



2025 US-ALGERIA ENERGY FORUM

Tuesday April 15, 2025

THE WESTIN GALLERIA HOTEL, HOUSTON, TEXAS



On April 15, 2025, The US Algeria Business Council and the Bilateral Chamber of Commerce in Houston hosted the 18th edition of the US Algeria Energy Forum at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Houston, Texas.

The 2025 US-Algeria Energy Forum was yet another opportunity for Algeria and the United States to reaffirm its energy trade links. The energy industry is the most substantial sector of trade between Algeria and the United States. American companies operating in Algeria have a reputation for working closely with local communities, employing Algerian laborers and maintaining a visible and generous ESG commitment to projects throughout the country.

Approximately one hundred and twenty participants attended the forum. The USABC team under the leadership of Chairman David Wilhelm and President & CEO, Samy Boukaila, received many compliments on the organization and layout of the forum, that was held in a lofty venue.

We hereby acknowledge the support and collaboration of our partner in Houston, the Bilateral Chamber of Commerce under the leadership of its CEO, Ms. Aida Araissi.

Industry experts, and USABC members were among the presenters at the 2025 US-Algeria Energy Forum

We had the honor to host the following Algerian officials led by the Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach Group, amongst the Algerian delegation attending the US Algeria Energy Forum.

- Mr. Rachid HACHICHI, Chairman and CEO, Sonatrach
- Mr. Ferhat OUNOUGH, Vice-President Business Development & Marketing, Sonatrach
- Mr. Farid DJETTOU, Vice-President Exploration & Production, Sonatrach
- Mr. Belgacem MAYOUF, Vice President Commercialization, Sonatrach
- Mr. Youcef KHANFAR, Central Director of new Resources, Sonatrach
- Mr. Abdel Hamid RAIS, Chief of Staff to the CEO, Sonelgaz
- Mr. Amine REMINI, Central Director for the Hydrocarbon at the Ministry of Energy & Mines
- Mr. Mourad BELDJEHEM, President of ALNAFT
- Mr. Samir BEKHTI, Director at ALNAFT
- Mr. Cherif MEGHAR, Protocol Director, Sonatrach
- Mr. Samir HOUGHELAOUENE, Division Director of the Hydrocarbon Regulation Authority, Ministry of Energy & Mines

The Major US Oil & Gas companies, ExxonMobil, Chevron, Occidental Petroleum, Air Products & Chemicals, HGR Energy, were active participant while many other energy sectors companies such as Baker Hughes, Honeywell, and Halliburton to name a few attended.

A key feature of the US-Algeria Energy Forum was the networking opportunities for the participants. Nearly all the leading US energy companies were represented as well as the leading public and private Algerian energy companies. The forum provided the opportunity and space to exchange genuinely on what can be achieved in Algeria with the great potential of its deposits and renewables.



Samy Boukaila President and CEO of the US Algeria Business Council

Mr. Samy Boukaila, delivering his remarks

“It is my great honor and privilege as President and CEO of the US Algeria Business Council to welcome all of you to this important gathering, the 18th Annual edition of the US – Algeria Energy Forum, special thanks to the Algerian Embassy in Washington DC, our Partner Aida Araissi head of the Bi-Lateral Chamber in Houston, and our Esteemed Sponsors Exxon, Chevron, Oxy and Air Products for their strong support, allowing such important event to happen, Thank you !”



Mr. David Wilhelm, CEO of HGR Energy, Chair of the US-Algeria Business Council

Mr. David Wilhelm, delivering his remarks

“Welcome to the 2025 Energy Conference sponsored by the US-Algeria Business Council, whose mandate is the promotion of trade and commerce between our two countries. I don’t know how many meetings of this sort are occurring in the United States at this particular moment--but it is a testament to the viability of this organization that we are having this convening now, in this place.!”

I think it was President Kennedy who would say there is a Chinese curse that goes like this: ”may you live in interesting times.”

Man, do we ever live in interesting times!! I guess what makes it a curse is that it IS possible to live in times that are TOO interesting

All I know is that it’s times like these when things get shaken up, stirred, and when all is said and done, new alliances and new leaders will have emerged. And I just don’t mean leaders as in people, I mean leaders as in nations.

