



PRESS RELEASE

GDF SUEZ

4 February 2009

GDF SUEZ inaugurates hydroelectric power plant in Brazil

GDF SUEZ, through its subsidiary Tractebel Energia, will inaugurate a new hydroelectric power plant at São Salvador on 5 February 2009. The opening ceremony will take place in the presence of the President of Brazil, Luis Inácio Lula da Silva and the CEO of GDF SUEZ, Gerard Mestrallet.

São Salvador, a greenfield 241 MW hydropower plant, is located on the Tocantins river, between the states of Tocantins and Goiás. It will generate enough energy to supply a city of one million inhabitants. Total investment in the plant was around €307 million, of which 37 million are earmarked for social and environmental programmes to conserve local fauna and flora, and resettle the population.

Work on the plant started 32 months ago and was finished in record time. As a result, São Salvador will be able to fulfil its commitment to the Brazilian Electric Power Regulator to supply electricity one year in advance.

GDF SUEZ had already sold the plant's total 148.5 MW annual average guaranteed energy output, under 30-year term Power Purchase Agreements for a global value of €2 billion, at power auctions in Brazil in 2006. The project was included in Brazil's Programme for Acceleration of Growth (PAC) and is the first electricity generation project to benefit from favourable financing conditions under that programme.

"The commissioning of São Salvador consolidates the Group's position as Brazil's main private power generator, and demonstrates the Group's interest in investing in a sustainable expansion of the Brazilian electricity supply. We are currently constructing two additional big hydro plants, Estreito (1,087 MW) and Jirau (3,300 MW) – the latter being the country's largest infrastructure project today", commented Dirk Beeuwsaert, in charge of the Energy International Division of GDF SUEZ.

Gerard Mestrallet, Chairman and CEO of GDF SUEZ said, *"With the constantly growing demand for electricity in the country, Brazil is at the heart of our Group's strategic development in Latin America. Our portfolio of hydro projects provides an excellent platform from which to pursue profitable and sustainable growth generating clean energy."*

GDF SUEZ is currently the first private power producer in Brazil with over 7,000 MW of installed capacity. In 2007, the Group achieved a turnover of €1.2 billion and employs close to 1,700 people. Once the projects in construction will be operational, GDF SUEZ will have an installed capacity of approximately 12,000 MW.



About GDF SUEZ:

One of the leading energy providers in the world, GDF SUEZ is active across the entire energy value chain, in electricity and natural gas, upstream to downstream. It develops its businesses (energy, energy services and environment) around a responsible-growth model to take up the great challenges: responding to energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and maximizing the use of resources. GDF SUEZ relies on diversified supply sources as well as flexible and high-performance power generation in order to provide innovative energy solutions to individuals, cities and businesses. The Group employs 196,500 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €83.1 billion in 2008. GDF SUEZ is listed on the Brussels, Luxembourg and Paris stock exchanges and is represented in the main international indices: CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Stoxx 50, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe and ASPI Eurozone.

For further information on GDF SUEZ, please go to www.gdfsuez.com.

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