

## € 2.8m FEDER fund granted to Gazonor for its "Zero Emission 2022" plan

Forbach, France, November 4, 2019. La Française de l'Énergie (Euronext: LFDE - ISIN: FR0013030152), leader in industrial ecology, has obtained a grant from the FEDER-FSE program (European Fund for Regional Development - European Social Fund) Nord-Pas-de-Calais, amounting to 2.8 M €, for its subsidiary Gazonor within the framework of the "Zero Emission Gazonor 2022" plan. The objective of this plan is to install several new abandoned mine gas recovery sites in order to use this energy locally and eliminate all related CO2eq emissions on the former coal mining basin.

This financing confirms La Française de l'Énergie's strong commitment to the territory where it operates, as well as the ecological and economic contribution of its activity to the region. This subsidy will contribute to the Group's development plan which envisions the deployment of new cogeneration units in the mining basin in order to install, by the end of 2021, an additional 30 MW of green electricity capacity from abandoned mine gas in the Hauts-de-France.

Julien Moulin, President of La Française de l'Énergie, declares: "The ongoing and loyal support of the Hauts-de-France region, and now of the European Union, gives to Gazonor project an unprecedented scope to actively participate in the region's energy transition. Our activity already prevents the emission of more than 602,000 tonnes of CO2eq per year and positions our group as the first contributor to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the region. We are determined to foster this position and to continue our development in order to provide local, cleaner energy to the territories where we operate, while annihilating CO2eq emissions from former mines in the Region."

Frédéric Nihous, Vice-President of the Region and responsible for energy policy and energy transition, explains: "The Hauts-de-France region is fully committed to the implementation of the third industrial revolution, which translates into two major objectives: the creation of a low-carbon economy and the creation of new activities allowing the development of our territory. We are therefore delighted to support, in partnership with the European Union, a regional gem: Gazonor. Thanks to the support from the FEDER program, Gazonor will be able to deploy new sites to recover abandoned mine methane, a particularly polluting fatal gas, in order to avoid any emission to the atmosphere while allowing its use locally as gas, green electricity and heat. This is an opportunity to transform a stigma of the past into an asset and a richness for the future and the development of the mining basin."

Next announcements: November 29, 2019: General Assembly January 21, 2020: Lorraine Development Point

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## About La Française de l'Énergie

La Française de l'Energie is a Lorraine SME, leader in industrial ecology, specializing in producing the gas present directly in the coal and in the former coal mines of France and Belgium. Thanks to its recognised know-how in geology and engineering combined to its local positioning, La Française de l'Energie supplies gas, green electricity and heat to regional players, replacing imported energy by energy local and cleaner energy. La Française de l'Energie is on a significant growth path and aims to become a major player in the energy sector in Europe. The company is labelled as a young innovative company by Bpifrance.

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