

## VERSO ENERGY selected as a laureate of the “France 2030 – CARB AERO (FEED)” call for projects



Photo : Philippe Tabarot, Minister for Transport, and Xavier Caitucoli, President of Verso Energy

**Paris, April 23, 2025** – Verso Energy’s “DEZiR” project has been selected under the “CARB AERO (FEED)” call for projects as part of the “France 2030” investment plan. This sustainable aviation fuel (e-SAF) production project will directly contribute to the decarbonization of the French and European aviation sectors.

This support from the French government reflects the technical quality and industrial ambition of Verso Energy, whose objective is to produce sustainable aviation fuel (e-SAF) from exclusively biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>, with the aim of reducing the carbon footprint of air transport. Like Verso Energy’s other e-SAF projects, the “DEZiR” project — short for *Décarbonation Seine Eure et Zone Industrielle de Rouen* — aligns fully with the priorities of the “France 2030” plan, which seeks to strengthen France’s energy sovereignty and contribute to the reindustrialization of the country.

Located in Normandy, in the municipalities of Petit-Couronne (Seine-Maritime) and Alizay (Eure), the “DEZiR” project will produce up to 81,000 tonnes of e-SAF per year, replacing fossil-based kerosene and avoiding the emission of over 5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over its 25-year operational lifespan. The project will also generate significant economic benefits for the region, including the creation of 250 direct and indirect jobs.

### **Verso Energy: a nationwide ambition built around four e-SAF projects**

The funding awarded will support the execution of a Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) study — a critical step toward project implementation. In line with its strategy of industrial replicability, this study will also provide the technical foundation for three other e-SAF projects led by Verso Energy across France: ReStArt (Landes), LiCHEN (Haute-Vienne /Charente), and Ep’HyNE (Vosges).



To this end, Verso Energy relies on a key partnership with Technip Energies (via its subsidiary Rely) to develop a standardized Methanol-to-Jet platform, designed to enable the replication of this model across all its projects, thereby contributing to the emergence of a French synthetic fuel industry.

Applying its innovative model as an integrated energy company, Verso Energy will power its projects with electricity produced by its own renewable energy assets. The goal is to build competitive industrial capacities capable of meeting airlines' needs as early as 2030, in line with the requirements of the European ReFuelEU Aviation regulation.

*“France has unparalleled assets to become a global leader in the production of synthetic fuels, meeting not only domestic demand but also that of many other markets. We are extremely pleased with the support from France 2030, which demonstrates the country’s commitment to seizing this opportunity and making it one of the key pillars of our reindustrialization, energy sovereignty, and economic decarbonization,”* said Antoine Huard, CEO and co-founder of Verso Energy.

#### **About Verso Energy:**

Verso Energy is a French company engaged in developing, building and operating sustainable projects, such as green hydrogen and sustainable fuels production plants, renewable power plants, and battery storage units. Co-founded by Xavier Caïtucoli and Antoine Huard, Verso Energy is committed to develop an integrated Power-to-X model to deliver competitive low-carbon electrons and molecules.

Learn more: <https://verso.energy/>

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#### **About France 2030 :**

- ✓ France 2030 reflects a dual ambition: to sustainably transform key sectors of our economy (health, energy, automotive, aerospace, and space) through technological innovation, and to position France not just as a participant, but as a leader in tomorrow’s world. From fundamental research to the emergence of ideas, and from development to production, France 2030 supports the full innovation lifecycle up to industrialization.
- ✓ France 2030 is unprecedented in its scope: €54 billion will be invested to ensure our businesses, universities, and research organizations successfully navigate these strategic transitions. The objective: to respond competitively to environmental and global attractiveness challenges, and to foster the next leaders in our sectors of excellence. Fifty percent of France 2030’s funding is dedicated to decarbonizing the economy, and fifty percent to emerging players who innovate without significant harm to the environment (in line with the “Do No Significant Harm” principle).
- ✓ France 2030 is a collective endeavor: it is designed and implemented in consultation with economic, academic, local, and European stakeholders to define strategic priorities and key actions. Project developers are invited to submit applications through open, rigorous, and selective procedures to receive government support.
- ✓ France 2030 is led by the General Secretariat for Investment on behalf of the Prime Minister, and implemented by ADEME, the French National Research Agency (ANR), Bpifrance, and the Caisse des Dépôts.

Learn more: [www.france2030.gouv.fr](http://www.france2030.gouv.fr)

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