

Press release



Paris, December 5th, 2024

A new project to recover energy from waste in the Toulouse area

Decoset has awarded SUEZ and Banque des Territoires a 20-year concession contract for the management of two waste-to-energy plants in the Toulouse area.

Decoset, Toulouse area public waste management service, has just awarded SUEZ and Banque des Territoires, a Caisse des Dépôts Group entity, a concession contract for the management of two waste-to-energy plants. The two industrial facilities, located in Toulouse and Bessières, convert into energy the residual waste from over a million inhabitants.

“Given the major issues at stake for our region and the fact that Decoset is committed to a 20-year contract, the concession file had to be innovative and exemplary. We focused on the technical criteria, that were designed to optimize the incinerators’ operations, to guarantee the price framework and the legal risk taken by the future concession holder, and to maintain the relationship with the users and the local residents. Decoset paid special attention to the environmental performance of the facilities and its integration in the urban landscape. It has also taken into account the means of control available to the Syndicate in order to ensure the optimum use of its resources in the management of the public waste treatment service.”, **Vincent Terrail-Noves, President of the Decoset Joint Syndicate, 1st Vice-President of Toulouse Métropole in charge of waste and the circular economy and Mayor of Balma.**

“SUEZ teams are extremely proud to have won this emblematic contract. We are delighted to support Decoset in responding to today’s challenges and anticipating those of tomorrow. Our offer reflects all our ambitions in terms of innovation and performance. Determined, concrete and forward-looking, our project will help accelerate the region’s energy and environmental transition, while placing it firmly within the virtuous circle of the circular economy. The project involves the construction of a new waste-to-energy facility with emblematic architecture, which will become a European reference in terms of performance and the environment. Together with Banque des Territoires and all our partners, we will put all our expertise and commitment at the service of Decoset, the region and its inhabitants for the next twenty years.”, **Sabrina Soussan, Chairman and CEO of SUEZ.**

“Supporting the ecological transformation and the development of innovations in the field of energy recovery from resources is a key part of our strategic ambitions. This concession contract, the only one of its kind for the two waste-to-energy plants in the Toulouse area, is the result of a strong mobilisation and commitment of SUEZ and Banque des Territoires. This project, in partnership with Decoset and the affiliated local authorities, will ensure that the 1 million inhabitants of the area have their waste treated in efficient and environmentally-friendly facilities, mainly due to the construction of a new facility in Toulouse, which will become a European reference.”, **Olivier Sichel, Director of Banque des Territoires and Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Caisse des Dépôts.**

The contract, that is worth €1.4 billion, includes the modernisation of the Bessières waste-to-energy facility, the reconstruction of a new plant in Toulouse and the operation of these two waste-to-energy plants for the next 20 years. By weighing up every expense and optimising every revenue stream, the concession contract guarantees to Decoset the best possible economic balance over its entire term. It also includes the implementation of a modern, open and digital governance, securing transparent data for all stakeholders.

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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A global vision of waste treatment in the region to maximise the energy production

As part of the circular economy, the project has been designed to meet the region's energy challenges and support its transition. The equipment and operating methods of the two waste-to-energy plants will maximise energy production, delivering more than 220 GWh/year of electricity and more than 360 GWh/year of heat. The future Toulouse waste-to-energy facility will cover almost 80% of the needs of the city's district heating networks, which represents more than 60 MW, with continuity of service and guaranteed energy supply.

Particular attention has been paid to improving energy efficiency, notably to increase the amount of process heat that can be recovered and used locally. This energy will be fed into the Toulouse district heating network, significantly improving the system's environmental impact.

The concession, which is unique for the two waste-to-energy units, guarantees Decoset the continuity of a public service based on all possible synergies. Waste flows will be managed dynamically between the two sites to maximise their energy potential. The non-compliant fraction of the selective collections with a high calorific value will be stored at the Bessières site. In winter, it will be fed into Toulouse's new waste-to-energy to supply the two district heating networks.

A new integrated and efficient waste-to-energy plant in Toulouse, set to become a European reference

From January 1st, 2025, SUEZ and Banque des Territoires will take over the Toulouse waste-to-energy plant with the highest operating standards. Concurrently, it will carry out studies for the construction of a new plant to replace the old one, whose equipment is reaching end of life. This new industrial facility, which is scheduled to begin construction in 2026 and become operational in 2031, will be a European benchmark in terms of environmental and performance standards.

