

# Press release



Paris, 18 July 2024

## **SUEZ expands its presence in the Polish renewable gas market by becoming a shareholder of ARA CURSUS alongside EIFFEL INVESTMENT GROUP and BOURGOGNE**

**SUEZ, a global leader in circular solutions for water and waste, is acquiring a 51% controlling stake in ARA Cursus (ARA), a developer and operator of biogas plants based in Poland. The Group thus reinforces its position as a major player in the European market for anaerobic digestion of waste and production of renewable energy from waste.**

Alongside SUEZ, EIFFEL, through its fund EIFFEL GAZ VERT, which already financed ARA projects, is acquiring a 24.5% stake in ARA. BOURGOGNE, former majority owner of ARA, retains a 24.5% stake in ARA.

ARA, a Polish developer and operator of anaerobic digestion plants has developed a portfolio of 9 agricultural biogas projects in the country, with the support of key technology and project partners. Each project is designed to produce around 1 MW electrical renewable energy, with one project currently in operation. The next group of projects is due to start construction from 2024. The projects also involve the production of digestate as an agricultural fertilizer, and the drying of wood for commercial customers.

SUEZ, along with EIFFEL, financial partners and BOURGOGNE, plans to invest nearly 70 million euros in the construction of the first group of biogas plants and the development of additional biomethane production plants.

Thanks to its expertise and portfolio, ARA is uniquely positioned to take advantage of the promising biomethane market in Poland. The development of biogas production benefits from the support scheme established by the Polish government in 2023. The national biogas production is expected to reach 30 TWh by 2030 and will leverage on the abundant local agricultural waste feedstock.

With the combined production of renewable energy and biofertilisers, ARA's biogas plants will contribute to Poland's low-carbon energy transition and circular economy. Each plant will reduce GHG emissions by at least 4,600 tons on an annual basis and will contribute to the sustainable development of communities by generating local direct jobs.

At the European level, the local production of biogas and biomethane contributes both to the decarbonisation and the security of energy supply. The EU has set clear targets to reduce waste to landfill and to scale up the use of renewable energy, including biogas and biomethane, by 2030. Treating the organic fraction of Europe's waste through anaerobic digestion is key to achieving these goals.

SUEZ, Société anonyme, a company incorporated under the laws of France, with a share capital of €63,757,000. Head Office: 16, place de l'Iris (Tour CB21) – 92040 Courbevoie, France – registered under number: 901 644 989 RCS Nanterre Trade and Companies Registry – VAT number: FR60901644989

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**Yves Rannou, SUEZ Chief Operating Officer Recycling & Recovery, Executive Vice-President** said: *“The acquisition of this controlling stake in ARA is a new step forward in the development of SUEZ in Poland, in line with our strategy to increase the share of our international business by 2027. It further reinforces the network of biogas and biomethane plants already operated by SUEZ in France, in the United Kingdom and Czech Republic. Together with our partners, we are committed to enabling our customers in Poland to drive their ecological transition by increasing waste recovery and local renewable energy production.”*

**Marc-Etienne Mercadier, fund manager of Eiffel Gaz Vert** said: *“We are thrilled to become shareholder of the platform that we started to finance three years ago. The combined expertise of SUEZ, Eiffel and Bourgogne will allow to position ARA CURSUS as a leading actor of the Polish biogas market. Poland is a promising market on which Eiffel has been positioned since 2018 and will continue to scale up, especially on the renewable gas market. Having opened its representation office in Warsaw last February, Eiffel will continue to leverage on its expertise and its local partners to foster the energy transition in Poland.”*

**Jean-Luc Zbirou, President of Bourgogne** said: *“We have been working with Eiffel Investment Group and Eiffel Gaz Vert since 2021 to prepare the first portfolio of projects for construction and to start the early stage development of a second group of projects for biomethane production. As renewable energy project developers and owners we and Eiffel Investment Group realised that a strategic partner would greatly accelerate our timetable and bring expertise to growing our operations quickly and we are very pleased that SUEZ has agreed to join us in this exciting construction and growth phase and we very much look forward to see all of these projects in operation”.*

## About SUEZ

*Faced with growing environmental challenges, SUEZ has been delivering essential services that protect and improve our quality of life for more than 160 years. SUEZ provides its customers with innovative and resilient solutions for water and waste services. With 40,000 employees across 40 countries, the Group works with customers to create value over the full lifecycle of their assets and services, and to drive their low carbon transition. In 2023, SUEZ provided drinking water for 57 million people worldwide and sanitation services for more than 36 million people. The Group generated 7.7 TWh of energy from waste and wastewater. In 2023, SUEZ generated revenues of 8.9 billion euros. For more information: [www.suez.com](http://www.suez.com) / X @suez / LinkedIn @SUEZ.*

## About Eiffel Investment Group

*Eiffel Investment Group is an asset manager with €6.4 billion under management\*. Backed by the Impala group founded by entrepreneur Jacques Veyrat, Eiffel Investment Group cultivates a strong industrial expertise, in particular in the field of the energy transition, but also in the life sciences, agri-food and digital sectors. Eiffel Investment Group invests for a sustainable world. Its investment strategies aim to generate not only a strong financial performance but also positive social and environmental impacts. Eiffel Investment Group's team counts around 100 talented professionals, in France (Paris), BeNeLux (Amsterdam), the United States of America (New York) and the UAE (Abu Dhabi).*

*\* as of 31/03/2024, including uncalled commitments. Eiffel Gaz Vert is a specialized professional fund classified as Article 9 under SFDR regulations, reserved for institutional investors.*

## About Bourgogne

*BOURGOGNE is a special purpose company that was created by Alinea Solar France, one of the largest photovoltaic electricity production companies in the French West Indies, in order to develop the Biogas market in Poland. It joined forces in 2021 with Eiffel Gaz Vert and invited this year SUEZ to take a majority stake in its project companies.*

Find out more about the SUEZ Group  
on the [website](#) and on social media



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