## CONSTITUTION AND MAINTENANCE

OF FRANCE'S STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES

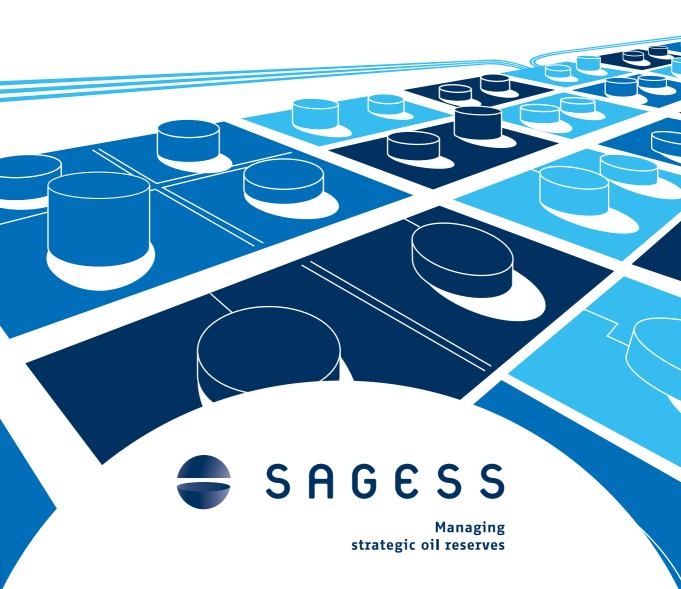












## **CONTRIBUTING** TO FRANCE'S **ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**

Established in 1988, on the initiative of oil operators and under the supervision of Government Authorities, the Société Anonyme de Gestion de Stocks de Sécurité (SAGESS), is entrusted with the mission of constituting and maintaining strategic oil reserves in order to fulfill obligations set by national and international stand-

Managing strategic oil reserves is a complex mission because it is based on logistical and financial dynamics, requiring the continuous maintenance of our substantial share of the national compulsory stock obligation levels, thereby necessitating a regular recourse to financial markets. To fulfill their obligation to stockpile strategic oil reserves, oil operators rely more and more on CPSSP, and as a consequence, on SAGESS owned stocks.

This brochure has been designed as a brief introduction to SAGESS's mission.

**SAGESS Board of Directors** 

### SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS FULFILLING THE NATIONAL COMPULSORY STOCK OBLIGATIONS

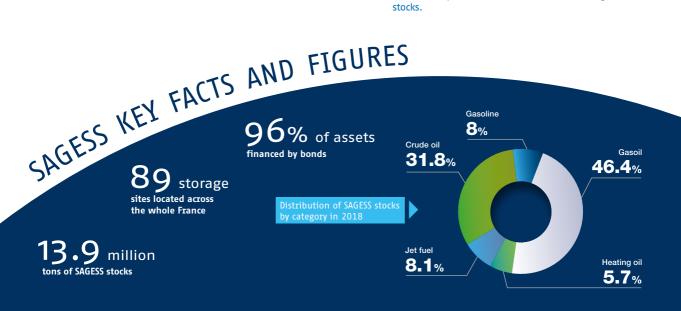


Our role

Since 90 years, France is a precursor in regard with strategic oil reserves. International and European commitments have consolidated the national policy already established with minor adjustments. The transposition of the European Directive in the French regulatory framework results in a national obligation in strategic stocks equivalent to 29.5% (on July 1st of each year) of the inland consumption of the preceding year. This obligation is managed by the oil operators who delegate it to the CPSSP. SAGESS, as the French Central Storage Entity (CSE), handles 73.9% of this obligation (by year-end 2018), with its own stocks, which availability is decided by the Ministry of Energy.

As a result thereof, SAGESS objectives are to:

- · make stocks available to operators, in the event of a crisis or at the request of DGEC (Ministry of Energy);
- ensure a timely response in releasing stocks for public consumption in case of need;
- · guarantee their availability nationwide through an adequate network of storage facilities;
- · ensure an optimized and sustainable financing of its stocks



## MANAGING STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES

#### Our core activities

#### **Full logistical control**

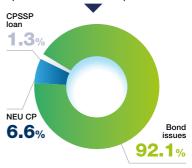
- A coherent and performing supply chain (purchase, storage and availability of stocks in the event of a crisis).
- Products quickly made available for consumption, while fully meeting constraints regarding quantity and quality control and strict compliance with regulatory specifications.
- Logistic network based on storage facilities distributed all over France, in nearly all commercial storage facilities.
- Adequate geographical distribution of storage facilities, as annually approved by Government Authorities, with a view to maximising product storage proximity to consumers.
- A permanent concern for the Health, Safety and Environment standards of the product storage operations contracted out by SAGESS to thirdparty terminal operators / stockists.

