



Paris, May 6, 2024

Statement regarding the Metabolic Explorer (Metex) group factory recovery project in Amiens (France)

Avril, a major player in the agricultural and agri-food sectors, rooted in the French territories and committed to serving the general interest, is attentive to the situation of the Amiens factory (METEX NØØVISTAGO), the R&D activities essential to its operation (including some are housed in Saint-Beauzire), as well as to the sales teams currently located in Paris. Avril therefore got involved, as part of the call for tenders which was launched for the study of a takeover project for the site.

This site indeed represents a major strategic challenge for the supply of fermentation amino acids to the animal sectors. Amino acids are essential components in animal nutrition and having local production contributes to the defense of French and European food sovereignty. The main French and European professional unions in the sector have also alerted the public authorities to the fact that this site is the last European production unit.

The Group is examining the initiative thoroughly. To date, the prerequisites allowing the submission of a takeover offer in order to ensure long-term operation of the site, for which the support of the public authorities is essential, have not yet been met. We were therefore not able to submit a takeover offer on May 6.

Having been informed by the judicial administrator of the postponement of the filing date, Avril continues to work actively and discuss with all the stakeholders concerned, to build a future project for the site and its employees.

About Avril

5th largest agri-food group in France, Avril is the industrial and financial leader in the French vegetable oil and protein sector. Created by the agricultural world, the Group develops innovative, healthy and sustainable solutions to feed people and animals, and accelerate the decarbonization of the planet. Its purpose, Serving the Earth, guides its actions, in line with its ambition to become by 2030 the leader in plant transformation, serving the agricultural, food and environmental transitions. In addition to its historic role as an investor, the Group is now a manufacturer firmly rooted in plant processing, from seed to processed product. Active in human food, animal nutrition and expertise, renewable energies and green chemistry, it deploys a portfolio of activities that are all leaders in their markets. Strengthened by this link with the French farm, Avril has based its growth over the past 40 years on a unique value-creation model: it reinvests all its profits in the dynamics of the industry and its development in France and abroad. Present in 19 countries with nearly 7,500 employees at 69 industrial sites and sales offices, Avril achieved sales of 8 billion euros in 2023.

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Press contacts

Hélène TABOURY | Avril

+33 6 23 08 83 54 | helene.taboury@avril.com

Béatrice GERMAIN | Avril

+33 6 66 81 48 17 | beatrice.germain@avril.com