Press release

Paris, 2 November 2026

CALOGENA SECURES €40 MILLION FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR ITS FIRST COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR REACTOR

For the first time in the nuclear industry, European funding awarded to an SMR will directly support the construction of a commercial facility. The €40 million grant awarded to Calogena through the European Commission's Innovation Fund will help fund the potential construction of its first commercial reactor to serve the town of Pierrelatte. This decision marks a major milestone for Calogena as its technology moves towards industrial deployment.

Heating accounts for nearly a third of energy demand and still relies heavily on carbon-intensive and imported energy sources. Calogena is developing a small modular nuclear reactor specifically designed to supply district heating networks with low-carbon, cost-competitive energy that strengthens energy sovereignty. The European district heating market could reach around 1,000 TWh by 2050.

Its technology is based on a low-temperature, low-pressure pool-type reactor using proven technologies. Its simple design aims to deliver a high level of safety and allows it to be located close to district heating networks.

Amid severe strains on energy markets, this solution also addresses the need for energy sovereignty and price stability. The 215% increase in European gas prices over the past year highlights the continent's vulnerability to fluctuations in imported energy prices and reinforces the case for a local, low-carbon heat source offering long-term cost visibility.

The first European funding for a commercial reactor

The Innovation Fund grant would enable Calogena to reach a new industrial milestone by building its first commercial reactor in Pierrelatte, supplying the town with locally produced, low-carbon heat.

The Innovation Fund is one of the European Union's leading funding programmes for the deployment of technologies that contribute to decarbonisation. For Calogena, this support marks the transition to its first commercial project, following more than €50 million in funding secured under France 2030 to develop its technology and bring it to industrial scale.

This European support recognises the potential of Calogena's solution to contribute to the large-scale decarbonisation of district heating networks across Europe.

A springboard for deployment across Europe

The Pierrelatte project could become Calogena's first commercial reference and pave the way for deployment in other European towns and cities. The company is already involved in several projects outside France and is notably in contention to supply more than fifteen reactors in Finland.

In June, Calogena also signed a cooperation agreement with Veolia, a European leader in district heating, to explore the potential of its SMRs to decarbonise district heating networks in Central and Eastern Europe.

Julien Dereux, Executive Chairman of Calogena, said: *"This funding marks a major milestone for Calogena. Having developed our technology and brought it to industrial scale, we are now entering the construction phase of our first commercial reactor. The European Commission's support confirms the maturity of our project and its potential to address one of Europe's major energy challenges: producing local, low-carbon, cost-competitive heat at scale while strengthening energy sovereignty. Pierrelatte would be our first commercial reference and should pave the way for wider deployment across Europe."*

ABOUT CALOGENA

Calogena, a subsidiary of Groupe Gorgé, a high-tech industrial group with 3,500 employees and €600 million in revenue, is developing an SMR to provide towns and cities with low-carbon heating that strengthens energy sovereignty. Its simple, proven pool-type reactor technology, operating at low temperature and low pressure, ensures intrinsic safety and cost-competitiveness. With development projects under way in several European countries and a first deployment scheduled for 2032, Calogena offers a resilient, carbon-free solution designed to ensure a stable heat supply and strengthen energy sovereignty across Europe. Calogena has been selected for funding under France 2030 and the European Commission's Innovation Fund.

For more information, visit www.calogena.com

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