



ETIP SNET

EUROPEAN
TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION
PLATFORM

SMART
NETWORKS FOR
ENERGY
TRANSITION

PLAN.
INNOVATE.
ENGAGE.

Flexible generation in a low-carbon RES dominated energy system

**Christian Bergins,
Georgios C. Christoforidis,
Peter Stettner**

ETIP SNET Working Group 3 « Flexible Generation »

30th June 2020,
Webinar



What you will be presented:

- 1. About ETIP SNET and the Working Group “Flexible Generation”**
- 2. Starting point: Where are we today in Europe?**
- 3. Evaluation of energy sources and conversion systems with regard to dispatchability**
- 4. Integration of short, mid, and long term energy storage in flexible generation**
- 5. Decarbonised “green” fuels: thermal power generation, co-generation; energy-intensive industries; transportation sector**
- 6. How does the decarbonised future look like?**

Webinar preparation task force

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From a fragmented EU advisory to an integrated framework



« EUROPEAN TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION PLATFORM

SMART NETWORKS FOR ENERGY TRANSITION »...

... addresses the innovation challenges in energy system and market evolution necessary for achieving climate protection and renewables integration with affordability and security of supply

... beyond smart electricity grids



ETIP SNET's mission

- ▶ **Set-out a vision for RD&I for Smart Networks for Energy Transition** and engage stakeholders in this vision.
- ▶ **Prepare and update the Strategic Research and Innovation Roadmap.**
- ▶ Report on the **implementation of RD&I activities at European, national/regional and industrial** levels.
- ▶ Provide **input to the SET Plan action 4** which addresses the technical challenges raised by the transformation of the energy system.
- ▶ **Identify innovation barriers**, notably related to regulation and financing.
- ▶ Develop enhanced knowledge-sharing mechanisms that **help bring RD&I results to deployment.**
- ▶ Prepare **consolidated stakeholder views** on Research and Innovation to European Energy Policy initiatives.

ETIP SNET's organisation



WG1
Reliable, economic and efficient smart grid system



WG2
Storage technologies and sector interfaces



WG3
Flexible Generation

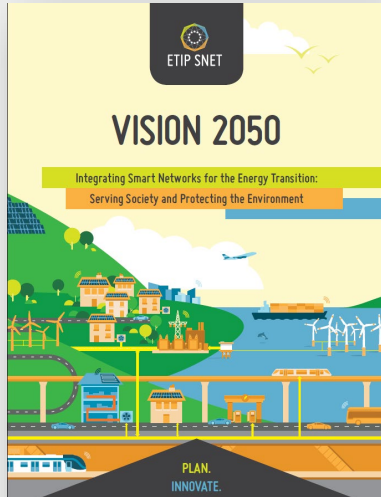


WG4
Digitisation of the electricity system and customer participation



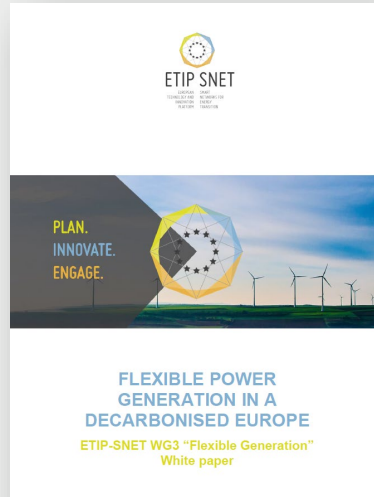
WG5
Innovation implementation in the business environment

Vision 2050, Implementation Plan and WG3 – White Paper



Vision 2050 [download here](#)
Published in July 2018

The Vision: a low-carbon, secure, reliable, resilient, accessible, cost-efficient and market based **pan-European integrated energy system** supplying the whole economy and paving the way for a **fully CO₂-neutral and circular economy by the year 2050.**



White Paper: Flexible Power Generation in a Decarbonised Europe
Published in March 2020

Defining the position of available and new power conversion technologies to meet all requirements of on-demand renewable power generation to all end-user sectors without any limitations. [download here](#)

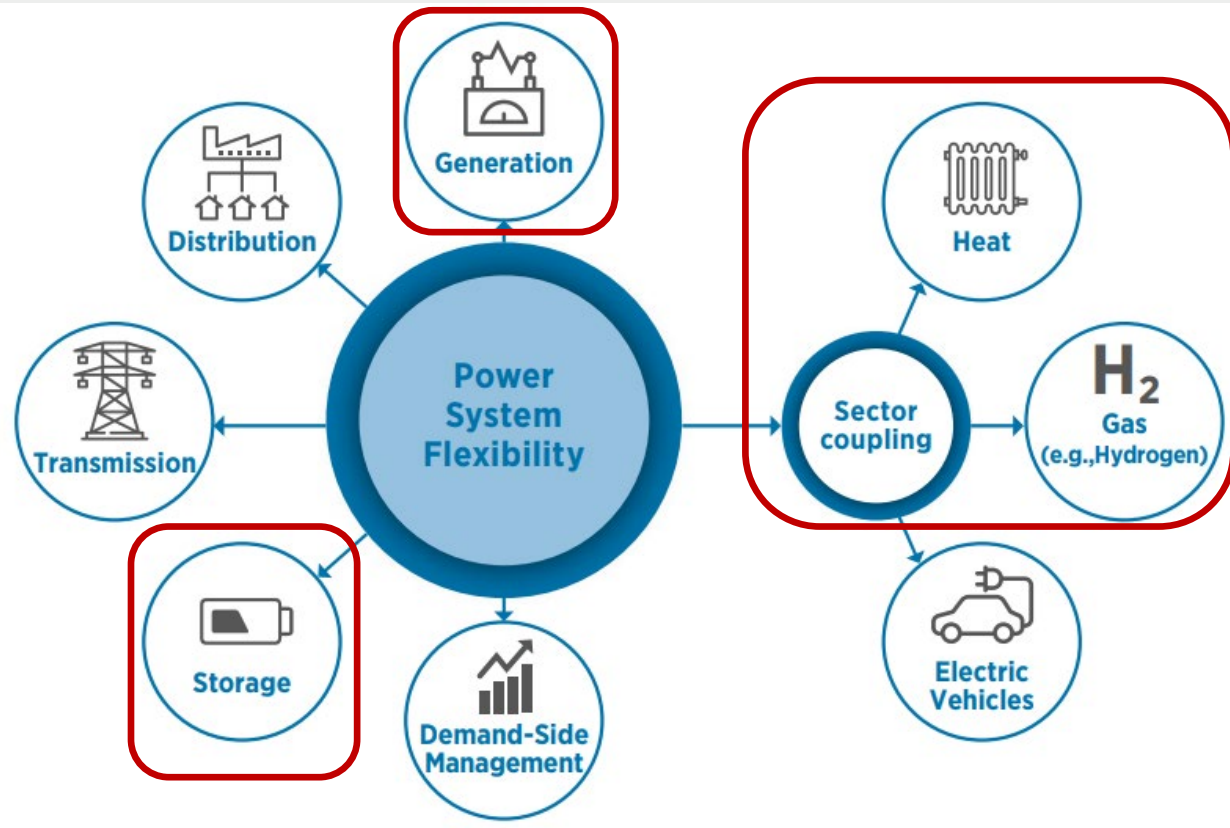


Implementation Plan 2021 - 2024
Published in May 2020 [download here](#)

describes the **required R&I activities that must be performed by 2024** in order of priority. 24 topics have been proposed and are based on the 6 Research-Areas These topic descriptions intend to **serve as a basis for the (co-funded) R&I projects to be launched in the coming four years..**

