

News release

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ENERGY INDEPENDENCE: THE FRENCH ARE IN FAVOUR OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMRS IN THEIR MUNICIPALITY

In an uncertain geopolitical context of high inflation, the energy issue is of great concern to the French, who believe that the government's first priority should be devoted to guaranteeing the country's energy independence. SMRs (Small Modular Reactors) then appeared to be a promising electricity production solution that was already well known to the French².

More than two-thirds of French people have a positive image of nuclear energy

In France, **nuclear power is the leading source of electricity** production with 62.7% of electricity from nuclear energy in 2022. Anchored in the French landscape, this energy source is very popular with the French with **74% having a good opinion of nuclear power** according to the recent survey carried out by Cluster 17. In their eyes, nuclear power is seen as a **solution to climate issues**. Indeed, 70% of French people, and particularly the younger generation, consider that nuclear power is effective in the fight against global warming.

Moreover, the French nuclear industry represents a sense of pride for the majority **of French people, regardless of age, with the youngest being just as proud (64%) of the French nuclear industry as the oldest (67%), or of the socio-professional category.**

Faced with the risk of electricity shortages, the majority of French people are in favour of the development of SMRs

The shutdown of several nuclear reactors shortly before the beginning of winter 2021 raised fears among the French of electricity shortages that continued to grow following the European Union's sanctions against Russia, leading to the interruption of Russian gas supplies the following year.

Faced with these new challenges, SMRs represent a promising solution. **Their existence is already known by more than half of the French who are largely in favor of it**, with only 19% of opinion hostile to them. As a symbol of French innovation, the development of SMRs contributes to the sense of pride generated by the sector.

The French are also ready to accept the implementation of an SMR in the territories. Indeed, **more than half of French people are ready to see an SMR installed in their own municipality**, a majority opinion shared by all age and income groups. The SMR is also presented as an alternative for households. More than half of the poorest French people consider the use of SMR as a solution to power the heating of their home.

Indeed, **for 53% of French people, SMRs represent the opportunity to produce energy at low cost**, a considerable advantage in this inflationary period but also to strengthen the independence of France in an uncertain geopolitical context.

¹ Survey conducted by Cluster 17 in December 2022

² Survey conducted by Cluster 17 in November 2023



Thus, the SMR has major assets, likely to respond both to current concerns related to purchasing power, and to long-term challenges (strengthening energy independence, decarbonization of energy produced in France, enhancement of French technological know-how).

About CALOGENA

Calogena is a company created in 2021 around a unique mission to address the challenge of energy transition: to decarbonize heating networks. In order to provide a large-scale solution to the problem, Calogena is developing a low-power boiler powered by nuclear energy. Its main benefit is the very significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for heat production. Its compact, simple and secure design allows Calogena to aim for the fastest possible deployment, as early as 2030.

[More information about www.calogena.com](http://www.calogena.com)

About GORGÉ SAS

Gorgé SAS is a diversified industrial group, specialising in high-tech businesses and driven by a strong entrepreneurial culture. The group operates industrial and technological activities in several cutting-edge fields: maritime navigation and robotics systems, through the listed company Exail Technologies; the protection of high-risk sites; engineering and risk management consulting; 3D Printing, through the listed company Prodways Group. Gorgé SAS also provides private equity services to support entrepreneurs in the expansion phase. The companies of the Gorgé Group have a turnover of €500 million and employ 3,300 people.

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