

Hydropower in Europe and Climate Change Consequences and Challenges

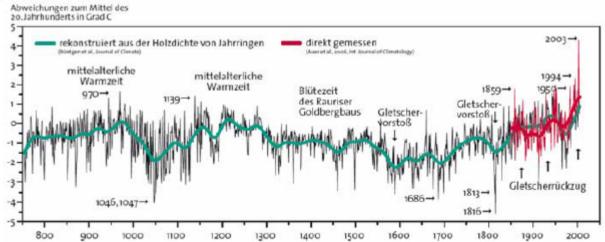
O. Pirker / VGB Power Tech











Quelle: ALP-IMP Projekt (Büntgen et al., 2006)

Hydropower and Climate Change

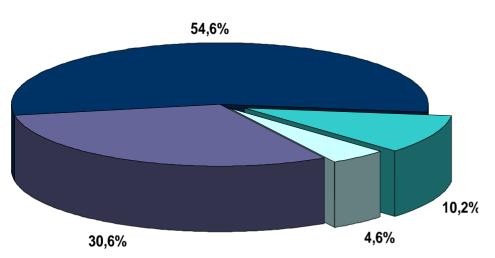
two questions

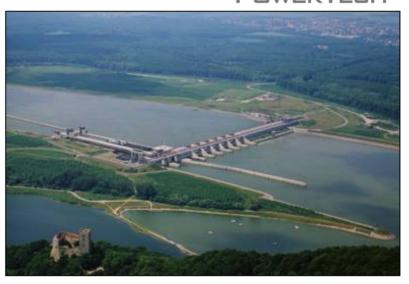
Hydropower
- Renewable Energy;
contribution of HP;
Avoidance of GGE

Consequences of
Climate Change Scenarios
on Hydropower





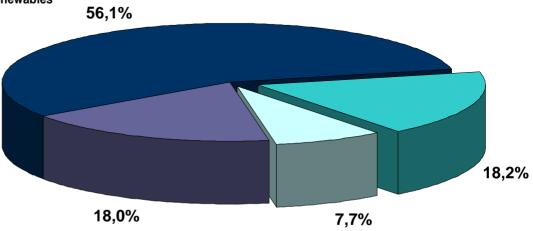




Total Net Generating Capacity 2005

■ Nuclear ■ Conventional Thermal ■ Hydro □ Total other Renewables





CO2 avoidance by Hydropower



1 GWh from Hydropower corresponds to approximately 220 t oil



1 GWh from Hydropower corresponds to approximately 330 t hard coal

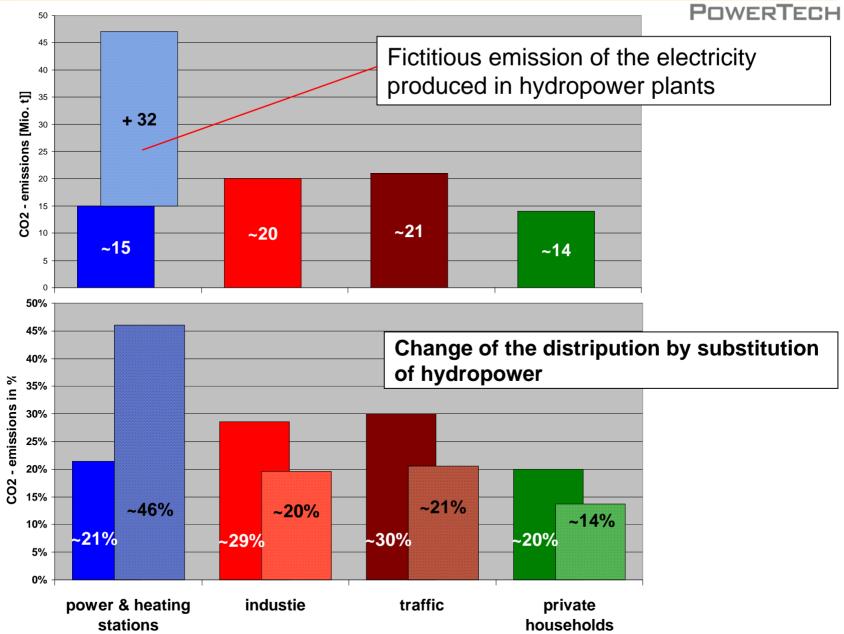
In Europe 2005 (EU 25) 311,2 TWh HP production

Avoidance of 250 Mio. t CO₂ (based on oil fired power plants)

