Underground Energy Storage A European Research Perspective

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Large-scale energy storage supports Europe's ambitions for clean, secure and affordable energy







Family of Energy System Services



Europe's future energy demand continues to follow a seasonal pattern (heat) with superimposed demand peaks



Seasonal fluctuation gas demand (heating) (EIA 2019)

Seasonal gas demand in the European Union in the NPS, 2040



European Underground Gas Storages (GIE, 2015)



Share of UGS Capacity vs Primary Energy Consumption

(downloaded from ourworldindata.org, 2019, GIE-2019)

Primary energy consumption by source, European Union Primary energy consumption by source across the world's regions, measured in terawatt-hours (TWh). Note that this data does not include energy sourced from traditional biomass, which may form a significant component of primary energy consumption in low to middle-income countries. 'Other renewables' includes renewable sources including wind, geothermal, solar, biomass and waste, 18.000 TWh Other renewables 16.000 TWh Wind Nuclear 14,000 TWh 12.000 TWh Gas 10.000 TWh 8.000 TWh Oil 6.000 TWh 4.000 TWh 2.000 TWh Coal 0 TWh 1965 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2016 Source: BP Statistical Review 2016 OurWorldInData.org/energy-production-and-changing-energy-sources/ • CC BY ➡ Change region □ Relative CHART DATA SOURCES ÷ <



EU gas storage volume ca. 1132 TWh 156 operational sites

EU primary energy consumption 2016 ca. 16.400 TWh storage factor ~ 7%

EU primary gas consumption 2016 ca. 4.200 TWh storage factor ~ 27% High shares of intermittent renewables will require flexibility beyond the capacity of surface electrical storage options



Strong increase of intermittent RE (EU and Globally)

(Shell Sky Scenario, 2019)



Pumped Hydro Storage (DOE Global Energy Storage Database)

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Total PHS EU: ~ 0,5 – 1,0 TWh assuming 8 - 16 hrs average duration (0,1% of current UGS capacity)

Wind and Solar production, DE-NL-DK, January 2018

(Energy-charts.de, Frauenhofer 2019, ENTSOE, www.energidataservice.dk)



Germany: ca. 60 GW installed capacity (comparable to Dutch renewable ambitions in 2050) ca. 30.000 wind turbines

Electricity production Germany, January 2018

(Energy-charts.de , Frauenhofer, 2019)



Coal, Lignite and Natural gas mainly used as balancing capacity.

Wind and Solar production, DE-NL-DK, January 2018

(Energy-charts.de, Frauenhofer 2019, ENTSOE, www.energidataservice.dk)



Similarity of wind patterns (NL and DK scaled to German wind capacity)

Balancing and Flexibility Options

Demand

Response

3. Energy Import & Export

Regulated

Production

Energy Storage

Battery Storage

Jardelund (Northern Germany) ca. 50 MW, duration 1 hour = 50 MWh

Tesla Australia: ca 129 MWh





Natural batteries: Pumped Hydro Lakes

Goldisthal, Duitsland 1.060 MW, duration 8 hours = 8.480 MWh

Replace one day of wind35 GW × 24 hours = 860 GWhGoldisthal = 8.480 MWh
$$860.000$$
 MWh = ca. 100 Lakes8.480 MWh



Underground storage technologies deliver clean and economically viable flexibility options for resilient and zero emission energy systems



Underground Energy Storage

Green gasca. 0.5 -50 TWh, seasonal/peakHydrogenca. 0.1 -10 TWh, seasonal/peakCompressed Airca. 1 -3 GWh, peakUnderground PHS ca. 1 -3 GWh, peakATESca. 1 -50 GWh, (inter) seasonal

Subsurface energy storage technologies contribute to clean, affordable and secure energy :

- Based on (net-)zero emission carriers (heat, electricity, renewable gases)
- Applies to large scale flexibility demand (seasonal + high shares of RE)
- Scalable capacities
- Proven technologies in salt caverns, aquifers and depleted gas fields
- Sectorial integration through conversion / Power-to-X
- (Re-)use of existing energy infrastructure and assets

Effective valorization and implementation of large-scale underground energy storage depends on:

- Close cooperation within the Industry–Research–Policy nexus (innovation, pilots, system integration, social license to operate)
- Plug & Play datasets for energy systems modelling (demand/supply) and portfolio management
- Timely action (long lead times relative to climate and transition ambitions)



European Energy Storage Mapping and Planning

EC Service Contract no.: ENER/C2/2014-640/S12.698827 (www.estmap.eu)







Mapping of Energy Storage Sites

Above ground / Subsurface

Existing and Future Potential

Standardized Technology KPI's

Application in EU systems models

High-level Research & Innovation challenges:

- Raise TRL of clean storage technologies (industry pilots, economy, efficiency)
- Assess future storage demand and system contributions (energy scenarios)
- Standardized KPI's and prospect evaluation methods (integration and correlation)
- Plug & Play information systems for modelling, portfolio management and planning
- Prepare Social License to Operate (risks, legal, societal awareness)



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Thank you for your attention



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