



## PRESS RELEASE

GDF SUEZ

September 6th, 2013

### **GDF SUEZ announces the approval of commercial operation of the first generating unit of the Jirau project in Brazil**

On September 5<sup>th</sup>, commercial operation of the first 75 MW turbine of the Jirau hydro power project has been officially approved by the Electricity Energy Regulatory Agency (ANEEL). Located on the Madeira River, in the State of Rondônia, the plant will have a total installed capacity of 3,750 MW and, when fully operational, will produce enough clean and renewable energy to meet the electricity demand of 10 million Brazilian households. Full commissioning of all 50 generation units is expected to be reached by 2015.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, the United Nations announced the registration of the Jirau project, according to the Clean Development Mechanism (\*). On the same date, GDF SUEZ published the official sustainability report developed by independent auditors based on the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol (\*\*).

With the start of commercial operations, the generated electricity will effectively reduce the necessity of thermal generation and thus reduce increasing volumes of GHG emissions. Once completed, national GHG emissions will be reduced by 6 million tons per year.

(\*) Project Design Document can be accessed from the UNFCCC website: <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Projects/DB/LROA%20Ltd1356533361.56/view>

(\*\*) Full assessment report can be accessed and downloaded from the website: <http://www.hydrosustainability.org/IHAHydro4Life/media/ProtocolAssessments/PDF%20Reports/Jirau-Official-Assessment-Final-Report-170513.pdf?ext=.pdf>

#### Notes :

The project is currently jointly owned by GDF SUEZ (60%), Eletrosul (20%) and Chesf (20%). On May 13, GDF SUEZ and Mitsui announced a partnership where Mitsui will take a 20% equity interest in the project, expanding the long-term partnership between the two groups. The closing of the transaction is expected to occur during the second half of 2013, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, including obtaining approvals from Brazilian authorities (ANEEL – Electricity Energy Regulatory Agency) and lenders (BNDES and local commercial banks).

GDF SUEZ Energy Latin America provides innovative energy and gas solutions in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Panama and Peru, supporting this emerging continent in its economic growth, respecting the environment and providing essential services to its people. It has 3,300 employees in the region and a generation capacity of 12.9 GW (with a further 4 GW under construction). Two thirds of the electricity it generates is renewable.  
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## **About GDF SUEZ**

*GDF SUEZ develops its businesses (power, natural gas, energy services) around a model based on responsible growth to take up today's major energy and environmental challenges: meeting energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and maximizing the use of resources. The Group provides highly efficient and innovative solutions to individuals, cities and businesses by relying on diversified gas-supply sources, flexible and low-emission power generation as well as unique expertise in four key sectors: independent power production, liquefied natural gas, renewable energy and energy efficiency services. GDF SUEZ employs 138,200 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €82 billion in 2012. The Group is listed on the Paris, Brussels and Luxembourg stock exchanges and is represented in the main international indices: CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe, ASPI Eurozone, Euronext Vigeo Eurozone 120, Vigeo World 120, Vigeo Europe 120 and Vigeo France 20.*

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