Avoidance of 290 Mio. t CO₂ (based on coal fired power plants)



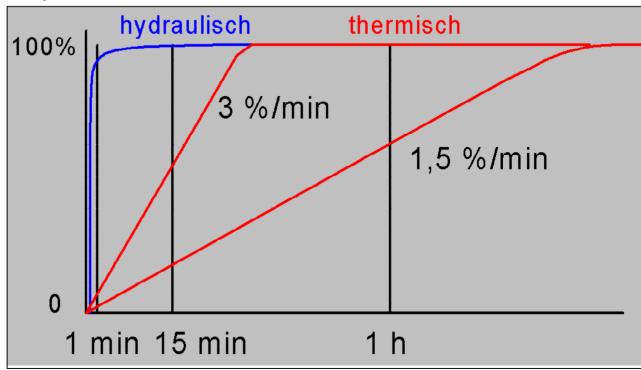




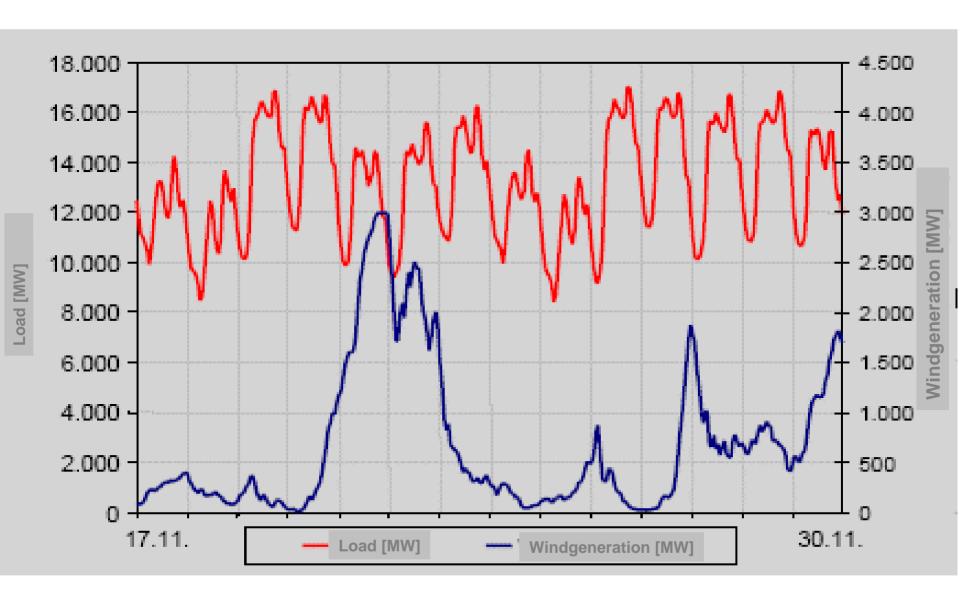


- Increasing peakload-demand
- Increased demand of banlancing capabilities
- Ancillary serveces (grid regulation)
- Integration of non-dispatchable wind energy
- Increasing reserve capacity
- "Black start" capability