Recently, a Canadian friend sent me a post from the new Canadian PM’s web

Site. His name is Mark Carney, and he strikes me as a very sharp guy. In this post he shares his vision that Canada should by all rights become the world's next great energy superpower, with its oil resources, with its pursuit of an "all of the above" energy strategy, inclusive of clean energy, with its large land mass, educated workforce, and increasing geopolitical significance in a world where the guardrails seem to be coming off.



Mr. David Wilhelm, CEO of HGR Energy, Chair of the US-Algeria Business Council

And then I started thinking. Wait a second, I know of another country that has all these attributes and then some. Another country that could stake a claim to being the world's next great global energy powerhouse.

A country that has amazing oil and gas resources, but unlike Canada, amazing sun and wind resources as well...perhaps not the hydro resource that Canada enjoys...but vastly superior solar resources to be sure.

A country that has a slightly larger population, ready access to EU markets, a huge land mass of its own!

Do you know where I am going with this? Do you know what country I'm talking about?

And this country has been quietly, but affirmatively, going down the road of all of the above” energy strategy, maximizing its oil and gas resources, while positioning itself for leadership in the energy transition, leveraging its newfound geopolitical strength in the context of the EU, making the most of its history of political neutrality, playing ball with both the USA and China, and asserting its leadership among the countries in the developing world.

Do you know what country I might be talking about? What country I think could stake it’s claim to being the next global energy powerhouse? I mean if Canada can...what the heck...

And then I went to my favorite AI app, Perplexity, and typed in the following question, “What MOUs has Sonatrach signed in the past year?”

Now there’s going to be another MOU signing in a few minutes, and I’m not going to step on that story. Perplexity doesn’t know what we are about to do here today. But here’s what Perplexity had to say about signings in the past year.

“MOUs Signed by Sonatrach in the Past Year

Hydrocarbon and Energy Partnerships

These MOUs reflect Sonatrach’s strategy to diversify partnerships, advance energy transition projects, and strengthen Algeria’s role in regional and global energy markets.

So I conclude with this. We live in interesting times. Things we have taken for granted are going to be shaken up. New leaders will emerge. Some old leaders may fade away. Some are prepared for this moment and some are not.

Quietly, deliberately, I perceive that Algeria has positioning itself for this interesting time. I would not bet against our Algerian friends when the history of the next several years is written. If Canada can stake a claim to be the world’s next energy powerhouse, why not Algeria?”



Mr. Larbi Lebbaz, Commercial Attaché at the Algerian Embassy, Mr. Abdel Hamid Rais, Sonelgaz

Mr. Larbi Lebbaz, delivering Ambassador Boukadoum's Speech

"The impressive turnout we see today is a testament to the enduring strength and shared ambition of the relationship between the United States and Algeria. For over five decades, energy cooperation has stood as a cornerstone of the strategic partnership between Algeria and the United States. Today, as the global energy landscape rapidly evolves in response to technological advancement and climate imperatives, this partnership is more important than ever."

Algeria remains steadfast in its commitment to deepening collaboration with the United States across a broad spectrum of energy domains. From our traditional oil and gas sector—where Algeria has long been recognized for its reliability and capacity—to emerging frontiers such as renewable energy and carbon capture technologies, we are open, ready, and determined to build a future of shared prosperity.

We also recognize the tremendous role that innovation and technology play in shaping a resilient energy sector. Algeria is keen to benefit from the world-class expertise of American companies in areas such as digitalization, energy efficiency, smart grid development, and advanced drilling and production techniques. Together, we can harness innovation not only to optimize performance but to meet the growing demands of global energy security and environmental stewardship. Let me close by reiterating that Algeria stands ready—as a reliable partner, a gateway to Africa, and an energy hub to the European Union as well as a Center for

innovation—to strengthen ties with the United States in all areas of energy cooperation. Together, let us seize the moment and shape a future that reflects the very best of what our partnership can achieve.”

Mr. Rachid Hachichi, President and CEO of Sonatrach Delivering his remarks



Mr. Rachid Hachichi, President and CEO of SONATRACH

“ Mr. Rachid Hachichi, Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach, at the 2025 US-Algeria Energy Forum in Houston, Texas, emphasized Sonatrach's dedication to expanding its investment portfolio in various energy sectors. He highlighted the company's focus on hydrocarbons, renewable energies, hydrogen, and energy efficiency, showcasing Sonatrach's strategic vision for the future.

