

Press release



Service public de l'assainissement francilien



Paris, July 9th, 2025

SIAAP and SUEZ inaugurate the new biogas production unit at the Seine Aval wastewater treatment plant: a flagship project for the energy sovereignty

SIAAP -Greater Paris Sanitation Authority- and SUEZ have inaugurated the new biogas production unit at the Seine Aval wastewater treatment plant. This facility treats the wastewater of 6 million residents in Paris metropolitan area, making it the largest of its kind in Europe. This exceptional project, led by a consortium headed by SUEZ, marks a significant milestone in the plant's modernization. It highlights SIAAP's commitment to improving the efficiency of its wastewater treatment services and advancing toward energy independence.

"This new biogas production unit, the largest in France, is part of an ambitious program to modernize the Seine Aval facilities. It will enable the recovery of 130,000 tonnes of sludge produced annually from the wastewater treatment of 6 million people in Paris metropolitan area, into fertilizer and local, renewable energy. SIAAP is France's largest producer of biogas. This unit also provides a concrete response to the challenges of industrial safety, operational performance and environmental protection.", says **François-Marie Didier, Chairman of SIAAP**.

"SUEZ is proud to have successfully completed, together with its partners, this transformative project to address major challenges for the region. The new biogas production unit will enhance the performance of the Seine Aval wastewater treatment plant, while reducing its environmental footprint. It leverages cutting-edge solutions and SUEZ's long-standing expertise in sewage sludge recovery. This achievement reflects the trust-based relationship established with SIAAP teams to support the transformation of the Seine Aval wastewater treatment plant, a key site for environmental protection and the energy sovereignty of the Paris metropolitan area.", says **Xavier Girre, Chief Executive Officer of SUEZ**.

The reconstruction of the largest biogas production unit from wastewater treatment in France

Located across 7 municipalities in the Yvelines department (Achères, Conflans-Sainte-Honorine, Maisons-Laffitte, Saint-Germain-en-Laye) and the Val d'Oise department (Cormeilles-en-Parisis, Herblay-sur-Seine, La Frette-sur-Seine), the Seine Aval plant treats the wastewater of 6 million people in Paris metropolitan area every day.

The complete reconstruction project of the site's biogas production unit, initiated in 2016, was carried out by a consortium led by SUEZ, in collaboration with its civil engineering partners Chantiers Modernes Construction, subsidiary of Vinci Construction, Demathieu Bard Construction, SOGEA Environnement - and Thetis Tanguy du Bouetiez Architecte. This initiative is part of a broader program to modernize and transform the site, undertaken by SIAAP since 2009.

With a sewage sludge treatment capacity of 130,000 tonnes per year, and a production capacity of 350 GWh/year, this biogas production unit is the largest of its kind in France. It covers 56% of the energy needs of the entire Seine Aval plant, while being self-sufficient for its own energy consumption. The new unit incorporates the highest standards for biogas plant technology to ensure continuous and safe operation. It features enhanced industrial safety, a compact design with centralized deodorization. It has also been engineered to adapt to sludge variability.

SUEZ, *Société Anonyme*, a company registered under the laws of France, with a share capital of €63,799,880.78, having its seat at: Altiplano, 4, place de la Pyramide - 92800 Puteaux, France, registered number 901 644 989 RCS Nanterre –Tel : +33 (0)1 58 81 20 00 – suez.com – VAT Number: FR60901644989

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The total cost of the project amounts to €401 million (excluding VAT), including €373 million (excluding VAT)¹ for the consortium. It has received subsidies amounting to €32 million from the Seine Normandy Water Agency amounting and €16 million in interest-free loans from the Seine Normandy Water Agency.

An industrial project built on SUEZ's long-standing expertise in sewage sludge recovery

The new biogas production unit is based on the Digelis® Fast solution developed by SUEZ. This thermophilic digestion solution minimizes both the footprint of the sewage sludge digesters, and the energy consumption required for their operation. The new unit includes 11 digesters, compared to 26 previously, while maintaining the same biogas production capacity. This compact process will eventually free up 70,000 m² of the site. The solutions implemented (insulation, heat recovery exchangers, etc.) have also reduced energy consumption by 10% compared with the old process.

As an expert in the design and construction of large-scale water treatment infrastructures and the management of complex worksites, SUEZ has built over 85% of the sewage sludge anaerobic digestion capacity in France, and 1.5 million m³ of digesters worldwide.

A large-scale project in a demanding environment

Mobilizing 350 site workers simultaneously, the project accumulated a total of 2 million work-hours, including 46,000 hours dedicated to professional integration initiatives. In terms of facilities, 11 new digesters, each with a capacity of 12,000 m³, were built, and 34 km of pipes were installed.

The increased compactness of the biogas production process allowed for a 35% reduction of the concrete used for the facility, compared to conventional technologies. Furthermore, 45% of the concrete used was very low-carbon, and 5% low-carbon.

About SIAAP:

SIAAP (Syndicat Interdépartemental pour l'Assainissement de l'Agglomération Parisienne) is the public industrial service that treats wastewater, rainwater and industrial wastewater from the Paris conurbation, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. With its 480 km of collectors, 6 treatment plants and 1,800 employees, it helps to protect the ecological balance of the Seine and Marne rivers and preserve the environment for more than 9 million people in the Paris region. To make innovation a means of supporting operators towards ever more efficient and sustainable wastewater treatment, SIAAP structured its innovation approach in 2020. With the support of all its scientific and technical partners, SIAAP is developing a policy of public innovation with an industrial vocation to bring out concrete solutions, respond to today's problems and support the world of wastewater treatment in its future developments. This scientific programme fits naturally into SIAAP's industrial master plan, the aim of which is to sustainably control the impact and environmental footprint of the wastewater treatment business, while ensuring its financial sustainability and regional integration.

For more information: www.siaap.fr / Twitter @Le_Siaap

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 2024, SUEZ provided drinking water for 68 million people worldwide and sanitation services for 44 million people. The Group generated 8 TWh of energy from waste and wastewater. In 2024, SUEZ has generated revenues of 9.2 billion euros.

For more information: www.suez.com / Twitter @suez

¹ In euros 2025

Find out more about the SUEZ Group
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