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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **The Teréga Group and Fibre Excellence join forces to decarbonise industry by recovering CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

**At a time when many companies and manufacturers are looking to meet the challenge of decarbonisation by 2030, Teréga, the historical gas operator in the south-west of France, and Fibre Excellence, the leading French producer of market paper pulp, have just signed an agreement to study the joint development of a unit to capture CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the Saint-Gaudens paper mill in Haute-Garonne.**



At a time when decarbonisation and the competitiveness of industrial sectors are key concerns, the Teréga group is putting its expertise as a developer and operator of gas infrastructures at the service of local industrialists with a new range of CO<sub>2</sub> capture, transport and storage infrastructures.

By its very nature, Fibre Excellence is committed to decarbonisation. Its commitment is reflected in an ongoing process to reduce its carbon footprint, with the priority being to implement energy-saving and efficiency measures, and to replace fossil fuel consumption with low-carbon energy sources. Capturing the residual CO<sub>2</sub> -95% of which is of biogenic origin and considered climate neutral by ADEME (because it comes from wood, a renewable natural resource) - is the final stage in decarbonising its plants.

In 2023, the Teréga Group and Fibre Excellence launched an initial feasibility study for a CO<sub>2</sub> capture project at Fibre Excellence's pulp production unit in Saint-Gaudens (31), with a maximum capacity of 800,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. In the light of the results of this initial technical and economic assessment, the Teréga Group and Fibre Excellence have decided to seal a new partnership aimed at continuing the development of a CO<sub>2</sub> capture project specific to the St Gaudens site by 2031.

These biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be stored to be monetised in the form of negative emission credits, but they are also of interest to the local production of fuels or synthetic chemicals that use them as a raw material. Industries wishing to set up in the territory, close to the future CO<sub>2</sub> transport infrastructure, have already been identified.

This project perfectly illustrates the link between decarbonisation, competitiveness and reindustrialisation, and is also in line with the government's ambitions to capture 4 to 8 million tonnes per year by 2030. This could

make a significant contribution to efforts to decarbonise industries in the Occitanie region.

*"Decarbonisation and the competitiveness of local industries are key issues for the Teréga Group. We are delighted with this Fibre Excellence partnership, which reflects our commitment to the players in our regions. The work resulting from our agreement will make it possible to evaluate and size the technological and financial requirements linked to the construction of a CO<sub>2</sub> capture unit on the Saint Gaudens site. Our joint approach will give us a precise idea of the resources involved in these decarbonisation initiatives by the region's manufacturers. "*

**Dominique Mockly, Chairman and CEO of Teréga**

*"We are proud to be working with Teréga on this ambitious project, which places innovation and research at the heart of decarbonisation solutions. This partnership illustrates our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint while making the most of local resources in a circular and sustainable approach. By combining our expertise, we are proud to be making our own contribution to the energy transition, as well as the competitiveness and attractiveness of the region's industrial network. We are fully committed to making this project a success for the region and for the future of our industry. "*

**Jean-François Guillot, Chairman and CEO of Fibre Excellence**

**About Fibre Excellence**

As France's leading producer of market paper pulp, the Fibre Excellence Group has a production capacity of 560,000 tonnes per year of unbleached or bleached paper pulp, used by many key customers for the manufacture of everyday paper products (writing paper, hygiene products, packaging, etc.) Based in the south of France, Fibre Excellence employs 650 people at its two pulp production plants in Tarascon (Bouches-du-Rhône) and Saint-Gaudens (Occitanie).

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**About Teréga**

Established in South-West France, at the crossroads between major European gas flows, Teréga has exercised exceptional expertise for over 80 years in the development of gas transport and storage infrastructures. Today, it continues to develop innovative solutions to overcome the major energy challenges facing France and Europe. A true accelerator of the energy transition, Teréga operates over 5,000 km of pipelines and 2 underground storage reservoirs representing 15.6% of the French gas transport network and 26.9% of national storage capacity. In 2023, the company generated revenues of €494 million (excluding balancing and congestion) and had more than 646 employees. Corporate social responsibility is at the heart of Teréga's strategy, as it embarks on the energy transition to carbon neutrality. Teréga has rolled out programmes in all areas of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance): its employee safety and its infrastructure security via the PARI 2025 programme, sustainable development of territories and social responsibility via the ENERGIZ MOUV programme, support of philanthropic projects via the Teréga Accélérateur d'Énergies endowment fund, and reduction of environmental impacts via the BE POSITIF programme with a commitment to a 34% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 2021 on all scopes 1, 2 and 3, which would allow us to achieve -54% across scopes 1 and 2 compared with 2017.

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