



# Syngas Routes to Alternative Fuels from Renewable Sources

RESEARCH | TECHNOLOGY | CATALYSTS

[John Bøgild Hansen](#) - Haldor Topsøe

Karlsruhe, November 4, 2014

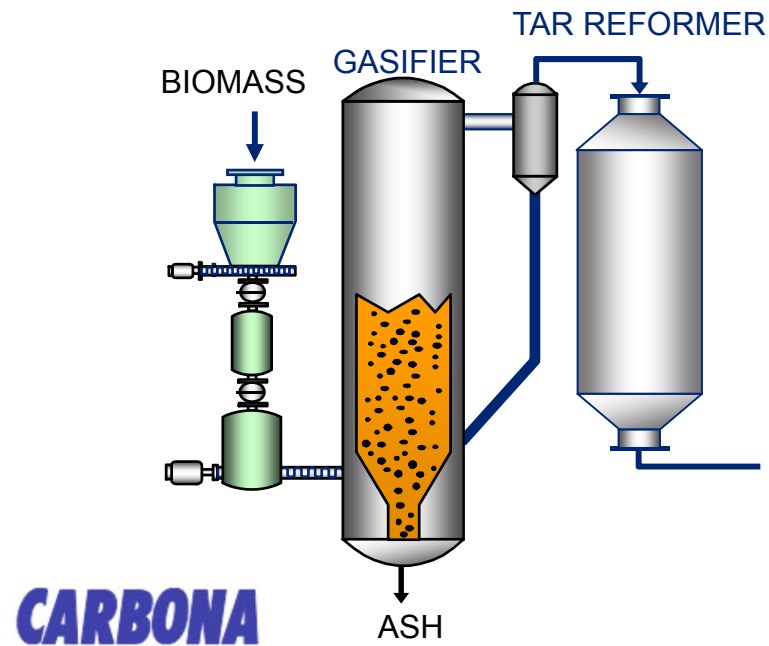
# We have been committed to catalytic process technology for more than 70 years

- Founded in 1940 by Dr. Haldor Topsøe
- Revenue: 600 million Euros
- 2900 employees
- Headquarters in Denmark
- Catalyst manufacture in Denmark and the USA



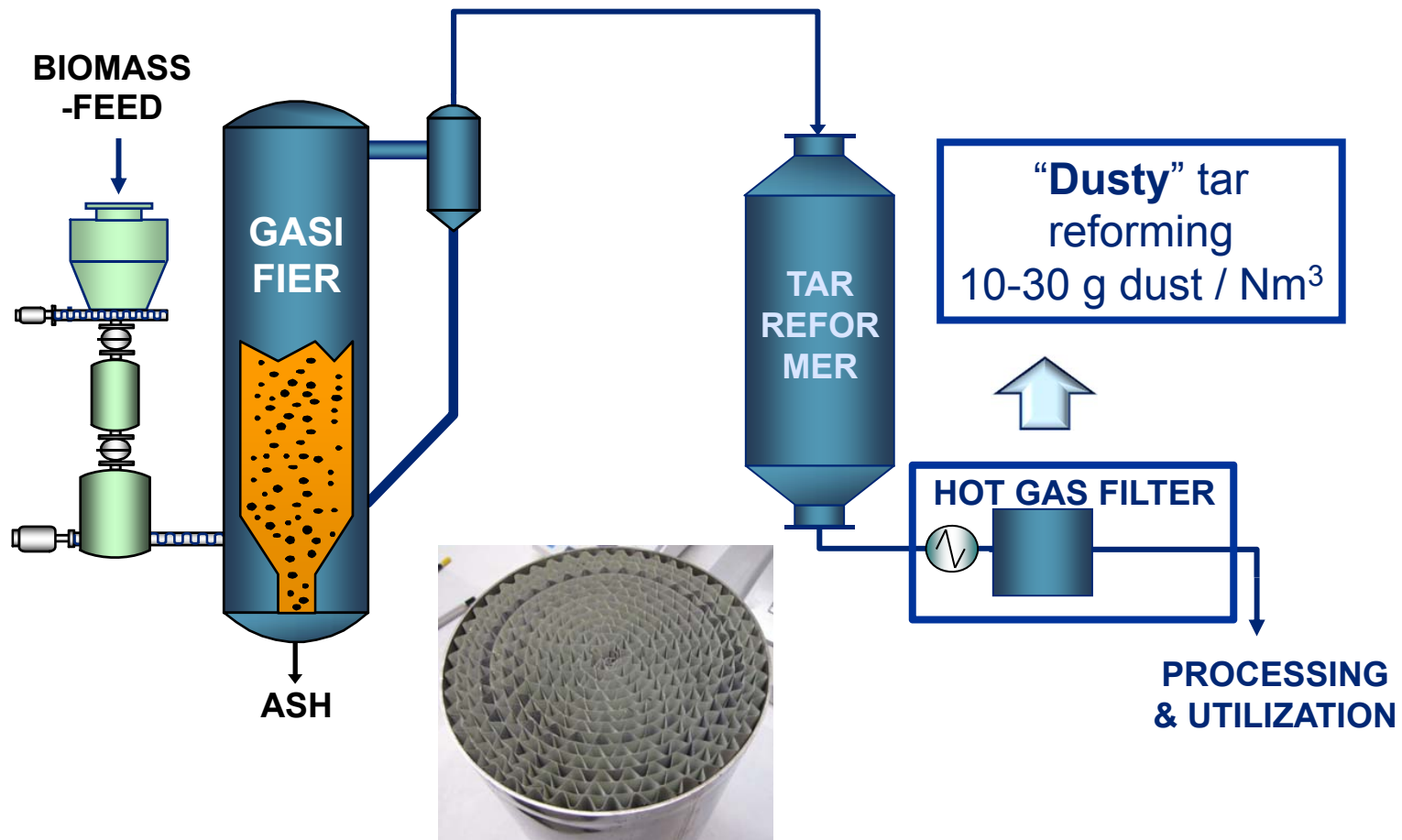
# Tar reforming – Enabling technology for biomass gasification

- Gasification of biomass results in a syngas that contains tars and contaminants
  - 1000 -2500 ppm tar
  - 50 – 100 ppm S, particulates
  - 850-930°C, 1-30 bar g
  - Ammonia decomposition



