press release





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Ecological transition:

Waga Energy and SUEZ continue their partnership in favor of the development of biomethane solutions with the installation of the fifth WAGABOX® unit in New Aquitaine region (France)

During the Pollutec trade fair, SUEZ and Waga Energy extend their partnership with the announcement of a new biomethane unit at the Madaillan non-hazardous industrial waste storage facility, at Milhac-d'Auberoche (France). From August 2022, this unit will supply part of the Greater Périgueux region with renewable gas, thereby contributing to the territory's ecological transition and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This will be the fifth WAGABOX® unit commissioned by SUEZ and Waga Energy.

WAGABOX® is an innovative technology developed by Waga Energy to recover the methane emitted from the decomposition of waste at the non-hazardous industrial waste storage facilities. As a result of 10 years of R&D, it combines membrane filtration with cryogenic distillation to separate the gas from other components (carbon dioxide, oxygen, nitrogen, and volatile organic compounds). The WAGABOX® technology supplies high-quality biomethane that can be directly injected into gas distribution networks to cover user needs for heating, cooking, and sanitary hot water, as well as to fuel vehicles.

A circular economy project contributing to the territory's ecological transition

The Madaillan non-hazardous industrial waste storage facility at Milhac-d'Auberoche (France) processes 105,000 tons of household waste and similar waste produced in the Dordogne department annually. This facility currently recovers the biogas produced from the breakdown of waste in the form of heat and electricity. From August 2022, it will be equipped with a WAGABOX® unit that will process 600 m³/h of raw gas and will produce up to 20 GWh of biomethane per year, i.e., the annual consumption of more than 3,000 recent homes. This clean, local, and renewable energy source will avoid 3,500 tonnes of CO₂-eq emissions per year in the atmosphere. The green gas produced will be directly injected into the GRDF network thanks to an 18 km connection.

Waga Energy [supported by the independent investment benefit corporation Meridiam] is financing the construction of the WAGABOX® unit and will also operate it as part of a contract with SUEZ, which will market the biomethane production. The New Aquitaine region also granted a €400,000 subsidy to this project which contributes actively to the ecological transition of the area.

A long-term partnership based on trust

This fifth project marks a new chapter in the partnership that has linked SUEZ and Waga Energy for five years now, and already led to the commissioning of 4 WAGABOX® units in France, at the non-hazardous industrial waste storage facilities at Saint-Maximin (Oise) in 2017, Gueltas (Morbihan) in 2018, Chevilly (Loiret) in 2019, and Ventes-de-Bourse (Orne) in 2020. In total, the five units will represent a production capacity of 80 GWh per year, equivalent to the annual gas consumption of around 15,000 recent households and will avoid 15,000 tonnes of CO₂-eq emissions each year. New studies have already been launched to equip two other non-hazardous industrial waste storage facilities operated by SUEZ Group.

Fabrice Rossignol, Chief Executive Officer of SUEZ Recycling & Recovery France: "This innovation supported by Waga Energy enables us to produce local energy at our non-hazardous industrial waste storage facilities, energy that is renewable, carbon-free and contributes to the development of the circular economy and the ecological transition of the regions. We are very proud to be part of this partnership which is part of a long-term approach and fully aligns with the goal of the SUEZ Group to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 45% by 2030."

Mathieu Lefebvre, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of Waga Energy: "With this new project, Waga Energy and SUEZ continue to take concrete action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is a prime example of successful collaboration between a young innovative company and a major international group. It also represents a further illustration of French industrial expertise in the treatment and recovery of waste."



Aerial view of the WAGABOX® unit in operation since January 2020 at the non-hazardous industrial waste storage facility at Ventes-de-Bourse (Orne) operated by SUEZ - © Waga Energy



Aerial view of the Madaillan non-hazardous industrial waste storage facility – © SUEZ

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About SUF7

Since the end of the 19th century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment's natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing municipalities' and industries' resource management through "smart" cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group delivers sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m3 of drinking water. SUEZ is also a contributor to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and a provider of new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, with a positive impact on our environment, health and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of €17,2 billion in 2020.

Waga Energy:

Created in 2015 in Grenoble (France), within six years, Waga Energy has become a major European player in the recovery of gas from industrial waste storage facilities in the form of biomethane. An innovative company, Waga Energy has developed a purification technology which is the only of its type in the world, combining membrane filtration and cryogenic distillation. Waga Energy funds, builds and operates its purification units, called WAGABOX®, pursuant to long-term partnerships with operators of industrial waste storage facilities and generates revenue from the resale of biomethane. As of July 31, 2021, Waga Energy operated 10 WAGABOX® units in France, the equivalent of a maximum installed capacity of 225 GWh/year. Nine new units are currently under construction, including one in Spain and two in Canada.

Find out more about the SUEZ Group on the website & on social media