Flexibility in the energy sector

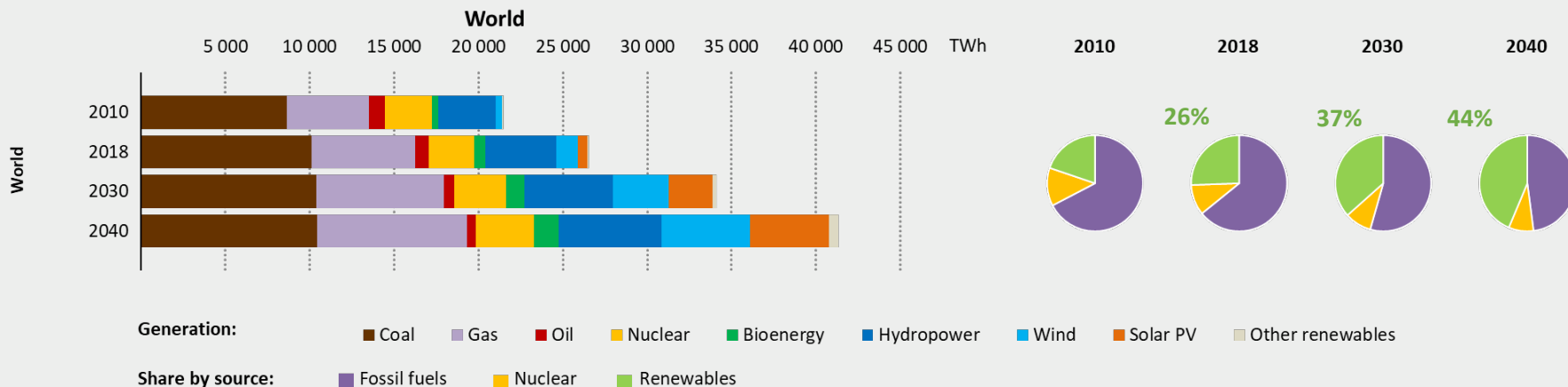
Addressed enablers





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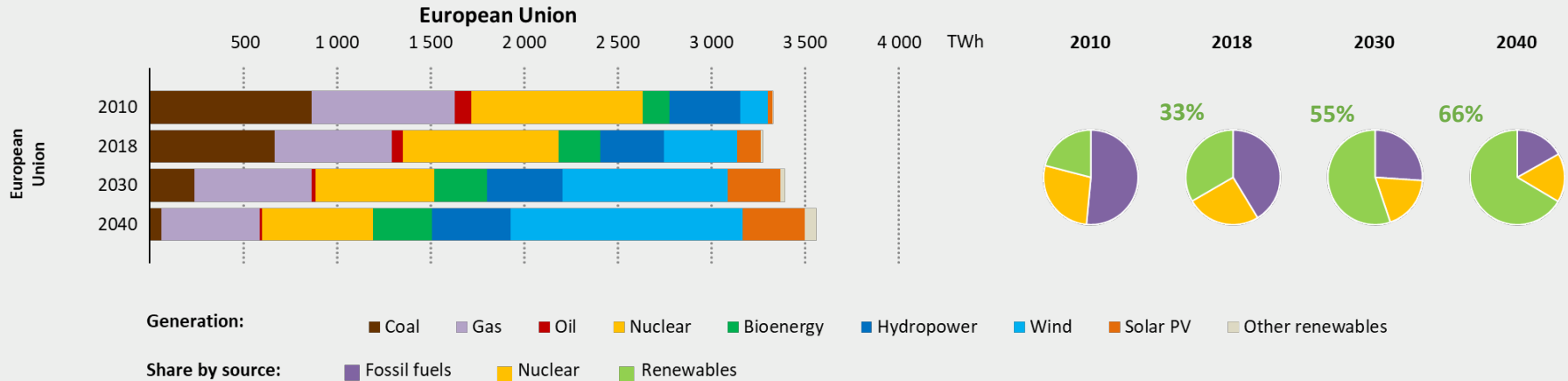
Electricity Generation Status and Outlook - Worldwide



The **Stated Policies Scenario** reflects the impact of existing **policy** frameworks and today's announced **policy** intentions.

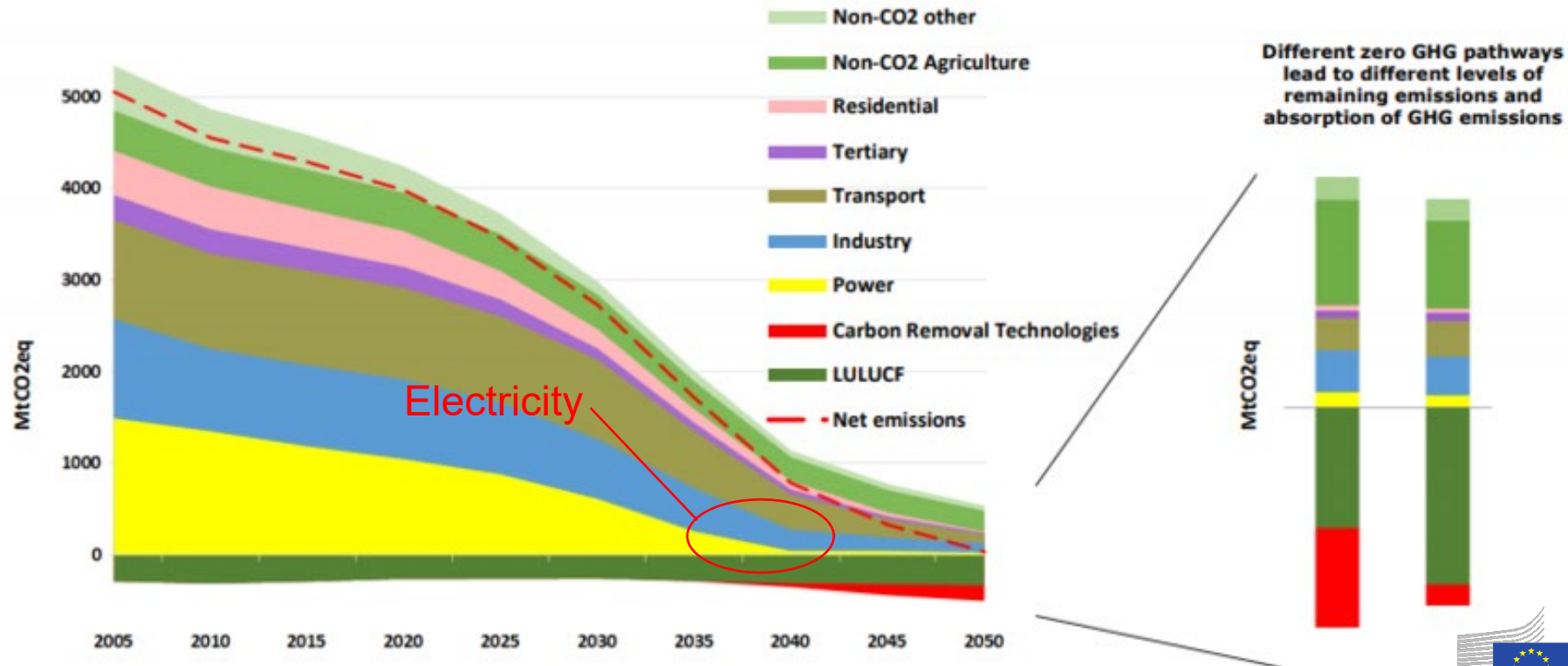
The Stated Policies Scenario is neither sustainable nor able to fulfill Paris climate targets !

Electricity Generation Status and Outlook - EU



Even in Europe this Scenario would not be enough !

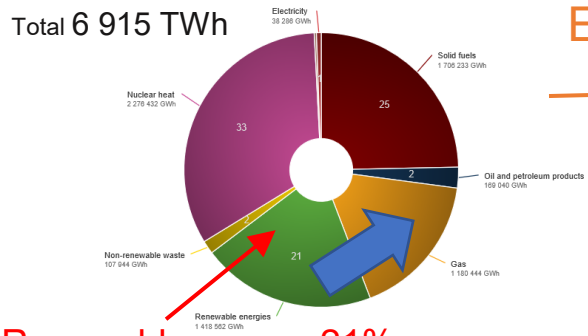
Vision of a clean Europe by 2050



GHG emissions trajectory in a 1.5°C scenario. Source: European Commission – “A Clean Planet for All”, COM(2018) 773, Nov. 28, 2018

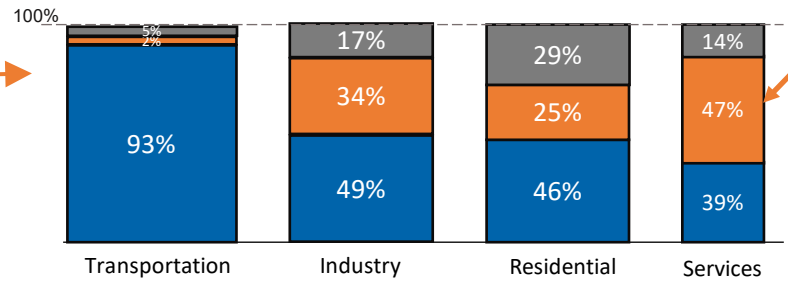
Total primary energy consumption: Where we have to decarbonize

Fuels going through Electricity and heat generation input
European Union (27 countries) 2018



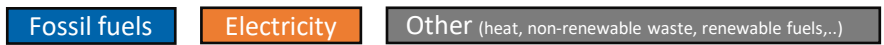
Renewable power: 21%

Electricity



Today only 25% of total energy consumption is in form of electricity

Sector energy consumption share (EU27 2018 (Eurostat))

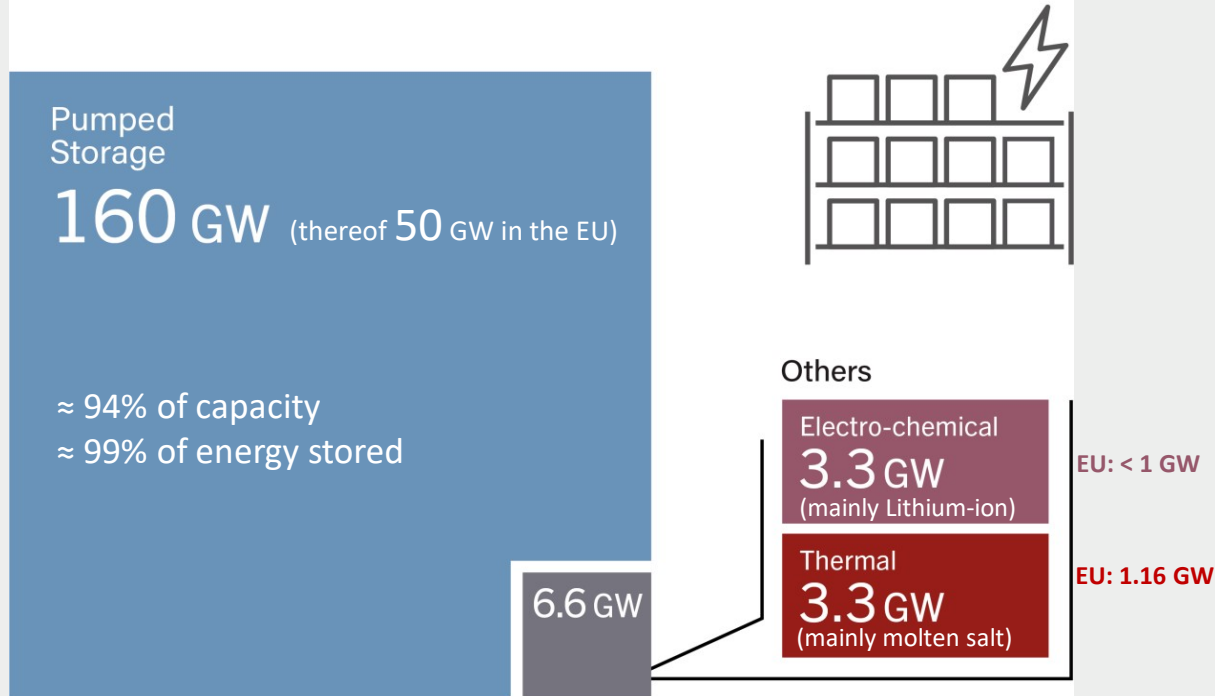


Decarbonization necessary by

- Increased renewable power generation
- but also by
- Electrification
- and substitution of fossil fuels by synthetic fuels, biofuels and hydrogen in all sectors

