PRESS RELEASE
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NGE strengthens the safety of the Orédon dam against extreme floods for SHEM — Société Hydro-Electrique du Midi

NGE will build the new spillway for the Orédon dam in the Hautes-Pyrénées on behalf of SHEM, an ENGIE subsidiary. The project, which began in early April 2026 and will run for three years, will increase the maximum capacity of the current spillway from 50 m³/s to 213 m³/s in order to withstand a ten-thousand-year flood event.

A 19th-century structure to be brought up to standard

Located at an altitude of 1,850 metres in the municipality of Aragnouet, the Orédon dam was built between 1870 and 1883. Designed to discharge floods of 50 m³/s, it must now be adapted to floods associated with climate change, with its discharge capacity increased to 213 m³/s.
As part of this project, NGE will build an underground spillway, a labyrinth weir, a collecting trough and a 128-metre-long hydraulic gallery lined with reinforced concrete, extended by a discharge system. Strengthening and monitoring works on the existing dam are also planned.

A high-mountain construction site with no interruption to operations

The project involves major constraints: high-altitude access, maintaining the operation of the dam and the site's tourism activity, and protecting a sensitive natural environment. As lead contractor of the consortium, NGE FONDATIONS is managing the works by mobilising several areas of expertise within the NGE Group: underground works from Grands Projets and earthworks operations from GUINTOLI, part of the Midi-Pyrénées Multi-Business Region.

Once completed, this new spillway will significantly improve the safety of the Orédon dam, secure the areas located downstream and ensure the long-term future of a historic hydraulic structure.

This project is part of NGE's growing track record in the rehabilitation and strengthening of hydraulic structures, following work carried out on the Oule, Gnioure and Labarthe dams.

"This project, at the heart of the Néouvielle Nature Reserve — an exceptional site due to its location and the preservation of its environment — illustrates the ability of NGE teams to work on sensitive structures under demanding access and operating conditions. We are proud to contribute to securing a historic dam that is essential to the local area." Marco LAPORTE, Project Manager NGE FONDATIONS

Key figures

1 850 m **Altitude**	**213 m³/s** **Maximum water discharge capacity**
128 m **Hydraulic gallery**	**April 2026 – October 2028** **Duration of the works**

About NGE

NGE — Nouvelles Générations d'Entrepreneurs — is France's fourth-largest construction and public works group, building major infrastructure, urban projects and local developments. With expertise in financing, design, construction and maintenance, the Group is a leading player in delivering structures that meet the economic and environmental challenges of local areas.
Its entrepreneurial momentum is driven by a strong employee shareholding structure: the founders, management and employees hold 72% of the Group's capital, supported by French investment fund Montefiore, which holds 28%.
With revenue of €5 billion and more than 25,000 employees, NGE operates in around twenty countries. The Group supports private and public clients in financing, designing and delivering their transition projects in the fields of water, mobility, urban renewal, energy and telecommunications. NGE employees are proud to contribute to building structures that change the world.

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