

Pearl Infrastructure Capital, Norske Skog Golbey and Veolia Industries Global Solutions join forces to build, finance and operate the Green Valley Energy project

PEARL Infrastructure Capital (PEARL) – a specialist investment fund dedicated to infrastructure contributing to the energy transition and the circular economy – is proud to announce today the closing of the financing and the start of the construction of the Green Valley Energie cogeneration plant in Golbey (Vosges). Green Valley Energie will complete the funds portfolio of biomass cogeneration facilities in France, adding to the already existing three (3) plants recently acquired by PEARL in 2021: Kogeban, Cogénération Biomasse d'Estrées Mons and Cogénération Biomasse de Novillars.

Green Valley Energie – of which PEARL is 80% shareholder alongside its partners Norske Skog Golbey and Veolia Industries Global Solutions – is a biomass cogeneration plant with an electrical capacity of 25 MW and an installed thermal capacity of 100 MWth. This facility which represents around 200 M€ investment, will dispose of 230,000 tons/year of recycled wood (class B wood), collected in eastern France, as well as 20,000 tons/year of residues from the industrial process of Norske Skog Golbey.

The electricity sale is ensured through a feed-in tariff contract obtained in the framework of the January 2019 call for tenders of the French Energy Regulatory Commission for the construction and operation of biomass electricity production facilities ("CRE5.3").



This project was developed in partnership with Norske Skog Golbey (NSG) and Veolia Industries Global Solutions (VIGS). NSG will benefit from the consumption of the thermal energy produced by the plant and will be responsible of the supply of biofuels. VIGS will operate the cogeneration plant and its associated biofuel preparation platform. The new facility will strongly support Norske Skog Golbey's development strategy, in particular its ongoing conversion of a paper machine from production of newsprint to recycled

8 june 2022

containerboard, by providing a self-sufficient and sustainable 100% renewable energy solution. NSG will thus strengthen its economic and environmental competitiveness by relying on a 100% renewable energy alternative to gas.

Green Valley Energie, which will be the largest cogeneration plant of its kind in France, will be commissioned in September 2024 and will produce 200 GWh of electricity and more than 700 GWh of renewable heat, thus generating CO2 savings of 210,000 tons per year and electricity production equivalent to the consumption of more than 13,000 homes.

Jean-Christophe Guimard, co-founder-partner of PEARL:

"This project is in line with PEARL's strategy to invest in projects contributing to the energy transition at the service of industries by offering them 100% renewable and sustainable energy for both thermal and electrical energy thanks to the cogeneration technology that allows for continuous production."

This project demonstrates PEARL's relevance and ability to fill a gap in this market that lacks specialized financing capacity, as PEARL has been retained for the structuring and financing of the 2 largest recent projects in Europe (Green Valley Energie in France and BioEnergie Wismar in Germany, which is currently under construction and will be commissioned in early 2023).

Pierre Rellet, co-founder-partner of PEARL:

"This project is also emblematic for its contribution to the circular economy since it consumes recycled wood originated mainly from furniture recycling and deconstruction, thus offering a regional solution to derive value from materials that lack an outlet on French territory."

The construction of the Green Valley Energie plant is being carried out by Aalborg Energie Technik for the process installations (boiler and turbine), SERA Energie for the wood handling platform and the Eiffage group for the civil engineering works. The engineering firm SEPOC has been selected to carry out the project management mission.

The project is financed on a non-recourse basis by a long-term senior bond of around 150 M€, arranged by PEARL and fully subscribed by Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management's BRIDGE platform and by La Banque Postale Asset Management.

About PEARL Infrastructure Capital

PEARL Infrastructure Capital is a private equity fund that closed in March 2020 and is dedicated to infrastructure for the energy transition and the circular economy in Europe, primarily for industrial companies. Founded by a team of experienced professionals from the energy and environment sector, in partnership with Edmond de Rothschild Private Equity, PEARL has €280 million of equity, in the final stages of deployment on continuous renewable energy production assets and projects, such as biomass cogeneration and waste recovery. Since the end of 2020, PEARL has made seven investments in three early brownfield biomass cogeneration plants in Croatia, three early brownfield biomass cogeneration plants in France and one greenfield biomass cogeneration project in Germany, which construction started in March 2021 and will be completed by early 2023.

More information on www.pearlinfracap.eu