

Pau, october 23th 2018

**Press Release**

## Teréga ready for the Trading Region France with the inauguration of its RGM project (Gascogne-Midi Reinforcement)

16 months after the start of construction, Teréga, a major player in the French gas market, has officially launched its new RGM pipeline – Gascogne-Midi Reinforcement – linking Lussagnet (Landes - 40) to Barran (Gers - 32) as well as adding a compressor at the Barbaira compressor station. This project is an essential step towards the creation of a single gas market in France.

*“The commissioning of these infrastructures makes it possible to finalise the establishment of the single market in France. This zone will be operational for market players on 1 November. As a key element in the energy transition in France and Europe, gas thus has everything it takes to become a real accelerator of the energy model of the future.”* **Dominique Mockly – Chairman and Managing Director of Teréga**

### RGM: a project at the very heart of the Trading Region France (TRF)

RGM is Teréga's main infrastructure project, providing a solution to the congestion in the existing gas network between the North and the South. It enables exchanges to be more fluid and contributes to security of supply. In response to market demand, Teréga's project teams have delivered a large-scale project built to high quality standards, on time and in compliance with budgets and regulations.



RGM, in conjunction with GRTgaz's Val-de-Saône programme, is part of the TRF: a single national marketplace that will be in operation as of November 1, 2018. The TRF will allow consumers to benefit from a single price for gas on the wholesale market in France.

This new pipeline therefore has a dual purpose, both national and European:

- To strengthen national infrastructures in order to facilitate gas flows and ensure security of supply.
- To contribute to market integration in line with the European target model.

The successful construction of RGM was based on three fundamental pillars: Teréga's know-how in project management, its expertise in the area of people management and its proven technical capabilities.

### RGM: a responsible and cooperative project

*"The key factor for the success of a project such as Gascogne-Midi Reinforcement (RGM) is consultation from the initial phase to the final phase."* **Michel Boche – Director of Infrastructure Projects**

**5 years** of working together with multidisciplinary teams were necessary to ensure that this project was fully acceptable. A first phase of preparation, study and consultation was thus initiated in 2014 and lasted until the project was approved after deliberation by the French Energy Regulation Commission (CRE) on 7 May 2014, and then by Teréga's Board of Directors on 10 October of the same year.

The company thus fostered links and dialogue with all stakeholders (elected officials, the public, the 202 owners of the properties the pipeline crosses, and the public authorities) at a very early stage, as well as partnerships with local associations. These discussions made it possible to create a climate of trust and cooperation with the sole aim of meeting the interests of the end-user and pursuing the project in a spirit of respect for the issues and the need for consultation.

By integrating this project into the local social fabric, the positive impact of the RGM project has now been demonstrated. As a company rooted in its region, Teréga has been involved in the long-term economic development of the areas affected by the pipeline's route, namely Occitanie and Nouvelle-Aquitaine.



The construction of the gas pipeline has generated several **million euros in economic benefits** related to accommodation, catering and the supply of materials:

**30 specialist local companies** were called upon and **3 hectares** of living quarters were created in the heart of the Gers region, located on the Lanne-Soubiran property; facilities that will now benefit other companies.

### Teréga: a company committed to the environment

Beyond the technical and societal challenges, the challenge was also environmental.



Committed to the preservation of natural environments, the RGM project is fully in line with Teréga's cross-functional environmental programme: **BE Positive** (POSITIVE environmental performance). Teréga's aim is to achieve a zero carbon footprint by 2020 for all the company's activities, and then to generate environmental value in order to be able to describe its impact as positive.

In this context, RGM used the recognised E.R.C. Method: **Avoid, Reduce, Offset** to design the route with the lowest impact, while respecting all safety, societal, environmental and technical issues.

## Reminder of the technical characteristics of the RGM project:

### The new pipeline

- 20 municipalities, 43 rivers, 2 Natura 2000 zones and 4 areas of ecological importance in terms of flora and fauna (ZNIEFF) crossed.
- 61.8 km of pipes between Lussagnet (Landes) (40) and Barran (Gers) (32).
- 900 mm in diameter
- 1.20 m minimum in depth underground
- 85 bar maximal pressure

### Concentrated facilities

- 1 additional compressor station at Barbaira (Aude) with power of 7MW and 1 new grid entry point in Lussagnet-Midi.
- 4 new or to-be-modified switching stations: Sion, Castillon-Debats, Barran and Auch Nord.

## À propos de Teréga

The company has long been established in the south-west of France, and has more of 5000 km of pipelines and 2 underground storage sites, accounting respectively for 16% of the French gas transport network and 24.5% of national storage capacity. In 2017, it generated revenue of €471m and has more than 590 employees. Under its public service obligations, Teréga provides the transmission of natural gas to more than 400 delivery stations, in optimum conditions of safety, cost and reliability. .

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