



ALBIOMA

Press release

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With the conversion of the Albioma Le Moule power plant in Guadeloupe to 100% biomass, the coal era in the French Overseas Territories definitively comes to an end

Total phase-out of coal in Guadeloupe by 2025

Extension of Albioma Le Moule's electricity sales contract until 2047

The plant's greenhouse gas emissions will see an 87% reduction compared to current levels

Ensuring the long-term future of the sugar cane-based circular economy

Albioma is today announcing its plan to phase out the use of coal at its Le Moule site (ALM1 and ALM2 units) in Guadeloupe, following a decision by the French Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE)¹ on 13 June 2024 and the signature of an amendment to the power purchase agreement with EDF for the conversion of the plant to biomass.

Work on converting the ALM2 unit is already under way, with the aim of having the plant running on 100% biomass by 2025, using available local biomass sources (bagasse, forest wood, prunings, etc.), supplemented by certified imported wood pellets from sources including our production plant in Canada. The ALM1 unit will run solely on bagasse during the sugar harvest, and will be mothballed the rest of the time.

The CRE's decision also provides for the investment required to extend the operation of the ALM2 unit by 14 years. As a result, the power purchase agreement for ALM2 has been extended from 2033 to 2047.

As stated in the deliberation, *"Albioma will benefit from lessons learned from the conversion of all its other plants in French overseas departments and territories [...]. In addition to this wealth of feedback information, the conversion of ALM2 and the cessation of coal use at ALM1 will enable Albioma to stop importing coal altogether and use biomass exclusively for all its steam plants in the West Indies."*

Albioma Chairman Frédéric Moyne commented: *"The support of the Albioma teams will enable the conversion of the Le Moule power plant to biomass to begin immediately. This work is in response to a number of challenges, including the phasing-out of coal in Guadeloupe's electricity production by 2025, and a subsequent increase in the proportion*

¹ The plant's 3rd unit, ALM3, was converted to 100% biomass in 2020, following a deliberation by the CRE in 2018.



of renewable energy in the island's long-term energy mix. In addition to this very good news for Guadeloupe, Le Moule had been the last remaining coal-fired power station in overseas France, so its conversion marks the end of coal in the French overseas territories, which I am particularly pleased about. These territories, which are isolated from the mainland French electricity grid, will most likely be able to deliver 100% of their electricity mix with renewable energies by 2030."

In due course, the conversion will increase the renewable portion of Guadeloupe's energy mix from 35% to 45%² and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by some 200,000 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent per year; in other words, an 87% decrease in direct emissions compared with the current operation of the plant.

The Le Moule power station, which adjoins the Gardel sugar refinery, produces around 30% of Guadeloupe's electricity. With an installed capacity of 102 MW, the plant employs 94 people and supplies steam to the sugar refinery, ensuring the long-term future of the island's sugar cane industry.

About Albioma

The Albioma Group is committed to the energy transition thanks to renewable energies (biomass, solar and geothermal).

It operates in overseas and mainland France, Mauritius, Brazil, Turkey, Canada and Australia.

Over the past 30 years, it has developed a unique partnership with the sugar industry, to produce renewable energy from bagasse, a fibrous residue of sugar cane.

Albioma is also the leading producer of photovoltaic energy in overseas France where it builds and operates innovative storage projects, as well as in mainland France and Brazil.

Since 2021, the Group has been expanding into the geothermal energy market with its acquisition of two power plants in Turkey.

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² [Présentation PowerPoint \(edf.gp\)](#)