Code approved by the General Council last June.



**Jacint Risco**  
FAAPD PRESIDENT

«It's very good to guarantee support, but the most important thing is that our decision is respected like anyone else's»

done and, although the Faapd celebrates the unanimous approval of the law and appreciates the dedication of the technicians and general advisers, Risco made it clear that there are still pending fringes in labor and education, for example, which will have to be closed with a special law that has already begun to work. «I am aware that the text is very advanced and if this legislature is not approved, it will be the next one but, in any case, that we have a specific law that guaran-

DEMOCRATES

## the keys

- 1** Recognition of legal personality, legal training under equal conditions, proportion of support measures and safeguards to prevent abuse.
- 2** Provide the person with the relevant information, assist them in a way adapted to their needs and avoid any kind of pressure, coercion or undue influence.
- 3** The guardian is the one who establishes a guardianship or appoints a judicial defender if the person has not provided for it or the de facto observer does not satisfactorily provide the services.

tees the rights of people with disabilities is very important, beyond the agreement of the UN», he pointed out. However, Risco asked the Government to «put all the means and resources in place so that the new Family Code works and is applied» and «not to happen like in Spain, where those who have to apply the legislation are not feel like it».

Returning to Andorran law, and in relation to the provision of support by the judicial authority, Risco emphasized that it is the court that establishes a guardianship or appoints a judicial defender, if the person involved has not foreseen it or the de facto observer does not satisfactorily provide the services. This request for support can be made to the person, the spouse, relatives in different degrees, the de facto guardian, the prosecutor or the Ministry of Social Affairs. «It is very good to guarantee support, but the most important thing is that our decision is respected like that of any other person», said Risco.

Thus, the code regulates, among others, the figure of the mandatory legal defender – who intervenes in conflicts between the institutions and the person – and the de facto observer as the person who exercises protection functions without a formal title that legitimizes his action, but take care of the person and always act in their benefit. ≡

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