



SAINT CLAR SOLAR ENERGY PARK

AN EXEMPLARY PROJECT :

• IN TERMS OF THE NATURE OF THE PROJECT

It consists in using land with low farming potential lying around the municipal retirement home in order to provide the home with additional income, foster its development and integration into local life (leisure park / activity centre) and create a benchmark project environmentally and aesthetically.

It is a fine example of a successful public-private partnership.

• EXEMPLARY ALSO BY ITS SCALE

On the date of its connection, it was the most powerful ground-mounted crystalline silicon power plant in France: 9 MWp / 23 hectares.

• AND EXEMPLARY, FINALLY, BY THE TYPE OF STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNED

Solarezo is a French medium-sized, independent family-held company seeking to develop a photovoltaic sector in France (since 2009, Solarezo has been producing photovoltaic modules in the Landes, in Pontonx). The **Pyrenees Gascony Credit Agricole Bank** is involved partly as an investor and partly as the lender for the project.

The solar energy park is in the Gers region, **1 hour from Toulouse**, on the site of the “Es-Calavès” leisure centre in St Clar de Lomagne.

The project was made possible by **the commitment of State departments, local authorities and local politicians**, notably the successive mayors of St Clar, Bernard Cassaignau and David Taupiac.

Installed in the grounds of the local retirement home, **the Saint Clar Park avoids the emission into the atmosphere of 4,000 tonnes of CO2 a year.**



Thanks to crystalline silicon technology, it can reach power of 8.9 MW and produce the equivalent of the **annual specific electricity consumption of over 8,000 inhabitants.**



AN EXEMPLARY PROJECT ENVIRONMENTALLY TOO

Exemplary by its **design, construction and operation** phases.

During the design phase, the key word was **respect for the site**, coming up with a project that conserved all the existing natural contours of the land and did not use any concrete, preferring **removable screws** to fix the structures that support the panels.

In addition, **9 “biodiversity plots”** are dotted around the plant to enable local fauna to cross the energy park and there is a landscaped hedge around the edge of

the plot composed of 21 different plant species to perfect the visual integration of the project.

During the construction phase, Solarezo ensured that it was a **“clean” building site** by limiting the number and frequency of deliveries and collecting all the construction waste to sort it.

Finally, during the operations phase, the grass of the solar energy park will be kept short by grazing the sheep from an organic farm in the area of St Clar. Solarezo is a member of the EPIA and joined PV Cycle, the body in charge of recycling photovoltaic panels at the end of their lifetime.



SAINT CLAR



Located between Bordeaux and Toulouse (1 hour from Toulouse, 2 hours from Bordeaux), **St-Clar is in the Coeur de Lomagne Local Authority** (encompassing 14 municipalities and a population of 2,798).

With its population of 1,076, St-Clar is much more than the capital of white garlic, it is also a dynamic town that encourages and fosters associations and leisure activi-

-ties, such as the “Es-Calavès” leisure park.

The Coeur de Lomagne local council has powers in a number of fields, including local economic and tourism development. The solar energy park and future animal park are concrete examples of its efforts.

SOLAREZO



«We were driven by two ideas in setting up Solarezo: **to offer our customers the highest satisfaction level and to build an integrated activity in the field of renewable energies.**

Our aim is to respond, at all times, to the needs of our customers and to their quite legitimate demand for the very best technical expertise, independent recommendations and choices, affordable innovation, recognised certification and facilities that meet their requirements.

We also have **a responsible view** as members of the community **of what renewable energies should be**, in particular those in which we have decided to invest: **solar energy and energy from biomass.**

In particular, we aim to make a significant contribution in **building a competitive French sector.** Finally, we are a young company which has already successfully completed key projects: the acquisition of a 36,000m² fac-

-tory in Pontonx in South-West France and the substantial investments to produce there our photovoltaic modules, the construction of one of the largest French photovoltaic energy park in St Clar in the Gers region and many rooftop solar plants, the successful start up of our biomasse energy activities from our platform in Ygos confirmed by the validation of a CRE4 project.

