BioTheRoS-Workshop, Wien Energie – Research and Energy Technology, Christoph Ponak, 12.03.2025



## The need for platform technologies in industrial-scale applications

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### Agenda

- Decarbonisation of District Heating in Vienna
- Asset Overview Wien Energie
- R&D @ Wien Energie
- Platform Technology vs. Silver Bullets
- Conclusion



### Decarbonisation of District Heating in Vienna

### **Heating Energy Demand in Vienna**



#### District heating (DH) as the backbone of Vienna's heat supply





Source: Wien Energie, Compass Lexecon, Dekarbonisierungsstudie 2023, Fokus auf Wärme Wien

### **District Heating Vienna - 2040**







## Six Factors for Decarbonisation

- Heat pumps
- Geothermal energy
- CCUS (waste incineration)
- Seasonal energy storage
- Green gases in power plants
- Lower temperature in DH

Source: Wien Energie, Compass Lexecon, Dekarbonisierungsstudie 2023, Fokus auf Wärme Wien



## **Asset overview – Wien Energie**

### **Asset Overview Wien Energie**





Asset Overview Wien Energie (Umwelterklärung 2023, Data from 2022)

- Waste Treatment (50-75 MW<sub>th</sub> each)
  - Thermal Waste Treatment and thermal power station (340 MW<sub>th</sub>) Spittelau (1)
  - Thermal Waste Treatment Flötzersteig (2)
  - Thermal Waste Treatment Simmeringer Haide (3)
- Electricity/District Heating
  - Thermal power station Arsenal (340 MW<sub>th</sub>) (5)
  - Power plants Simmering (1,100 MW<sub>th</sub>/1,300 MW<sub>el</sub>) (6)
  - Thermal power station Inzersdorf (340 MW<sub>th</sub>) (7)
  - CHP Donaustadt (350 MW<sub>th</sub>/400 MW<sub>el</sub>) (8)
  - Thermal power station Leopoldau (230 MW<sub>th</sub>) (9)
  - Bioenergy (~ 40 MW<sub>th</sub>), Hydro (31 MW), Wind (131 MW), Solar (114 MW)
- additional Wind, Solar and Hydro Plants in AT, D, Southern Europe



## **R&D @ Wien Energie**

### **Asset Decarbonisation and New Technologies**



We guarantee a climate neutral future for the citizens of Vienna through innovative solutions. Our affordable, resource efficient projects make Vienna a global role model.



### **Our Focal Points**



# Climate neutral by 2040





## Platform Technology vs. Silver Bullets



### **Example for Decarbonisation Efforts: Green Hydrogen**

Overview of selected hydrogen derivatives



Source: Hebling, C. (Fraunhofer ISE): 80. Sitzung des Parlamentarischen Beirates für nachhaltige Entwicklung, Berlin, 19.05.2021



#### Smashicons via Flaticon.com

**WIEN ENERGIE** 

### A Holisitc View: Carbon Emissions Along the Supply Chain



- Assumptions:
  - All processes along the supply chain (excl. transport) are electrified.
  - The electricity-related emissions are as low as today's Austrian **production-associated** emissions of < 100 g/kWh.
  - The methane combustion reference scenario includes combustion and supply chain emissions.

Derivative	H <sub>2</sub> content [% (m/m)]	Efficiency (excl. transport, H <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> ) [%]	Der	rivative	CO <sub>2</sub> -eq. of supply chain in comparison to CH <sub>4</sub> -use [%]
Ammonia	17.65	46.75	Am	nmonia	91.32
Efficiency along the supply chain				Emissions along the supply chain	

- Conclusions:
  - There is a huge dependency on the global renewable energy and green hydrogen economy and infrastructure.
  - Technology lock-ins bear the risk of increasing global emissions or minimise them only marginally.
  - Flexibility is required.



### **Potential Use Cases of W2V for WE**

- Sustainable fuel for buses of Wiener Linien
  → focus shift to H<sub>2</sub>/electrification
- Sustainable fuel for cold start capacity of power plants/peak heat demands
- Sustainable methane for power plants/ peak heat demands
- Green hydrogen carriers for power plants (e.g. MeOH)
- Sales of green chemicals/fuels (SAF, not fuel for individual transport) and certificate generation
- Off-heat use (DH system integration)





## Conclusion

### Conclusion



### **Platform Technology Advantages**

- Biomass gasification as a platform technology offers flexibility in a fast-evolving world and economy.
- For WE as a heat provider, the system integration of this technology is crucial and offers beneficial synergies.
- Research Hubs in close proximity to WE's assets enable accelerated industrialisation.

### **Please feel free to contact...**



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