Pumped storage dominant for utility-scale energy storage / Worldwide and EU

Utility-Scale Energy Storage Capacity, Selected Technologies, 2018

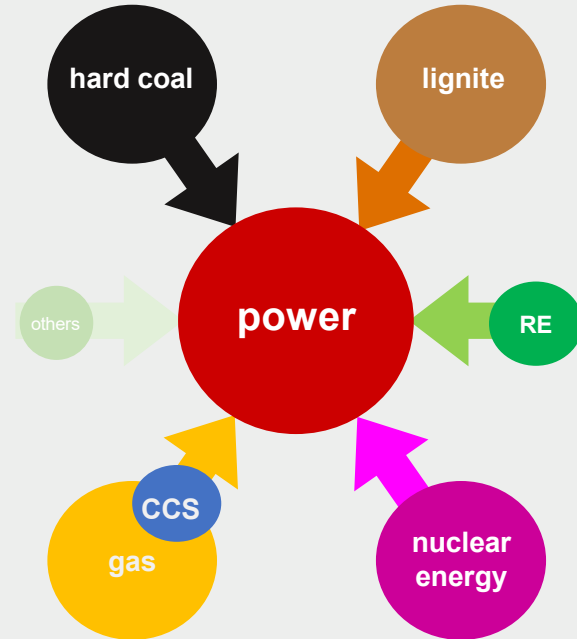




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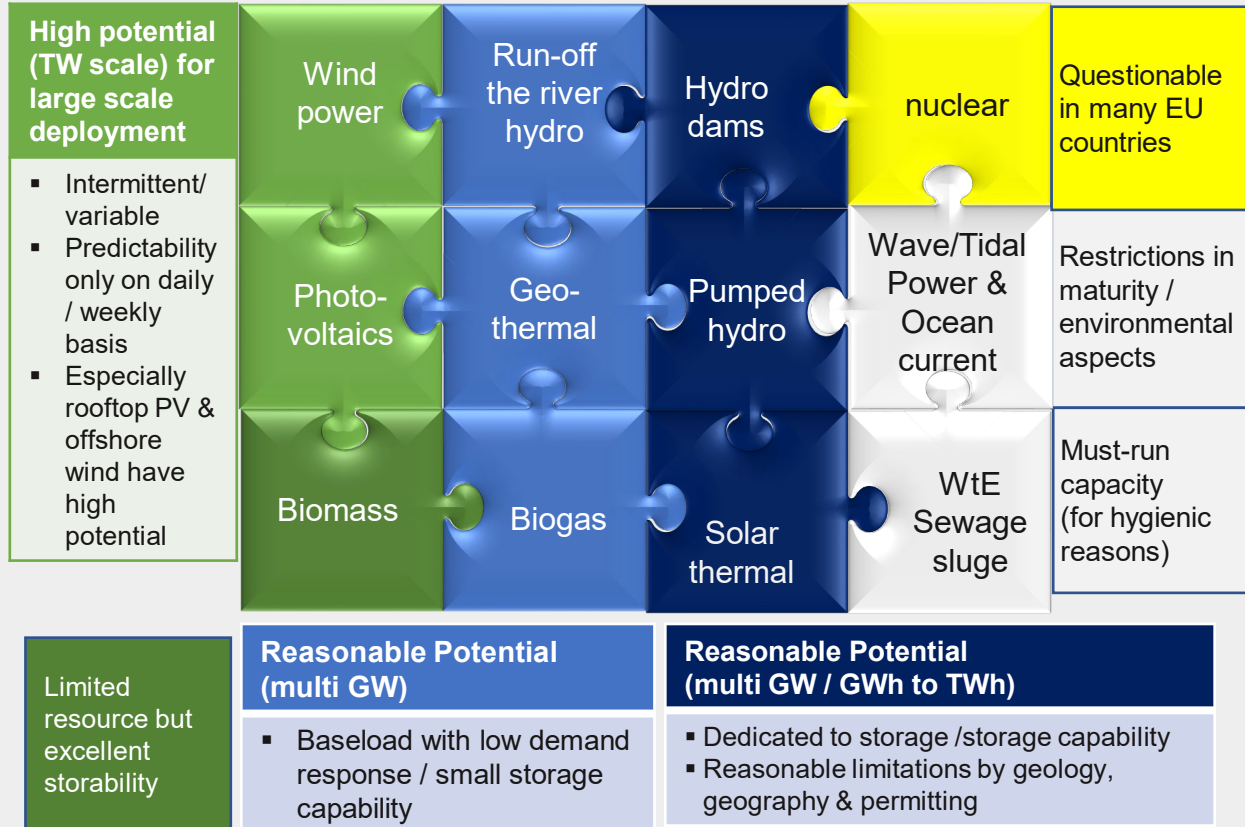
Primary Energy Sources for power and heat

Large share of RES expected, and mostly VRES!

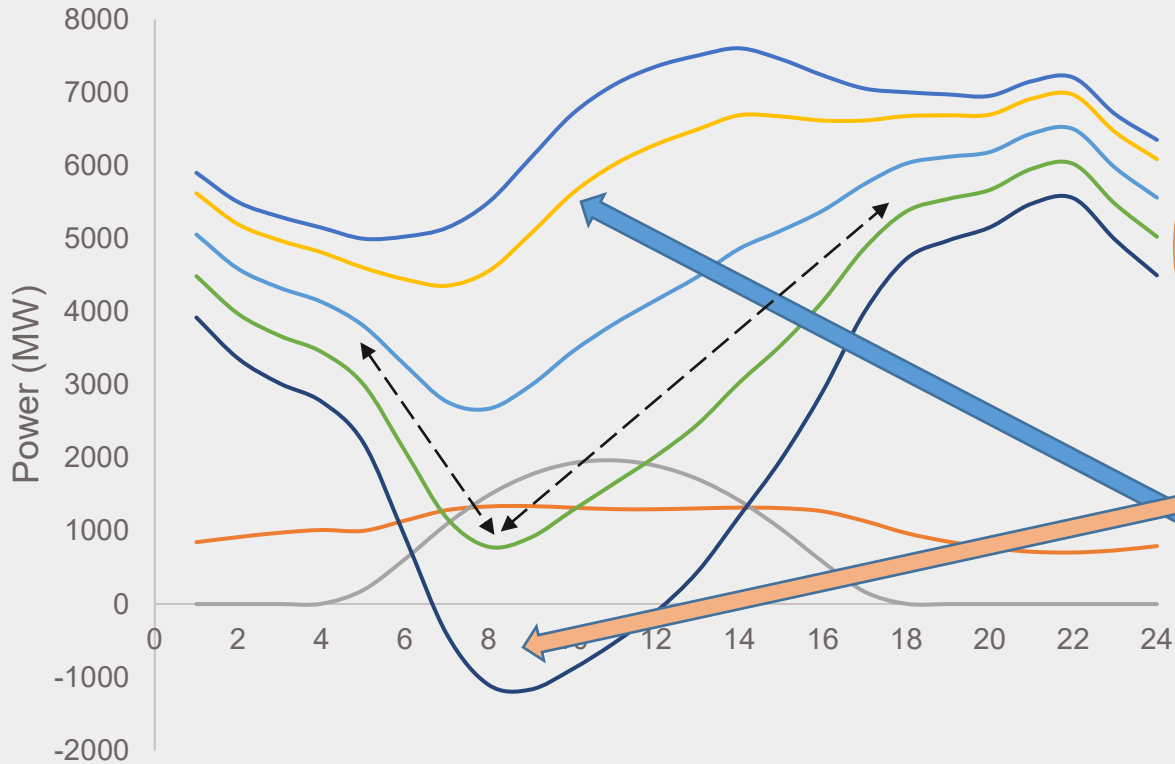


Expecting more than 80% of electricity coming from RES in 2050 – or 50-60% of gross energy consumption