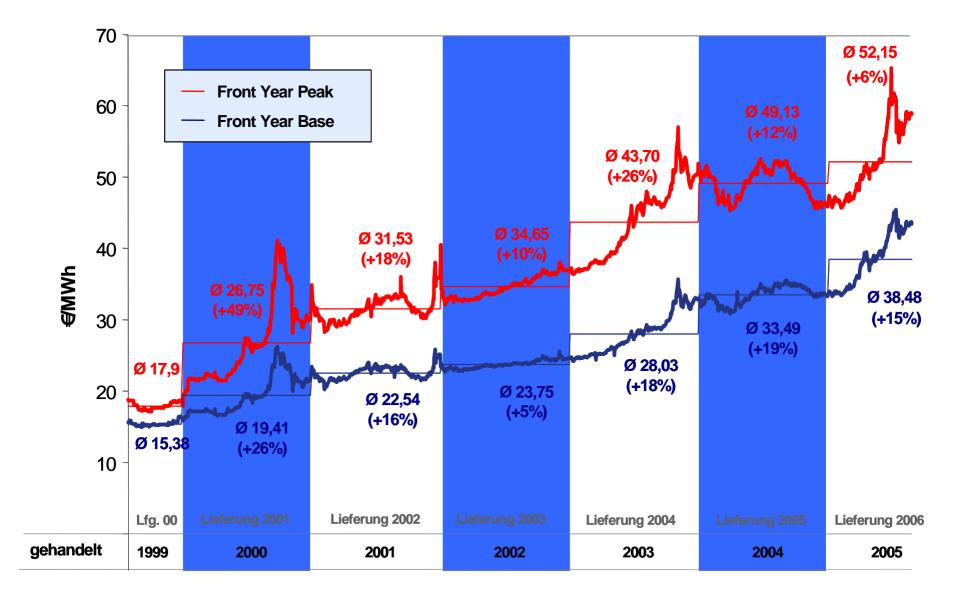








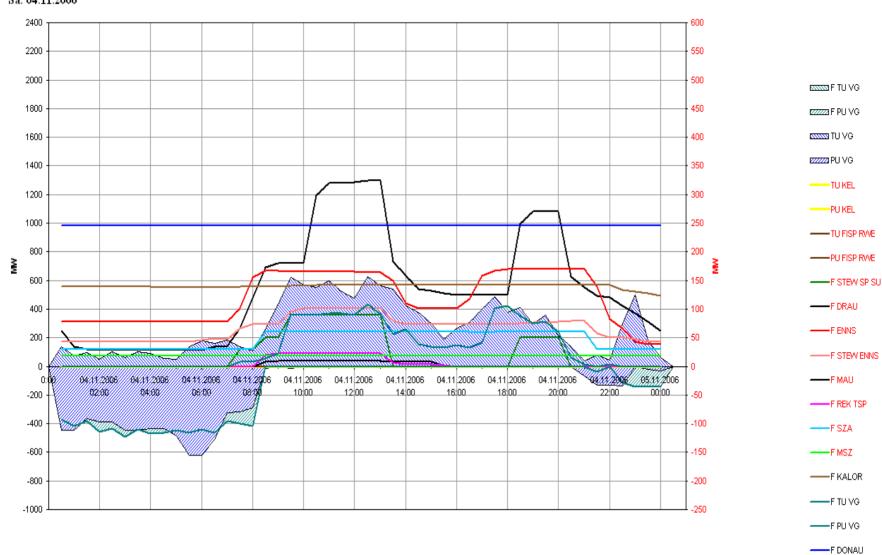




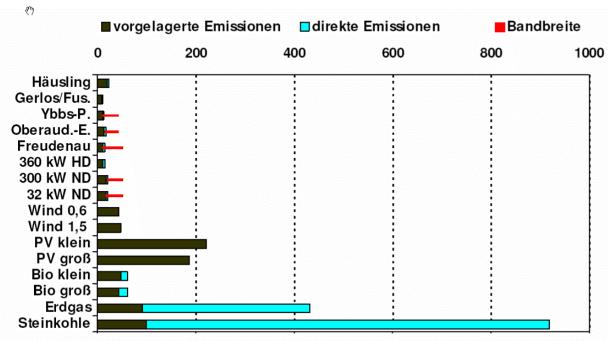
Security of supply; "Quality of Hydropower" / 4. November 2006



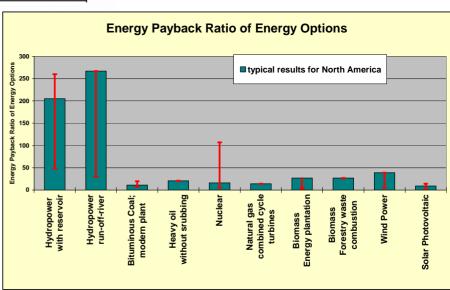
VERBUND FAHRPLAN KRAFTWERKSEINSATZ Überblick Sa: 04.11.2006







