

Deal reached between GDF SUEZ and the Belgian State

On Thursday, 22 October, GDF SUEZ entered into a global agreement with the Belgian Government which marks a shared commitment to seeing the Group operate in Belgium in a stable and long-term framework. GDF SUEZ also confirms its willingness to help implement the policies of the Belgian authorities, in particular those on energy and climate issues.

The agreement (only available in French) is attached to this press release. Primarily, GDF SUEZ undertakes to:

- contribute between €215 and 245 million to the State budget between 2010 and 2014, along with the other nuclear power producers;
- prepare a €500 million programme of investment in renewable energies, via Electrabel;
- recruit over 10,000 staff in Belgium by 2015;
- gradually create a permanent body of 500 training positions, alternating between its various subsidiaries, by 2015 at the latest;
- invest significant sums in research, particularly into carbon capture and storage, and €5 million in nuclear research institutes;
- maintain a high level of activity in Belgium, and in particular to retain its Energy Europe and International business line and Tractebel Engineering bases in the country.

The Belgian State and the Group have also agreed to examine together, in the constructive spirit that led to the agreement, all of the disputes currently existing between them, with a view to settling them once and for all

Gérard Mestrallet, GDF SUEZ Chairman and CEO, said: "The Group is glad to have concluded with the Belgian Government an ambitious deal for the future, which provides a stable and long-term framework for the industrial development of GDF SUEZ in Belgium. The agreement means we can confirm our commitment to invest in the nuclear units Doel 1 and 2 and Tihange 1, in line with the decision to extend their operational lifetime by 10 years, through to 2025, in optimum safety conditions. In addition to this commitment, which is essential for security of supply, GDF SUEZ also firmly undertakes to invest in the development of renewable energies, to support the Government's policy on jobs and vocational training and to devote significant sums to research. This agreement therefore offers us prospects that are fully compatible with our corporate vision."

October 22th 2009



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 200,000 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.

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