



Repurposing of Gas Grids

February 11th, 2021

20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA

"I believe that water will one day be employed as fuel, that hydrogen and oxygen which constitute it, used singly or together, will furnish an inexhaustible source of heat and light, of an intensity of which coal is not capable."

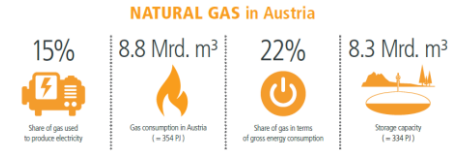
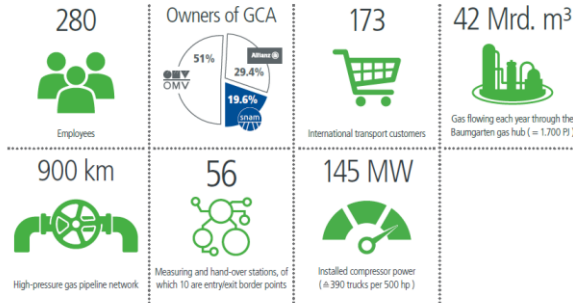
Jules Verne | The Mysterious Island (1874)



Who is Gas Connect Austria?

- More than **50 years of experience** in gas transport with approx. 280 employees
- Marketing of cross-border entry/exit points
- Sold transport capacity 2020: **143.6 bcm**
- Member of numerous international bodies: ENTSOG, GIE, Hydrogen Europe, European Clean Hydrogen Alliance, European Hydrogen Backbone etc.

GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA - OVERVIEW



Functions & responsibilities



Cross-border gas transportation



Nationwide gas transportation



Pipeline system operation and maintenance



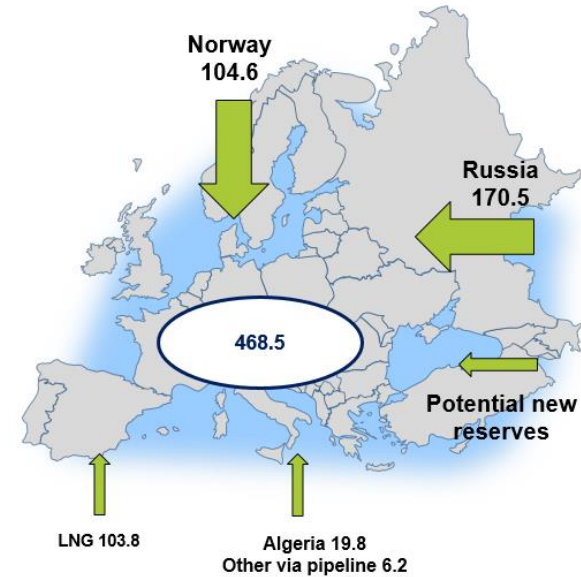
Network optimisation and development



Subsidiaries & Shareholdings



Gas flow control

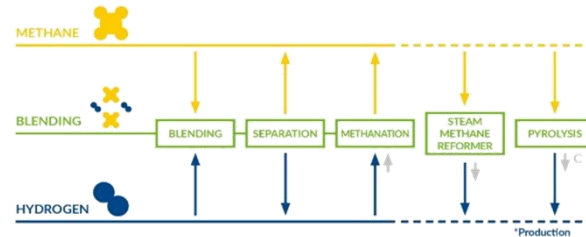


Source: IHS Markit, European Gas Short-Term Demand Outlook; February 2020

Role & activities of GCA in international bodies

ENTSOG

1. Tolling model for P2G systems
2. Re-Stream Study
 - Fact-based study on the reuse of existing oil and gas infrastructure for CO₂ and H₂ transport in Europe
 - key characteristics include: Pipeline material & condition, maximum allowable operating pressure, diameter etc.
3. Prime movers' group on Gas Quality & H₂-Handling



Role & activities of GCA in international bodies

European H₂-Backbone

After the EU published its H₂-strategy, 11 European TSOs presented a plan for their own dedicated pan-European H₂ grid (→ 0,17€/kg/1000 km).