Mr. Hachichi also underscored the advantages and incentives provided by the Algerian law on hydrocarbons, which are designed to attract foreign investors. These incentives have already facilitated significant cooperation between Algeria and other countries, notwithstanding the Oil & Gas in conventional and non conventional, Sonatrach is dedicated to pursue the energy transition needed in the production of the Green Hydrogene as per the commitment made to our european offtakers, carbon capture , sequestration, and valorizing the remaining flare gas into valuable assests as data centers made of High performance computers for US big data scalers is something we are examining and hopefully implementing soon. Sonatrach is also dedicated to valorize it's hydrocarbon production into high value petrochemicals and seek to examin the partnership opportunities with US companies and explore all new technologies to aquire higher economical yields and positive enviromental impact.

Mr. Abdelhamid Rais delivering Mr. Adjal Sonelgaz CEO's remarks



Mr. Abdelhamid Rais chief of staff to the CEO of SONEGAS

“Sonelgaz is Algeria’s national energy company, founded in 1969. As the historical operator, it holds responsibility for the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity, as well as the transmission and distribution of natural gas throughout the country. In the wake of market liberalization, the company was restructured into a group composed of a parent company and 12 subsidiaries. Today, electricity access reaches 99% of the population, and natural gas access covers 70%. These accomplishments are underpinned by significant infrastructure development. The country’s installed electricity generation capacity now exceeds 26,000 MW. transmission network spans more than 35,000 km, while the gas transmission network extends beyond 24,000 km. Distribution networks cover 416,000 km for electricity and 170,000 km for gas. Our commitment to sustainability has led us to undertake an ambitious national program for renewable energy development — aiming for 15 GW of installed capacity, of which 3.2 GW are already underway. This initiative is intended not only to diversify Algeria’s energy mix, but also to catalyse the emergence of new industrial ecosystems.



Mr. Abdelhamid Rais chief of staff to the CEO of SONELGAZ

Sonelgaz strategic vision embraces the promising frontier of green hydrogen — an energy vector of the future. Algeria possesses exceptional assets in this regard: abundant solar potential, an extensive gas pipeline network, recognized technical

expertise, and its involvement in the SoutH2 Corridor project. We aspire to become eventually a major exporter of green hydrogen on the international stage.

To this end, pilot projects will be launched, with a gradual scale-up strategy. This technological challenge will be met through targeted investments in research and the establishment of strategic partnerships with international leaders in the sector. All these efforts underpin our energy transition, guided by principles of decarbonization, a diversified energy mix, and an active contribution to global climate objectives.

Given the capital intensity and technological sophistication required for a successful transition, we are deeply convinced that international cooperation is key. We are thus open and committed to exploring all avenues of collaboration — whether in renewable technologies, energy storage solutions, smart grids, or innovative hydrogen projects.”

Mr. Mourad Beldjehem presentation on Algeria Upstream Transformation, New Laws, New Horizon

Mr. Beldjehem presented the benefits to investors of the new Hydrocarbon law and Investment law in Algeria.



Mr. Mourad Beldjehem General Director ALNAFT

Allowing shared production with investors, as well as the Investment law protecting foreign investors and securing their assets in Algeria with no revision guaranteed for ten years,

He went on describing the great potential of Algeria Oil & Gas deposits in conventional and non-conventional, with bid rounds that are up for award by June, and new to come this fall for bidders, and all data to be shared prior to the bidders.

The Human resources component was also put forth as a forte of Algeria, with engineers in the field that are ready to be put at work, at a fraction of the costs

of expat engineers, though needing to be supervised with experienced engineers for more capacity building.

INTRODUCTION

NEW HYDROCARBON LAW

NEW INVESTMENT LAW

ALGERIA'S UPSTREAM SECTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES

ESG

ALNAFT

BID ROUNDS AND PROMOTION

ALGERIA'S UPSTREAM TRANSFORMATION NEW LAWS, NEW HORIZONS

The map displays the geographical distribution of upstream activities in Algeria. It includes a legend for various types of concessions and infrastructure. The legend categories are: GAS CONY, OIL CONY, Exploration concession in partnership, Exploitation concession in partnership, Exploitation concession in partnership, and Exploitation concession in partnership. Infrastructure types include LPG, GAS, OIL, and CONDENSATE. The map also shows the location of the National Agency for the Development of the Hydrocarbon Sector (ANAH) and the National Agency for the Development of the Hydrocarbon Sector (ANAH).

