Press release



Fos-sur-Mer, September 24th, 2024

Launch of the Medhyterra project, a low-carbon ammonia import terminal on the Fos Tonkin site.

Nelly Nicoli, CEO at Elengy, an expert in liquefied natural gas (LNG) and pioneer operator of LNG terminals in France, presented the Medhyterra project, its objectives and challenges on Tuesday 24 September 2024 in Fos-sur-Mer.

The Medhyterra project developed by Elengy entails redeveloping part of the site of its Fos Tonkin LNG terminal into a low-carbon ammonia import terminal.

It includes the construction of a 30,000 m3 ammonia storage tank to replace a decommissioned LNG tank, as well as the reuse of part of the existing facilities, such as the jetty, to accommodate vessels carrying low-carbon ammonia.

Ultimately, the terminal should receive 200,000 tonnes of low-carbon ammonia per year, equivalent to 10 to 15 ship unloading operations per year.

Various distribution solutions would be offered at the terminal exit:

- loading bays for tanker trucks and rail wagons; as Elengy wishes to encourage rail transport, the terminal would be connected to the national rail network,
- a pipeline to directly supply other neighbouring industrial sites in the Fos-sur-Mer industrial port zone (ZIP),
- refuelling for bunkering vessels; ammonia is one of the alternative fuels that could be developed to decarbonise maritime transport.

Technical feasibility engineering studies are currently being carried out by Tractebel and will be completed in November. Submission of the Environmental Authorisation Application (EAA) is scheduled for mid-2025. The final investment decision is expected in 2026, with commissioning of the new facilities in 2029.

Low-carbon ammonia can contribute directly to the decarbonisation of industries in the southern region and beyond, in a wide range of sectors including agriculture, chemicals and the automotive industry. If it is reconverted into low-carbon hydrogen, it can also make a significant contribution to decarbonising the refining, metallurgy and heavy mobility sectors. The creation of this terminal would therefore be a real lever for supporting the region in its energy transition.

Medhyterra is part of Elengy's long-standing presence in the Fos-sur-Mer area, where the company's 200 employees have been operating the Fos Tonkin LNG terminal since 1972 and the Fos-Cavaou terminal since 2010.

It also illustrates its strategy of transforming its infrastructures into multi-molecule decarbonisation hubs.





A strategic partnership with Trammo

To support the development of Medhyterra, Elengy has signed a partnership agreement with Trammo SAS.

Trammo has been a world leader in the maritime trading of ammonia as well as the sale and distribution of ammonia since 1965, and aims to play an active role in the decarbonisation of the ammonia industry by making large volumes of low-carbon ammonia available on the market.

This strategic partnership will facilitate access to global markets for the new terminal, strengthening the position of the Fos-Tonkin site as a hub for decarbonisation in the southern region.

For Trammo, the agreement will give it a logistical advantage in supplying its customers in the south of France.

About low-carbon ammonia

Ammonia is synthesised from nitrogen, a neutral gas naturally present in the air, and hydrogen. In its low-carbon version, it can :

- contribute to decarbonising industries that use it directly in their processes (agriculture, petrochemicals, automotive)
- provide a solution for transporting low-carbon hydrogen produced in regions of the world with significant renewable electricity resources to regions where the need for low-carbon hydrogen will not be met by local production.

Prior consultation

Convinced of the need to open a dialogue with local residents and stakeholders, Elengy voluntarily applied to the French National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP).

After examining this request, the CNDP decided to organise a preliminary consultation and appointed Corinne Larrue and Ginette Vastel as guarantors.

The preliminary consultation will run from 14 October to 24 November 2024.

All the information will be available on the consultation website: www.concertation-medhyterra.fr from 30 September 2024.

About Elengy

An expert in liquefied natural gas (LNG) since 1965, Elengy operates three LNG terminals in France: Montoir-de-Bretagne on the Atlantic coast, Fos-Cavaou and Fos-Tonkin in the Mediterranean.

Over the last ten years, Elengy has been able to add to its traditional business of LNG regasification for injection into the GRTgaz network, activities enabling the development of LNG in heavy mobility: loading of tankers to supply service stations and loading of micro-methane tankers for bunkering operations on container ships, ferries and cruise ships.

Convinced that its terminals, located at the crossroads of energy chains, will play a key role in supporting the decarbonisation of territories, Elengy is now developing new projects based on new molecules: low-carbon hydrogen and ammonia, bio-LNG, emethane and CO2.

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