



ALBIOMA

PRESS RELEASE

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ALBIOMA APPEALS AGAINST THE JUDGEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT AND CONTINUES CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE GALION 2 PLANT

In its judgement of 4 October 2016, the Administrative Court of Fort-de-France decided to annul the authorisation for operation of the Galion 2 biomass plant, which is currently under construction.

With 100% renewable energy, this project aims to help strengthen Martinique's electricity network whilst reducing pollution at the Galion site. In order not to delay the commissioning of the plant, Albioma has announced its intention to appeal to the Administrative Court of Appeal in Bordeaux.

All the objections raised by Assaupamar (Association for the Protection of the Heritage of Martinique) against the Galion 2 project in terms of health risks, fine-particle emissions, the impact on fauna and flora, risks of deforestation and the carbon footprint were rejected by the Court.

The only reason behind the annulment is a defect in form based on the alleged insufficient demonstration of the compatibility of the project with Martinique's Water Development and Management Master Plan (*Schéma Directeur d'Aménagement et de Gestion des Eaux – SDAGE*).

This decision by the Administrative Court only concerns the authorisation for operation, which is necessary only from commissioning of operations from the second quarter of 2017. It does not affect the building permit, the legitimacy of which has not been contested and which is now definitive; construction work will therefore continue.

About the Galion 2 plant

The Galion 2 plant (installed capacity of 40 MW), the first 100% biomass cogeneration plant in Martinique, will provide 15% of the island's total electricity consumption

Based on a virtuous exchange with the Galion sugar refinery, the project aims to ensure the future of the refinery by making it more efficient.

Galion 2 is a project which has matured for 10 years with all the stakeholders, to increase Martinique's share of renewable energy by 7% to 22% and thereby favour the island's energy transition whilst respecting the most stringent environmental standards.

This plant represents a private investment of €185 million and will benefit local employment.

Some 180 people are already working on the construction of the site and the project will ultimately involve more than 250 direct and indirect jobs.

Next on the agenda: revenue for the third quarter of the 2016 financial year, on 26 October 2016 (before trading).



ABOUT ALBIOMA

Albioma is an independent energy producer and world leader in the conversion of biomass into a highly-effective source of energy, in collaboration with its agri-business partners. For more than 20 years, Albioma has operated power plants recovering bagasse, a fibrous by-product of sugar cane, replaced by coal outside the sugar cane harvest. Its unique expertise has enabled Albioma to establish itself as an indispensable partner in the sugar and ethanol industry in the French overseas territories and Mauritius. Albioma is now developing power plants using only biomass, which recover, in addition to bagasse, green waste and wood industry residue. The Group also operates a highly-efficient photovoltaic installation and agricultural anaerobic digestion units. In 2014, the Group, which already had a presence in mainland France, the French overseas territories and Mauritius, began operating in Brazil, the world's leading sugar cane producer.

For further information, please visit www.albioma.com

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