

# French authorities award first and largest construction permit for a solar thermal power plant in France

Press Release, Dijon, July 5<sup>th</sup> 2011



DIJON, FRANCE – July 5<sup>th</sup> 2011 - Solar Euromed, a leading Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) player from France, is announcing to have successfully passed a major milestone of its development plan:

## The award by the French State of a clean construction permit for the first French utility-scale concentrated solar power plant located in Corsica

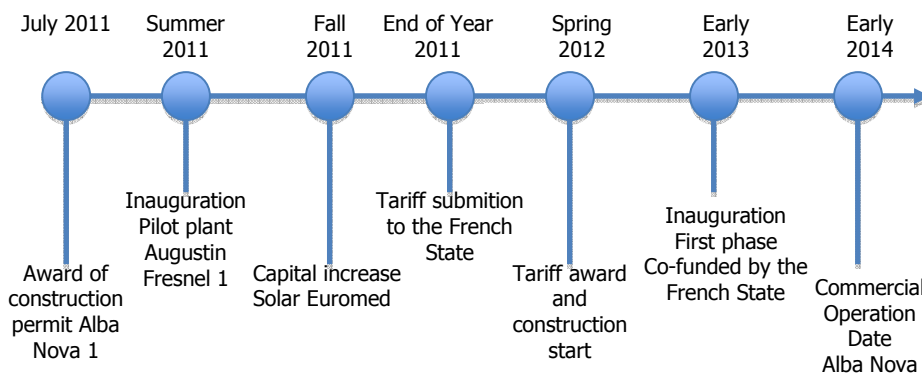
Representing the first authorization granted in France for the realization of a CSP demonstration plant, Solar Euromed's project called Alba Nova 1 (« A new dawn » in Corsican & located at Ghisonaccia in Corsica) was selected by French authorities to be the largest single unit operating in France totalling 12 MWe, equivalent of the consumption of 10 000 inhabitants and preventing the release in the environment of 15 000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

«The award of this construction permit is a critical milestone for the realization of Alba Nova 1 and sets a precedent for the development of innovative CSP technologies in France in anticipation of further deployment in sunny regions of the world such as in Morocco, which recently launched its 2000 MW solar plan.» indicated Marc M. Benmarraze, Founder and CEO of Solar Euromed, and early advocate of CSP in France.

Asked about the further development of Solar Euromed, Marc M. Benmarraze responded: « The first phase of this project and four R&D projects were declared a few weeks ago eligible to receive funding from a 1,35 €bn « Investissements d'Avenir » fund created by the French Government to support emerging green technologies. In addition, a tender for the realization of solar power plants in France that explicitly makes the difference between solar thermal and photovoltaics technologies will be published in the coming days. Lastly, the inauguration of our EU-funded CSP pilot plant Augustin Fresnel 1 located in the French Pyreneans is set to happen by the end of Summer 2011. »

Thanks to a strong technology portfolio and pristine project pipeline, Solar Euromed is now working on a capital increase of approximately 20 millions Euros, to be completed in Fall 2011, to prepare the deployment of Solar Euromed's technologies in international markets.

### Upcoming events



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