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Mr. Mourad Beldjehem General Director ALNAFT



Moderator Aida Araissi Bilateral Chamber, Ferhat Ounoughi Sonatrach, Warren Murdoch Oxy, John Ardill Exxon, Lucas Rigo De Rigi Chevron

Mrs. Aida Araissi, moderating the Oil & Gas Panel Discussion

“What are the greatest challenges in logistics and field services for the development of unconventional resources?”

This first panel discussion focused on the non-conventional resources logistic and services prerequisites and challenges that need to be addressed to establish viable operations in terms of yield, Leadtime, and economics given the high volatility of the Oil & Gas market.

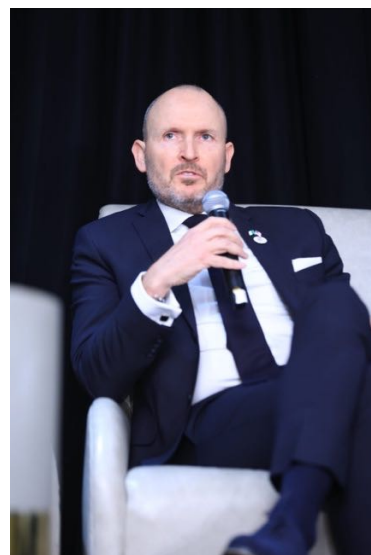
The panelist namely Exxon, Chevron and Oxy have explained in length out of their own learning curve while developing their assets in the Permian the processes and value chain that need to be in place to ensure success of operations, the need to improve continuously the processes, and the technologies to allow market viability and environmentally friendly operations.



Mr. John Ardill, Exxon



Mr. Lucas Rigo De Rigi, Chevron



Mr. Warren Murdoch, Oxy



Mr. Ferhat Ounoughi, Sonatrach



The three majors praised their cooperation with Sonatrach and are optimistic that they will take their cooperations and partnerships to a whole new level by this year end, as Sonatrach team are working hard to finalize all aspects of the partnerships to be framed in major agreements.

Sonatrach and Oxy Sign off on two MOUs to enhance their partnership



Mr. Ken Dillon President International Oxy, Mr. Ferhat Ounoughi Vice President Business Development Sonatrach & Mr. Rachid Hachichi President & CEO Sonatrach, Warren Murdoch President and GM Oxy Algeria

Two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to consolidate and expand their cooperation through new partnership opportunities in hydrocarbon exploration and production in Algeria.

The first MoU defines the framework for discussions in regards to assessing cooperation opportunities to develop carbonate reservoirs. The second focuses on the implementation of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) techniques, with the aim of optimizing production and improving final recovery factors.



Mr. Samy Boukaila USABC, Mr. Ken Dillon & Warren Murdoch Oxy, Mr. Rachid Hachichi & Ferhat Ounoughi Sonatrach, Mr. Larbi Lebbaz Algerian Embassy.



Mr. Ken Dillon President International Oxy, Mr. Ferhat Ounoughi Vice President Business Development Sonatrach

A word of Mr. Ounoughi and Mr. Dillon upon the Signed MOUs that trigger s renewed partnership between Oxy and Sonatrach.

Renewable Energy panel discussion on green Hydrogen as the future of energy.

The second panel discussion focused on the energy of the future that green hydrogen represents, given the pledge made by most European countries committing to be the off takers of Algeria future green H2 as per the NAPEC October 14 2024 conference and MOU signatures, subsequently confirmed by the January 21 Rome political intent of five countries declared their intention to continue work on the development of the SouthH2 3,300 km dedicated hydrogen pipeline corridor connecting North Africa, Italy, Austria, and Germany led by TSOs Snam, TAG, GCA and bayernets.