The plan is to create a parallel regulated gas networks: a dedicated hydrogen & a dedicated (bio)methane grid

2030: H₂ grid in clusters (6,800 km)

2035: connected H₂ grid (23,000 km)

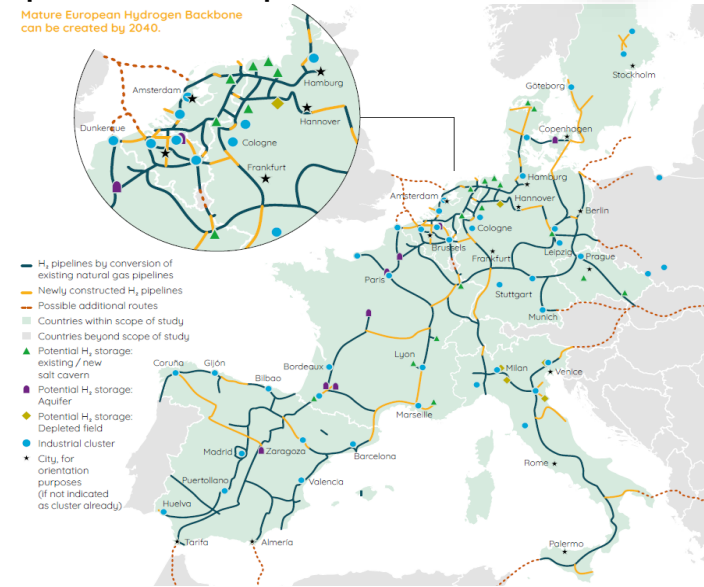
2040: pan-Europe H₂ network (75% repurposing of existing pipelines → CAPEX: 64 bn. €)

→ Work is currently underway on a follow-up study

→ update of the last one



Mature European Hydrogen Backbone can be created by 2040.



Role & activities of GCA in international bodies

Hydrogen activities in Germany

Cooperation and assessment of the consequences of a German hydrogen network for the border transmission.

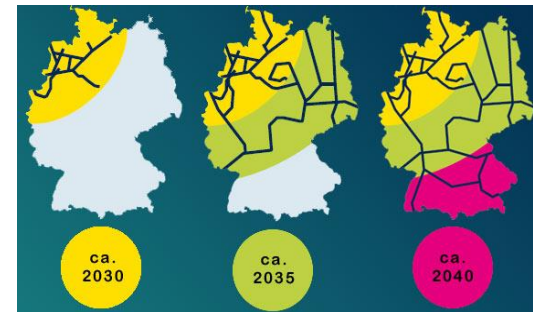
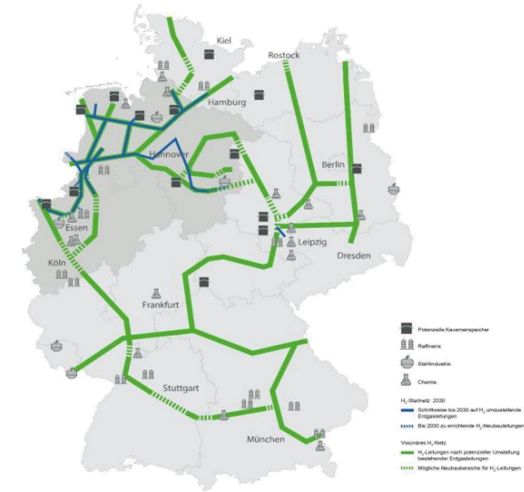
Vision for an H₂ starter network 2030:

→ 1,200 km H₂ line from:

- 100 km new H₂ pipelines
- 1100 km of rededicated CH₄ pipelines

→ Investments of €660 million by the end of 2030

→ resulting in a moderate increase in transmission system tariffs of less than 1% in 2031.



