

March 20, 2018



## Voltaia launches the construction works of its new biomass power plant in French Guiana

Voltaia (Euronext Paris, ISIN code: FR0011995588), an international player in renewable energies, announces the beginning of the construction of the Cacao biomass power plant (5.1 MW) in French Guiana.

### A new biomass project for Voltaia

The construction work has now started for the Cacao biomass power plant, named after the city where it is located (Roura area). With a 5.1 MW installed capacity, this power plant has been designed by Voltaia, who will also be in charge of its construction and operation-maintenance. The main equipments (boiler, turbines...) will be provided and installed by the Bocard and Berkes companies. Construction works are expected to last around 30 months and the commissioning is planned in the first semester of 2020.

As announced in April 2017<sup>1</sup>, the plant will benefit from a 25-year contract with a secured tariff, generating between 10 and 15 million euros of annual energy sales revenues. The power production to be injected on the public grid will be sold at a much lower price than that of the current diesel power plants currently running in French Guiana.

### A significant local impact

The Cacao power plant will be continuously operating<sup>2</sup> from the combustion of wood waste locally sourced from forestry operations managed by the National Forestry Office (ONF), but also from neighboring sawmills. Thanks to this use of wood currently left to rot or burnt in the forest, and as a substitute to the conventional diesel installations, the project has a positive carbon footprint: 28.500 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>eq<sup>3</sup> avoided each year.

Voltaia is taking advantage of its Kourou biomass power plant to start training young operators to the maintenance of the future site. The power plant will contribute to the creation of up to 105 direct and indirect jobs during the construction phase. The project also enables to consolidate the activity of local suppliers in the forestry sector, which today employ about 40 people.

When Cacao will be commissioned, Voltaia will run six renewable power plants in French Guiana (three solar, two biomass, one hydro) for a total installed capacity of 22.7 MW, representing close to 10% of the net electricity produced and delivered on the coastal area of Guiana.

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<sup>1</sup> See press release dated April 21, 2017

<sup>2</sup> The Cacao biomass power plant has been designed to reach a load factor of c. 90%

<sup>3</sup> According to the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent reference scenario prepared by the independent FRMI engineering company Voltaia resorted mandated

Next on the agenda: 2017 full-year results on March 28, 2018

### About Voltalia ([www.voltalia.com](http://www.voltalia.com))

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- Voltalia is an international player in the renewable energy sector. The Company produces and sells electricity generated from wind, solar, hydro and biomass power plants; it owns a total installed capacity of 508 MW.
  - Voltalia is also a service provider, assisting its investor clients active in renewables at each project stages, from conception to operation & maintenance.
  - With more than 460 employees in 17 countries, over 4 continents, Voltalia is able to act worldwide on behalf of its clients.
  - Voltalia has been listed on the Euronext regulated market in Paris since July 2014 (FR0011995588 – VLTSA) and is a component stock of the Euronext Tech 40 and CAC Mid&Small indexes.
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