

**SPEEDING UP THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION IN OCCITANIE, FRANCE:
THE DECOSSET SYNDICATE AND SUEZ**

INAUGURATE THE HEATING NETWORK IN THE ECONOTRE ECO-POLE:

➤ **THE FIRST TOMATO GREENHOUSES HEATED BY ENERGY RECOVERED FROM HOUSEHOLD WASTE**

Marc Péré, President of Decoset, and Philippe Maillard, CEO of SUEZ Recycling and Recovery France, have inaugurated the heating network of the Econotre eco-pole¹ near Toulouse, France, in the presence of Jean-Luc Raysseguier, Mayor of Bessières. Subsidised by the ADEME (the French environmental and energy management agency), this innovative network heats tomato greenhouses with renewable energy produced by waste combustion. A process that improves the energy and environmental performance of the region.

Using co-generation to transform waste into new resources

Econotre uses the CHP+ high-performance co-generation technology, patented a few years ago by SUEZ Group, to burn the Decoset territory's household waste and produce heat. This heat is then used to transform water into steam, and then into electricity using a turbo generator. Until 2016, all the residual thermal energy produced by this process was dissipated into the atmosphere. But now, the network recovers this low-temperature energy (steam at 42°C) to heat market gardening greenhouses on the edge of the site.

Thanks to this patent, Econotre confirms its standing as a genuine showcase of French innovation, but also of a local circular economy circuit, sustainable development and the production of renewable energy.

Using heat for a more circular economy

The Occitanie region has set itself ambitious environmental targets and intends to become the first positive-energy region in Europe by 2050. The introduction of co-generation on the site (electricity and thermal energy) will help the region's drive to improve its environmental and energy performance and has already enabled Econotre to reach an energy performance rate of 86%. It now produces 100,000 MWh of electricity per year, or the equivalent of the annual domestic electricity consumption of 17,700 households. Its objective is to produce 25,000 MWh of thermal energy for the market gardening greenhouses and to be able to produce and supply more thermal energy to help the region's development.

A perfect example of a short commercial circuit that covers the entire Toulouse basin, this low-temperature energy recovery process allows 6,000 tonnes of tomatoes to be grown each year, without pesticides, for the local markets and retailers, and saves 2,200 tonnes of oil equivalent and 6,000 tonnes CO₂ per year to meet its own heating needs.

¹ The Econotre eco-pole processes and recovers residual household waste from the Decoset syndicate, which services 153 localities and 924,000 inhabitants. The eco-pole was designed, financed, built and is operated by SUEZ, as part of a public services delegation contract. The Bessières site is an essential link in waste management in the Haute-Garonne department, combining a waste selective sorting centre, a centre that recovers energy from non-recyclable household waste and a clinker treatment unit.

Developed by SUEZ and its partners, this innovative solution also contributes to the economic development of the region. Almost €18M have been invested, including €15M for the construction of the greenhouses alone, to generate over time close to a hundred jobs.

Today, SUEZ recovers almost 5 million tonnes of waste as 100% renewable energy in France, meeting the heating needs of 430,000 inhabitants and the electricity needs of 580,000 inhabitants. In 2017, the Group will recover more than 9 million tonnes of waste as 100% renewable energy in Europe to meet heating needs, and will sell 7 TWh of energy, equivalent to the annual consumption of a 2-million strong conurbation, such as Vienna or Hamburg, thereby avoiding the emission of more than 1.5 million tonnes of CO₂.



SUEZ

We are in the era of the resource revolution. In a world facing high demographic growth, runaway urbanisation and the scarcity of natural resources, securing, optimising and renewing resources is essential for our future. SUEZ (Paris: SEV, Brussels: SEVB) delivers wastewater treatment services to 58 million people and reuses 882 million m³ of wastewater. SUEZ also recovers 16.9 million tons of waste a year, produces 3.9 million tons of secondary raw materials and 7 TWh of local renewable energy. Finally, SUEZ avoids 9.5 MtCO₂e GHG emissions for its customers. With 83,921 employees, SUEZ is present on five continents and is a key player in the circular economy for the sustainable management of resources. SUEZ generated total revenues of 15.3 billion euros in 2016.

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