Role & activities of GCA in national bodies

ONE 100 („Österreichs nachhaltiges Energiesystem“)

Austria's sustainable infrastructure for gas & electricity in a climate-neutral Austria 2040

Scope:

Energy system in 2040 → if 100% GHG reduction & climate neutrality → Modelled infrastructure

Method:

Simultaneous optimisation of the sector-coupled overall energy system

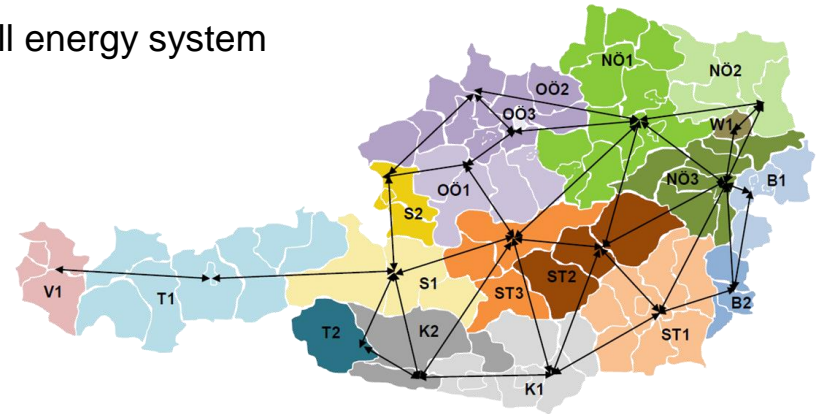
→ for all energy sources & value chain

→ taking into account natural potentials

Output:

Per region: capacity per energy source for

- Production
- Conversion
- storage
- Consumption



Role & activities of GCA in national bodies

AGGM: H₂ Readiness

Objective horizon of the study is short to medium term consideration:

- **Minimising the risk for H₂ feeders** through gas flow control (concepts for stable H₂ content)
- **Identification** of optimal H₂ feed-in locations
- **H₂ compatibility** of existing infrastructure
- **Investment requirements** for the realisation of the respective H₂ share
- **Time horizon** for the realisation of the respective H₂ share

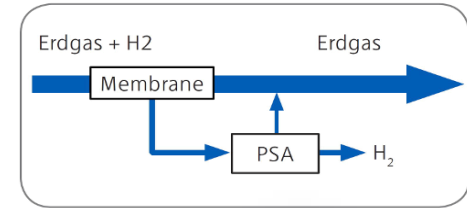
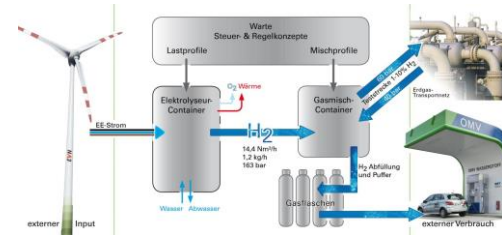
Role & activities of GCA in national bodies

Hydrogen activities in Austria

1. **Hydrogen Strategy for Austria** of the BMK (draft):
 - 200 MW electrolysis capacity by 2025 } → gas consumption to be carbon-neutral by 2040
 - 2 GW electrolysis capacity by 2030 } → feeding 5 TWh of green gas into the gas grid by 2030
2. **Austrian Association for the Gas & Water Industry:** Compendium H₂ in gas distribution networks (not completed)
3. **Austrian Association for the Gas & Water Industry - G 31:** Increasing the H₂ share in the gas grid (under discussion)
4. **Association of Gas & Heat Supply Companies:** Position development, lobbying & regulation
5. **TYNDP** scenarios show hydrogen production for Austria
6. **Austrian hydrogen cluster** of the BMDW (under development)
7. **Hydrogen** anchored in the **Renewable Energy Act** (draft)

Activities of GCA

- GCA has been working on the conversion of renewable energy into H₂ for storage & injection into the gas infrastructure incl. deblending of high purity H₂ since 2014 via projects such as **Wind2Hy** and **HylyPure**.
- These 2 coordinated projects formed the cornerstone for the further proceeding of the **GCA DBI study** on the H₂ conversion of the GCA grid:
 - Phase 1: **Metastudy** incl. component assessment for 10%, 25% & 100% H₂ - completed Dec 2019.
 - Phase 2: **Implementation plan** for higher H₂ shares (10% H₂ by 2024 and 25% H₂ by approx. 2030) - completed 2020.



