

Press Release | October 23, 2023

# 45-8 ENERGY: A PROMISING 2023 TO ACHIEVE AMBITIOUS GOALS IN 2024

45-8 ENERGY, a major player in the exploration and production of helium and natural hydrogen, proudly announces its 2023 successes and reveals its ambitious plans for the coming year in a complete infographic. The key milestones are listed in the body of the press release below.

## **2023: A YEAR OF DEVELOPMENT FOR 45-8 ENERGY**

2023 was marked by significant progress that strengthens our position as European leader in the helium and natural hydrogen sectors.

## • <u>Strenghtening our portfolio with high-potential exploration licenses:</u>

Beyond the Fonts-Bouillants and the Avant-Monts franc-comtois exploration licenses, granted in 2021 and 2022 respectively, 45-8 ENERGY consolidates its presence in Europe with the filing of five applications for high-potential exploration licenses in helium or natural hydrogen. These applications underline our determination to contibute to the exploration and supply of these strategic resources in Europe.

## • Closing of a €20 million Serie B financing round:

In March 2023, 45-8 ENERGY closes its third Serie B financing round for €20 million, its longstanding shareholder Heling. This financial backing will enable us to carry out several large-scale projects simultaneously, while securing areas with high helium and natural hydrogen potential in Europe.

## • <u>Recruiting new staff:</u>

10 new members have joined the 45-8 ENERGY team since the beginning of the year, bringing new expertise and the opportunity to bring our projects to a successful conclusion.

## • Marketing and Innovation:

Two innovative solutions - RECYCL'He and SurfMoG  $H_2$  - have been added to 45-8 ENERGY's list of activities. Currently under development, RECYCL'He is the first mobile helium recycling unit in Western Europe. As for the SurfMoG  $H_2$  probe, it has been on the market since the first half of 2023 and is characterized as the most effective IoT tool on the market for monitoring hydrogen in the subsurface.

## • A solid and unique partnership:

In 2023, 45-8 ENERGY and Storengy, an ENGIE subsidiary, will be working together on the Grand Rieu exploration project in south-west France to assess the area's natural hydrogen potential.

# **2024: A YEAR WITH AMBITIOUS GOALS**

2024 promises to be an exciting and rewarding year, as the achievements will help shape the European future of helium and natural hydrogen, two strategic resources.

## Start-up of the first helium pilot production unit in Western Europe:

In France, in the Nièvre district, 45-8 ENERGY is preparing to start up the first helium production pilot unit. This launch represents an important step in our ambition to produce helium as close as possible to European consumers. See you in September 2024 for the inauguration!

## Launch of Western Europe's first mobile helium recycling unit:

45-8 ENERGY will also be launching its first mobile helium recycling unit in Western Europe, RECYCL'He. While only 1% of helium is currently recycled, RECYCL'He creates a circular economy, securing a volume of helium in Europe and helping to preserve this rare and critical resource.

## Progress on our helium exploration licenses:

45-8 ENERGY will be carrying out new drilling and geophysical acquisition operations on our granted permits. The results and interpretations of these operations will enable us to better understand the geological system of the areas concerned and confirm the helium potential.

## • <u>5 new licenses expected:</u>

We are expecting to obtain the granting of the 5 exploration license applications submitted, once the application periods have been completed. Obtaining these five licenses would then strengthen the company's helium/natural hydrogen portfolio.

The 45-8 ENERGY business becomes more concrete than ever. Thanks to secure technical, financial and human resources, 45-8 ENERGY is ready to meet the challenges that await it in 2024, with the aim of becoming the European leader in the helium and natural hydrogen sectors.

## **ABOUT 45-8 ENERGY**

As a pioneer in Europe, 45-8 ENERGY is dedicated to the exploration and production of eco-responsible and strategic gases that are valorized in short circuits: helium and natural hydrogen, as well as the resources that can be associated with them.

45-8 ENERGY's ambition is to become the European leader in the helium and natural hydrogen sectors, thanks to a positioning based on three pillars:

- Co-development of resources;
- Extracting and distributing resources to strategic local markets through production as close as possible to European consumers;
- Reducing the resource supply chain, by eliminating costly steps with a high environmental impact.

45-8 ENERGY has established a strong presence in the European helium and natural hydrogen market, having obtained several exploration and production licenses, particularly in France. The company currently operates two helium and related resources licenses, one of which will enter pilot production in 2024. Other helium and natural hydrogen projects are currently under examination in Europe. Beyond this, the company is committed to the most responsible use of the resource, in particular by developing RECYCL'He, a mobile helium recycling unit.

The deployment of these activities and projects is made possible by a multidisciplinary team of 32 engineers and managers. 45-8 ENERGY has also been able to accelerate its deployment thanks to three rounds of financing totalling 31.5 million euros.

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