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Gas infrastructure, a key asset for a sustainable energy supply

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The GAS INFRASTRUCTURE, integrated with electricity and heat networks, will be an essential part of a reliable, sustainable and affordable energy supply.



• Today:

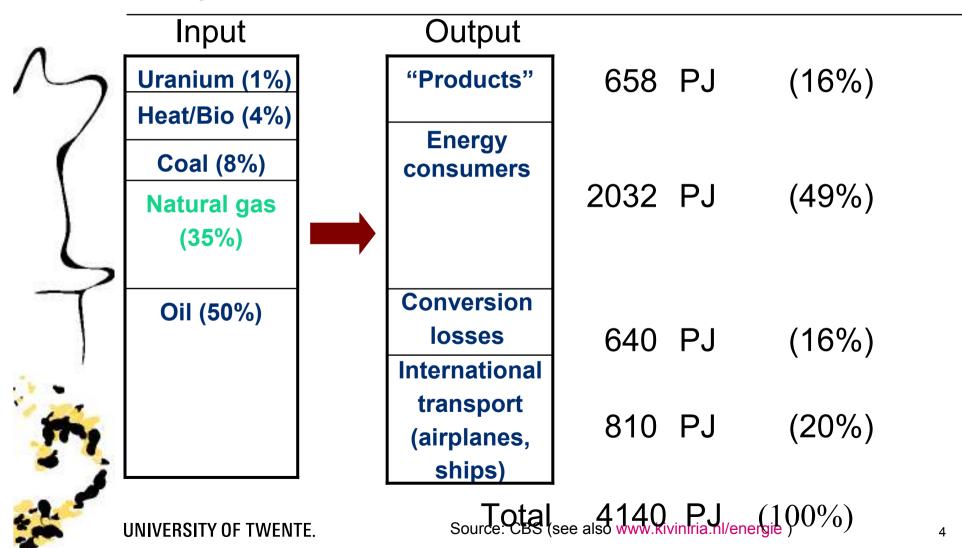
- gas (energy) demand and supply
- gas (energy) infrastructure
- Challenges for future gas (energy) supply and gas (energy) infrastructure systems
- Research in progress: EDGaR
- Conclusions

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Current Energy Supply (1)

Example: The Netherlands, 2008





Where are the various energy carriers used?

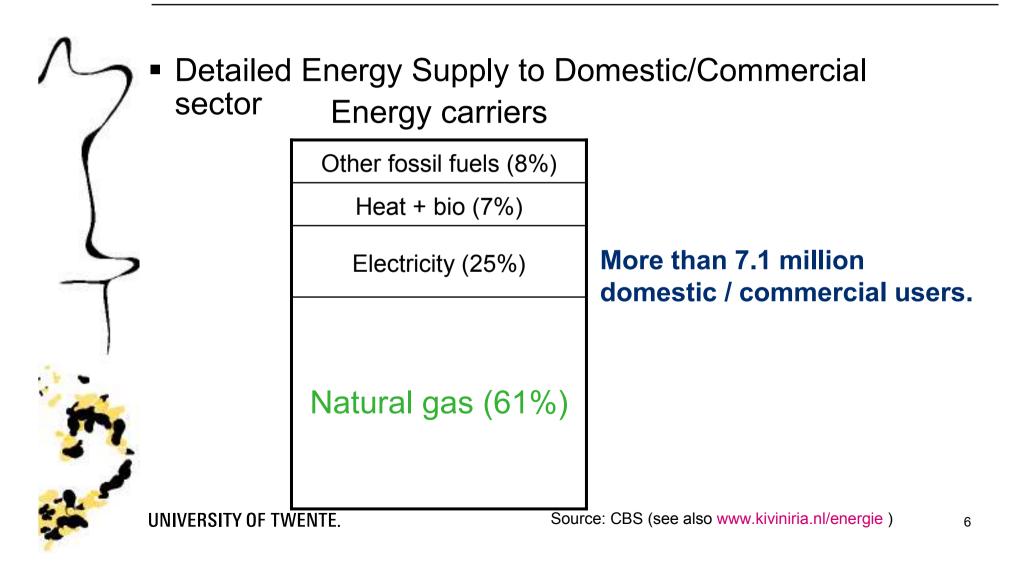
Energy	<u> </u>				
carriers	Products	Industry	Domestic/ commercial	Transport	Agriculture
Heat (4%)		60%	36%		4%
Natural gas (28%)	9%	25%	57%		9%
Oil (56%)	25%	5%	3%	66%	1%
Coal (2%)					
Electricity (10%)	9%	31%	50%	1%	10%

