

**Press release Paris  
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## **Corsica Sole announces the installation of the first renewable hydrogen production unit in Corsica**

**On the eve of the hydrogen industry's must-attend event, Hyvolution 2024, which will take place from January 30 to February 1, 2024, Corsica Sole, an independent solar energy producer and one of Europe's leading energy storage companies, today announced the construction of a renewable hydrogen production unit in Folelli, Corsica. The plant, which will utilize surplus solar energy, is expected to produce 2 tons of hydrogen per year.**



*Landscape integration of the Folell'Hy project at the Corsica Sole solar power plant in Folelli, Corsica*

## **Folell'Hy: an innovative project to optimize renewable resources in island regions**

The first renewable hydrogen production and packaging unit in Corsica, called “Folell'Hy,” will be launched in the first quarter of 2025. As a pioneer in energy storage in island territories and in Europe, Corsica Sole wants to make the surplus renewable energy that is currently lost and unutilized available to the territory in the form of hydrogen.

Like Corsica, island areas with high renewable energy production capacities are often faced with situations where the available renewable electricity cannot be exploited and is inevitably lost. These situations arise in particular when the stability constraints of the electricity grid impose limitations on renewable energy production plants. Since it came into service in 2017, the solar power plant in Folelli, one of the two largest plants on the island, has been subject to energy production limitations amounting to several hundred hours per year.

The Folell'Hy project will convert surplus solar energy into renewable hydrogen using a 30 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h electrolyzer, store it, and make it available to users after conditioning it in transportable tanks at 200, 300, or 500 bar.

The entire system will be directly connected to the existing Folelli solar power plant (12 MWp) and will have a storage capacity of approximately 100 kg of hydrogen.

## **A pioneering project for the Corsican hydrogen sector**

Two tons of hydrogen will be produced annually, available to early adopters in Bastia and the surrounding area, starting with heavy maritime transport and temporary energy uses such as hydrogen generators.

This project will also create jobs in the region, with direct employment at Corsica Sole (site manager, operational and maintenance team support, etc.) as well as indirect jobs through a new industrial activity that will boost the local economy.

Corsica Sole has chosen to make Folell'Hy a pioneering project, on a scale adapted to the emerging hydrogen ecosystem in Bastia, in order to encourage the emergence of new uses and gather feedback from all stakeholders with a view to deploying future projects with greater capacity.

## **An innovative pilot project that heralds one of the solutions for achieving energy independence in Corsica**

A key pillar of energy system decarbonization, hydrogen is a major asset that can be produced, stored, transported, and used. As such, it is the cornerstone of autonomous energy systems, enabling regions to take full advantage of their renewable energy resources.

This pilot project will also serve as a test site to address uncertainties related to the specificities of this application:

- Direct, real-time interactions with the network operator to control the production unit according to network operating conditions
- Use of water resources, from supply to discharge management, in regions where water is often a critical resource with competing uses

## Commissioning scheduled for early 2025

The investment decision milestone has already been reached, and planning permission and financing have been obtained. Corsica Sole is currently in exclusive negotiations with Hensoldt Nexeya France as a designer and integrator of energy systems with experience in hydrogen applications.

Preparation of the Folelli site will begin in spring 2024 and is expected to accommodate the facilities in the second half of 2024. Testing phases are then planned for commissioning, which is announced for the first quarter of 2025.

Jean-Gabriel STEINMETZ, Director of New Markets at CORSICA SOLE, emphasizes, *“This Folell'Hy facility represents a very advantageous opportunity for Corsica, which aims to be energy self-sufficient by 2050. Renewable hydrogen could promote the region's energy transition and be an alternative to fossil fuels imported into Corsica. We are very pleased to be involved in the installation of the first production unit capable of conditioning and exploiting renewable hydrogen.”*

“For HENSOLDT Nexeya France, it is very important to participate in projects aimed at promoting the decarbonization of our country while contributing to the revitalization of the local economy. We are delighted that CORSICA SOLE is considering bringing us on board for this project, which will benefit Corsica and allow us to leverage our expertise based on many years of research and development in energy production and storage” concludes Alette QUINT, President of HENSOLDT Nexeya France.

## About CORSICA

SOLE CORSICA SOLE is an independent solar energy producer and a leader in energy storage in Europe. The rapidly growing company currently has more than 125 MWp of photovoltaic power plants and more than 160 MWh of energy storage facilities in operation. It is developing a portfolio of solar projects totaling more than 3 GW. Corsica Sole is also expanding into the field of renewable hydrogen production. A specialist in island areas since 2009, Corsica Sole develops, builds, finances, and operates its own projects in France and Europe. Corsica Sole deploys its expertise to provide, through renewable energies and technological innovation, a relevant response to the energy transition to combat climate change.

For more information, visit <https://corsिकासole.com/> Follow us on LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/corsिकासole](https://www.linkedin.com/company/corsिकासole) on X (formerly Twitter): @CorsicaSole and on our YouTube channel: @corsिकासole

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