



Closing the Provence thermal power plant: the stakes of a reconversion in a land of energies

Sascha Perroux

► To cite this version:

Sascha Perroux. Closing the Provence thermal power plant: the stakes of a reconversion in a land of energies. International Symposium of LabEx DRIIHM 2022, Jun 2022, Nantes, France. , 2022, 10.34972/driihm-e8f543 . hal-03716548

HAL Id: hal-03716548

<https://hal.science/hal-03716548>

Submitted on 7 Jul 2022

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

Closing the Provence thermal power plant

The stakes of a reconversion in a land of energies

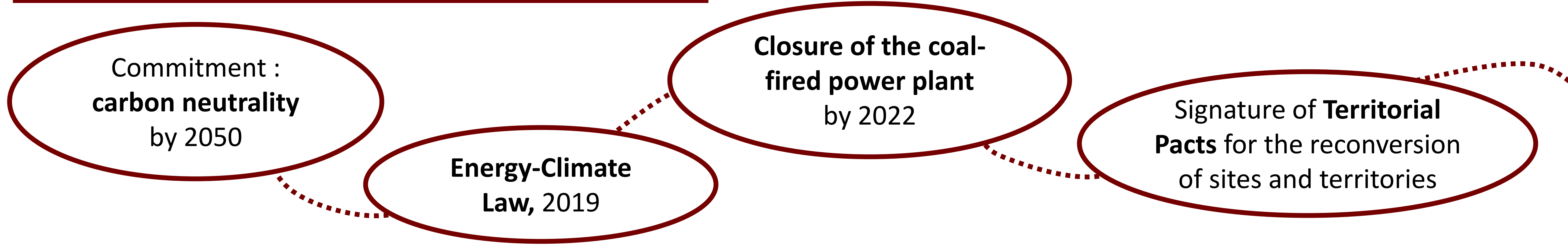
Sascha Perroux, Aix-Marseille University, CNRS, TELEMME, Aix-en-Provence, France

French Environment and Energy Management Agency 20, avenue du Grésillé- BP 90406 49004 Angers Cedex 01 France

Under the supervision of Sylvie Daviet, Aix-Marseille University, CNRS, TELEMME, Aix-en-Provence, France

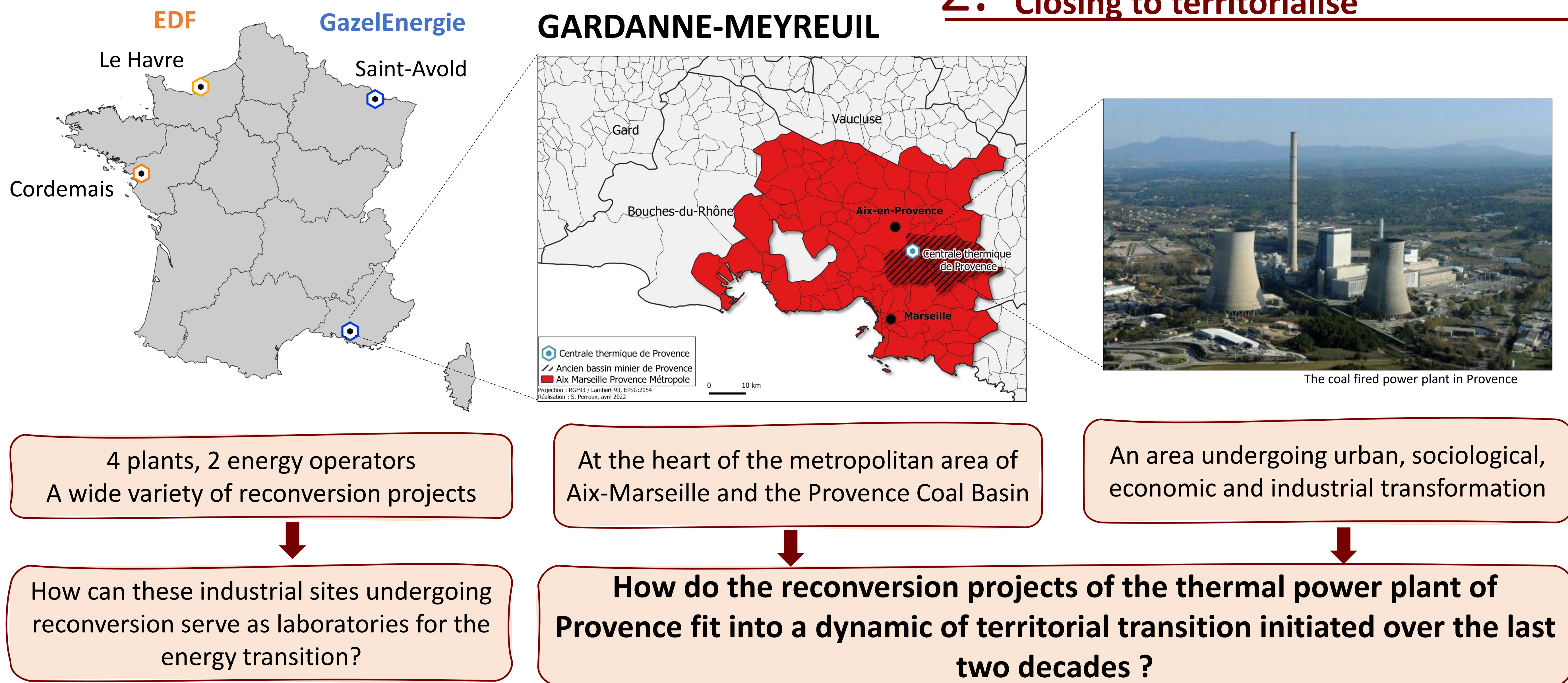


1. Closing to decarbonise



The aim of **decarbonising the French energy system** implies the transition from a 'thermo-industrial' regime, based on fossil fuels, to a 'post-carbon' regime that values renewable energies (Durand, Pecqueur, Senil, 2015). For the territories of the coal-fired power stations, this **energy transition** challenge is an **opportunity to experiment** with new ways of producing energy.