User groups

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Source: CBS (see also www.kiviniria.nl/energie)

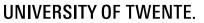






Conclusions from Current Energy Supply

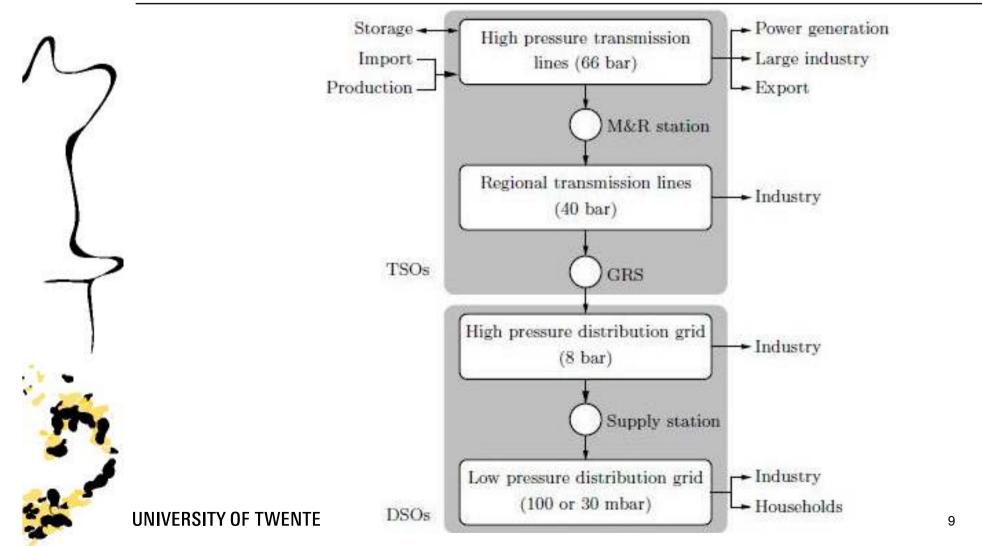
- Natural gas is main source of energy for most energy consumers (domestic & commercial users, industry, agriculture)
 - Many decentralized consumers; therefore a large supply network is necessary





Natural gas Electricity Heat Transport fuels (oil, etc.) **UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.**







- Reliable and safe
- High security of supply
- Backbone of Dutch energy supply

But, what about future?



Foreseen changes in gas (energy) supply

- Dutch gas reserves diminishing; increase of natural gas imports
 - Inbalance of gas (energy) supply and demand increases: need for gas (energy) storage
 - Liberalisation and globalisation of the energy market
 - Drive for a transition to a sustainable energy supply
 - More decentral production of energy
 - But also many uncertainties



Future Energy Demand (The Netherlands, 2050)

- Three developments:
 - Autonomous growth (e.g. new energy applications, more equipment)
 - Efficiency improvements (e.g. insulation of buildings)
 - System changes (e.g. road transport going
 - "electric")
- Quantitative estimate:
 - Energy demand 2050 = 83% of Energy demand 2008
 - Electricity demand 2050 = 3x Electricity demand 2008

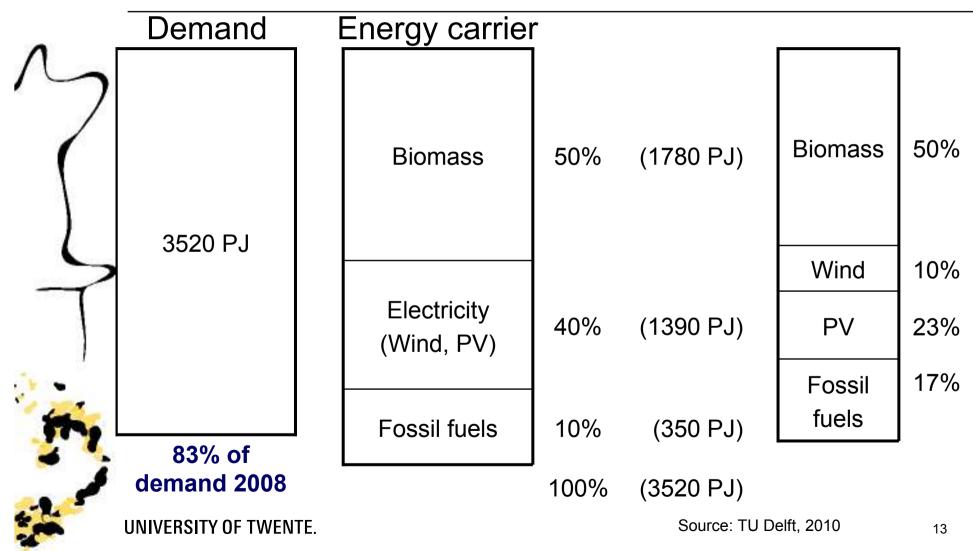
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Source: TU Delft, 2010 (www.kiviniria.nl/energie)



