

PRESS INFORMATION – 2024

How did the Commune de Murviel-lès-Béziers take up the challenge of collective self-consumption?

A long-standing partner of the EnerGaïa Forum, the Cemater positive energy cluster is leading the structuring of the renewable energies and sustainable construction sectors in Occitanie. At the EnerGaïa Forum, to be held on December 11 and 12, 2024 at the Parc des Expositions in Montpellier, Cemater will be showcasing several of the companies it has supported. Among them is Dev'EnR, an independent producer of renewable energies committed to local energy transition. Find out how Dev'EnR helped the municipality of Murviel-lès-Béziers (34) take up the challenge of collective self-consumption.

The issues encountered

The municipality of Murviel-lès-Béziers, located north of Béziers and with a population of 3,100, has decided to make an active commitment to the energy transition. Aware of the urgency of climate change and the growing need for renewable energies, the municipality identified the need to reduce its carbon footprint while keeping energy costs under control. However, the municipality faced a number of challenges: how to effectively harness local resources to produce green electricity, and above all, how to share this energy between different public buildings to maximize environmental and economic benefits?

The solution to be implemented had to be not only technically viable, but also economically advantageous, without requiring heavy investment on the part of the community. In addition, the efficient distribution of energy between the various public sites raised the question of the intelligent management of energy flows, which represented an additional challenge to overcome.



From left to right : Stéphane BOZZARELLI, président of Dev'EnR ; Sylvain HAGER, mayor of the city of Murviel-lès-Béziers and Thierry CAPO, directeur territorial Enedis Hérault.

Solutions deployed

To meet these challenges, the municipality of Murviel-lès-Béziers has forged a strategic partnership with Dev'EnR, an independent producer of renewable energies, and Enedis, the electricity grid operator. Together, they have implemented a collective self-consumption project by installing photovoltaic panels on the roofs of two municipal buildings: the SDIS 34 fire station and the technical services department.

This solar installation, covering 1,110 m² of roof space with a total output of 210 kWp, produces 300 MWh of green electricity per year. To optimize the use of this renewable energy, a collective self-consumption system has been set up. This system enables the electricity produced to be redistributed to four other public buildings: the town hall, the multi-activity hall, the Jean Guy school group, and the youth and culture centre.

Energy distribution is handled by Enedis via Linky smart meters, enabling smooth, efficient management of energy flows.

Operational deployment

The deployment of this project began with the installation of photovoltaic panels on the two selected buildings. Once the installation was complete, the electricity generated began to supply the public buildings from February 1, 2024. The project was made operational without any direct financial investment on the part of the municipality, a considerable advantage for a small community.



The introduction of collective self-consumption has enabled 41% of the energy needs of the buildings concerned to be met with solar-generated electricity, i.e. around 85,360 kWh per year. This system delivers average savings of 20% on the electricity bills of these buildings.

Throughout the project, the close collaboration between Dev'EnR, Enedis and the municipality was crucial in overcoming technical and administrative obstacles, guaranteeing efficient and rapid deployment.

The results

The results of this initiative are significant. In addition to reducing the municipality's carbon footprint by avoiding the emission of 111 tonnes of CO₂ per year, the project has made it possible to produce green electricity locally at a competitive cost. Murviel-lès-Béziers' public buildings now benefit from sustainable energy and significant reductions in their electricity bills.

In addition to demonstrating the technical feasibility of such a project, collective self-consumption has also paved the way for other similar initiatives in the region. The municipality plans to extend this approach and inspire other communities to follow this example in energy transition.

This project is a concrete illustration of how local authorities can engage in the energy transition, integrating innovative and sustainable solutions to meet today's environmental and economic challenges.

About Forum EnerGaïa

An annual event with nationwide and international reach dedicated to renewable energy industry professionals, Forum EnerGaïa has been accompanying all the sector's stakeholders for 18 years. Initiated by the Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée Regional Authority, Forum EnerGaïa is today a showcase for the actions the authority is taking to promote the energy transition and achieve its objective of becoming the first positive energy region in Europe. SPL Occitanie Events, the organiser of the Forum EnerGaïa, is committed to an eco-responsible approach. It has been ISO 20121 certified by AFNOR since January 2021 for all its activities.

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