PRESS RELEASE

ESPE BRINGS HELIOGEA ENERGY TO "RENEWABLE IS AGRICULTURE" EVENT

Grantorto (Padua), 01 July 2026 - The EPC contractor ESPE S.p.A. ("ESPE" or the "Company"), parent company of the ESPE Group ("**ESPE Group**"), operates in the renewable energy sector as a supplier of photovoltaic systems and is also the owner of "ESPE" brand technology used in the manufacture of small-medium wind turbines and biomass cogenerators. On 1 July 2026, ESPE brought the vision of its JV company **HelioGea Energy S.r.l.** ("HelioGea Energy") to **"Renewable is Agriculture"**, an event organized by **Cia-Agricoltori Italiani** at the Chamber of Deputies, in the Sala del Refettorio of Palazzo San Macuto, Rome.

The initiative showcased projects promoted by Cia-Agricoltori Italiani to support the energy transition of agricultural businesses, the aim being to valorize the active role of agriculture in the development of a more sustainable energy model that can be widely adopted and meets energy needs at local level. Contributors would include institutional representatives, experts and partners in the renewable energy sector, confirming the central role of the agricultural industry in the process of integrating primary production, energy self-sufficiency and renewable energy sources.

An official welcome was given by the **Hon. Stefano Vaccari**, Secretary to the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies, followed by contributions from institutional representatives, industry leaders and renewable energy professionals. These included a video message from the Minister for the Environment and Energy Security, **Gilberto Pichetto Fratin**, and a speech by the Minister for Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forests, **Francesco Lollobrigida**.

Among the items on the programme was a presentation given by the CEO of HelioGea Energy **Marino Berton**, entitled **"Sustainable agrivoltaic solutions for agriculture"** and featuring Heliogea 100s, a model developed by the company with the aim of enabling agricultural businesses to acquire small-scale, standardized and turnkey agrivoltaic solutions that will ensure the continuity of their chosen activity while also bringing the benefits of renewable energy production and greater energy self-sufficiency.

Berton explained: *"Our goal with Heliogea 100s was one of creating a solution tailored to the real needs of agricultural businesses: a small-scale, standardized and complete system that would allow them to continue tilling their soil and growing their crops, and at the same time generate their own renewable energy. We want to make agrivoltaics simpler, more accessible and repeatable, combating* *the notion that only large-scale systems are viable, and offering a practical way for agricultural businesses to play their part in the energy transition at local level.*"

A joint venture between **Esco Agroenergetica** — a company backed by Cia-Agricoltori Italiani that specializes in providing technical and financial support to agricultural businesses — and **ESPE**, HelioGea Energy was set up in December 2025 to promote the adoption of small-scale, turnkey ground-mounted agrivoltaic systems across Italy. The majority of the HelioGea Energy share capital is held by Esco Agroenergetica (51%), with ESPE holding the remainder (49%).

The JV company combines knowledge of the world of agriculture, provided by Esco Agroenergetica through its network of contacts and its expertise, and the technical, industrial and practical know-how for which ESPE is known in the renewables sector. The proposed model is intended to support agricultural businesses through the entire process of developing the system — technical and economic feasibility studies, design, permitting procedures — and finally, installation and commissioning. The aim is to ensure that agrivoltaics can work not only for large-scale concerns but for smaller operators too, by providing standardized and repeatable configurations that are compatible with the need to maintain continuity in production.

In the words of **Enrico Meneghetti, Chairman and CEO** of ESPE: *"With HelioGea Energy, we want to put out the message that agrivoltaics is a real option for agri-SMEs, banishing the preconceived notion that this technology is suitable only for big businesses or large-scale projects. The challenge is to make technically sound, repeatable and sustainable solutions available even to enterprises with small areas of land, so that renewable energy production can actually be integrated with their business activity, rather than being an alternative to it".*

HelioGea Energy allows ESPE to promote the growth of a renewable energy model that caters for the practical needs of the agricultural sector: one where industrial expertise, a strong local presence and sustainable production combine to form an accessible and repeatable working solution.

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This press release is also available on the website www.ESPE.it in the 'Media' section.

ESPE S.p.A.

The company ESPE S.p.A. ("ESPE" or the "Company"), based in Grantorto (Padua), has been active in the energy sector since 1974 and gained a reputation as a developer of innovative solutions for the production of energy from renewable sources. Drawing on over 50 years of experience, ESPE builds industrial electrical installations and advanced automation systems and is a leading EPC contractor for ground-mounted photovoltaic arrays and solar farms, as well as a System Integrator for complex infrastructure solutions. Over time, the company has expanded its expertise in renewable energy, establishing itself in the photovoltaic, small-medium wind turbine and biomass cogeneration sectors, thanks not least to its ESPE brand proprietary technologies. In 2024, ESPE consolidated its corporate structure through strategic moves including the acquisition of Permatech S.r.l., a company specializing in the development of large scale PV systems, and the purchase of a stake in Rigoni Lab S.r.l., an applied engineering concern, which also had the effect of adding strength and depth to its design skills and operational efficiency. With a view to optimizing the services provided with its offering, and streamlining the organizational structure, O&M operations were transferred to Reflow S.r.l., a subsidiary owned 57% by ESPE. In January 2025, ESPE acquired a 30% stake in Soland S.r.l., a Piedmont-based company operating in the design and construction of photovoltaic and energy efficiency systems, then in July —seeking to strengthen the Energy Security supply chain — a controlling interest of 51% in Secur Impianti S.r.l., specialist supplier of security and video surveillance systems for infrastructures. Serving a clientèle that includes large industrial groups, SMEs and Italian and international investors, *ESPE is well-known as a provider of tailor-made, technologically advanced solutions and as a campaigner for sustainable growth and innovation, underscoring its place among the leading players in the renewable energy sector.*

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