

EDF put an end to Ecocombust, a project to develop a new class B wood-based fuel

EDF has decided to put an end to Ecocombust, a project to develop a fuel from 'waste' (class B) wood as an alternative to coal. The conditions to continue the project are effectively not met.

Two main reasons led to this decision: the cost of the project, which would not make it possible to guarantee an attractive price for the final product, and the recent withdrawal of the industrial partner at our side.

EDF initiated the Ecocombust project in 2015. Since the end of 2018, the project consisted of both adapting the Cordemais (Loire-Atlantique) power plant to use this alternative fuel and producing pellets on site by building a dedicated production plant there.

EDF successfully carried out the technical and environmental feasibility studies. These results were obtained thanks to the remarkable commitment and capacity for innovation of the teams involved in this project.

The very innovative nature and the lack of feedback on this type of product as well as the recent surge in raw material prices impacted the project's cost.

In addition, the partner, with which EDF had opened discussions concerning the treatment of effluents from the pellet production plant, decided to withdraw from the project. As this withdrawal delayed the industrial commissioning date to 2024, the Cordemais power plant would not have been able to generate electricity using an alternative fuel to coal over the 2022/2024 period.

EDF therefore decided to put an end to Ecocombust, despite the remarkable commitment of the teams working on the project and the support of local stakeholders.

This decision has no impact on the use of the Cordemais power plant.

The Cordemais power plant will continue to meet the needs of the electricity system expressed by RTE, in compliance with the French Energy Code and energy-climate law.

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About EDF

A key player in energy transition, the EDF Group is an integrated electricity company, active in all areas of the business: generation, transmission, distribution, energy supply and trading, energy services. A global leader in low-carbon energies, the Group has developed a diversified generation mix mainly based on nuclear power renewable energy (hydropower) and invests in new technologies to support the energy transition energy. EDF's *raison d'être* is to build a net zero energy future with electricity and innovative solutions and services, to help save the planet and drive well-being and economic development. The Group is involved in supplying energy and services to approximately 37.9 million customers⁽¹⁾, 28.7 million of whom are in France⁽²⁾. It generated consolidated sales of €69 billion in 2020. EDF is listed on the Paris Stock Exchange.

(1) Customers were counted at the end of 2018 per delivery site; a customer can have two delivery points: one for electricity and another for gas.

(2) Including ES (Electricité de Strasbourg).

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