Primary Energy Sources for power and heat



At a system level



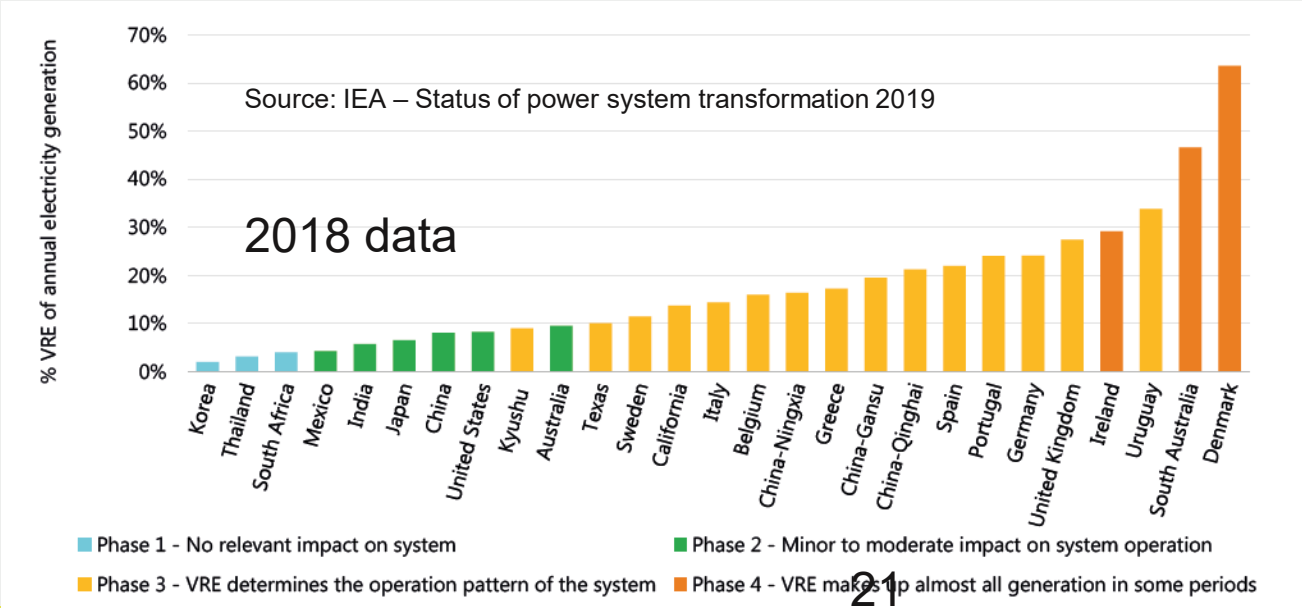
Average System Load

And this means that we

At very high VRES penetration, negative residual loads are expected → need for large storage capacity!

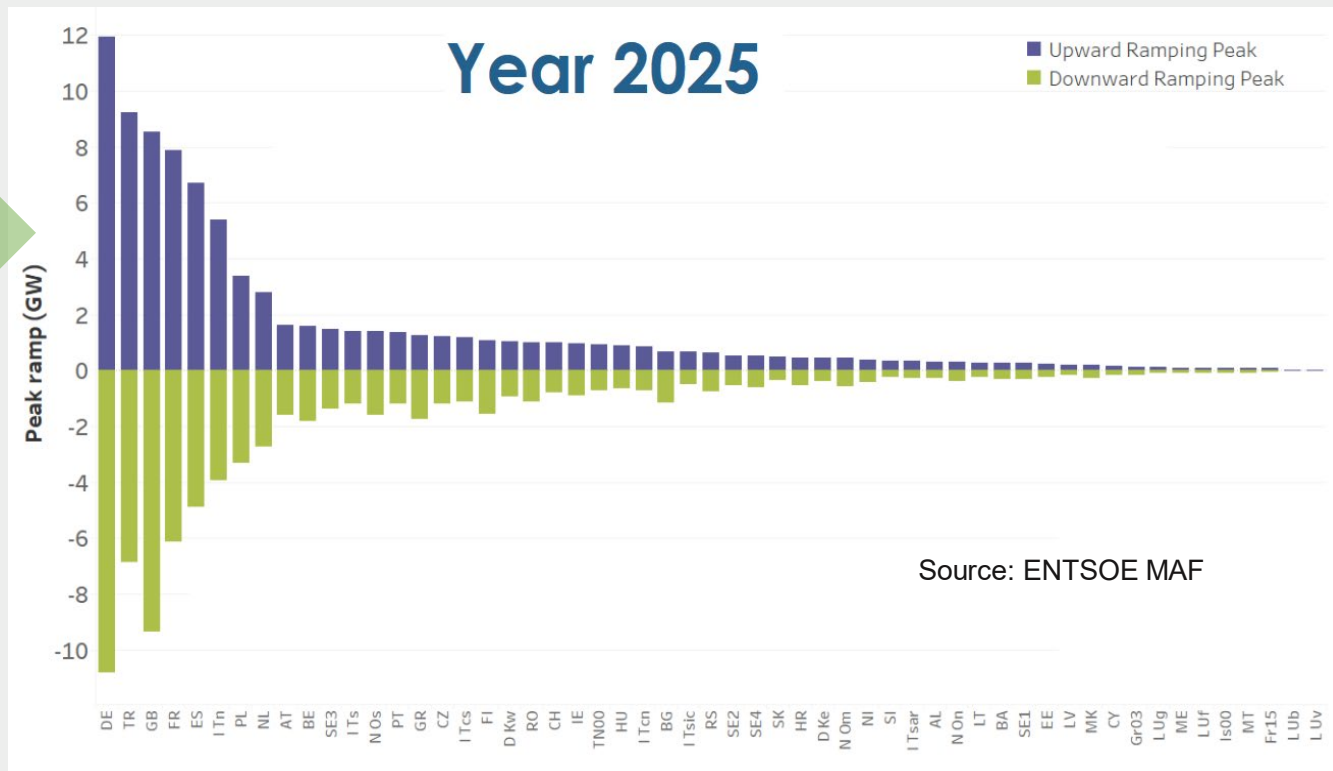
Cap...
other generation

Certain countries already with very high VRES share in the electricity sector



Flexibility needs in Europe

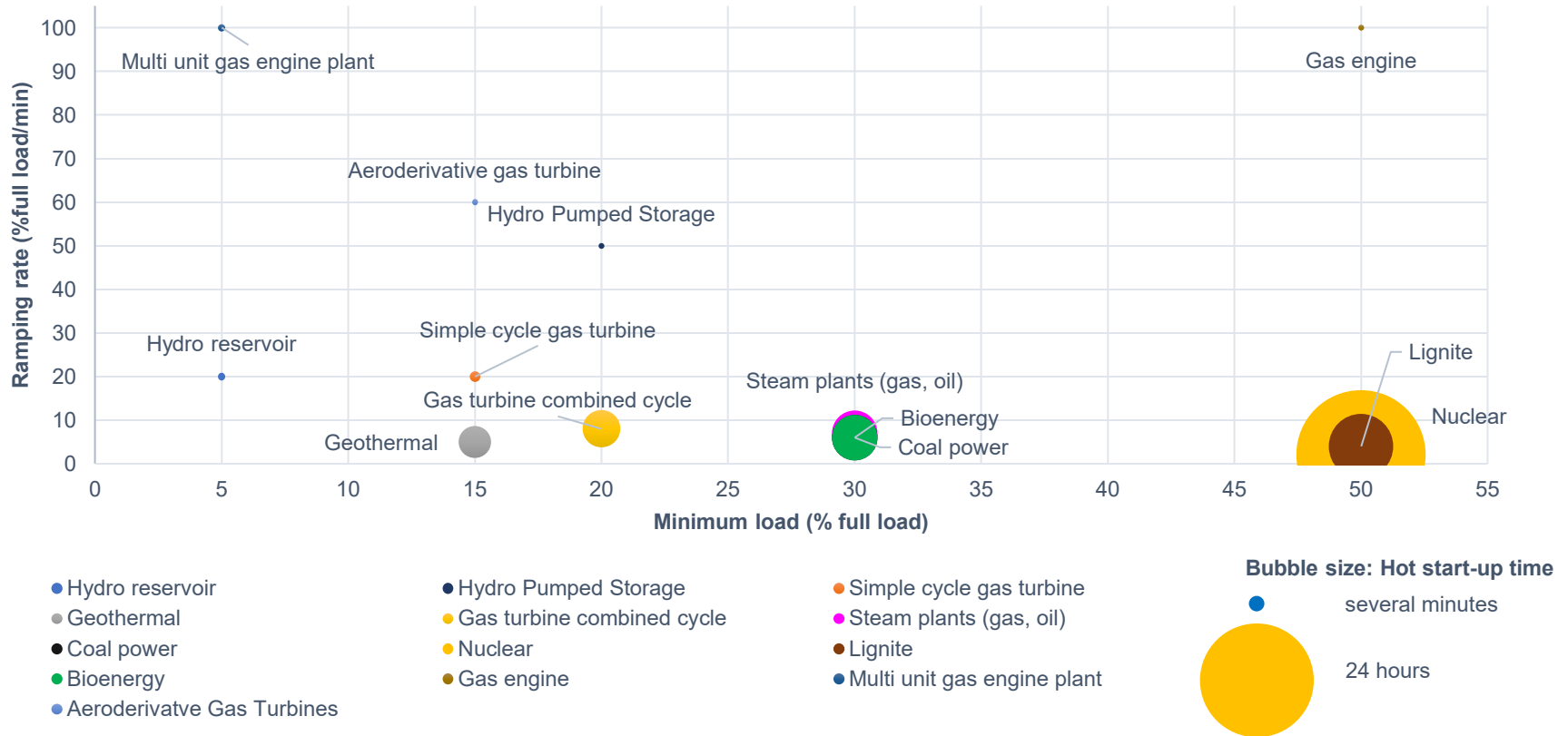
The expected increase in VRES shares will result in higher flexibility needs in Europe



The *Flexibility* concept for power plants

- ▶ **Operational Flexibility:** Significantly improved last decade for thermal/hydro plants
 - Reduced minimum loads of generators/turbines
 - Quick starting
 - Fast ramp rates
 - Black-start capability
 - Challenges: Material stress and wear due to cycling / efficiency of part-loading
- ▶ **Fuel Flexibility:** To be able to operate with different fuels or mixtures
 - Retrofitting of existing power generation / or new equipment
 - Challenge to include hydrogen and mixing of different fuels at various qualities (e.g. natural gas/hydrogen mix)

