PRESS RELEASE

April,16th 2025

France Hydrogène welcomes the revised National Hydrogen Strategy: at last a clear roadmap for the industry sector

Following a process initiated in December 2022, the French government has today, Wednesday, April 16, released the revised version of the National Strategy for the hydrogen deployment, reaffirming its commitment and support to the national hydrogen sector.

Hydrogen is a crucial strategic lever both for decarbonizing our economy and addressing the growing challenges of energy and industrial sovereignty. These issues, which have intensified since the beginning of the year, require a rapid and structured response. The release of the revised National Hydrogen Strategy provides the necessary momentum to meet these challenges with strength and ambition.

With updated targets, the government reaffirms its support through the €9 billion envelope announced in 2020, to be committed by 2030.

Production: updated targets and conditions for success
The revised Strategy reaffirms France's ambition to become a producer of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen via electrolysis, capitalizing on the country's strengths in nuclear and renewable electricity production. Targets of 4.5 GW by 2030 and 8 GW by 2035 set a realistic course, backed by concrete means: the production component of the IPCEI on hydrogen, the creation of favorable conditions for long-term electricity agreements, and extension beyond 2030 for undirect carbon cost compensation for energy-intensive industries.

While the Strategy opens the door to exploring native hydrogen potential, it is also important to consider other relevant alternative production methods, such as biomass thermolysis and methane plasmalysis.

The sector is fully aligned with the end uses that this renewable and low-carbon hydrogen will supply, as outlined in the new Strategy.

Hydrogen: a decarbonization lever for strategic industries
Hydrogen is once again affirmed as a key enabler for decarbonizing and maintaining strategic industries—refining, fertilizers, basic chemicals, and steel—supported by a €4 billion

mechanism to aid hydrogen production via electrolysis. We particularly welcome the government's strong intention to make hydrogen a lever for industrial reshoring and to keep Dunkirk among major consumption hubs. France Hydrogène will work alongside the State to create the right conditions at the European level to enable the low-carbon transformation of this site and maintain activity.

Mobility: clearly identified use cases
In land mobility, France Hydrogène welcomes the government's recognition of an hydrogen mobility value chain developments—including fuel cell manufacturers, tank developers, retrofit specialists, and vehicle OEMs—and its reaffirmation of hydrogen's crucial role in decarbonizing heavy-duty and intensive transport. For road mobility, the Strategy clearly recognizes hydrogen's unique advantages: long range, high availability, fast refueling, and preservation of payload capacity. The French government is already giving concrete expression to this confidence, with a new call for projects for the deployment of hydrogen-powered commercial vehicles.

Accelerating air and maritime e-fuels: the ambition of domestic production by 2030
We are pleased that the Strategy confirms the pivotal role of synthetic aviation and maritime fuels in scaling up the French hydrogen industry. Last week, the government approved funding for advanced engineering studies on synthetic aviation fuel projects, backed by the €200 million announced by the President of the Republic at the Paris Air Show in June 2023. We are fully mobilized alongside the State to help bring these four structuring projects to final investment decisions in 2026.

While not mentioned in the revised Strategy, it remains necessary to maintain efforts on stationary energy applications for hydrogen, particularly for the energy transition in island territories and Non-Interconnected Zones (ZNI).

Essential planning of transport & storage infrastructure
The development of large-scale hydrogen transport and storage infrastructure is recognized in the Strategy as essential—particularly to ensure electrolyzers contribute to greater flexibility in the electricity system. Planning must begin now for the 2030 and 2035 horizons. The target of 500 km of hydrogen pipelines by 2030 marks a first step; France Hydrogène will work with the government to create the right conditions for user commitments and the gradual deployment of an inter-hub and European network.

An integrated value chain ready to compete on global markets
Finally, the Strategy reaffirms France's ambition to master the entire hydrogen value chain, turning it into a new, sustainable, and export-ready industrial sector. Support for developing manufacturing capacity continues with the announcement of new projects under the IPCEI on hydrogen. The ADEME-led "Technology Bricks" call for projects is being renewed, and key financial and technical support mechanisms are being put in place to help French manufacturers expand and secure international market shares.

Philippe Boucly, President of France Hydrogène, welcomes the government's announcements:

"*I welcome the return of a clear direction for the hydrogen sector. After a period of uncertainty combined with a difficult economic climate that weakened the ecosystem and curbed investment, the revised Strategy is much more than a positive signal—it provides a reassuring and structured framework for stakeholders and investors alike. It is a strategic compass which is essential to reaffirm France's role in the European and global hydrogen rollout.*

The realistic targets of 4.5 GW of electrolysis capacity by 2030 and 8 GW by 2035 are geared toward decarbonizing strategic industries—preserving jobs on French soil and reducing our dependencies. The support for developing a domestic hydrogen-based synthetic fuel industry is a major opportunity, and the sector is fully committed, with key strengths and players already mobilized.

The government's reaffirmation of hydrogen's role in decarbonizing heavy-duty and intensive transport is essential and confirms that the core challenge for hydrogen mobility lies in its use cases. The introduction of support for deploying light commercial vehicles is a strong first signal, and adjustments to the TIRUERT mechanism must also ensure pricing visibility for hydrogen.

In combining energy transition with competitiveness, the revised National Hydrogen Strategy repositions France as a major player in global decarbonization and national reindustrialization. We are at a pivotal moment. Thanks to the commitment of all stakeholders and public support, the French hydrogen industry is ready to meet the challenge. Hydrogen is no longer just a promise for the future—it is becoming a concrete pillar of tomorrow's industry, reinforcing our country's energy and industrial sovereignty."

About France Hydrogène

Bringing together 400 members, France Hydrogène unites the key players of the French hydrogen sector across the entire value chain: from large industrial groups developing major projects, to innovative SMEs and start-ups supported by world-class research labs, associations, competitiveness clusters, and local authorities committed to deploying hydrogen solutions. France Hydrogène supports the sector across regions through its 15 regional delegations. Its ambition: to accelerate the development of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen to drive the energy transition and reindustrialize the country.

Press Contact :

Stéphanie Paysant : stephanie.paysant@france-hydrogene.org / +33 6 78 70 71 31
Charlène Dinot : charlene.dinot@france-hydrogene.org / +33 6 46 47 06 95