Future Energy Supply (1)

Possible role of Renewables (Netherlands, 2050)





Future Energy Supply (2) Possible role of Renewables (Netherlands, 2050)

Area needed to supply the required energy:

(based on current technologies)

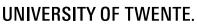
- Biomass : 109,000 km2 (320% of Dutch area)
 - : 2,190 km2 (6.4% of Dutch area)
- Wind onshore :
- 500 km2 (1.5% of Dutch area)
 - offshore : 3,320 km2 (9.6% of Dutch area)

Conclusion:

- PV

"National" renewables cannot fulfill by far the future energy demand in The Netherlands

Source: TU Delft, 2010





Future Energy Supply (3) Consequences of "All electric" (Netherlands, 2050)

- Renewables cannot supply the required energy (nuclear option?)
- High investments in the electricity infrastructure necessary
- Many challenges for a reliable and secure supply of electricity (energy)
- Rather high conversion losses



- In operation:
 - electricity networks
 - gas networks
 - (district) heat networks
- Features of these networks:
 - probably these networks will be integrated
 - more active control is foreseen
 - flexibility seems to be a must
 - platform to facilitate the energy market
 - much more complexity

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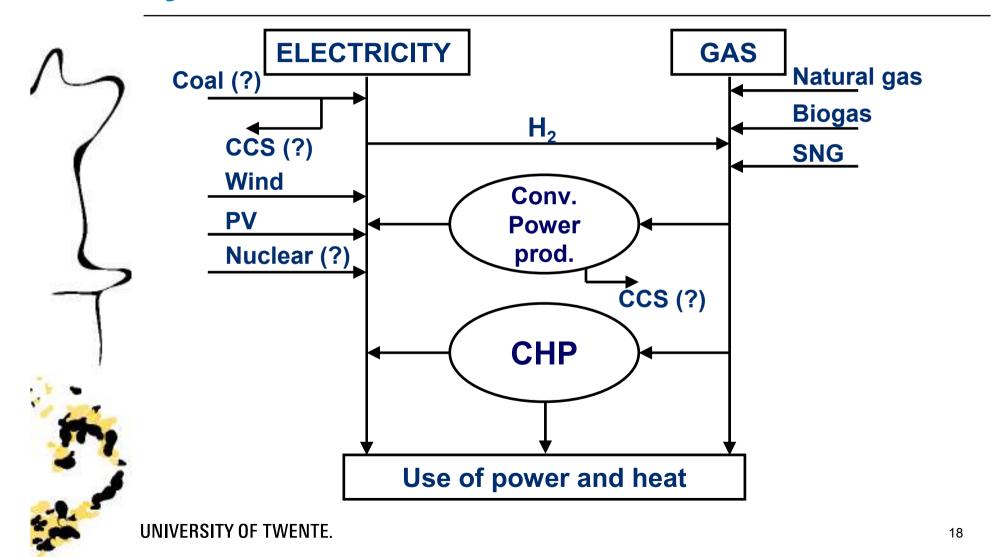


Foreseen changes in the gas distribution grids



Current situation	Future situation	
Negligable green gas share: 0.1% in 2010	Increased green gas share: 12% in 2020	
One type of gas in the gas distribution grid	Multiple types of gases in the gas distribution grid	
Uni-directional gas supply chain	Bi-directional gas supply chain	
No interaction with other energy distribution grids	Increased interaction with electricity distribution grid and local heat grids	
Passive gas grid	Smart gas grid, monitoring and control of gas quality, pressure, and flow	

Possible role of GAS in future energy supply systems



Strong position of gas supply/infrastructure (1)

- A full infrastructure is already in operation (production, storage, transport, gas appliances)
- Needed adaptions for future gas (energy) supply are limited and foreseeable: restricted investments
- Gas is the cleanest fossil fuel with the potential becoming "green" (biogas, SNG)
- (Natural) gas remains a low cost and secure source of energy
- Maintaining gas infrastructure is inexpensive compared to costs associated with other system evolutions
- Gas is a strong option for balancing energy demand and supply

Strong position of gas supply/infrastructure (2)

 However, research should be encouraged to maximize the value of the full gas chain: EDGaR research program



How can the value of the gas chain be maximized?