Operational flexibility characteristics of power generation technologies



Generalised evaluation of energy sources with regard to flexibility

Technology	fuel flexibility	load flexibility characteristics
Fuel cells	PEMFC/PAFC (w/o reforming): limited to H2 SOFC: gaseous (incl. H2), liquid, high-and low calorific fuels,	(PEM/SOFC) dispatchability ++/ fast load change ++/ frequency support ++/-
Gas turbine based (GT/CCPP)	Yes: gaseous (incl. H2), liquid, high-and low calorific fuels	dispatchability ++ fast load change + frequency support ++
Reciprocating	Yes: gaseous (incl. H2), liquid, high-and low calorific fuels	dispatchability ++ fast load change ++ frequency support +
Hydro turbines	No (Water only)	dispatchability + fast load change + frequency support ++
Thermal Plants	Yes: gaseous, liquid, solid, nuclear, waste, geothermal, concentrated solar	dispatchability 0 fast load change -- frequency support ++
Solar photovoltaic	No (Sun)	dispatchability -- fast load change 0 frequency support --
Wind energy based	No (Air)	dispatchability -- load change -- frequency support 0

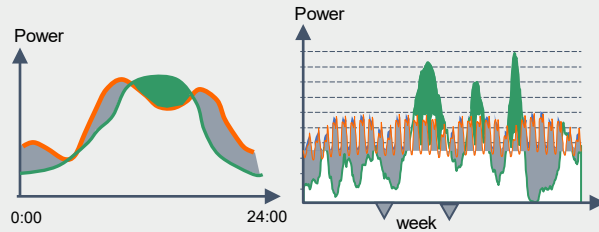


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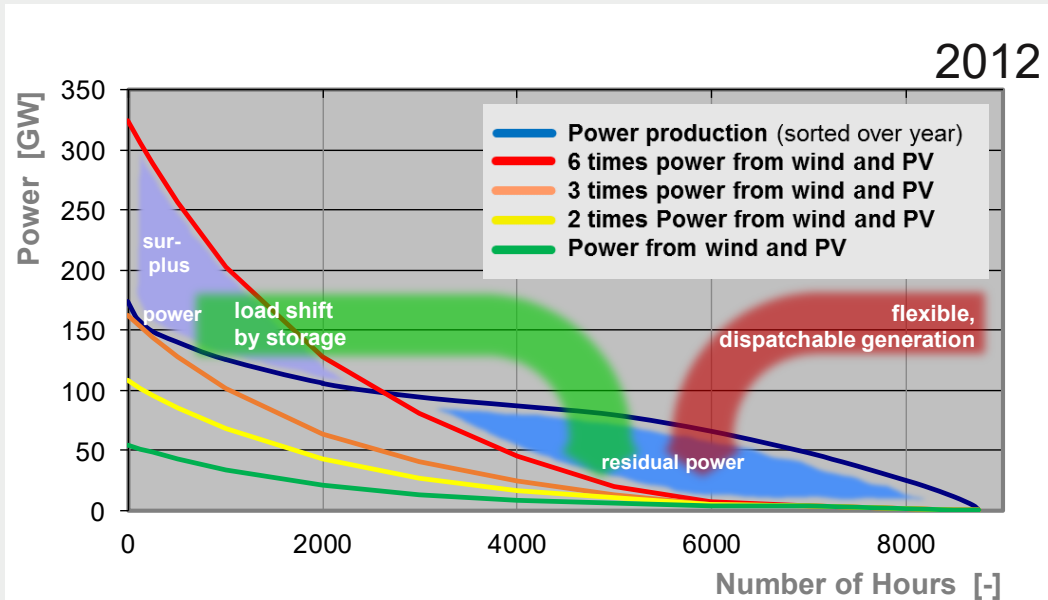
Residual load and future RES (Germany) 27



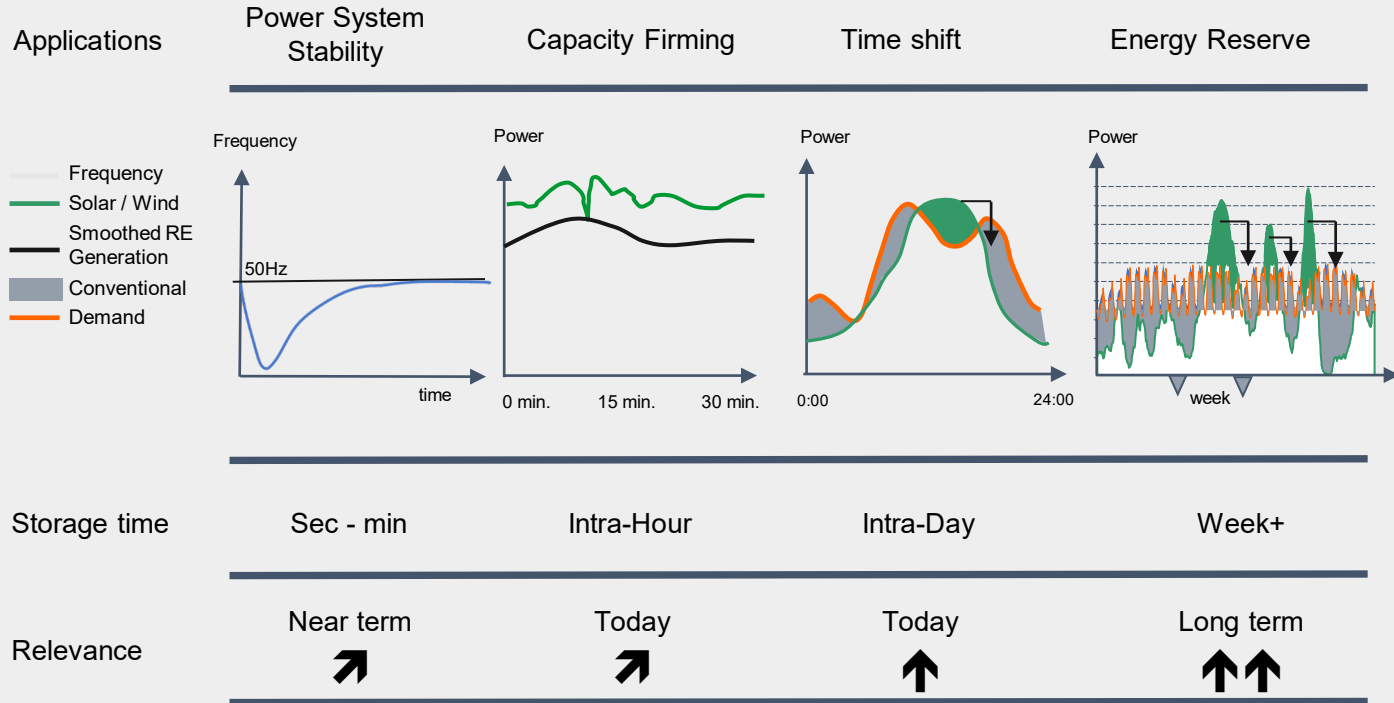
Need to think about how thousands of TWh in EU can be stored seasonally and transported



Problem of power production at the „wrong“ time



Storage is about balancing production and consumption on different times



- Frequency
- Solar / Wind
- Smoothed RE
- Generation
- Conventional
- Demand



Large Scale Electricity Storage

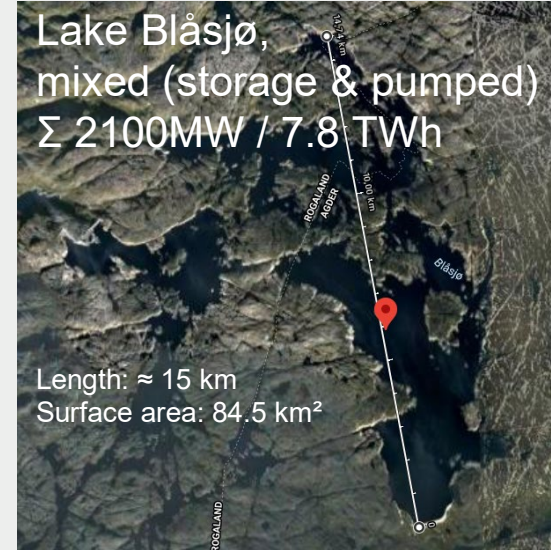
CSP & Molten Salt
50MW/350 MWh



Pumped Hydro
GW/GWh scale



Hydro dams
GW / TWh scale



Battery
150MW/200MWh



Large Scale Electricity Storage

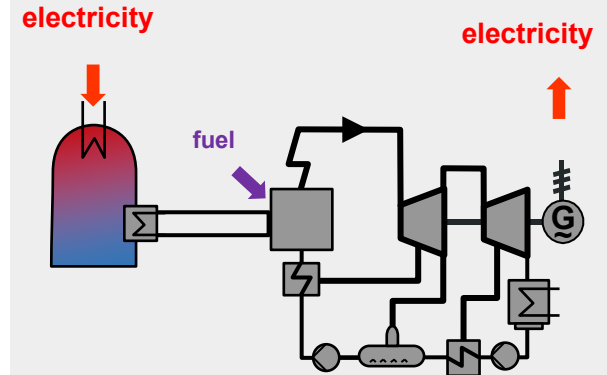
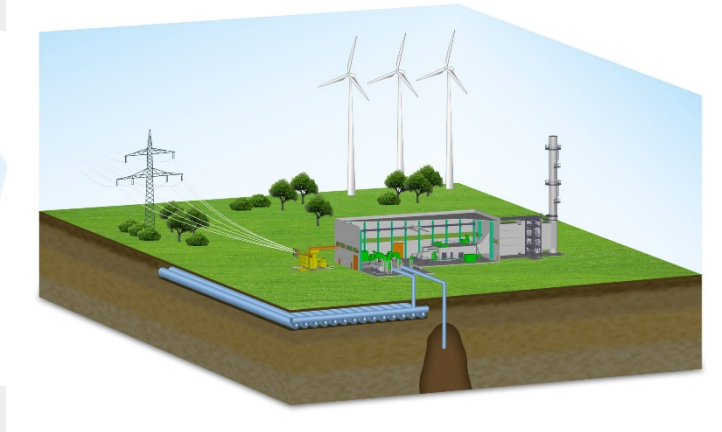
LAES, Liquid Air Energy Storage

