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HPC- Hydrogen Pilot Cavern (Krummhörn, GER)

Myriam Panofen & Annette Lenze Hystories – final conference, Paris, 25th May 2023

Uniper Energy Storage – at a glance





Energy Storage

Gas Storage facilities in GER, UK & AUT





Total gas storage capacity

80 TW

Market leader:

We are the **largest gas storage operator in Germany** and one of the most efficient in Europe.

Energy transition:

We are essential for the energy transition because we guarantee the necessary flexibility for the renewable energy system.

Hydrogen:

Uniper Energy Storage has a **great potential** for storing hydrogen in Europe.

Security of supply:

Natural gas storage facilities are an **indispensable component** for security of supply today and in the future.

Climate neutrality:

We are **proactively developing** our operations, our systems and our products towards climate neutrality.



HPC- Hydrogen Pilot Cavern



Hydrogen

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Uniper Energy Storage GmbH will build an H2 pilot cavern at its site Krummhörn until 2024 to demonstrate and investigate hydrogen storage in a salt cavern.

Motivation for Uniper Energy Storage GmbH

- Testing of H2 storage operation and technology in a real environment at a demonstration plant
- Understanding of permitting process and requirements
- **Investigation of materials**, subsurface and surface installations and the functionality of individual components in H2 storage operation
- **Development** of a storage solution for green **hydrogen** on a **commercial scale**.



H2 pilot cavern – project key data



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Project Key Data

- Geom. Cavern Volume: 1 000 m³
- Pressure Regime: 70 270 bar
- H2 Capacity: 200 000 nm³ = 700 MWh
- H2 Working Gas Capacity: 150 000 nm³ = 500 MWh
- Max. Flow Rate: 1 200 nm³/h

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Technical project phases





Investigation of existing well – cased hole

Cased hole section

- Inspection / exchange of wellhead components
- Caliper Log: investigate casing geometry
- USIT Log: investigate casing / cement quality
- Laboratory investigation*: H2 readiness of cement
- Laboratory investigation*: H2 readiness of casing



* Procedure and test performance verified by third party



Investigation of the suitability of the last cemented casing as second barrier.

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Investigation of existing well – open hole



Open hole section

- Re-drilling of open hole section to:
 - Re-access of the borehole
 - Obtain a uniform borehole width.
- Borehole survey.
- Install test* / leaching wellhead.
- Install test* / leaching tubings.
- * H2 readiness of test equipment proven.





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Two-stage gas tightness test

Gas tightness test

- Tightness test with In-situ-Balance method with test medium nitrogen to;
 - Verify integrity of second barrier
 - Verify integrity of casing shoe area
 - Provide basic requirements for leaching phase.
- Analog tightness test with test medium hydrogen* to;
 - Verify H2 readiness of second barrier
 - Verify H2 integrity of casing shoe area
 - Provide first indication for cavern's suitability for hydrogen storage.
 - * Test Procedure and criteria verified by third party.
- Previous HAZOP / operational training for handling hydrogen.



H2 test operation, investigation program





Surface installations

Hydrogen injection

- Supply of liquid hydrogen via truck, evaporation on site.
- Supply of gaseous hydrogen by electrolyzer (partnership), compression on site.

Hydrogen treatment

- On site hydrogen treatment to supply various end users.
- Test and comparison of different hydrogen drying technologies (partnership).

Hydrogen use cases

 Injection into transmission grid, liquefaction and filling, fuel cell power generation and hydrogen filling station (partnership).

Field piping

• Existing field pipeline must be qualified for the use of hydrogen.





Thank you!

For further questions, please contact:

Uniper Energy Storage GmbH Myriam Panofen <u>myriam.panofen@uniper.energy</u> or Dr. Annette Lenze annette.lenze@uniper.energy

https://www.uniper.energy/energy-storage-uniper

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