We are also working more actively on other projects in France and in many other countries for the farming, industrial and service sectors and for public organizations.

It is in this way that the men and women of Solarezo make their contribution, with enthusiasm, perseverance and modesty, to today's economic challenges and to the obligation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.»

Laurent Giraud,
President and Founder of Solarezo



PYRENEES GASCONY CREDIT AGRICOLE BANK



The installation of this photovoltaic solar energy park is just one example of the long-term commitment made by the Pyrenees Gascony Credit Agricole bank, **the leading regional green bank in the domain of energy savings and renewable energies :**

- **Reduction in the mileage done by staff** between their homes and place of work,
- Purchase of **low CO2 emission company cars**,
- Creation of **Square Energie** to carry out energy efficiency audits and consulting for the general public on how to make energy savings and exploit renewable energies,
- Stake acquired in the capital of **Gleize Energie Service**, a company specialising in consultancy for companies

on energy saving and renewable energies,
- Installation of **a 715 m² and 98 kWp photovoltaic energy plant on the rooftops** of its administrative centre in Serres-Castet.

Pyrenees Gascony Crédit Agricole Bank has also taken part in **financing a large number of photovoltaic solar panel facilities already in operation in the Gers, Hautes-Pyrénées and Pyrénées-Atlantiques regions.**

SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC



Solarezo has chosen Schneider Electric as its technical partner for the design of the Saint Clar Energy Park and to provide electrical and safety equipment.

Schneider Electric accompanied Solarezo from the preliminary studies phase, resulting in the design of the electric distribution architecture and the supply of all electrical distribution, supervision and safety solutions.

The equipment supplied:

- Transformation: inverters, junction boxes...
- Distribution: delivery station, transforming stations, 1000kVA transformers...
- Supervision: production monitoring system
- Safety: facility video surveillance system

- Services: commissioning, maintenance and operating contract (currently being defined)...

The Saint Clar Solar Energy Park is a good example of the know-how of Schneider Electric in the photovoltaic field.

By proposing comprehensive solutions and related services to manage and transform the electricity produced by solar panels and inject it into the grid, Schneider Electric offers clients its commitment to making their energy safe, reliable, productive and green.

The world specialist in energy management, Schneider Electric develops dedicated solutions for each market with adapted responses to the needs of different stakeholders.



TECHNICAL FEATURES OF THE ENERGY PARK

PEAK POWER

9 MWc

ANNUAL PRODUCTION

10.9 GWh electricity / equivalent to 4,000 households

4,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions avoided

884 STRUCTURES INSTALLED

42,458 MODULES RECEIVED

14 KM OF TRENCHES / 72 KM OF CABLE DUCTS / 83 KM OF CABLES

60 JUNCTION BOXES / 42,432 MODULES

connected to each other and the junction boxes,

8 TRANSFORMING STATIONS AND 1 DELIVERY POINT

7,072 SCREWS INSTALLED

(margin of error 5mm) on 15.5 hectares

DURATION OF STUDY

21 months

DURATION OF WORK

Sept 2009 to June 2010



CONTACTS

SOLAREZO

Marion TERRASSON
Tel: +33 (0)6 88 27 98 00
Mail: marion.terrasson@solarezo.fr

PYRENEES GASCONY CREDIT AGRICOLE BANK

Véronique MEYNARD
Tel: +33 (0)5 59 12 76 92 / +33 (0)6 80 62 50 86
Mail: veronique.meynard@lefil.com

SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC

Jean Pierre GHERARDI
Tel: +33 (0)4 76 60 50 24
Mail: jean-pierre.gherardi@fr.schneider-electric.com

ST CLAR LOCAL COUNCIL

Maryline DOMEJEAN
Mail: mary.domejean@coeur-de-lomagne.com

Solarezo joined :

