European Commission

MANUFACTURING OF COMPONENTS FOR ENERGY STORAGE

INNOVATION FUND

Deploying innovative net-zero technologies for climate neutrality

AGATHE: Advanced Gigafactory Aiming at Tempering greenHouse gases Emissions

The Innovation Fund is 100% funded by the EU Emissions Trading System

| Project Factsheet

The project AGATHE will contribute to expanding the battery production capacity of Verkor's gigafactory in Dunkirk, France from 8 to 16 Gigawatt-hours (GWh) of NMC 811 battery cells. These are a type of lithium-ion battery where the cathode contains nickel, manganese, and cobalt in an 8:1:1 ratio, known for their high efficiency. The expansion will use advanced, digitalized, and sustainable manufacturing technologies. The goal is to increase the production capacity of batteries for electric vehicles (EVs) while reducing the overall carbon footprint of the transportation sector, with an expected 71.5% relative greenhouse gas emission avoidance compared to the production and use of Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) cars in Europe.

AGATHE will integrate a robust digital infrastructure, including AI-driven optimisation, allowing continuous process optimization and predictive maintenance, into its manufacturing process to shorten ramp-up times, improve energy performance of the manufacturing process, and ensure high product quality. A key

COORDINATOR
VERKOR

LOCATION
France

CATEGORY
Energy Storage (ES)

SECTOR
Manufacturing of components for energy storage

AMOUNT OF INNOVATION FUND GRANT
EUR 76,282,817

EXPECTED GHG EMISSIONS AVOIDANCE
12,488,656 tonnes CO2 equivalent

STARTING DATE
01 May, 2025

FINANCIAL CLOSE DATE
30 June, 2026

ENTRY INTO OPERATION DATE
31 March, 2028

CALL NAME
InnovFund-2024-BATT

** Calculated vs. the 2021-2025 ETS benchmark of 6.84 tCO2e/tH2, not taking into account additional carbon abatement due to substitution effects in the H2 end use application, i.e. conservative estimate.*

innovation is the construction of a pre-recycling facility near the gigafactory. This facility will process more than 95% of production scraps on-site, significantly reducing waste volumes and virtually eliminating the need to transport hazardous battery materials.

By prioritising resource efficiency, digital innovation, and the resilience of European supply chains, AGATHE aligns with the EU's broader industrial and climate policies. This resilience is achieved by reducing dependence on external suppliers, diversifying raw material sources, and promoting a localised circular economy. The project supports the European Green Deal, Critical Raw Materials Act, and Batteries Regulation by promoting recycling and circular economy approaches. This transformative project paves the way for a competitive gigafactory model that integrates advanced digital tools, minimises the climate footprint, and strengthens Europe's technological sovereignty.

AGATHE will contribute to regional economic growth and job creation in Dunkirk, with over 500 new high-skilled jobs and up to 85% local workforce employment. The project's scalability offers future deployment opportunities across France and beyond, driving cost reductions and efficiency gains that benefit the economy and energy sector. Community engagement initiatives will strengthen its local impact, ensuring a positive influence on the region's socioeconomic landscape.

| Participants

GIGA VERKOR IMMO	France
REKOVR	France
VERKOR	France

Additional information on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal.