

Press Release



GENNEVILLIERS: PAPREC ENERGIES, SYCTOM AND SIGEIF LAUNCH THEIR BIO-ANAEROBIC DIGESTION PROJECT

This morning, Sébastien Petithuguenin, Chairman of Paprec Energies, Eric Cesari, Chairman of Syctom, and Jean-Jacques Guillet, Chairman of Sigeif, laid the first stone of their bio-anaerobic digestion project, in the presence of Patrice Leclerc, Mayor of Gennevilliers, and Patrick Ollier, Chairman of the Greater Paris metropolitan authority. With a 50,000-ton capacity, something that has never been achieved in France until now, the plant designed by the French waste management expert will boast innovative industrial processes and set the standard in Europe. The biogas obtained will be injected into the Île-de-France network. In addition to this green energy, the process will generate fertiliser for farming. Paprec is one of the European experts in this organic recycling process. An agricultural cooperative partnered with the project will manage the fertilizer.

Food waste accounts for one third of the contents of the average household waste bin. Currently collected in the grey bin, this waste is still either stored or incinerated. Its recovery is one of the current energy transition challenges identified by EU law-makers. With this in mind, as of 31st December 2023, sorting of biowaste at source will become mandatory throughout the EU. In both companies and homes, organic waste will have to be collected in a separate bin.

Syctom, the agency in charge of managing household waste in Île-de-France, and Sigeif, the largest energy agency in France, have sized the plant to be able to receive up to 50,000 tons, in order to allow the region's food waste to be recovered. Paprec Energies will be in charge of the plant's design, construction, operation and maintenance, over a 19-year period.

AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

According to Sébastien Petithuguenin, Chairman of Paprec Energies, "This plant will transform waste that was previously put in landfills, or incinerated, into green gas and biofertilizers. It will thereby help save natural resources and move the region further along the path of energy independence." This plant will represent an investment of €52 million, €26 million of which will come from Paprec. With a 19-year term, the contract includes four years of design, construction and commissioning. Works will begin in January 2024 and the plant is expected to be brought into service mid-2025.

Stéphane Leterrier, General Manager of Paprec Energies, emphasized a key point of this contract: "Over the first ten years of operation of the plant, while collection in Île-de-France is being scaled up, Paprec will

bring in the additional biowaste required to ensure the facility runs at full capacity, which will be achieved in 2027.”

AN ENVIRONMENTAL MODEL IN THE REGION

The biowaste is prepared using innovative technology selected by Paprec. The treatment process is special in that it enables more efficient separation of undesirable elements (such as plastics and textiles) and production of optimum-quality biogas and fertilizer.

“Here, once again, we wanted the plant to be an environmental model in the region. First and foremost, with fertilizer of guaranteed quality and zero emissions, our treatment technologies anticipate the needs of the twenty-first century. Next, we wanted the building itself to meet environmental challenges. Energy will be supplied by the biogas generated by the plant. In addition, the fertilizers produced will be transported to the places where they are used via the Seine, on transport barges,” emphasized Stéphane Leterrier.

KEY PROJECT FIGURES

- 50,000 tons of biowaste managed at the plant per year, a capacity found nowhere else in France
- An investment of €52 million (€26 million by Paprec)
- A 19-year contract including four years for design and construction
- Nearly 36,000 MWh HHV per year will be generated, mostly to be reinjected in the gas network, or the equivalent supply for almost 5400 households
- 43,000 tons of liquid fertilizer will be used to fertilize agricultural land in the region

About the Paprec Group:

The group was founded by Jean-Luc Petithuguenin and has been managed by him since its creation. Paprec is the French leader in the recycling field and now becomes the third ranking French operator for waste energy recovery and the treatment of waste (anaerobic digestion, composting, management of non-hazardous waste storage sites). In 25 years, the group has grown from 45 employees to 12,500, spread over more than 280 sites in eight countries. In 2021, the group managed 16 million tonnes of waste and sales totalled 2.2 billion euros. Since its creation, the Paprec Group has been known and acknowledged for its commitment to diversity, secularism and the fight against all forms of discrimination within the group. Furthermore, Jean-Luc Petithuguenin has twice been selected for the Businessman of the year award, by Ernst and Young and by BFM Business. The journalists of L'Usine Nouvelle voted him Industry Manager of the year in 2020.

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