**CARBONA**

# “Dusty” tar reforming

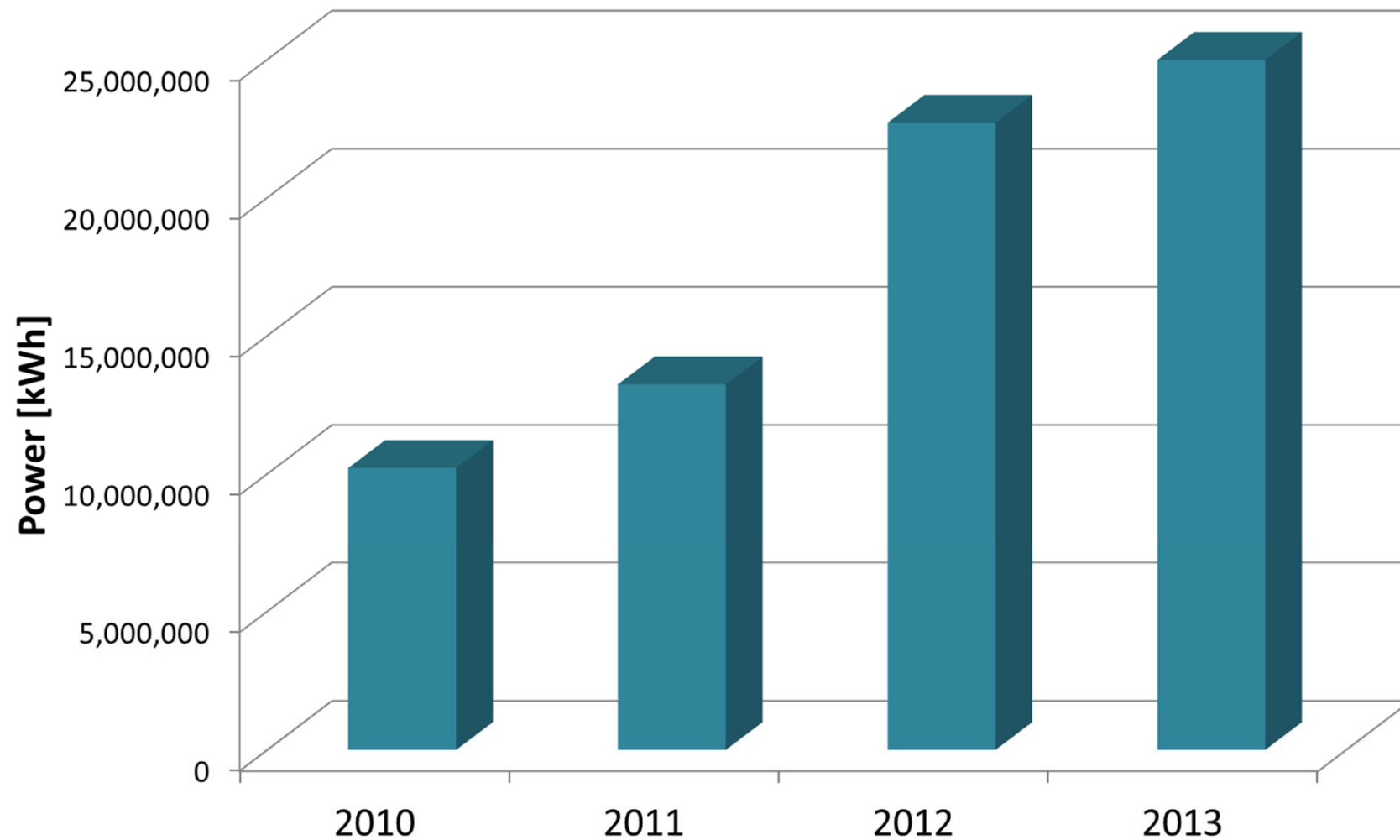


# Skive Fjernvarme a.m.b.a. (Skive CHP)

Location	Skive, Denmark
Capacity	<b>21 MW<sub>th</sub></b> , Max 28 MW <sub>th</sub>
Operational year	2009
Fuel consumption	100 TPD
Fuel	Biomass, wood pellets
Gasification techn.	Air blown, bubbling fluidized bed
Pressure range	<b>1 – 3 bar g</b>
Power generation	Gas engines