CO₂-Äquivalente in t/GWh



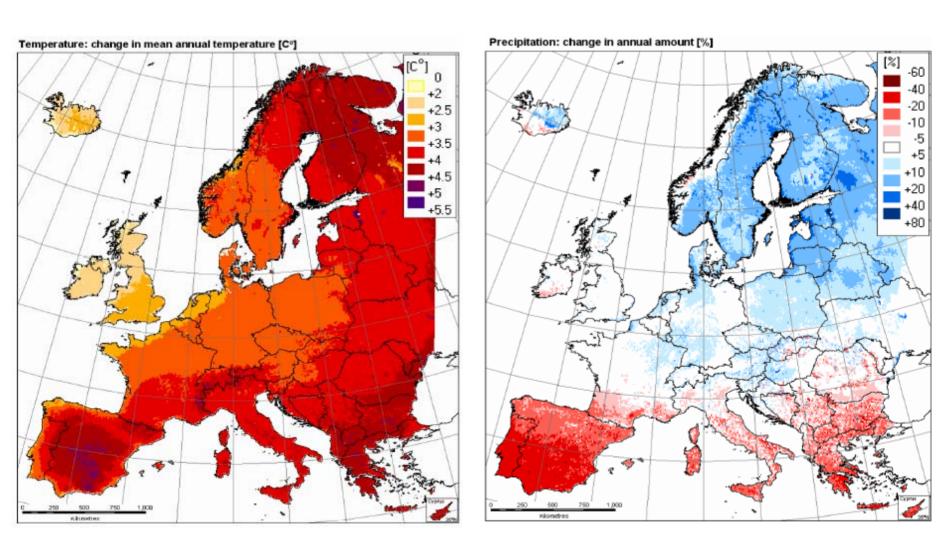


- Hydropower is the most important renewable energy source in Europe
- Storage- and Pumpstorage HPP play an important role in the European Electricity Supply (Security of supply)
- Hydropower is the perfect partner for the development of all other renewable energy source (especially for wind power)
- Hydropower is also a partner to challenge Climate Change

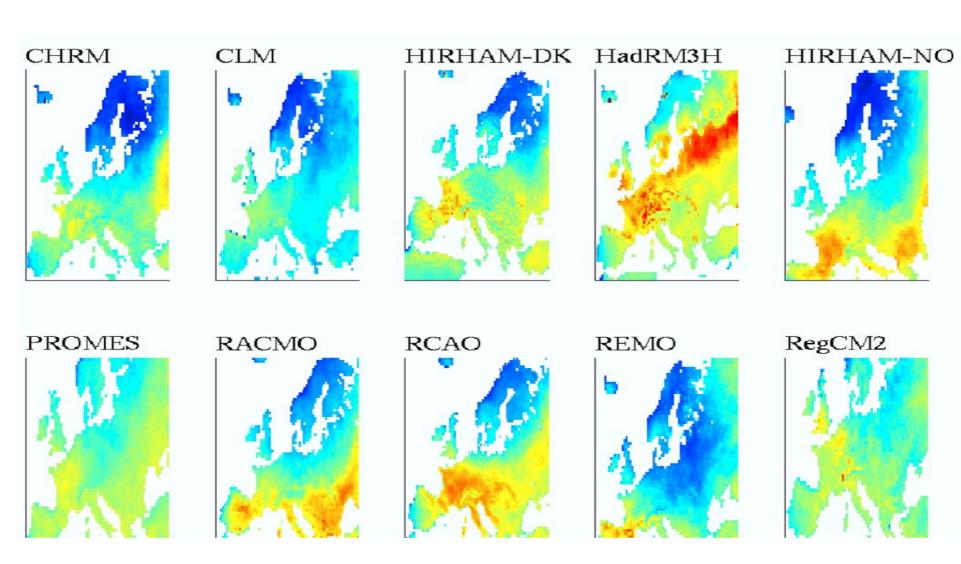












Impacts of climate - change scenarios on the hydropower generation



- In general the effects of the climate change scenarios on the water regime are:
 - very uncertain
 - locally differently
 - at that time it is difficult to have clear strategies
- In alpine areas (most scenarios show)
 - decrease of runoff during summer
 - increase of runoff during winter
 - improvement for the hydropower production
 - decrease of the glaciers
 - importance of the storage capacity will rise
 - increase of extreme events (floods and droughts)???
 - importance of the storage capacity will rise
 - Flood protection by storage HPP on a local scale
 - Positive influence on the run-off during drought periods
 - New rules in connection with dam safety (new hydrological methods)
 - Sediment problems will increase (permafrost level in alpine areas)



- In South Europe areas
 - decrease of runoff because of climate change?
 - Reduction of Hydropower production
 - ■Increase of (catastrophic) drought periods?
 - Critical situation for run of river HPP production
 - Importance of the storage capacity will rise (multipurpose use!)
 - Restrictions for the operation of thermal power plants because of a lack of cooling water or the water temperature is to high
 - High electricity demand because of air conditioning



- Climate Change is a serious issue for the whole electricity industry
- The new Package for Energy by the commission is an important step for future developments in Europe (reduce EU primary energy use by 20% till 2020)
- The role of renewable energy sources will further increase
- Hydropower is still the most important renewable energy source worldwide and in Europe (electricity)
- Quality of Hydropower is an important argument for the integration of all other renewable sources
- Hydropower operators must have a strong focus on climate change
- We have to learn to deal with uncertainty, HP has experience.
- Climate Change is a big challenge for the future!

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