#### **Rigorous financial management**

- Guaranteed and secured financing of our assets through diversified funding sources.
- Full SAGESS cost recovery from CPSSP, hence guaranteeing a structurally balanced profit & loss account for SAGESS.
- A reactive and thoroughly sound financial policy: since 2001, regular access to financial markets through issuance of bonds.
- Recognized financial stability: Standard & Poor's rating of long-term debt "AA stable outlook" and short-term debt "A-1+".



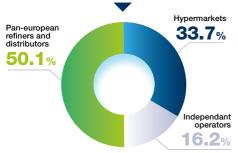
External financing structure of SAGESS: 4,454 M€ as of December 31, 2018



### ANTICIPATING AND EFFECTIVELY MANAGING CRISES

#### Our strengths





#### A proven governance

- An audit Committee to guarantee full internal control quality as well as the reliability of information provided to shareholders and financial stakeholders.
- A financial Committee and an operational management Committee providing guidance to SAGESS Management in the definition of its key financial and operational orientations.
- A Corporate Social Responsibility Committee with a view to monitoring the steering of the company's sustainable Development initiative and to ensuring that the overall implementation action plan is globally coherent.
- A storage Committee, handles all decisions related to storage contracts, within the storage policy framework, as approved by the Board of Directors.

#### 30 years of experience

- A proven mechanism for managing supply disruptions (for example, relying on strategic reserves in France during supply crises or after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the USA in 2005).
- A recognized expertise in regard to bond financing a strong stability of the financial and shareholding structure.

#### A robust regulatory environment

- SAGESS By-laws approved by Decree, defining its mission as a private company defining its public interest mission.
- Taking into account, the strategic importance of petroleum products in the national economy, as well as their impact on public security and national independence, SAGESS was enshrined in the 1992 Government Decrees as part of the reform of the oil sector.
- The European Directive fully transposed into French national law since 2012.

# WHAT SAGESS REPRESENTS FOR...

#### PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Strategic oil reserve levels are dictated by the implementation of the national regulatory framework, as a consequence of 2009 European Directive. They allow Public Authorities to face major supply disruptions in the event of an international oil crisis.

In order to mitigate this risk, most developed countries joined the International Energy Agency (IEA) founded in 1974. By joining the IEA, each Member State agrees to maintain a permanent oil reserve. SAGESS guarantees the maintenance, constitution and permanent availability of oil reserves, in line with the responsibilities delegated to it.



Each oil operator individually assumes its strategic stock obligations by managing its own reserves on the one hand (44% or 10% according to its choice) and by delegating the balance (56% or 90%) to CPSSP, which has largely recourse to SAGESS stocks in order to manage the delegated obligation. This possibility to delegate their strategic stock obligations to CPSSP offers to operators the ability to have access to a very competitive operating cost, and to reduce, as a consequence, their capital employed.

#### **RATING AGENCIES**

SAGESS is rated by several rating agencies.

Standard and Poor's issues a rating after a detailed analysis of SAGESS financial situation and role. SAGESS is rated AA (stable outlook).

Additionally, SAGESS is unsolicitedly rated by 2 ESG rating agencies, VIGEO EIRIS and ISS-OEKOM. SAGESS received a "corporate responsibility Prime" status from ISS-OEKOM, rewarding SAGESS for its CSR performance.



#### CONSUMERS

In the event of an oil shortage, a major concern for consumer is to be able to continue to find fuel supply. SAGESS, on request from CPSSP, by maintaining a substantial and increasing level of marketable oil products reserves, plays an increasing role in crisis management (either national or international), by allowing to make these products available within a very short time under injunction from the Direction Générale de l'Énergie et du Climat from the "Transition écologique et solidaire" ministry which closely monitors their related contingency plan modalities.



Managing strategic oil reserves

www.sagess.r

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