



Press release

19 December 2019

A world first in New Caledonia: ENGIE Solutions commissions the first totally green electrical substation

ENGIE Solutions has just commissioned the first green electrical substation* in the world through its subsidiary EEC, which operates the electricity distribution network in the city of Nouméa.

A revolutionary electrical substation

This brand new public electricity distribution substation, developed by Schneider Electric, combines green technology with digital solutions, and uses pure air insulation and vacuum interruption to eliminate the need for greenhouse gas.

The project is fully aligned with ENGIE Solutions' commitment to assist its customers in taking up the challenge of the zero carbon transition by optimising the use of resources.

This new technology distributes 100% carbon-free energy and ensures an uninterrupted, efficient, reliable, secure, digital service for users. From now on, this new transformer substation will distribute power throughout a whole neighbourhood in Nouméa (630 distribution substations), to meet the energy needs of the whole city.

This pilot project is particularly economical and environment-friendly, a pioneering step in the zero carbon transition. It provides better service for customers and at the same time enables the uptake of even more decentralised green energy.

A country at the forefront of smart networks

In line with its firm commitment to the energy transition, ENGIE Solutions, through its subsidiary EEC, previously inaugurated a renewable energy storage and management unit in Lifou, New Caledonia in November 2019. The aim is to use solar and wind power to generate electricity, which will eventually replace the diesel generators at the thermal power plant. This storage unit is connected to the local smart grid, an innovative energy management system that enables intermittent renewable energy to be managed effectively and improves quality of life for local residents.

Equipment connectivity is fundamental, enabling both preventive maintenance and greater efficiency, thus providing higher quality service for the final customer.

By commissioning this totally green electrical substation in New Caledonia, ENGIE Solutions has just taken another globally significant step forward on the road towards a carbon-free future using smart networks.

**An electrical substation is a transformer substation that enables low voltage power (from 380 to 220 volts for a household) to be distributed throughout a neighbourhood.*



ENGIE Solutions is an umbrella brand bringing together ENGIE Ineo, ENGIE Axima, ENGIE Cofely and ENGIE Réseaux. ENGIE Solutions employs 50,000 people in France, all with varied skills, who can act together alongside towns, local authorities, industrial firms and service companies, providing them with the solutions they need to take up the challenge of the energy transition.

Improving performance in factories, comfort in buildings and making regions more attractive are central to ENGIE Solutions' value proposition, with a zero-carbon goal.

*The ENGIE Solutions brand will be completely effective as of 1 January 2020

About EEC

EEC, a subsidiary of ENGIE Solutions, has been operating in New Caledonia since 1929 and manages electricity distribution in the municipalities of Nouméa, Mont-Dore, Dumbéa (partially), Bourail, Kaala-Gomen, Koumac, Canala and Lifou. EEC meets the growing needs for efficiency and innovative solutions in the energy field for local authorities, industrial firms and the tertiary sector. EEC has 260 employees, supplies electricity to more than 65,000 customers in New Caledonia and is certified ISO 45001-2018 (Occupational Health and Safety Management), ISO 50001-2018 (Energy Management) and ISO 14001-2015 / Environmental Management.

Press contact:

Tiphaine de Belloy

01 39 53 01 10

tdebelloy@planbconseil.com

[Mots-clés] electricity distribution, green substation, energy transition, Engie Solutions, New Caledonia, carbon-free energy, digital technology, connectivity, smart networks

[URL conseillée] www.engie-solutions.com/en/press/engie-solutions-commissions-first-green-electrical-substation

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