- Electricity Storage & fuel based peaker plant (different variants)
 - >100MWeI scale, GWh storage
 - Stand-alone or integrated in (existing) power plants
- Storage efficiency 50-60% & fuel efficiency up to 90%

CAES, Compressed Air Energy Storage

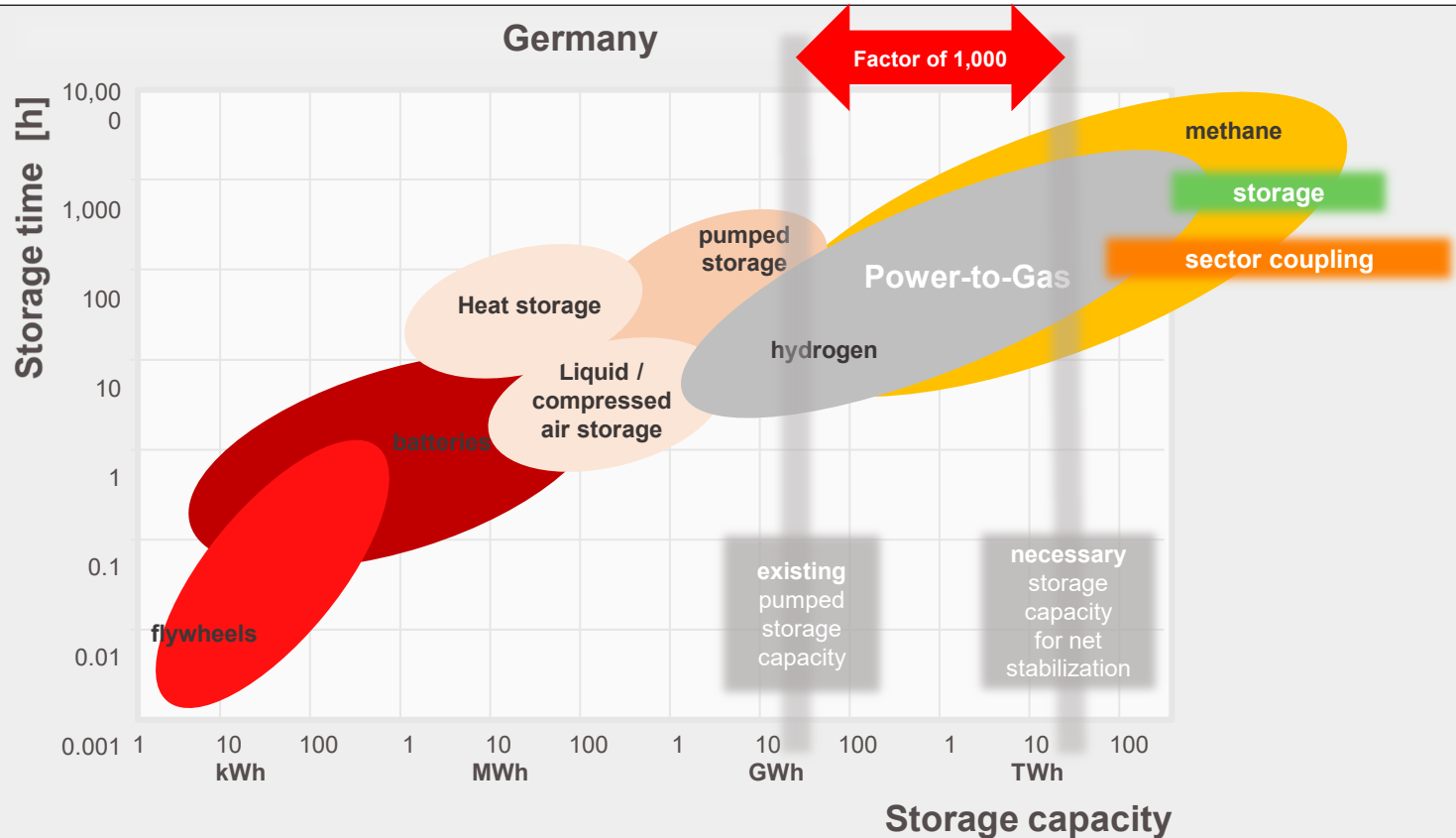
High temperature heat storage

- Electricity Storage & fuel based peak plant (different variants)
 - >100MWeI scale, GWh storage
 - Solid material or salt heat storage
- Storage efficiency 40-45%

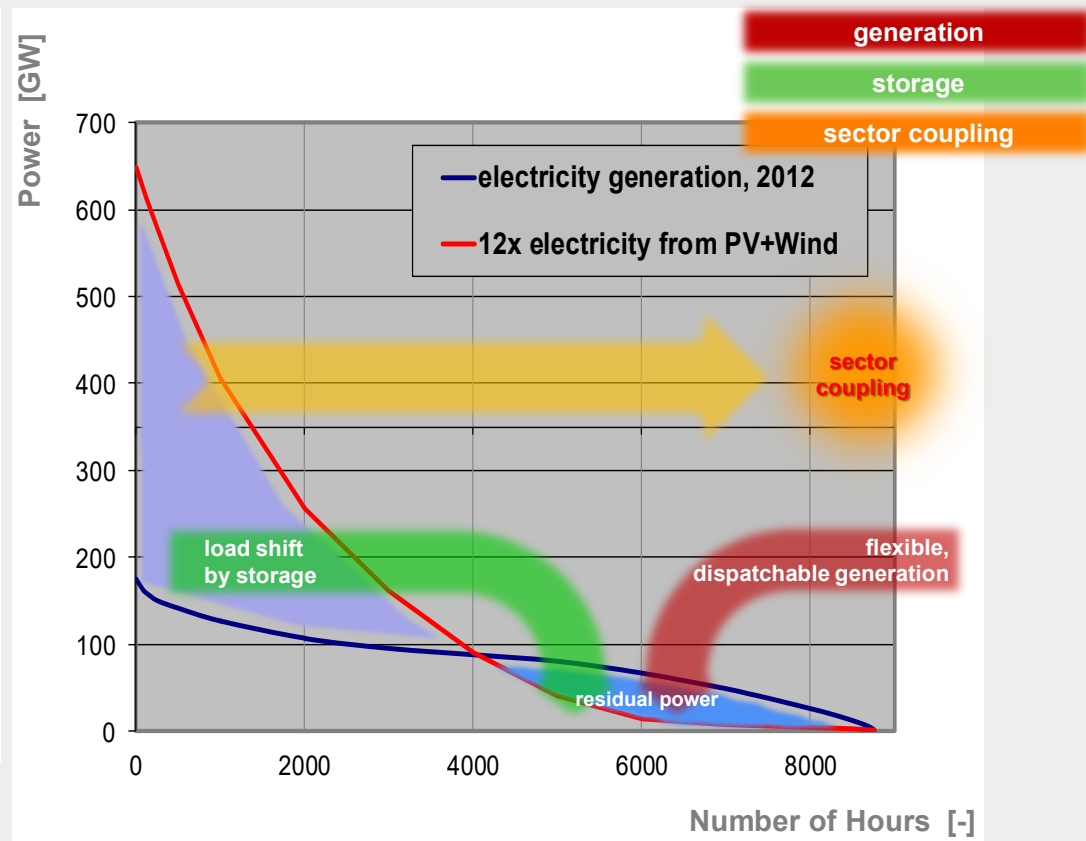
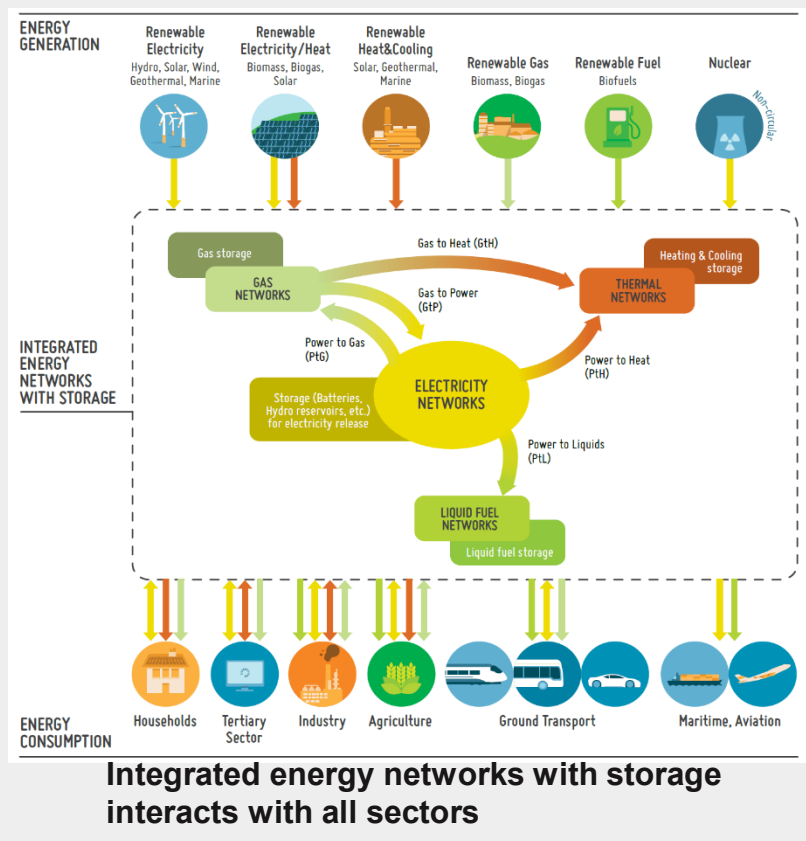