Go for more sustainability (e.g. biogas, H2 made from renewables)

 Use innovative technologies to generate heat and power (e.g. gas heat pumps, micro-chp, fuel cells)

 Optimize the use of the current gas infrastructure (capacity, flexibility, availability)



EDGaR Research Programme

Public – private partnership

Partners:

- Energy companies (Gasunie, GasTerra, Enexis, Liander, Stedin)

- Universities (RU Groningen, TU Delft, Hanzehogeschool)

- Research institutes (ECN, Kiwa Gas Technology)
- Programme: 5 years; 44 M€
- Central theme: The role of gas in the transition to a sustainable energy supply
- Multi-disciplinary approach: technical, economic, social and legal issues

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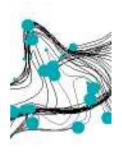
Three main themes in EDGaR Programme

- Transition from "mono-gas" to "multi-gas"
 - System changes/ integration of energy systems
 - Strategic positioning in the international gas (energy) market





- 7 To which limits in gas composition are the current gas appliances suitable?
 - Do we have to extend our current gas quality management methods?



EDGaR Theme 1 From mono-gas to multi-gas (2)

- To which limits in gas composition can the current gas infrastructure (pipelines, etc.) be used?
 - Do we have to adapt the current management and maintenance methods of the gas infrastructure?





 Development and improvement of technologies to produce "green gas" (SNG)



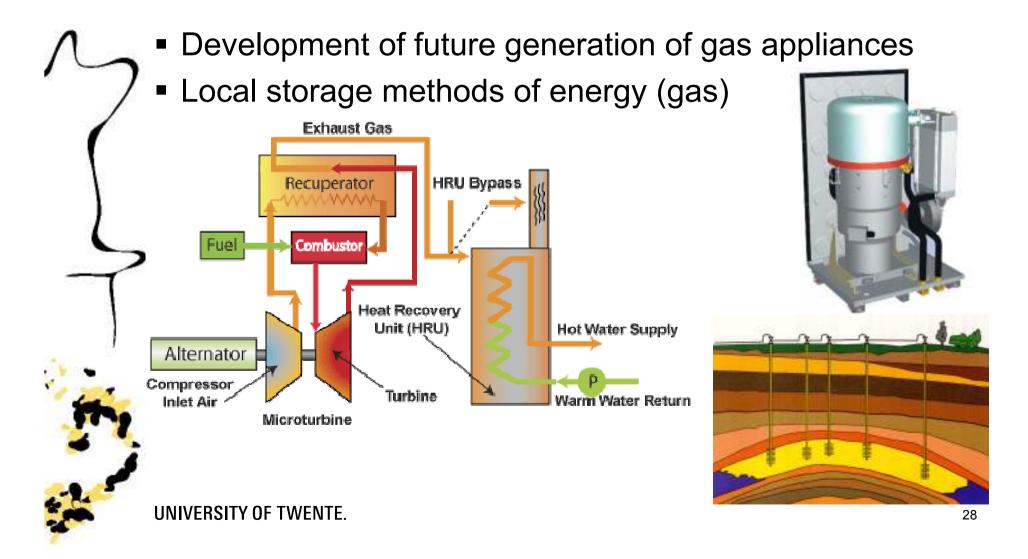


EDGaR Theme 2

System changes/integration of energy systems (1)

- Design of future gas networks (more decentral, more balancing, active control, integration with electricity grid, etc.)
 - Adaption of institutional framework (regulatory issues, liability, etc.)
 - Co-evolution and interaction of technology and regulation

EDGaR Theme 2 System changes/integration of energy systems (2)



EDGaR Theme 3 Strategic positioning in the international gas (energy) market

- Structural changes in international gas (energy) markets
 - Understanding the gas sector intra- and inter-market interactions
 - Securing gas supply
 - Developing strategies for the transition process
 - Social acceptance



In the next decades gas supply/infrastructure will play an essential role in a reliable, affordable and more sustainable energy supply

 However, innovations over the complete gas chain are necessary to maintain this position

 To this aim the Dutch gas (energy) sector has started the EDGaR Research programme



The GAS INFRASTRUCTURE, an essential part of a future sustainable energy supply!

Thank you for your attention!

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