# Skive Fjernvarme a.m.b.a. (Skive CHP)

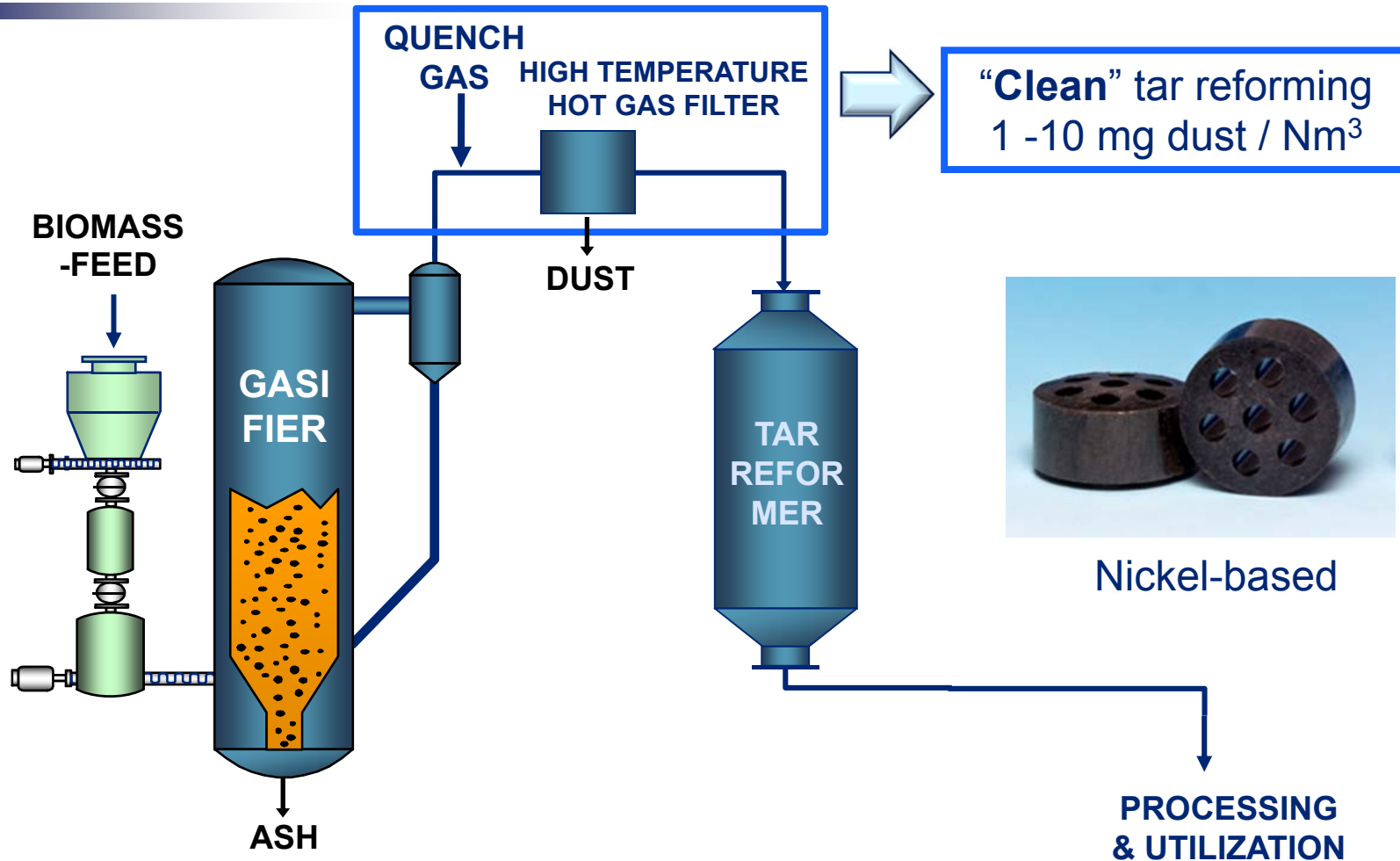
Power production for Skive CHP plant



# Gas Technology Institute, Chicago

Location	Chicago, USA
Capacity	~ 4 MW <sub>th</sub>
Fuel consumption	18 TPD
Fuel	Biomass, wood pellets
Gasification techn.	Oxygen blown, bubbling fluidized bed
Pressure range	<b>1-9 bar g</b>

