

Chaintrix-Bierges & Vélye's wind farm construction

News.
February 2025



Dear residents,

Following up a successful test phase from October to December 2024, Chaintrix-Bierges and Vélye's wind farm has officially entered commissioning since beginning January 2025.

We would like to thank all the people who have contributed to the success of this wind farm!

Work is though not over yet, and now that the wind farm is operational we need to ensure it respects all its environmental commitments.

The test phase

Since October 2024, and after a successful assembly phase, the wind farm has entered a test phase to finalize all the electrical connections between the turbines and Enedis' electrical grid.

This phase was crucial before the wind farm commissioning and allowed us to verify that all equipments were working properly and that they were electrically isolated to ensure everyone's safety.

We also have verified the communication between the turbines and the control/tracking equipments (SCADA).

At the end of this phase, all the tests carried out on the turbines and the electrical tests were satisfying. Therefore, electricity production was able to start up.

Thanks to this 28MW wind farm, around **14 000 homes will be powered with electricity*** and **27 000 tonnes of CO2 emissions will be avoided.**



Delivery substation: place where all turbines are connected before electricity is forwarded within a single cable to Vertus's outgoing substation to then be injected into national grid.

Commissioning

On January 10th 2025, after all the turbines had been checked for proper operation and safety, the wind farm was officially put into industrial service, with all the necessary stages validated :

- **Station power on**
- **Commissioning** : turbines' start up one by one
- **First injection of electricity**
- **Structures reception** (substations and turbines)
- **Initiation of the maintenance contract** with the turbine supplier (Siemens Gamesa)
- **Commissioning** after ICPE authorization (Installation Classified for the Protection of the Environnement)
- **Initiation of the electricity purchasing contract**, marks the end of the test phase

But our work doesn't stop here. On the contrary, it's just getting started !



* Annual average consumption of 4 334 kWh per home, as per the PANEL USAGES ELECTRODOMESTIQUES study - November 2022 from ADEME (Environment and Energy Mastering Agency) and RTE (Transmission and electricity network).

Various operation trackings

To ensure that the wind farm will not impact the local population and biodiversity, several **regulatory environmental trackings** will be held during the first year of operation, then regularly during all the wind farm's life.

1/ Avifauna detection systems test

Avifauna detection systems equipped with cameras have been installed on each turbine to minimize risks of collision with birds. These systems identify in real time the presence, the specie, the trajectory and the speed of the birds. Data are processed by algorithms that evaluate the risks of collision. In case of confirmed risk, a signal is sent to reduce the blades rotation's speed to a safe level for the birds.

One of the firsts trackings will be to test the efficiency of these avifauna detection systems, aimed for **the kestrel falcon and the harrier** to evaluate the efficiency of this measure.

These tests will be conducted by **Auddicé Environnement**, who will send ornithologists on site to track the birds and ensure that the system detects them at the right moment so the turbine slows down on time.

2/ Ecological trackings

The purpose of tracking avifauna and bats is to demonstrate that the wind farm's operation doesn't degrade the conservation status of the species populations that were identified during the ecological studies conducted through the project's development phase.

The June 22th 2020 ministerial order lays down that the wind farms operators settle an environmental tracking to analyse the behavior and potential death

rate of birds and bats due to the presence of the turbines. It has to be completed within 12 months following up the wind farm commissioning. In case of mortality detection, additional measure could be implemented to mitigate it.



3/ Acoustic tracking

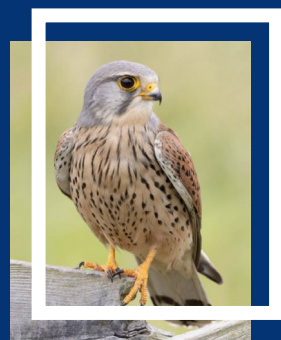
This one will allow us, thanks to mics installed around the wind farm, to verify that the sound diffused by the turbines don't exceed the regulatory threshold at any hour and under any wind conditions, day and night.

As a reminder, wind farms' noise emissions are regulated by article 26 of the August 26th 2011 order.

This order sets an emergence to not exceed :

- **+5 dB(A) during day time (7:00 to 22:00) and +3 dB(A) during night time (22:00 to 7:00).**

If the wind farm surpass these limits, restrictions plan will be adjusted to comply with the regulation.



Any question about operation?

A wind farm commissioning can cause disturbances regarding TV signal and reception.

If you happen to experience these disturbances, please reach out and we will send out an expert to solve your issue!

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A website to follow up the wind farm's news!

• <https://www.sserenewables.com/international-locations/france/chaintrix-bierges-and-velve-project-in-construction/>

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Throwback to the construction of the wind farm thanks to our videos!