Activities of GCA

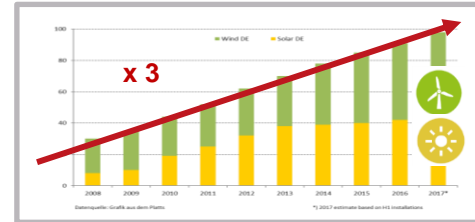
- For each reinvestment, the hydrogen-fitness is checked on the basis of our study and only future-fit components are installed.
 - mainly the **connecting elements & compressors** have to be replaced due to the different working pressures & the chemical properties of H₂
- **GCA's long-term goal:** to reserve future freed-up capacity no longer needed for natural gas for H₂ and to establish Baumgarten as a European distribution centre for H₂.
- Desired, if regulators allow: **GCA as interface** (sector coupler & integrator) between the energy carriers.

Gas infrastructure per se is neither climate-damaging nor fossil, it is part of the solution!

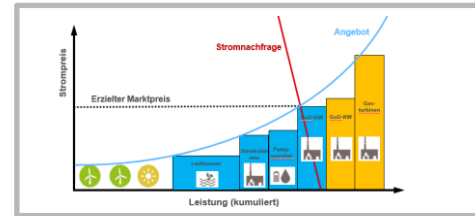
Why is rapid action necessary?

European system transformation happens largely uncoordinated ...

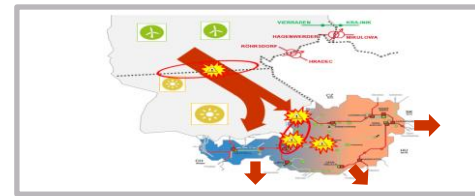
- **Decarbonization requires extensive expansion of renewables**
(mostly controlled by the government)
 - **Which market design for a single European market?**
(energy only vs. capacity market, CEP etc.)
- **Increasing network bottlenecks in Europe** (need for flexibility options to geographically balance generation and consumption)



