

PRESS RELEASE ENEL GENERACIÓN CHILE

ENEL GENERACIÓN AND U. DE CONCEPCIÓN'S LARGE SCALE PLANTATION PROJECT HAS ADVANCED BY MORE THAN 50%

- ***The initiative, which began its field work in June 2017, involves planting more than two million native trees.***
- ***To date, more than 350 hectares have been reforested, equivalent to more than 1,100,000 plants.***

Curacaufín, January 15, 2019- In the district of Curacaufín, the CEO of Enel Generación Chile, Valter Moro, and the Vice-rector of the Universidad de Concepción, Carlos Von Plessing, led a tour, this morning, of one of the properties where the most important large-scale plantation project is being carried out in Chile and scientific research is being done, backed by both entities. During the visit, the authorities confirmed that the initiative has advanced by more than 50%, which is equivalent to planting more than 1,100,000 roble, raulí, and coigüe trees.

The project is part of the reforestation agreement signed in 2016 by Enel Generación Chile and the Universidad de Concepción, and involves the commitments made associated with the construction of the Ralco plant. The agreement includes planting more than two million native trees, which translates into an unprecedented project in the country of large-scale plantation being executed by one of Chile's most prestigious and excellent entities such as the Universidad de Concepción.

The University, as part of the agreement, is doing scientific research and giving a training program for communities, in line with this work. In this regard, the courses on native tree seed collection, for the communities surrounding the project's properties, can be highlighted. These courses provide new skills for families with a view to improving their quality of life. These are relevant points in Enel Generación Chile's community relations and its focus on sustainability.

The Vice-rector of the Universidad de Concepción, Carlos Von Plessing, emphasized the joint work done in the framework of this initiative. *"I congratulate the Forestry Sciences School, the support of Enel, and the participating property owners. Part of the university's mission is for the skills learned to be transmitted to help contribute to society, and this (the project) is a very good example. We are getting out of the laboratory to a reality and to recover part of the nature that was destroyed by fire. Here we are seeing nearly 350 hectares intervened to be reforested with native species."*

In turn, the CEO of Enel Generación Chile, Valter Moro, highlighted the important progress that the project has made, as well as the commitment that the company assumed in the initiative. *"Three years ago, together with the Universidad de Concepción, we took the first step with the signing of an agreement; in 2017, we launched the project and, today, we are seeing the incredible results of this initiative. We are proud because we are doing what we promised and in a fantastic way, through the knowledge and work developed by this university. This is a real contribution to the native forest of Chile and its ecosystem, in which the communities are also protagonists with their work and support,"* the executive commented.

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Currently, the project is in its third year of execution, with 50% of the surface area planted, out of the 700 hectares committed in the agreement. About 420 hectares have been prepared, out of which 354 have been reforested, equivalent to 1,168,200 roble, raulí, and coigüe trees.

The reforested areas are located on nine properties in the Curacautín district, in the Araucanía Region, and on a property in the Santa Bárbara district, in the Biobío Region, belonging to four owners.

Progress in research

The initiative is promoting scientific research with the objective of evaluating the recovery of ecosystem services, through reforestation with native species using the compensation mechanism.

Each one of the lines of research is supported by a scientific team made up of professors from the University's Forestry Sciences School, with the support of a research assistant, a doctoral thesis in Forestry Sciences, two Master's thesis in Forestry Sciences, three undergraduate students of Engineering in Conservation of Natural Resources, and a thesis on Plant Biotechnology.

It should be mentioned that the project is being executed by the Universidad de Concepción, through the Native Forest Initiative of the Forestry Sciences School (FCF), which offers the community a comprehensive management system for forestation, reforestation or restoration projects of different scales, developing new scientific knowledge with an emphasis on maximizing positive social and environmental impacts. This initiative is intended to establish a national and regional reference in the management of projects of this type, taking advantage of the scientific and technical skills housed in the Forestry Sciences School and other related departments of the university.