

PRESS RELEASE

Marseille, July 23rd, 2026

Rhône Décarbonation and H4 Marseille Fos join forces to build France's first industrial value chain for CO₂ capture and utilization

The Rhône Décarbonation project, led by Vicat, SPSE, and Elengy, and the H4 Marseille Fos project have reached a decisive milestone with the signing of a strategic partnership agreement. This agreement secures 50% of H4 Marseille Fos's biogenic CO₂ requirements for 2040 and marks the emergence of a low-carbon industrial ecosystem that will play a pivotal role for the Mediterranean region.

A strategic agreement driving industrial decarbonization

Vicat, a leading international cement group, SPSE (Société du Pipeline Sud-Européen), a long-standing energy infrastructure operator, and Elengy are combining their expertise for the **Rhône Décarbonation** project, an initiative aimed at capturing and transporting CO₂ emitted by industries in the Rhône corridor. This CO₂ captured at the source will now find a direct and secure industrial outlet with **H4 Marseille Fos**, a flagship project for the production of e-SAF (electro-sustainable aviation fuel based on hydrogen) located in the Fos-sur-Mer industrial port zone.

This agreement represents a concrete, structural step forward: it **secures 50% of the biogenic CO₂ supply required for the operation of H4 Marseille Fos**, thereby strengthening the economic and industrial robustness of the e-SAF project and demonstrating the maturity of the CCU (Carbon Capture and Utilization) sector in southern France.

Two mature industrial projects that strengthen each other

Rhône Décarbonation (Vicat / SPSE / Elengy): from capture, transport, to sequestration

Designated a "Major Industrial Decarbonization Project" (GPID) by the French government, the VAIA project, which aims to capture 1.2 million tonnes of CO₂ annually at the VICAT site in Montalieu-Vercieu (Isère) and is a key component of the Rhône Décarbonation initiative, relies on proven CO₂ capture technologies and transport via the SPSE infrastructure to industrial end-users.

The project relies on a robust financing structure combining public support from the European Union (notably from the EU Innovation Fund and the Connecting Europe Facility for Energy, or CEF Energy) and France (from the GPID), with private funding. This public support demonstrates the project's technological and economic maturity.

After several years of development and in-depth feasibility studies, the project is now entering its operational deployment phase:

- Post-combustion capture technologies tested under real industrial conditions;
- Pipeline transport infrastructure leveraging SPSE's expertise along the Rhône corridor;
- Robust business model secured by long-term supply contracts.

H4 Marseille Fos: building a decarbonized future for air transport

H4 Marseille Fos is one of the most advanced projects in Europe involving the production of synthetic aviation fuels. Its model is based on hydrogen production via water electrolysis and the industrial valorization of captured biogenic CO₂ to produce a sovereign fuel within our national territory.

The project benefits from:

- A strategic location within the Fos-sur-Mer industrial port zone, the Mediterranean's leading industrial port complex, at the intersection of numerous pipelines, thus enabling low-carbon logistics;
- Being strongly rooted in the local industrial ecosystem, with partners identified at every stage of the industrial process;
- A market secured by a European directive (ReFuelEU) mandating the gradual introduction of e-SAF into aircraft fuel tanks starting in 2030;
- Thanks to the partnership, there is now also a guaranteed supply of biogenic CO₂ covering 50% of its needs.

Partner statements

"This partnership with H4 Marseille Fos is a key milestone for Rhône Décarbonation (Vicat, SPSE and Elengy). It demonstrates that Rhône Décarbonation is not merely a carbon capture project, but rather a complete industrial value chain, starting at the stacks of our cement plants and ending with the industrial end-users. We are creating the conditions for genuine, cost-effective decarbonization for the industrial sector in the South of France. "

Eric Bourdon, Deputy CEO, Vicat

"Territorial cooperation and energy infrastructure are essential levers for fostering the emergence of robust and credible industrial decarbonization projects. "

Géraldine BRISSIAUD, Executive Director, Elengy

"We are pleased to stand alongside leading industrial partners who share the same goal: to transform the challenges of decarbonization into opportunities for sustainable industrial development. "

Fabien POURE, Executive Director, SPSE

"Securing 50% of our biogenic CO₂ supply with industrial partners as robust as Vicat, SPSE, and Elengy sends a strong signal to the entire ecosystem. The CCU value chain is taking shape with all stakeholders involved, demonstrating that H4 Marseille Fos is a project deeply rooted in the region's industrial reality. "

Alexis MARTINEZ, Executive Director, H4 Marseille Fos

The agreement in numbers

50% guaranteed CO ₂ supply for H4 Marseille Fos	1st structured CCU value chain in France	4 committed leading industrial players
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About Vicat

Founded in 1853, the Vicat Group is a global player in the cement, ready-mixed concrete, and aggregates sectors, with operations in 12 countries. Committed to an ambitious decarbonization trajectory, Vicat is developing innovative solutions to reduce CO₂ emissions in the cement industry.

About SPSE

SPSE (Société du Pipeline Sud-Européen) is a key player in the European energy infrastructure. Operating a pipeline network that connects Fos-sur-Mer to Karlsruhe, the company draws on over 60 years of expertise to ensure the safe and efficient transport of energy fluids. It currently leverages this expertise to support industrial decarbonization by developing CO₂ transport solutions.

About Elengy

A key player in the LNG sector since 1965, Elengy operates three LNG terminals in France, two of which are located in the Mediterranean. In addition to its long-standing regasification business, the company has added services dedicated to LNG-powered heavy-duty transport and is developing new projects involving decarbonized molecules (low-carbon hydrogen and ammonia, bio-LNG) and CO₂ storage (CCUS) to support the decarbonization of local regions.

About H4 Marseille Fos

H4 Marseille Fos is a hydrogen-based synthetic fuel production project aimed at decarbonizing air transport, located in the Fos-sur-Mer industrial port zone (Bouches-du-Rhône). Anchored in one of Southern Europe's largest industrial complexes, the project aims to become a leading e-fuels hub in the Mediterranean.

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Embargoed until July 23 at 10:00 a.m. — Do not release before this date