



Presse Release – Paris, July 8, 2020

## Evergaz and Meridiam acquire a new anaerobic digestion plant in Occitania

**Biométhanisation Partenaires, a joint-venture between Evergaz and Meridiam, announces the acquisition of the biogas unit of Grand Auch located in the Gers (32). This acquisition strengthens Evergaz's territorial coverage, which now has 10 units in its portfolio in France, saving around 50,000 tonnes of CO2 per year, equivalent to the emissions of more than 30,000 cars.**

With a 7% increase in installed capacity between September 2018 and September 2019<sup>1</sup>, French biogas confirms its dynamism and its strategic position in the challenges of energy and agricultural transition. It enables the production within territories of a green, circular and non-intermittent energy while presenting many positive externalities (reduction of CO2 emissions, maintenance of agriculture, etc.). It also offers a solution for the recovery of organic waste and the production of a natural fertilizer that can be substituted for chemical fertilizers.

By acquiring Biogaz du Grand Auch, Evergaz and Meridiam are establishing themselves in Occitania and strengthening their territorial network. Evergaz was already present in the region with the collaborative project Seven Occitanie, which is developing a network of BioGNV stations. As a major player in methanisation, Evergaz benefits from a unique experience feedback on biogas with more than 15 production plants in Europe, for 29MWél, i.e. 7,250 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h of biomethane and a treatment capacity of 675,000 tons of waste per year, thus supplying the equivalent of more than 130,000 people with energy today. By 2022, Evergaz is aiming for an annual biomethane energy production target of 120 million Nm<sup>3</sup>, an installed capacity of 64MWél and the treatment of more than 1 million tons of waste per year.

The acquisition of Biogaz du Grand Auch is made through a dedicated company called Auch Méthanisation. In addition to Evergaz and Meridiam, a company specializing in the development, financing and long-term management of sustainable and resilient public infrastructure, Patrick Minot, a recognized expert in the agricultural recovery of digestate, is also a partner in the new Auch Méthanisation entity. This partnership aims to rethink post-treatment to develop the use of digestate by spreading to local farmers. Inaugurated in 2014 by the Minister of Agriculture Stéphane Le Foll, Biogaz du Grand Auch recovers agricultural and food-processing co-products and wastewater treatment plant sludge, and has a capacity of 1,067 kWél in cogeneration (production of electricity and heat), the equivalent of the annual consumption of 4,000 people. The Grand Auch biogas unit is technically comparable to the Biogaz du Pays de Château Gontier plant (Mayenne), already operated by Evergaz. Positive feedback from a similar plant should enable the biogas operation in Grand Auch to be optimised quickly.

---

<sup>1</sup> 2019 = 480 MW / 2018 = 447MW [http://www.energies-renouvelables.org/observ-er/html/energie\\_renouvelable\\_france/ObservER-Barometre-EnR-Electrique-France-2019.pdf](http://www.energies-renouvelables.org/observ-er/html/energie_renouvelable_france/ObservER-Barometre-EnR-Electrique-France-2019.pdf)

Evergaz and Meridiam were advised in this transaction by Natureo Finance, Winston and Strawn LLP, Ernst and Young, Halard et Associés, De Gaulle Fleurance et Associés, and Carakters.

*« With the acquisition of Biogaz du Grand Auch, we confirm Evergaz's ambition in the French and European biogas markets. We are thus continuing the roadmap established with Meridiam when our partnership was formalized in 2018, and we are committed to being a long-term partner to the territories for their biogas projects. »* **Frédéric Flipo, Directeur Général Délégué of Evergaz**

**Thierry Déau, CEO of Meridiam said :** *« Through this acquisition, we are strengthening our biogas footprint, a renewable energy that is essential for the ecological transition. It is also a further illustration of our desire to support innovative SMEs and foster the development of the local economy through projects that promote ecological transition in all its forms ».*

#### **Press Contacts:**

##### **Rumeur Publique**

[evergaz@rumeurpublique.fr](mailto:evergaz@rumeurpublique.fr)

Thierry Del Jésus – 06 60 47 90 38

Antoine Bolcato – 07 77 14 61 97

Amina Maaloum – 06 68 64 27 10

#### **About Evergaz :**

An integrated operator specializing in biogas production and the development of its uses, Evergaz develops, owns and operates a fleet of biogas production plants. Created in 2008 under the name Holding Verte (Green Holding) at the instigation of AQUA, an accelerator investor in the environment and energy sector, Evergaz supports and brings together local players - farmers, industrialists and local authorities - to provide a sustainable solution to the management and treatment of organic waste while producing green energy and natural fertilizer.

Committed to the development of the French biogas industry, Evergaz is a founding member of Biogaz Vallée® and France Biométhane. Evergaz is led by Alain Planchot, Chairman and CEO, and Frédéric Flipo, Deputy CEO and co-founder. Evergaz is an independent company majority owned by its management, AQUA, Meridiam and SWEN Capital Partners. [www.evergaz.com](http://www.evergaz.com) [www.linkedin.com/company/10418235/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/10418235/)

#### **About Meridiam**

Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment Benefit Corporation under French law and an asset manager. The firm specializes in the development, financing, and long-term management of sustainable public infrastructure in three core sectors: mobility, energy transition and environment, and social infrastructure. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages US\$8 billion and more than 80 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, Advanced Sustainability Rating by VigeoEiris and applies a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [www.meridiam.com](http://www.meridiam.com) [!\[\]\(e3275251d0893157c3584e20c81dc3ba\_img.jpg\) Meridiam](#) [!\[\]\(9ab0e0ed3a1c2d865b438a931465ce60\_img.jpg\) Meridiam](#) [!\[\]\(cad03033ab873d30d908af7ccf65e600\_img.jpg\) Meridiam](#)