


## ETIP HYDROPOWER Governing Board Application form

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| <b>Name and surname</b>                                  | Dr GRAFF Benjamin  |
| <b>Photo</b>   |   |
| <b>Name of entity (e.g. company, association, etc.)</b>  | <b>Compagnie Nationale du Rhône (CNR)</b>  |
| <b>Job title / role</b>                                  | Open Innovation Manager  |
| <b>Stakeholder category</b>                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower industry and technology <sup>1</sup><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operator/owner of large hydropower plants and/or pumped storage plant(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Independent operator/owner of small hydropower plant(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Design, planning and project development<br><input type="checkbox"/> Finance, business and insurance <sup>2</sup><br><input type="checkbox"/> Research, innovation and development <sup>3</sup><br><input type="checkbox"/> Environment and civil society <sup>4</sup>  |
| <b>Country</b>   | <b>FRANCE</b>  |
| <b>Previous experience (1300 characters with spaces)</b> | <p>I graduated with a MSc in Hydraulics-Hydrology engineering in 2001 followed by a PhD in hydrology in 2004. After 3 years in a consulting office, I joined CNR in 2008 first as hydrological and hydrometeorological expert, then as project manager abroad (2014-2017) and later on as business developer for CNR Engineering (2018-2021). In my portfolio, I was project manager for the assessment of climate change impact on hydropower generation, the development of in-house IT tools dedicated to renewable energies forecasting, hydrometeorological monitoring and hydropower forecasting optimization on Xayaburi HPP during construction until commissioning, and in charge of technical assistance for the Government of Laos regarding the sustainable development of HPPs on the Mekong River (Feasibility Studies reviews, Contract Engineer, cascades management). In 2021, I achieved a certificate as certified user of the Hydropower Sustainability Tools. Since 2022, I have been Head of Open Innovation at CNR Energy</p> |

<sup>1</sup> Equipment supplier and/or manufacturer, maintenance industry, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Financial, legal & developing institutions, development, public or commercial banks, financial organisations, and private investors/investment funds, international monetary fund, insurance, legal advisors, etc.

<sup>3</sup> R&D institutions, research centers and institutes of universities, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Environmental or conservation NGO's, civil society associations, policy makers, water resources associations, project stakeholders, etc.

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|   | <p>Transition and Innovation Department. I oversee scientific partnerships, development of collaborative projects dedicated to renewable energies and hydropower, and R&amp;D strategy and follow-up.</p>   |
| <p><b>Motivation to become Governing Board member</b> (1300 characters with spaces)</p> | <p>CNR will bring to ETIP HYDROPOWER the expertise acquired over more than 90 years on the Rhône river in hydropower, river and environmental engineering and offered in 40 countries worldwide. CNR is not only the France's leading producer of 100% renewable electricity. It is also a major actor in territorial development hydroelectric producer, thanks to its integrated river management model. CNR provides solutions to the challenges of adapting to and mitigating climate change and sharing water resources between uses at a watershed level.</p> <p>Thanks to ETIP HYDROPOWER, we have an unique opportunity to speak out on behalf of hydropower at European level. We need to build upon existing experience of all the stakeholders and also demonstrate the energy's potential for development and innovation as part of a low-carbon European energy mix. Working on storage, production control and innovative methods for monitoring biodiversity and nature-based solutions, CNR will be, within ETIP HYDROPOWER, the voice of a responsible operator, acting in partnership with numerous scientific, economic and civil stakeholders for the sustainable management of rivers.</p> |