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Press release

VINCI designated preferred bidder for replacement and automation of 29 manually operated dams on the rivers Aisne and Meuse

- **A 30-year partnership contract**
- **Total investment of about €270 million**

The consortium led by VINCI Concessions, in partnership with SHEMA (EDF Group), has been designated preferred bidder by Voies Navigables de France (VNF) for the partnership contract covering the replacement of 29 manually operated dams on the rivers Aisne and Meuse and the installation of associated equipment.

The contract, which will be for a period of 30 years from the date of signature, calls for the design, financing and construction of 29 automated dams and their associated equipment, followed by operation, and routine and heavy maintenance. It also covers the deconstruction of the dams to be replaced, as well as the upgrade, operation, and routine and heavy maintenance of two dams that have already been automated. In addition, several of the dams are to be converted into micro-hydropower plants.

Construction, including studies and administrative procedures, will take place over a period of less than seven years. The works will be executed by a construction joint venture led by VINCI Construction France, represented by EMCC (leader), Tournaud, GTM Lorraine and CBR TP, and including local small and medium-sized enterprises. Operation and maintenance will be carried out by a specially created entity in which VINCI Concessions will have majority ownership.

The project, which is a key component in the modernisation of the river infrastructure for which VNF is responsible, represents a total investment of about €270 million and will be required to meet environmental performance objectives (ecological continuity and hydropower generation).

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