

## Press release

# ***newcleo* reaches a key milestone in its land acquisition process for its first reactor in Indre-et-Loire and strengthens its leadership team**

- **The group is accelerating the deployment of its projects in France and reinforcing its leadership team with the appointment of Cédric Barba as Managing Director for France.**

Paris, France, 13 February 2025 – *newcleo*, a leading European company in Generation IV nuclear technology, is accelerating the deployment of its industrial project in France.

**In this context, *newcleo* has started the land acquisition process for its first LFR-AS-30 reactor in the territory of the Chinon Vienne et Loire community of municipalities.**

As part of its land prospecting work, *newcleo* has formally initiated constructive discussions and procedures with the **Chinon Vienne et Loire community of municipalities** for its project to build a GEN IV 30 MWe nuclear reactor by 2031. This modular reactor will serve as an industrial demonstrator, a showcase for *newcleo*'s technology, and contribute to the development of the nuclear sector in France.

Preliminary meetings with local officials, the Chinon Vienne et Loire community of municipalities, and state authorities have allowed *newcleo* to present its project while reaffirming its commitment to maintaining a constructive dialogue with all local stakeholders.

This approach, which follows the standard process for large-scale projects in France, will be accompanied by a series of preliminary studies required for administrative authorisations and subsequent decisions. The entire process is conducted in full compliance with the highest applicable regulations and standards, in close collaboration with the relevant authorities.

*newcleo* will soon refer the matter to the National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP), in accordance with the Environmental Code. Its project will then be presented during the upcoming public debate<sup>1</sup>, providing a clear overview of its ambitions and commitments.

In December 2024, *newcleo* achieved two key milestones in its nuclear authorisation process in France, submitting a Safety Option File (DOS) to ASN for its fuel assembly testing facility and advancing regulatory work on safety options for its LFR-AS-30 reactor. The company plans to submit the Creation Authorisation Application (DAC) for both projects by late 2026.

***newcleo* strengthens its leadership with the appointment of Cédric Barba as Managing Director**

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<sup>1</sup> The public debate, established by the Environmental Code, allows interested parties to participate in shaping major policies or projects with significant socio-economic or environmental impact, ensuring transparent and inclusive decision-making from the outset ([debatpublic.fr](https://debatpublic.fr))

## for France.

Following the relocation of its headquarters to Paris in September 2024, *newcleo* has appointed Cédric Barba as Managing Director for France, reinforcing its leadership team at a key moment in its expansion. With its headquarters now established in France, major industrial projects progressing, and key regulatory milestones ahead, his leadership will be instrumental in structuring and accelerating operations.

A graduate of *École nationale supérieure d'Arts et Métiers* and bringing extensive experience in the nuclear and industrial sectors, Cédric Barba previously led the development of advanced enrichment and conversion facilities at Orano. Already serving as Executive Director of Industrial Development at *newcleo*, he will now also coordinate operations in France, supporting the company's ambitious growth strategy.

This appointment reflects *newcleo's* commitment to strengthening its organisation and leveraging top industry expertise to drive innovation and long-term success.

## Note to editors

### About newcleo

Since launching in 2021 newcleo has quickly established itself as innovator in the field of nuclear energy. newcleo is working to design, build, and operate Gen-IV Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs) that are cooled by liquid lead and fuelled by reprocessed nuclear waste.

Through an innovative combination of existing and proven technologies, and by reviving a nuclear industry model based on the manufacture and multi-recycling of Mixed Oxide fuel, newcleo aims to close the nuclear fuel cycle while safely producing clean, affordable, and practically inexhaustible energy required for low carbon economies.

With a EUR 50m group turnover in 2024, more than EUR 537m of private funding and over 90 partnerships and collaborations across the nuclear industry, the growth of the newcleo group is supported through the targeted acquisition of key companies with strong capabilities in nuclear engineering, manufacturing, and waste management.

Through its workforce of over 1,000 highly qualified employees across France, the UK, Italy, Switzerland and Slovakia, newcleo is not only developing and delivering the skills and services required for the group's own ambitious project timelines, but also supporting the development of Small Modular Reactor supply chains in Europe and beyond.

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