



PRESS RELEASE

Commitments submitted to the European Commission totally preserve the common industrial rationale of SUEZ and Gaz de France

Paris, October 13th 2006 - Today, Gaz de France and SUEZ have made the following undertakings as a result of the discussions held with the European Commission since the announcement of their proposed merger, which are now completed. The two groups confirm the current interest of these undertakings which are totally in line with their industrial rationale:

- The new Group would sell the 25.5% interest owned by Gaz de France in the capital of SPE.
- The new Group would sell the participation held by SUEZ in Distrigaz. However, it would possess 70 TWh supplied by long-term contracts held by Distrigaz. In this way, it would be able to cover all Electrabel's gas supply requirements for supplying its power stations and its customers. For information, Gaz de France and SUEZ total sales amounted to over 1,100 TWh in 2005 (749 for Gaz de France and 365 for SUEZ, including 210 for Distrigaz). The new Group would keep all its residential customers in Belgium.
- The new Group would reinforce its interest in the Zeebrugge terminal, one of Europe's biggest, from 51 to 60%, with the creation of a company, Fluxys International, which owns the LNG terminal at Zeebrugge, the hub manager and other activities outside Belgium. It would have a 45% interest in Fluxys S.A. (owner of regulated infrastructures in Belgium), whose independence in terms of management would be strengthened by additional conditions of governance. The new Group will continue to invest in developing the Zeebrugge terminal with the aim of doubling its capacity.

Moreover, the solutions concerning infrastructures and heating networks proposed on September 20th have been maintained:

- Measures for facilitating access to the Zeebrugge hub; an undertaking to consult the market before the end of 2007 for building a second extension to the LNG terminal at Zeebrugge and reinforcing north-south transit capacity through Belgium; new storage capacity; improvements to rules of transparency on the Belgian market;
- Transfer of Distrigaz & Co (which commercialises transit capacity on the Troll and RtR lines) to Fluxys; according to the MOU signed with Publigaz; application of the good conduct code to new transit contracts in Belgium;

- Transfer of the Gaz de France interest (25 %) in Segeo (owner of the gas pipeline running through Belgium and connecting the Dutch and French frontiers) to Fluxys;
- Substantial development of additional storage capacities in France by Gaz de France for accompanying future market development and an extensive increase in unloading and regasification capacities for the Montoir de Bretagne terminal, whose present capacity of 8 billion m³ will be increased to 12 billion m³ at medium term, and then to 16 billion m³.
- Division of methane terminal management business in France into subsidiary companies, as per the model adopted in 2005 for the transport network (GRT gaz) and, in the near future, the distribution grid operators (GRD) in the perspective of opening the market completely in 2007. Gaz de France has already turned the terminal at Fos Cavaou into a subsidiary.
- Sale of the Cofathec heating networks (the Cofathec Coriance subsidiary is responsible for managing public service delegation contracts for heating networks to local authorities).

This proposal is coherent with the merger's industrial logics:

- The new Group will possess diversified, well-balanced energy supply equipment, more especially based on the convergence between gas and electricity. In this way, it will be able to contribute to energy supply security on its markets. It will possess substantial potential for development, notably in LNG and in developing dual energy offers (gas and electricity) in Europe and especially in France.
- The new Group will keep the essential part of its production capacity and its international supply sources for gas.
- In priority, all assets subject to disinvestment would be exchanged against other assets, in gas especially, that would strengthen the Group's position on European markets. Therefore, the new Group would have an industrial dimension equivalent to a combination of the two existing groups.
- The new set-up will possess human and financial resources of sufficient size for achieving an ambitious development target in the context of the current consolidation in the European energy sector.
- The new Group will be the European leader in gas, N° 5 in electricity and world leader in LN gas.

After consulting the consultative committee, the Commission will announce its decision on November 24 at the latest.





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Forward-Looking Statements

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