Storage – capacities and periods

Suitable technologies for the situation in Germany



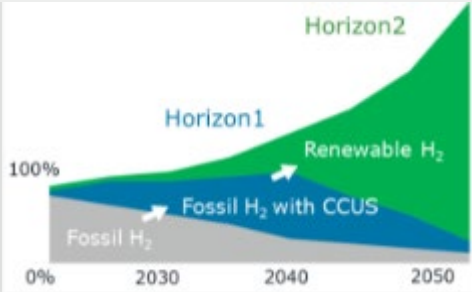
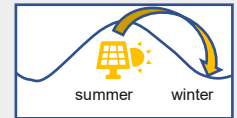
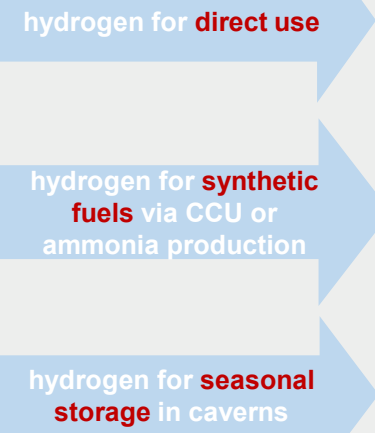
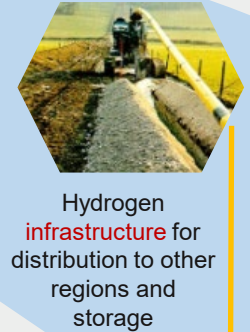
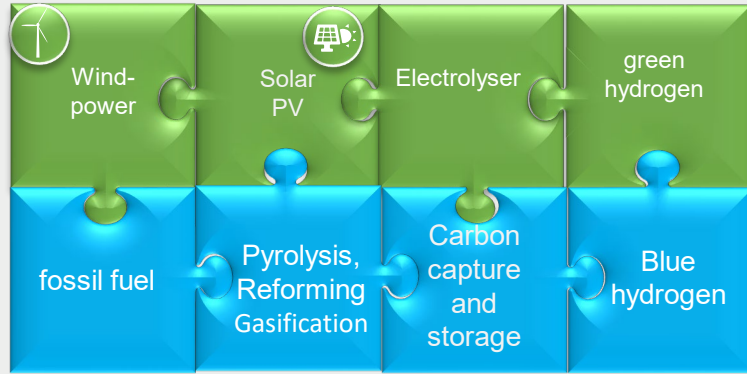
Replacement of fossil fuels by electrification & sector coupling





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Green and blue hydrogen as key enabler to meet decarbonisation targets



Horizon 1: Medium term
Fossil H₂ with CCUS to be the initiator and accelerator of the hydrogen society

Horizon 2: Long term
Renewable H₂ to become dominant through successive /disruptive innovation & significant cost reduction

CCUS: carbon capture, utilisation & storage

Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU) Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)

Up to 670 Million t of CO₂ per year

required for EU chemical and fuel production until 2050*.

Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) is a flexible solution for to store RES electricity and produce fuels/chemicals

Bioenergy CCS (BECSS) to create negative emissions is under

consideration in UK, Scandinavia to enable compensation for industries, sectors which are hard to decarbonise



[BMBF]

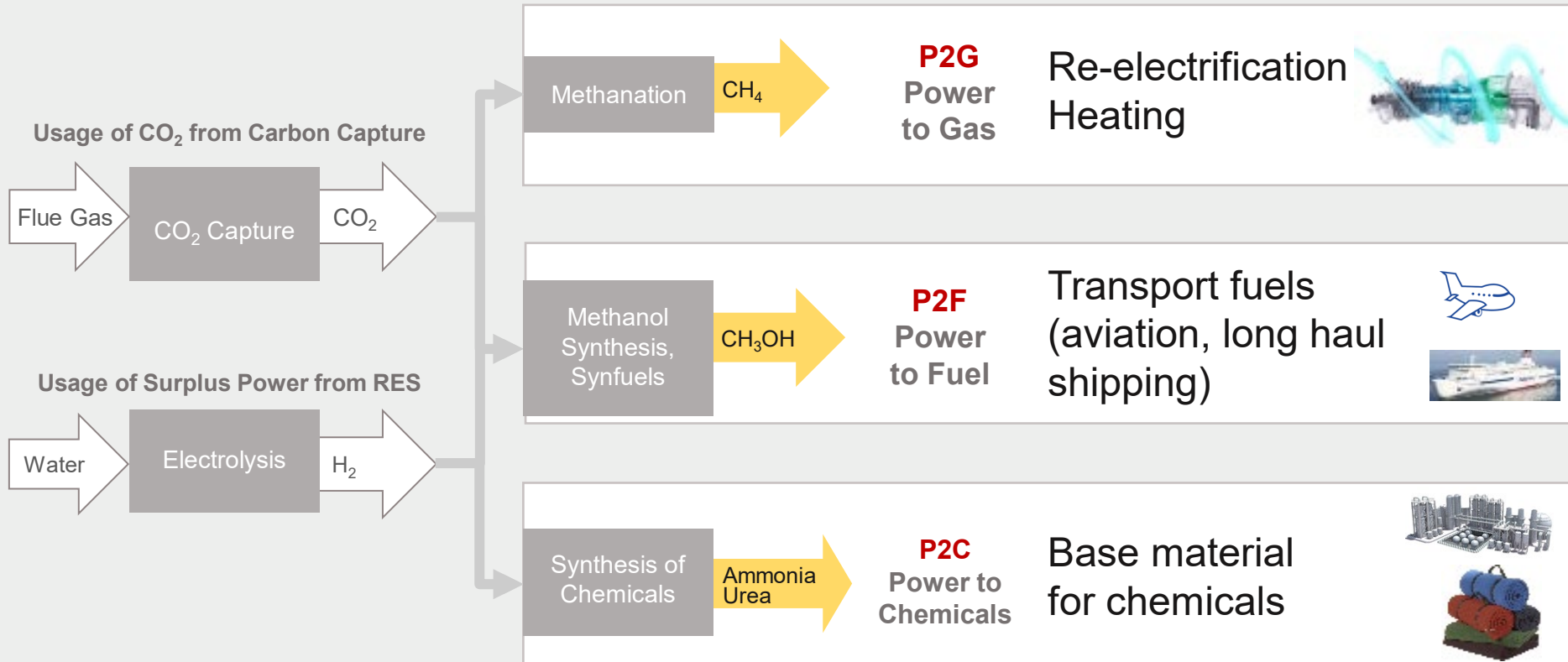
Carbon Capture Works!
“Petra Nova”: The world’s largest CO₂ capture plant

Capacity: 4776 t CO₂ /d



Courtesy: Mitsubishi Heavy Industry, MHPSE 2018

PtX Technologies: CCU, Carbon Capture & Utilisation



Power & Heat based on low carbon fuels



(Solid Oxide) Fuel Cell
kW to 1 MW scale*

max. electric efficiency

45-55%

max. fuel efficiency



Gas engines
kW to 10 MW*
scale

40-49%

70-90%



Gas turbine combined cycle power plants
small to large MW scale
(up to >800MWeI*)

55-63%

* single unit

Efficiencies depend on scale and technical optimisation / specific cost

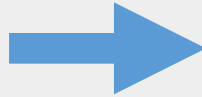
- Hydrogen directly can be burnt in gas engines, gas turbines, fuel cells (Substitute of NG)
- Ammonia can be used as energy carrier for long distance transport
- Splitting Ammonia to *hydrogen+nitrogen* allows direct use in combustion
- Combustion systems for 100% hydrogen are under development towards 2025-2030

- **100% Hydrogen Conversion Project**
 - Magnum PP, 440MW NG CCG, Groningen, NL
 - Led by Nuon/Vattenfall, Equinor and Gasunie
 - To reduce CO₂ emission by 1.3 million t/y in 2025
- **The project will prove the principle “hydrogen readiness” of existing/new assets!**



Past fuel switches: Coal to NG

- Municipality of Kiel, Germany



- 20 x 9.5 MW GAS ENGINES
Replacing old coal boiler
- 190.4 MW plant net electric output
- 191.8 MW thermal output
- Highly flexible operation
- 5 min. start up time
- 4 MW minimum stable load

- Oeresundsverket, Malmö, Sweden

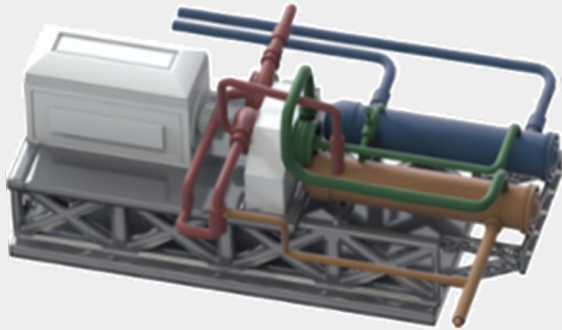


- New 447 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant
Build in existing (protected) building
- up to 250 MWth heat extraction
- Replacing coal boiler
- Serving Malmö heating grid