Continued in large parts of Europe



In progress

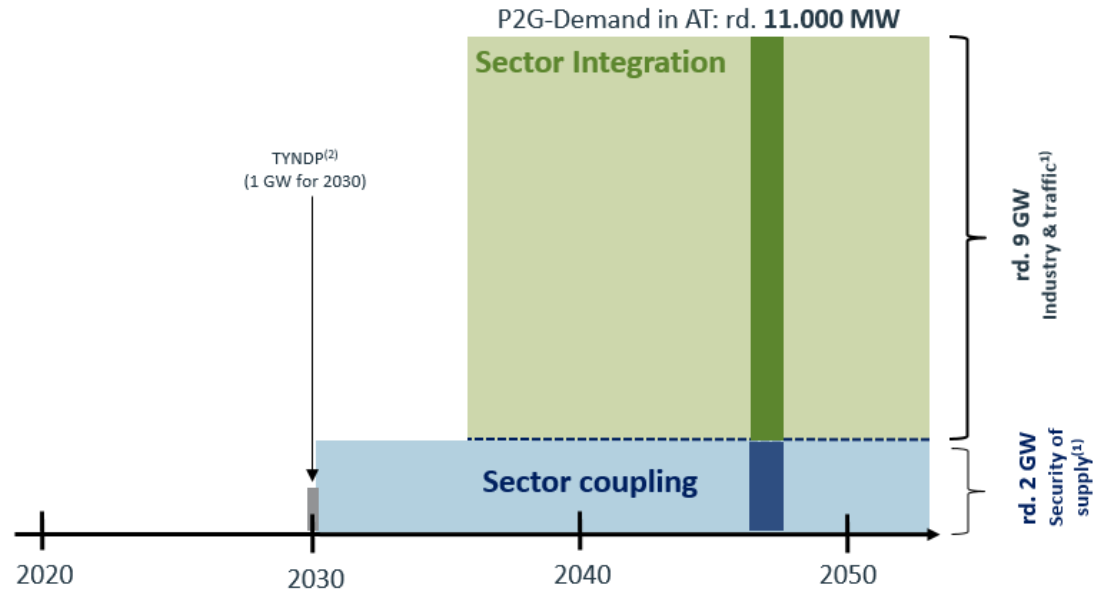


Expansion of power grids urgently required



Why is rapid action necessary?

Necessary development path of installed P2G-capacity to meet policy requirements:



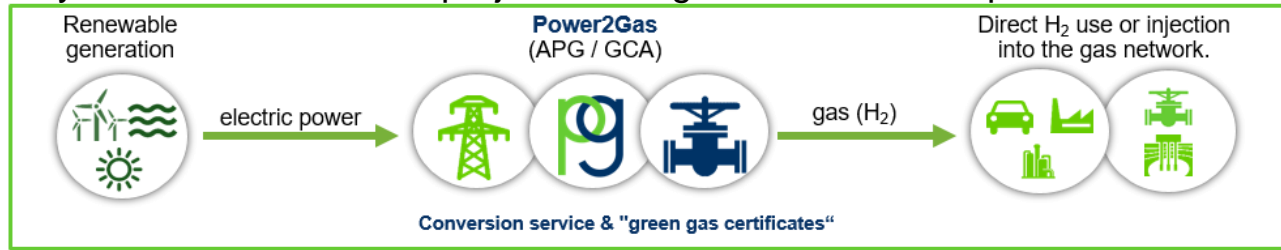
Quelle:

- (1) Endbericht aller Arbeitsgruppen zur österreichischen Wasserstoffstrategie – Empfehlungen der Stakeholder für die Strategieerstellung, 10/2019
- (2) TYNDP ... Ten Year Network Development Plan der ENTSO-E

Study: Power2Gas4Austria

- Optimized & cost-efficient use of the electricity & gas grid for long-term electricity storage
- TSOs make P2G plant available to all market players on a non-discriminatory basis and do not own the energy (neither electricity nor gas)
- Concept of a concrete pilot plant - "sector transformer" (design; clarify technical requirements for market test & location → as TSO equipment to ensure SoS)
- Scalable: holistic system approach, can be rolled out to the whole of Austria
- "developing" P2G technology through pilot projects in the regulated sector

This preliminary work for the sandbox project is being carried out in cooperation between APG & GCA



IPCEI – „H₂EART“

“Hydrogen to Europe – Austrian Regional Turntable”



What are we submitting?

1. Conversion of our network for hydrogen transport (blending & backbone).
2. Baumgarten as the future hydrogen hub of Europe
3. Direct lines to major H₂ consumers (e.g. Voest Linz and Donawitz)

Scope:

Backbone infrastructure instead of only backup infrastructure in the future

What needs to be done?

1. **Blending** - who will organise the switching on of H₂ production in the future if the share in the grid becomes too high? Will there be a statutory ranking (at EU level) on this?
2. **Deblending** - Will there be funding for technology research in this area? Who may be responsible for blending? Financing at the national borders in case of different limits?
3. **Conversion** - How should a conversion or the development of the hydrogen network take place?
4. **Targets** - How are the ambitious targets for hydrogen production, grid efficiency, security of supply and electrolysis capacities to be achieved if gas TSOs are excluded from the market ramp-up at an early stage?



Energy, everywhere.

Thank you!

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