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Press release

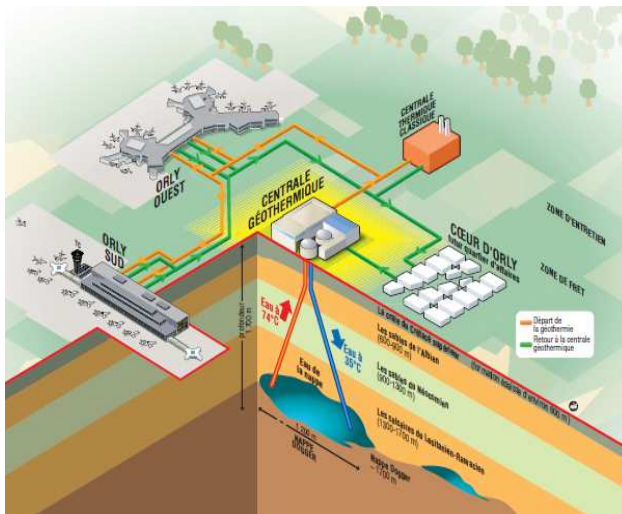
Geothermal energy at Paris-Orly airport: Start of drilling work

A first for a French airport

On 28 January 2008, Aéroports de Paris signed the Agreement on the air transport sector commitments in line with the Grenelle Environment Forum, thus reaffirming its commitment in the fight against climate change. The development of geothermal energy at Paris-Orly is one of the ten flagship initiatives arising from this agreement.

Paris-Orly airport has now started drilling operations for its geothermal energy plant which, by the end of the year, will provide heating for both terminals at Paris-Orly, resulting in savings of 9,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

Paris-Orly airport is ideally located above vast hot-water reserves of some 15,000 km², called "Le Dogger", which supplies naturally-heated water at 74°C. The 90 day-drilling work will allow the construction of two 1,750 meters deep wells.



The first will allow the extraction of geothermal water and the second will re-inject it at a depth of 1,400 m after cooling to 40°C. Because the drilling is right above the source, the geothermal energy extracted is not only cost-effective but is also constant and regular.

The geothermal energy will be extracted using a thermal exchanger and transferred to the heating water by conduction. The heated water will be immediately distributed throughout the terminals via a 35-km network.

"The idea of using geothermal energy at Orly has been in the pipeline since the first Grenelle Environment Forum, and the first studies had been started by the end of 2007. It is a renewable and clean energy source and will complement the existing sources of energy. The plant will allow us to save 9,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year and should later cover 30% of the total energy consumption at Paris-Orly airport", explains Franck Goldnadel, Managing Director of Paris-Orly airport.

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Aéroports de Paris builds, develops and manages airports including Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Paris-Orly and Paris-Le Bourget. With 83 million passengers handled in 2009, Aéroports de Paris is Europe's second-largest airport group in terms of airport passenger traffic and the European leader for freight and mail.

With an exceptional geographic location and a major catchment area, the Group is pursuing its strategy of adapting and modernizing its terminal facilities and upgrading quality of services, and also intends to develop its retail and real estate business. In 2009, the group revenue stood at 2,633 million euros and the net income at 270 million euros.



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Geothermal energy has been used in the greater Paris region since the 60s, chiefly to heat homes. It will, however, be the first time that the technique is used at a French airport. In the future, the installation will also allow the distribution of hot water to the future Cœur d'Orly property development.



Drilling

Drilling is performed using a **three-way drill bit** that penetrates the ground as it rotates. The teeth wear away the ground whilst a drilling fluid (water and clay) is injected to bring the debris up to the surface.

A **derrick** of over 38 metres has been erected to progressively lay the 6.5 km of pipes as the drilling progresses.

The worksite, which is immediately adjacent to Orly airport heating plant, is located close to Terminal Sud.

The partnership:

Project manager and facility owner: Aéroports de Paris
Project management support for underground installations: CFG Services
Drilling, Transport and Logistics contract: COFOR

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