Moderator: Samy Boukaila USABC – Mr. Youcef Khenfar Sonatrach, Mr. Abdelhamid Rais Sonelgaz, Mr. Jason Harlan HGR Energy, Mr. Walter Nelson Air Products, Dr David Soane Carbogenesis

The discussion focused on how Sonatrach plan to achieve the ambitious project of producing green H2? How large the green Electron component must be in terms of solar, wind and BESS investments that might inflate considerably the LCOE (Leveraged Costs of Energy) given the scale of energy needed in fracking the Water molecule with Electrolyzes Plants, a topic central to HGR Energy.

The discussion also examined the existing technologies in terms of producing Hydrogen with Air Products the choice made in their NEOM project in Saudi Arabia, and finally Carbogenesis with the pyrolytic natural gas/ flare gas fracking technology which allow the production of Hydrogen at a quarter of the costs of electrolysis in terms of energy needs, while decarbonizing the hydrocarbon molecule in producing acetylene needed as feed stock in the petrochemical industry or carbon black in for the production of batteries for EV, and even SIN gas. All which Dr Soan is a patent holder through his research many years at the UC Berkley



Moderator: Samy Boukaila USABC – Mr. Youcef Khenfar Sonatrach, Mr. Abdelhamid Rais Sonelgaz, Mr. Jason Harlan HGR Energy, Mr. Walter Nelson Air Products, Dr David Soane Carbogenesis



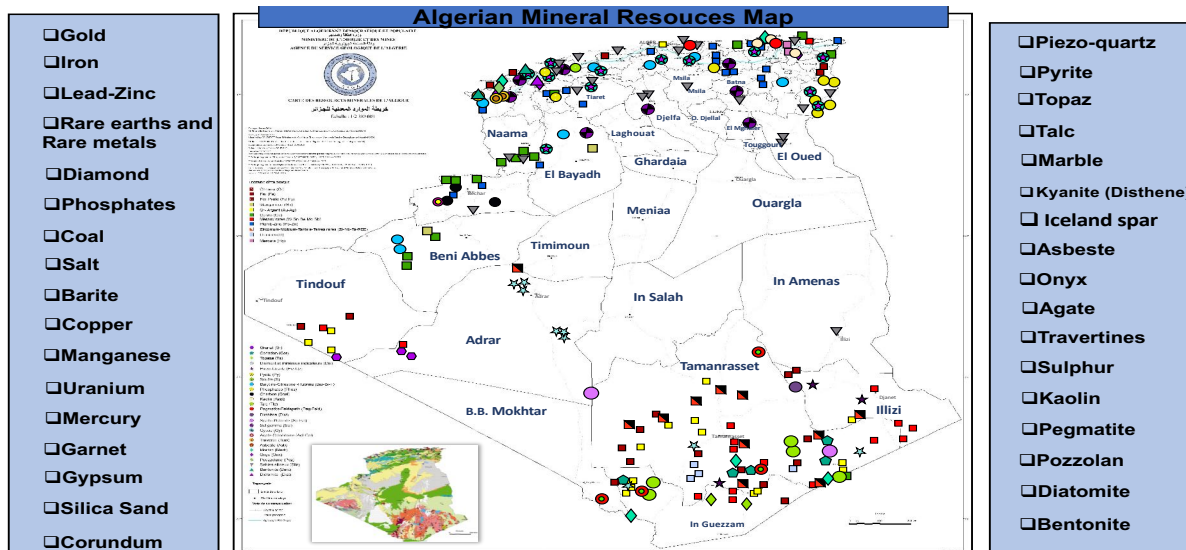
Algeria Mining sector, the big push of the Algerian Authorities for FDIs



Mr. Amine Remini Central Director at the Energy and Mines Ministry

Mr. Amine Remini central Director at the Ministry of Energy and Mines, went on to present the large mineral deposits of Algeria, covering almost all of the geological table, and considerable deposits in rare earth, lithium, phosphate, copper, Tin ect... to name a few, he put forth the strong desire and will of the Algerian authorities to attract investors to exploit and valorize these deposits, that will serve the industries in Algeria and Globally.

The revised mining law announced for this half of the year to be voted does allow 100% ownership of the investors, hence removing the 49/51 restriction of the past and allowing FDI to gain concession of such deposit to valorize and benefit from it international export worldwide.



