



**PRESS RELEASE**

**Nanterre, 1<sup>st</sup> february 2005**

**Elyo (SUEZ) signs a utilities management contract worth 122 million euros with the Norske Skog paper manufacturer in Golbey and meets renewable energy development objectives in France**

Elyo, a subsidiary of the SUEZ Group, signed a utilities management contract with Norske Skog Golbey (Vosges), worth 122 million euros of turnover for a 15-year period, within the framework of the French Ministry of Industry's invitation to tender.

Indeed, in order to contribute to France's ambitious renewable energy development objectives, the French Ministry of Industry issued an invitation to tender, in December 2003, for the construction of power stations exceeding 12 MW, using biomass or biogas, before January 2007. After examination, 14 projects were chosen – out of 23 candidates – including the one prepared by the Regional Department of Elyo Nord Est, a partner of Norske Skog Golbey.

Elyo was, thus, entrusted with constructing and operating a 12.5 MW steam turbine power production facility, fed by the following fuel: urban and paper sludge, wood bark and paper mill waste. Existing facilities (biomass boiler, coal depot and demineralised water plant) will also be upgraded.

Facilities will be put into service in January 2007. Elyo's investment is worth 14 million euros.

Elyo, thus, shows its utilities management know-how and confirms its will to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

As Eric d'Olce, Chairman of Norske Skog Golbey, comments:

*"When the State issued its call to tender, we immediately felt that this was an opportunity to recover steam from biomass. Because our core activity is paper production, we looked for a partner with major know-how and experience in the energy management field, in order to give concrete expression to this opportunity. So, we naturally contacted ELYO, the leader in its field, to produce the main study and then present an application file, in partnership with us."*

■ *Norske Skog Golbey is a subsidiary of the Norwegian Norske Skog Group, the second largest press paper manufacturers in the world, and produces 600,000 tons of high-quality newspaper every year. This paper is used to print most of the major European, and of course French, newspapers. Since it started production, in January 1992, this top-modern plant, employing 470 people, has always sought to be as environmentally-friendly as possible via the support of an environmental management system and high-performance facilities (the plant has ISO 14001 certification), but also by involving all its personnel.*

■ *Elyo, an international group and subsidiary of the SUEZ Group, designs and manages long-term energy services, with guaranteed performance. Elyo develops optimised environmentally-friendly solutions on its clients (corporate, local authorities, commercial and residential site managers) sites. In 2004, Elyo's turnover reached 3.4 billion Euros and the company employs 18,100 people.*

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