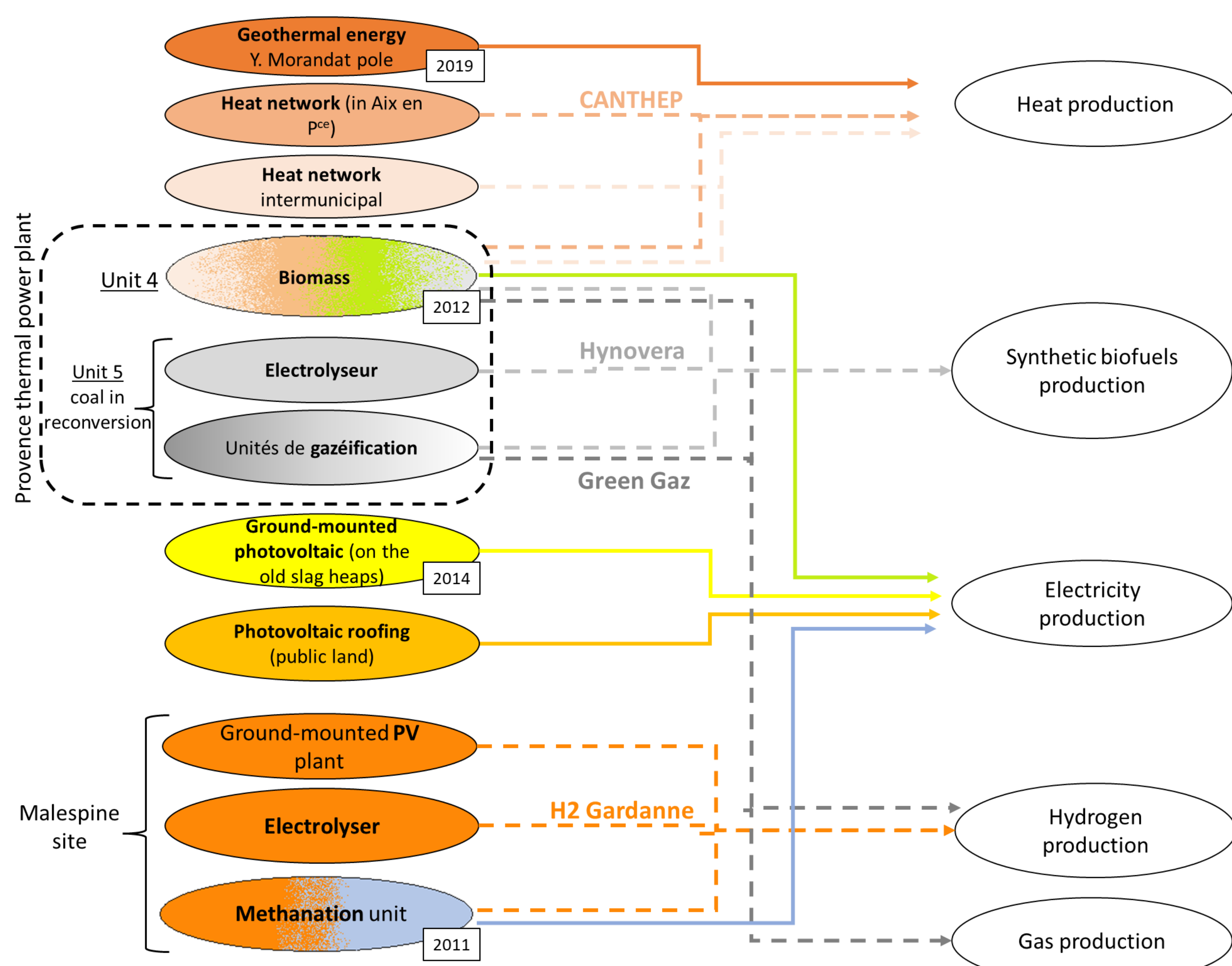
2. Closing to territorialise



3. Closing to diversify

Although focused on the municipalities of Gardanne and Meyreuil, the territorial pact also takes into account the 15 other municipalities of the former **Provence Coal Basin**. Since the closure of its last mine in 2003, this territory has converted some of its **assets** - inherited from its industrial and mining past - into **innovative energy projects**.

With the closure of the thermal power station, the page of coal is definitively turned, and new projects are being studied. Energy then appeared to be a genuine **territorial resource** with **new development possibilities** (Gumuchian, Pecqueur, 2007).



- 1 Diversity of energy end products : heat, biofuels, electricity, hydrogen, gas.
- 2 The biomass unit (converted in 2012) is at the heart of a new localised energy system.
- 3 The new projects (dotted lines) complement the projects that have existed for the last twenty years (solid lines).
- 4 A diversity of implementation scales: local (H2 Gardanne), metropolitan (CANTHEP), regional (Green Gaz, Hynovera).
- 5 An acceleration in the emergence of energy projects since the signature of the territorial pact in December 2020.

Want to
know more ?
(in French)



- DURAND, L., PECQUEUR, B., & SENIL, N. (2015), La transition énergétique par la territorialisation. L'énergie comme ressource territoriale. In Groux, Leducq, Scarwell (Ed.), Réussir la transition énergétique (p. 29-36).

- GUMUCHIAN H., PECQUEUR B. (2007). La ressource territoriale, Economica, 252 p.