



ALBIOMA

Press release

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Albioma Bois-Rouge's power plant gets the go-ahead to convert to 100% biomass: a decisive step forward for Reunion Island's energy future

Coal to be completely discontinued at the Group's flagship site

Electricity sales contract extended until 2043

Priority given to local fuel sources to promote the circular economy

The power plant's greenhouse gas emissions cut by 84% compared with current operations

Albioma announced today the complete discontinuation of coal at its historic Bois-Rouge plant on Reunion Island, following the deliberation by the Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE). The latter validated on 3 December 2020 the offsetting resulting from the signature of an amendment to the power purchase agreement signed by EDF for the conversion of the Albioma Bois-Rouge power generation facility to biomass.

Conversion work will begin as early as 2021 so that the plant can be 100% biomass-powered in Second Half 2023, with priority given to the local biomass deposits available (bagasse, forest wood, pruning wood, etc.), supplemented by imported wood pellets from FSC and PEFC-certified forests, the traceability procedure of which will be compliant with the EU Wood Regulation (RBUE). Ultimately, the conversion will increase the proportion of renewables in the energy mix on Reunion Island from 35% to 51% and make it possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 640,000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year, i.e., an 84% decrease in direct emissions compared to the plant's current operating levels.

The CRE's decision also provides for an investment budget, needed to extend the operation of the group's oldest unit (ABR1) for 15 years; the electricity purchase agreement has consequently been extended from 2027 to 2043 for ABR1.

As stated in the deliberation, *"the biomass sector is of central importance to the success of Réunion Island's energy transition. The current Multi-Year Energy Programme for Réunion Island (MEP) sets targets for the substitution of coal in electricity production by renewable energy sources or the recovery of up to 481 GWh of additional annual production in 2023 compared with 2013. The conversion to biomass at the Bois-Rouge power plant, expected to be effective for all units in the Second Half of 2023, will contribute to achieving this energy policy objective, with electricity production from biomass estimated at around 530 GWh."*

Frédéric Moyne, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Albioma, stated: *"After having innovated in Reunion Island in 1992 by commissioning the first bagasse/coal hybrid power*



plant, we are pleased to announce today a new era serving the energy transition: the end of coal at Bois-Rouge and the extension of the power plant's electricity sales contract until 2043. Enshrined in the Multi-Year Energy Programme (PPE), our plant's conversion to 100% biomass will make renewables the majority source in Reunion Island's energy mix.

Within Albioma, on 20 November 2020, the Albioma Le Moule plant (ALM3) in Guadeloupe was recommissioned, to operate using biomass. Today, our Bois-Rouge site can, in turn, set out on its green revolution. Albioma continues to make more and more room for renewable energies in its energy mix: our strategy is aimed at reaching nearly 100% renewable energies by 2030 at the latest."

The Albioma Bois-Rouge plant, which has installed capacity of 108 MW, generates around 25% of the region's total power consumption.

About Albioma

An independent renewable energy producer, Albioma is committed to the energy transition thanks to biomass and photovoltaics.

The Group, which operates in French Overseas Departments and Regions, Mauritius and Brazil, has developed a unique partnership over 20 years with the sugar industry, to produce renewable energy from bagasse, a fibrous residue from sugar cane.

Albioma is also the leading generator of photovoltaic power in French Overseas Departments and Regions, where it constructs and operates innovative projects with integrated storage capabilities.

Albioma shares are listed on NYSE EURONEXT PARIS (compartment B) and eligible for the PEA equity savings plans and for deferred settlement service (SRD) (ISIN FR0000060402 – ticker symbol ABIO).

The Group is also included in the Gaïa Index, the benchmark for socially-responsible mid-caps.

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