

## Press release

**ITER : A consortium led by Cofely, GDF SUEZ Group, signs a €530 million contract with Fusion For Energy (F4E)**

October 29, 2013

**Fusion for Energy (F4E), the organization managing the European Union's contribution to the ITER<sup>1</sup> project, has awarded a €530 million contract to a Franco-German consortium consisting of Cofely Axima, Cofely Endel, Cofely Ineo (GDF SUEZ Group) and M+W Group. The ITER international energy research project is being built in France's Bouches-du-Rhône department. The contract covers the design, construction and maintenance of air conditioning, electrical and mechanical installations for 13 buildings, including the Tokamak complex.**

The 6-year contract covers the design, engineering, construction and maintenance of heating, air conditioning, electrical (high and low voltage and lighting) and mechanical systems for the site's 13 buildings (97,200 m<sup>2</sup>), including the Tokamak complex that will house the reactor itself. Instrumentation and control systems, fluid networks, fire detection and prevention systems, and command and control instruments are also included.

Professor Henrik Bindslev, Director of F4E, commented: *"This is a major undertaking for Europe, not just because of the size of the contract award, but because European companies will benefit from an unprecedented opportunity to share and acquire know-how that will generate future commercial opportunities."*

Cofely Axima, as the lead agent, Cofely Endel and Cofely Ineo will be involved more specifically in the nuclear portion of the contract, the Tokamak complex, which is made up of three buildings classified as a Basic Nuclear Facility. The complementarity of these companies once more enabled Cofely to make the difference, having already been awarded the contract for the ITER project's building to house poloidal field coils.

This contract bolsters the Cofely companies' strategic positioning as leading designer-installers in the nuclear sector, based on their long-standing expertise, technical excellence in installation, and proven, recognized skills in nuclear safety.

*"To take part in the largest international research project in nuclear fusion energy is a source of great pride. This contract symbolizes the complementarity of our expertise and our capacity to position ourselves in the front rank as designer for projects that are among the most complex today,"* stated Guy Lacroix, Chief Executive officer in charge of GDF SUEZ Energy Services in charge of Cofely Axima, Cofely Endel and Cofely Ineo.

After a one-year engineering phase, work is scheduled to start in September 2014. Construction will take place over 5 years, with most activity in 2016, involving up to 450 persons. While personnel from the four consortium members will be called first, they alone will not be adequate to meet project needs. A sizeable wave of some one hundred outside hires is planned to assist in the project.

<sup>1</sup> International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor

## About Fusion for Energy

Fusion for Energy (F4E) is the European Union's organization for Europe's contribution to ITER.

One of the main tasks of F4E is to work together with European industry, SMEs and research organizations to develop and provide a wide range of high technology components together with engineering, maintenance and support services for the ITER project.

F4E supports fusion R&D initiatives through the Broader Approach Agreement signed with Japan and prepares for the construction of demonstration fusion reactors (DEMO).

F4E was created by a decision of the Council of the European Union as an independent legal entity and was established in April 2007 for a period of 35 years.

Its offices are in Barcelona, Spain.

<http://www.fusionforenergy.europa.eu>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/fusionforenergy>

<http://twitter.com/fusionforenergy>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fusionforenergy>

## About ITER

ITER is an international research program with seven member signatories representing 35 countries: Europe, the United States, Russia, China, India, South Korea and Japan. The seven members have each set up domestic agencies to act as liaison between national governments and the ITER organization that is responsible for the research facility's design, construction, and operation as well as its shutdown. Fusion For Energy (F4E) is responsible for managing Europe's contribution to the project, estimated at €6.6 billion. ITER's objective is to prove that the fusion of two categories of hydrogen (deuterium and tritium) in a reactor baptized Tokamak can become a viable energy source and produce electricity. To do so, ITER will need to show it is possible to produce ten times more energy than is required to start a fusion reaction. The world's largest Tokamak is under construction at Saint-Paul-lez-Durance, in the Bouches-du-Rhône department, in the immediate vicinity of the French Atomic Energy Commission's Cadarache Center.

<http://www.iter.org/>

## About GDF SUEZ

*GDF SUEZ develops its businesses (power, natural gas, energy services) around a model based on responsible growth to take up today's major energy and environmental challenges: meeting energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and maximizing the use of resources. The Group provides highly efficient and innovative solutions to individuals, cities and businesses by relying on diversified gas-supply sources, flexible and low-emission power generation as well as unique expertise in four key sectors: independent power production, liquefied natural gas, renewable energy and energy efficiency services. GDF SUEZ employs 138,200 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €82 billion in 2012. The Group is listed on the Paris, Brussels and Luxembourg stock exchanges and is represented in the main international indices: CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe, ASPI Eurozone, Euronext Vigeo Eurozone 120, Vigeo World 120, Vigeo Europe 120 and Vigeo France 20.*

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