The advantages of the new mining law (currently being approved) :

Regarding the international strategy for energy transition and green industry , the demand for various mineral resources would obviously increase. In this scope, Algeria has decided to boost the mining sector by reviewing its mining legislative and regulatory framework with more transparency, stability and sustainability policy, it will offer more investment advantages including:

qProcedures simplification of mining investment, in all the value chain (research: prospection and exploration, mining and transformation of minerals resources) ;

qGuaranty of all conditions and incentives for public and private investors (national or foreign), by providing, in particular the granting of mining permits and titles to legal entities created by foreign shareholders under Algerian law, in which the national company will have the right to hold a maximum of 20% of the capital of the operating company throughout the life of the mine; the remaining part will be hold by the partner

qEncouraging and implementing all the best practices to attract capital and modern technologies of mining sector (research and development).

qGiving legal value to mining permits (titles) and broadens the scope of inventors' rights.



Samy Boukaila USABC, Addressing the closing remark at Diner

The US-Algeria Energy Day in Houston reinforced Algeria's position as a key energy partner for the US and Europe, showcased its openness to foreign investment, and set the stage for expanded collaboration in both conventional and renewable energy sectors. The event's outcomes are expected to drive new projects, encourage technology transfer, and strengthen the long-term strategic partnership between the two countries.

Godspeed to all and particularly our friends at Sonatrach on their journey to New Mexico visiting the Permian Basin.

AGENDA

TUESDAY APRIL 15, 2025

1:30PM-2:00PM **REGISTRATION - Plaza Ballroom**

2:00PM-2:30PM **WELCOME ADDRESS**

- **Mr. Samy Boukaila -** President & CEO of the US-Algeria Business Council
- **Ms. Aida Araissi -** CEO of Bilateral Chamber
- **Mr. David Wilhelm -** Chairman of the US-Algeria Business Council

2:30PM-3:00PM **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

- **H. E. Sabri BOUKADOUM -** Algerian Ambassador to the US
- **Mr. Rachid HACHICHI -** President & CEO, Sonatrach
- **Mr. Mourad Adjal -** President & CEO, Sonelgaz

3:00PM-3:20PM **"ALGERIA'S UPSTREAM TRANSFORMATION :**

New Laws New Horizons "

- **Mr. Mourad Beldjehem -** Hydrocarbon General Director ALNAFT

3:20PM-4:00PM: **PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE OIL & GAS**

**“The role of Logistics & Services in the Successful development of
unconventional resources”**

- **Mr. John Ardill -** Exxon, Vice President Global Exploration Upstream
- **Mr. Luca Rigo De Righi -** Chevron, Director Global New Venture
- **Mr. Warren Murdoch -** OXY, President & GM Algeria
- **Mr. Ferhat Ounoughi -** Sonatrach, Vice President & BDM

Moderator: **Aida Araissi -** President and CEO of Bilateral Chamber

4:00PM-4:30PM: **MOU Signatures session**

4:30PM-4:45PM: ***COFFEE BREAK***

4:45PM-5:15PM: **PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE RENEWABLE ENERGIES**

“Is the Green H2 really the Energy of the future?”

What technologies to produce a decarbonized H2?”

- **Mr. Youcef Khenfar -** Sonatrach, Central Director Green Energies
- **Mr. Abdel-hamid Rais-** Sonelgaz, Chief of Staff to the CEO
- **Mr. Jason Harlan -** HGR Energy, Chief Commercial Officer
- **Mr. Walter Nelson -** Air Product, Senior Vice President
- **Dr. David Soane -** Carbogenesis, CEO

Moderator: Samy Boukaila- President & CEO of the US-Algeria Business Council

5:15PM-5:40PM: **ALGERIA MINING SECTOR THE BIG PUSH OF THE ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES FOR FDIs**

- **Mr. Amine Remini - Central** Director, Ministry of Energy & Mines

5:45PM-6:45PM: **B to B Session, and Networking, One on One Meetings for Platinum sponsors**

7:00PM-8:30PM: **DINER with Guest Speaker**

- **Tim James -** Elevate Partners

8:30PM: **CLOSING REMARK**

- **Samy Boukaila –** President & CEO of the US-Algeria Business Council

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**AIR
PRODUCTS**

Participants



Ministry of energy of Algeria



carbogenesis