



Conventional demand for natural gas in Spain hits record high for second consecutive day

- **Conventional demand stood at 1,249 GWh on Friday, 3 February**
- **This figure surpasses last winter's peak by 6%**
- **Underground storage facilities were operating at full capacity to satisfy demand**

Conventional demand for natural gas (domestic, commercial and industrial consumption) set a new all-time record for a second consecutive day on Friday, 3 February, of 1,249 GWh, mainly because of the low temperatures in Spain. This figure surpasses the record of 1,208 GWh set the previous day and is 6% higher than last winter's peak of 1,179 GWh, reported on 24 January 2011.

Last Friday's peak in demand was met comfortably, satisfying the entire demand of the system and all export obligations. Underground storage facilities operated at full capacity to meet requirements.

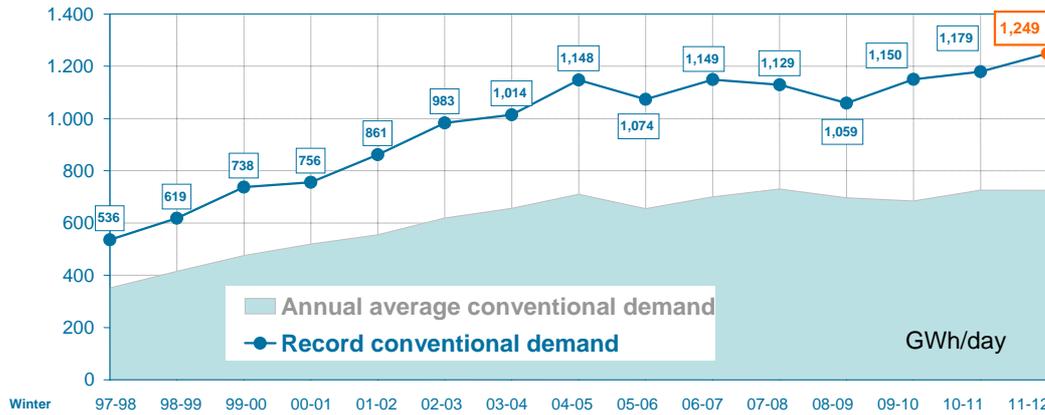
The State Meteorological Agency forecasts further falls in temperatures from Wednesday, 8 February, which may trigger fresh increases in conventional demand over the coming days.

Meanwhile, natural gas consumption for power generation is below historic highs. This is mostly because of the large contribution made by wind power, due to the high winds in the current cold snap.

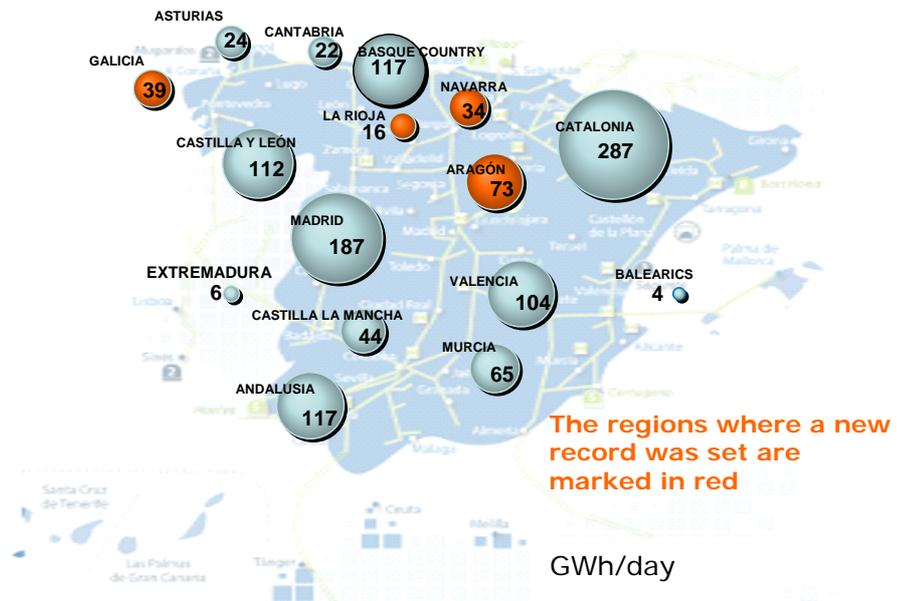
Last week the Gas Coordination Group activated the European alarm system by announcing extraordinary demand due to low temperatures throughout Europe.



Trend in conventional demand for natural gas



Conventional demand by region (03 Feb 2012)



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