

## **Press Release**

Paris, March 28, 2023

# European investors request the filling of a resolution at ENGIE's upcoming general meeting

Sixteen European investors from France, the Netherlands and Belgium- including APG, Candriam, Degroof Petercam AM, Ecofi, l'ERAFP, l'Ircantec, La Banque Postale AM, La Financière de l'Échiquier, Mandarine Gestion, Mirova, Meeschaert AM, Messieurs Hottinguer & Cie Gestion Privée, MN, OFI Invest AM, PGGM et Sycomore AM- representing 1.5% of Engie's issued share capital and coordinated by the French SIF (Forum pour l'Investissement Responsable) have filed a shareholder resolution entitled *"Resolution on modification of the articles of association on the company's climate strategy"* to be submitted at the company's upcoming general meeting on 26 April 2023.

The aim of the resolution is two-fold:

- Obtain <u>sufficient information</u> to assess the company's current strategy with a 1.5°C scenario across its entire scope of responsibility (scope 1, 2 and 3), keeping in mind that Engie's 2030 ambitions have been certified in line with a well-below 2°C trajectory by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)
- 2. Signal Engie and fellow shareholders that a growing number of investors would like to see the company commit to adding a <u>Say on Climate</u> advisory vote to the general meeting's agenda, <u>every three years for the strategy</u> and <u>every year for its implementation</u>. The investors therefore ask ENGIE to update its articles of association accordingly.

"As highlighted by our request to have ENGIE commit to a regular Say on Climate vote, investors are convinced that general meetings should enable an honest and professional dialogue between shareholders and their investee companies. This is why the coalition has decided, **in addition to the aforementioned resolution**, to ask ENGIE's Board of Directors to **add an agenda item to discuss the range of specific information required** by investors to assess companies' transition plans during the general meeting on 26 April 2023".

Despite ENGIE's efforts to decarbonise its activities, investors currently lack significant pieces of information in order to evaluate the company's projected plans against a 1.5°C pathway with low or no overshoot. Although the company has a SBTi well-below 2°C target, we have been reminded by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that any decimal in temperature increase above



1.5°C	will	have	significant	negative	impacts.
The Investor Coalition is not asking ENGIE to change its strategy. Rather, it is asking for improved					
disclosure to gauge the gap between ENGIE's current projected trajectory and what would be required					
of the company to align its decarbonisation plan with requirements of 1.5°C scenarios. This					
assessment is particularly relevant in light of ENGIE's purpose ("raison d'être") to "act to accelerate the					

"As investors, we are bound by our climate commitments and legal obligations. Disclosure on relevant data of the company's climate strategy, including assumptions and scenarios, are key for proper shareholder understanding".

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carbon-neutral

economy".

transition

towards

In the process leading up to the filing, the investors have had multiple meetings with ENGIE's Board of Directors and teams and have worked with a number of stakeholders including energy and climate experts in the regular course of business as well as NGOs and lawyers.

The wording of the resolution was carefully crafted and aims at ensuring that it is receivable from a legal standpoint. The fact that ENGIE's Board of Directors has decided not to support it demonstrates that the resolution is ambitious and pushes the company to go further in its disclosure. "Furthermore, while investors appreciate ENGIE's commitment "to consult its shareholders on its climate strategy every three years or in the event of a significant change in it", they regret that the company was unable to commit to including specific information in their progress report, which will now be presented at every annual general meeting. This prevents investors from knowing whether they will be able to assess Engie's alignment with a 1,5°C scenario. Therefore, the coalition disagrees with the Board of Directors' statement that "ENGIE has responded to the essential concerns expressed by the investors who proposed this resolution"[1]."

The Investor Coalition would like to thank ENGIE for the long standing and constructive dialogue throughout this process. The company is invited to see the resolution and the item on agenda as further encouragement for disclosure to have a well-informed conversation about ENGIE's contribution to climate change impacts." Investors look forward to receiving additional communication ahead of ENGIE's general meeting on 26 April as announced by the company".



## About APG

https://apg.nl/en/

About Candriam https://www.candriam.com/fr-fr/professional/

About Degroof Petercam AM <u>https://funds.degroofpetercam.com</u>

About Ecofi https://www.ecofi.fr/

About ERAFP https://www.rafp.fr/

About l'Ircantec https://www.ircantec.retraites.fr

About La Financière de l'Échiquier https://www.lfde.com/

About Mirova https://www.mirova.com/fr

About Mandarine Gestion <u>https://www.mandarine-gestion.com/FR/fr</u>

About Meeschaert AM https://meeschaert-am.com

About Messieurs Hottinguer & Cie Gestion Privée <u>https://www.banque-hottinguer.com/index.html</u>

About MN https://www.mn.nl/assetmanagement

About OFI Invest AM



#### https://www.ofi-invest-am.com

About PGGM https://www.pggm.nl/en/about-us/about-pggm/

About Sycomore AM https://fr.sycomore-am.com/

[1]https://www.engie.com/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2023-03/2-%20D%C3%A9p%C3%B4t%20group%C3%A9%20dun%20projet%20de%20r%C3%A9solution%20par%20plusieu rs%20actionnaires.pdf

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#### **FIR presentation :**

The **French Sustainable Investment Forum** (FIR) is a multi-stakeholder association founded in 2001 to promote and develop Sustainable Responsible Investment (SRI). The FIR brings together all SRI stakeholders: investors, management companies, financial intermediaries, extra-financial rating agencies, investor advisors, market organisations, trade unions, NGOs, associations as well as qualified personalities: lawyers, journalists, academics... The FIR is a player in the dialogue and engagement with listed companies on sustainable development issues (investor briefs, thematic studies, written questions to CAC 40 general meetings, etc.). The Forum is also the promoter of the Responsible Finance Week which is held every year in the autumn. The FIR is one of the founding members of Eurosif. <u>www.frenchsif.org</u>