Designed as a "resource plant" and equipped with the best available technologies, the waste-to-energy facility will produce optimised thermal and electrical energy, while treating less waste than the previous one (240,000 t/year, i.e. a capacity reduction of 50,000 t/year). To ensure that the facility blends in with its surroundings, SUEZ and Banque des Territoires have made major commitments to ensure maximum control of emissions, dust, odours, noise and light pollution. The building, whose architecture is sober and compact, will be semi-buried and its surroundings will be planted with trees and shrubs, creating a green island of freshness of almost a hectare. The site will also house a research centre and an Energy Centre open to local authorities, visitors, partners and residents. This space will include an exhibition hall, a large educational area dedicated to waste prevention and reduction, a training campus, a centre of expertise and innovation, and areas reserved for Decoset.

The Bessières waste-to-energy plant: a safe and attractive facility for understanding energy recovery

At Bessières, renovation works will be carried out to improve the performance of the plant and the comfort of users and visitors. The equipment - furnaces, boilers, turbo generator unit, bottom ash treatment - will be renovated and modernised in order to optimise the plant's energy production (+400 KW or 3 GWhs), reduce water consumption by almost 30,000 m³/year and increase the recovery of non-ferrous metals by a factor of 3. The waste-to-energy plant, which has been open to visitors since inception in 2001, will benefit from a new secure indoor/outdoor visitor circuit focusing on energy recovery and incorporating a new educational area designed to welcome the public.

General

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Supporting the region in its ecological transition

In terms of ecological transition, significant technical resources will be deployed to improve air quality. Atmospheric emissions will be minimised and subject to a specific monitoring programme. Measures will also be taken to conserve water resources and develop biodiversity on the Bessières site and on the site of the future waste-to-energy facility, in collaboration with nature conservation associations. Finally, the project will help to reduce the region's overall carbon emissions by reducing the number of tonnes of waste processed, increasing the amount of energy produced and metal recycled, and using low-carbon modes of transport.

From a social point of view, the project aims to involve the local population in the life of the sites, by regularly informing them at each stage (pre-publication consultation, works, operation) and organizing events to make the sites open and welcoming. The operator, in collaboration with Decoset, will also be able to play an active role in raising public awareness of waste prevention.

A visionary project anticipating the total decarbonisation of waste-to-energy plants by identifying regional pathways

Given the urgency of climate change and the need to anticipate regulatory changes, particularly in terms of carbon taxation, SUEZ will support Decoset through an innovative approach, linking it to several emerging projects in the region that are pioneering decarbonisation solutions, such as CO₂ capture and conversion into sustainable aviation fuel.

This innovation programme involves the creation of a centre of expertise and innovation in energy efficiency, waste energy, CO₂ and sustainable fuels at the waste-to-energy facility in Toulouse. Funded by SUEZ, this R&D laboratory will consist of a team of three researchers working in close collaboration with academic institutions, start-ups and local companies.

About Decoset Joint Syndicate:

The Syndicat Mixte Decoset is a public body created in 1993 with the aim of setting up an optimal system for the recovery and treatment of household waste. It has since become a major player in the fields of waste prevention, treatment, recycling and the circular economy. Decoset is made up of 8 public intercommunal cooperation organisations, including Toulouse Métropole, and covers 154 communes with a population of over 1 million. It manages 2 energy recovery plants, 2 sorting centres, 6 transfer centres, 1 composting platform and 20 waste collection centres. It is currently building one of the largest sorting centres in France (70,000 tonnes) and an emblematic site dedicated to changing behaviour: Hall 9. Its strategic plan, adopted in December 2023, allows it to plan its activities in the long term, until 2040.

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 / X @suez / LinkedIn @SUEZ.

About Banque des Territoires:

Banque des Territoires is one of Caisse des Dépôts' business lines. It brings together in-house expertise dedicated to local and regional authorities. As a single point of contact for its clients, it works with all local players: local authorities, local public companies, social housing organisations, the legal profession, businesses and financial players. It helps them to carry out their projects in the public interest by offering a full range of solutions: advice, loans, equity investments, transfers and banking services. By reaching out to all regions, from rural areas to urban centres, Banque des Territoires aims to maximise its impact, particularly

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in terms of environmental change and social and territorial cohesion. The 37 local offices of Banque des Territoires ensure that it is present throughout metropolitan France and the French Overseas Departments.

Working together to develop greener, more socially cohesive regions.

banquedesterritoires.fr



Contacts:

SUEZ Press Office

Email: suez.media@suez.com

Tel: +33 6 32 18 39 54

Decoset Joint Syndicate

Email: communication@decoset.fr

Banque des Territoires Occitanie

Céline Vallée

Email: celine.vallee@caissedesdepots.fr

Tel: +33 6 07 17 23 21

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