

PRESS RELEASE

Launch of ESTOR-LUX II, a new 270 MWh battery energy storage park in Aubange

Brussels, April 1, 2025 - **The consortium consisting of BSTOR (75%), SOCOFE (15%), and SOPAER (10%) announces the launch of ESTOR-LUX II, a new battery energy storage park with a capacity of 270 MWh. This large-scale project, located in the industrial zone of Aubange, in the province of Luxembourg, near an Elia high-voltage substation, marks a significant step in the development of electricity storage infrastructure and the energy transition in Belgium.**

Battery storage projects meet the growing flexibility needs created by the increasing development of renewable energies. They help address the increasingly frequent disruptions in grid balance caused by fluctuating and not perfectly predictable over- and under-productions of renewable electricity. Battery energy storage parks are a significantly more advantageous alternative than conventional flexibility sources from gas production plants, which are more expensive, much less reactive, and highly CO₂-emitting.

With a connection power of 100 MW and a storage capacity of 270 MWh, ESTOR-LUX II in Aubange surpasses by more than 10 times that of ESTOR-LUX I, the first large-capacity battery energy storage park connected to the Belgian high-voltage grid, sponsored by the same consortium of partners, whose operation began in Bastogne in December 2021.

The Aubange park will consist of 70 lithium-ion battery containers, each with a capacity of 3.8 MWh. The construction has just started, and the commissioning of this battery park is scheduled for autumn 2026. The energy supplier Eneco will be responsible for the valorisation and distribution of ESTOR-LUX II's flexible capacity on the various markets.

The project represents a total investment of 124 million euros, financed 65% by non-recourse debt granted by a banking consortium consisting of KBC, Belfius, and Triodos. The balance is covered by equity.

Cédric Legros, Managing Director of BSTOR, explains: "ESTOR-LUX I has demonstrated the robustness of our economic and industrial model. Building on this first success and the quality of the collaboration with SOCOFE and SOPAER, we are delighted with this new, much more ambitious project, which confirms our status as a pioneer and leading independent player in the energy transition in Belgium. ESTOR-LUX II represents BSTOR's third initiative in the development of battery energy storage parks in Belgium. With the sites of ESTOR-LUX I in Bastogne, DSTOR in La Louvière, and ESTOR-LUX II in Aubange, our parks will reach a cumulative storage capacity of over 430 MWh by the end of 2026. With upcoming projects, we intend to further consolidate our position in this rapidly expanding market".

For Jean-Marie Bréban, General Manager of SOCOFE: "With the ambition to contribute to the development of renewable energies and the decarbonisation of society, SOCOFE is delighted to participate in this second battery energy storage park project alongside BSTOR and SOPAER. This consortium, which relies in particular on BSTOR's developer skills, has already demonstrated its strengths in the operation of the Bastogne park. It is essential, to continue the development of the energy transition and the promotion of renewable energies, to invest in equipment that ensures grid balance".

Fabian Collard, Chairman of SOPAER, adds: "A subsidiary specialising in renewable energy projects of the Luxembourg intermunicipal companies Sofilux and Idelux, SOPAER is more than happy to participate in the development of this new park in the province of Luxembourg alongside its partners. Like the Bastogne park, the Aubange park ensures a smooth energy transition. We indeed provide grid regulation capacity under more advantageous conditions than conventional flexibility sources. It is all beneficial for the planet, but ultimately, it is also in the interest of the consumer. Beyond these immediate benefits, the solution is above all an important step towards a complete and secure energy transition".

*** END ***

About BSTOR

BSTOR SA/NV is a vehicle for the development, financing, and operation of battery energy storage parks owned by GreenStor (Ackermans & van Haaren and CFE), Wallonie Entreprendre, and BEWATT (Bruno Vanderschueren). BSTOR holds 75% of the ESTOR-LUX I park in Bastogne (10MW / 20MWh), operational since December 2021, 50% of the D-STOR project in La Louvière (50MW/140 MWh), and 75% of the ESTOR-LUX II project in Aubange (100MW/270 MWh), both under construction.

BSTOR aims to develop 1 GW of battery energy storage projects over the next 5 years.

For more information:

Cédric Legros
Managing Director
BSTOR
+32 496 94 97 75
cedric.legros@bstor.be

About SOCOFE

SOCOFE SA, a financial holding company, is the investment tool of the Walloon local authorities in the environmental transition. SOCOFE invests and takes strategic stakes in promising companies and projects with the ambition to help shape the energy landscape of the future. In this context, the partnership with BSTOR and SOPAER in the ESTOR-LUX consortium is essential.

For more information:

Jean-Marie Bréban
General Manager
SOCOFE
+32 4 223 80 13
jean-marie.breban@socofe.be

About SOPAER

SOPAER SA results from a balanced partnership between IDELUX, the territorial development agency, and SOFILUX, the pure financing intermunicipal company of the province of Luxembourg. This investment tool is oriented towards the broad development of renewable energies in connection with the partners' action territory.

For more information:

Fabian Collard
Chairman
SOPAER
+32 63 231 927
fabian.collard@idelux.be