- Up to 90% fuel efficiency with gas engines and gas turbines
- > 70% CO₂ reduction
- Flexible operation

1. Industrial scale high temperature heat pump technology, multi MW scale

- heat for heating grids
- steam for industrial use



Heat sources

- Sea, rivers, air
- Waste water, industrial processes
- In future: electrolyser waste heat

2. GWh scale heat storage

3. Flexible Generation, Combined heat & power (CHP)



- ✓ Use of heat pump when electricity is cheap (oversupply of RES)
- ✓ Producing electricity via CHP when RES power is not available
- ✓ Serve heat demand from storage & generation

Power & Heat from Combustion Plants biomass & non recyclable waste

- Over the last 20 years the sector has done new builds and retrofits (Coal to Biomass) in utility scale heat & power generation adding to more than 3GWel in EU



- Clean, modern WtE Plants (Waste to Energy) are located in city centers to provide base load heat and power

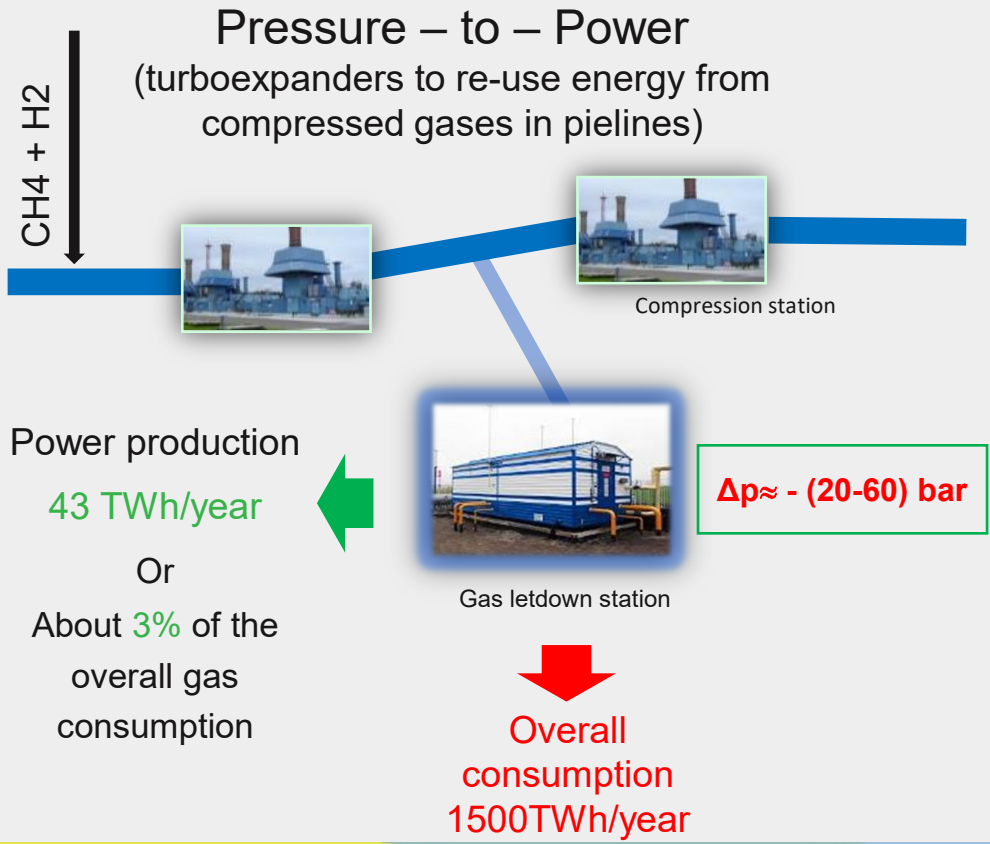




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Energy efficiency technologies

- The “non regret strategy” to avoid wasting energy



Organic Rankine Cycle

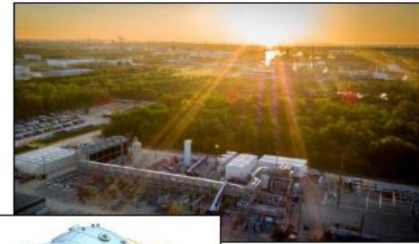
(recover industrial waste heat from stacks)

Potential is up to 20.5 TWh/year at industrial waste heat recovery only



1. Further efficiency increase of thermal generation, e.g. new thermodynamic cycles like sCO₂
2. Improved and new turbomachinery for hydropower & wind turbines
3. New technologies to capture untapped resources

50 MWth pilot plant in La Porte (Texas)
Semi-closed, supercritical CO₂, Brayton cycle

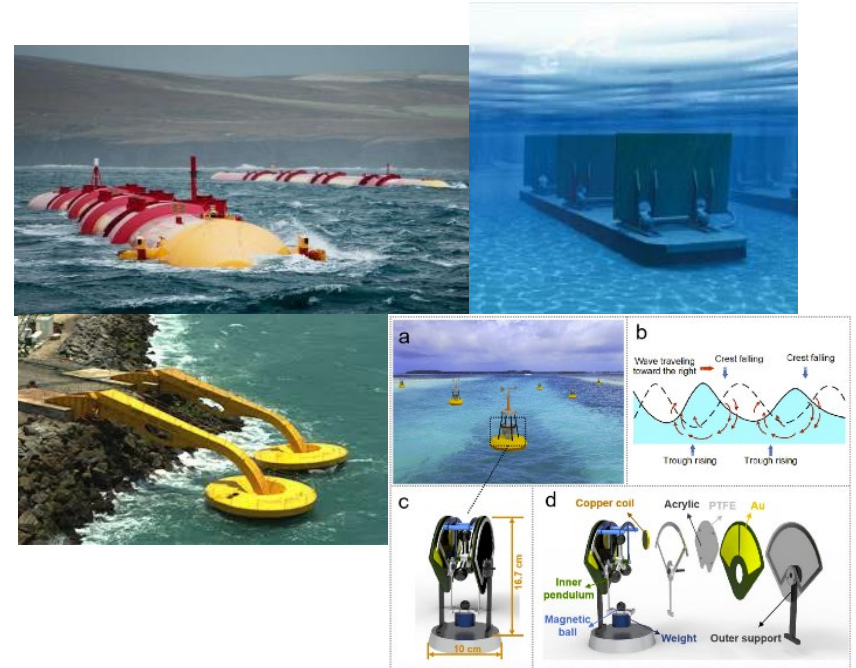


sCO₂ - Carbon dioxide as process fluid in power generation

a) Energy from tidal range and currents

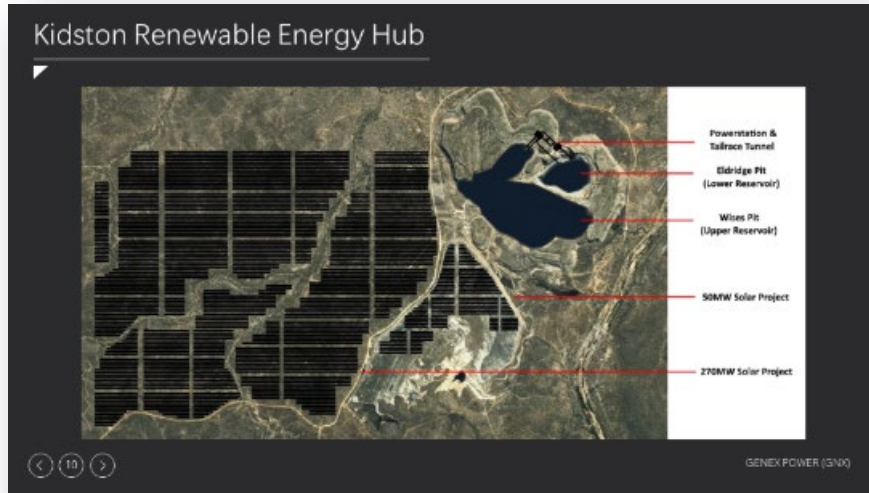


b) Wave Energy Devices



Hybrid Hydro Power Plants with PV, Wind, Desalination

Kidston Renewable Energy Hub, Australia
The World's first Integrated "base load renewables" project: Solar / Pumped Storage / Wind



<https://www.genexpower.com.au/about.html>

3MW floating PV power plant on Jipyeong Reservoir, Korea



Fully decarbonising the Energy System? 47

There is **not** one technological Silver Bullet!



Storable RES,
Low carbon fuels

Easy ← complexity to decarbonise → Hard



RES electricity



Transport



Battery (mostly) plus Hydrogen & eFuels



Hydrogen Fuel-Cell Trains & eFuels for Heavy Duty Vehicles

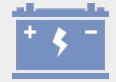


Liquid Hydrogen, eFuels and Fuel-Cells for long haul Big Ships



biomass

Power



Large Battery Systems for Daily Swing (hours)



Hydro-Power as Battery (days)



Backup-Power
• H₂ CCGT
• Biomass PP
• SOFC



green and blue hydrogen

Industry



Light Industry powered by Renewable



Heavy Industry powered by Hydrogen from Natural Gas + CCS



CC(U)S for Industry without other Alternatives

Heat



Heat Pumps For Efficient Use of Electricity in Homes and Industry



Hydrogen for Efficient Transfer of Energy from Production to End-Users



H₂ & biomass & CCU/eFuels for Seasonal Storage & Operational flexibility



Thank you for your attention!

**Christian Bergins,
Georgios C. Christoforidis,
Peter Stettner**

ETIP SNET Flexible Generation Group

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