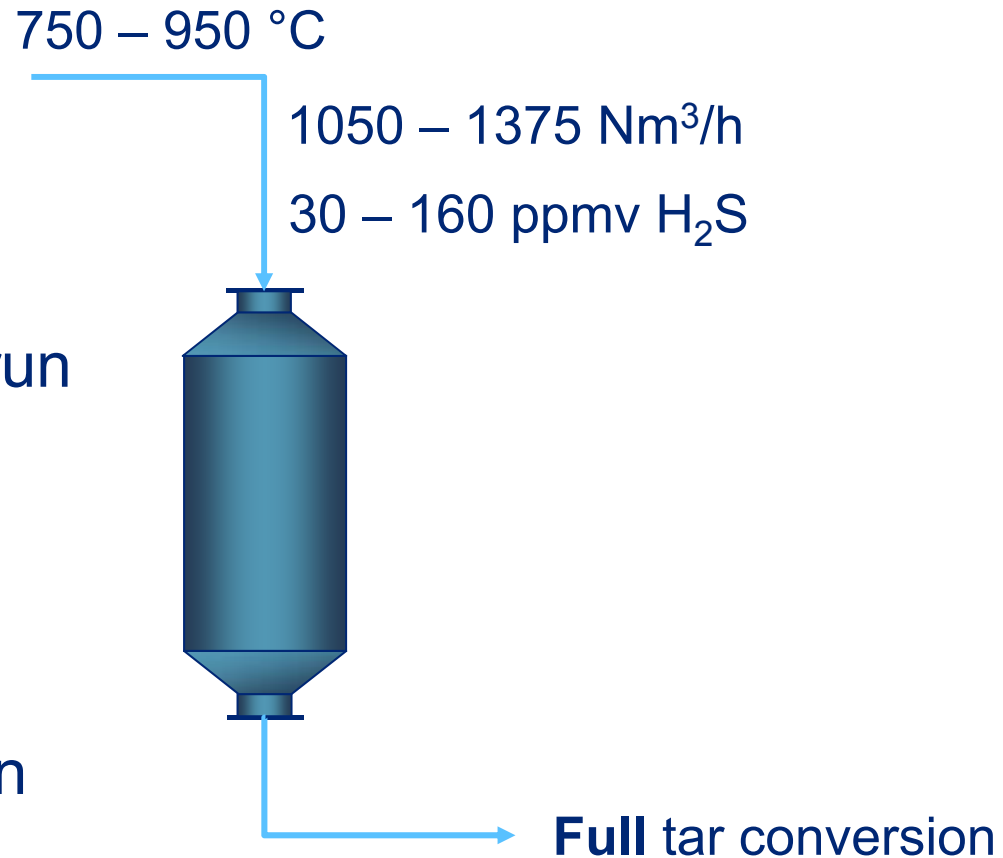
# “Clean” tar reforming





# Gas Technology Institute, Chicago

- Tar reformer ~ 1150 run hrs
- No soot formation
- 15 min. lack of oxygen
  - **No deactivation!**

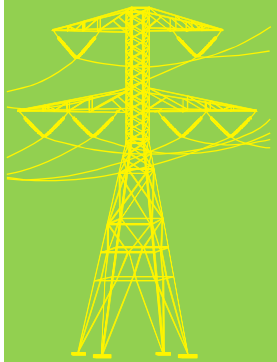


# DME the versatile fuel

★ Aerosol Propellant  
150.000 TPY

★ Energy  
Production

★ Olefines



★ Gasoline

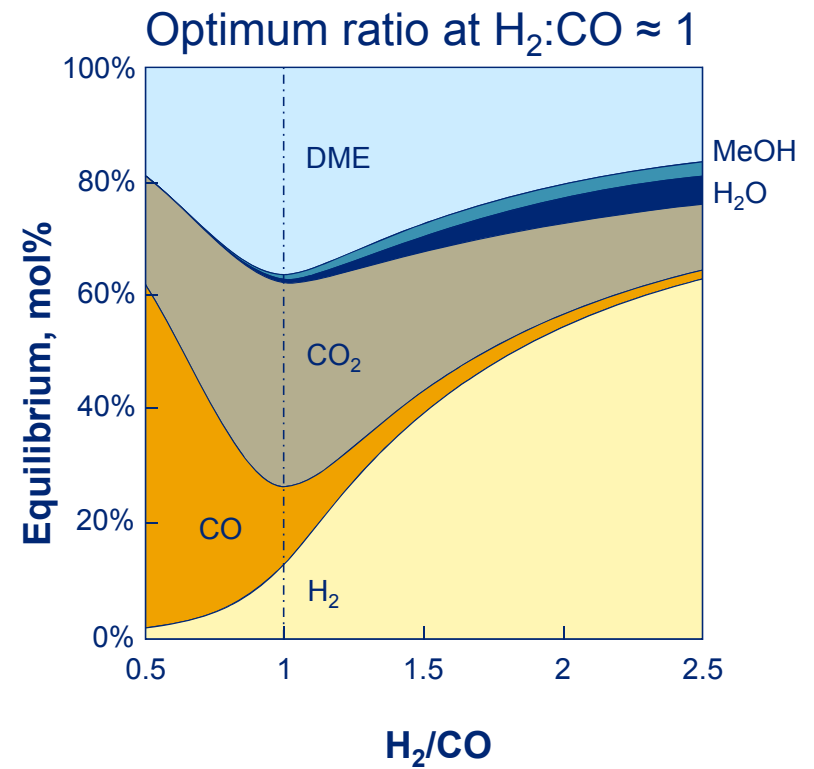
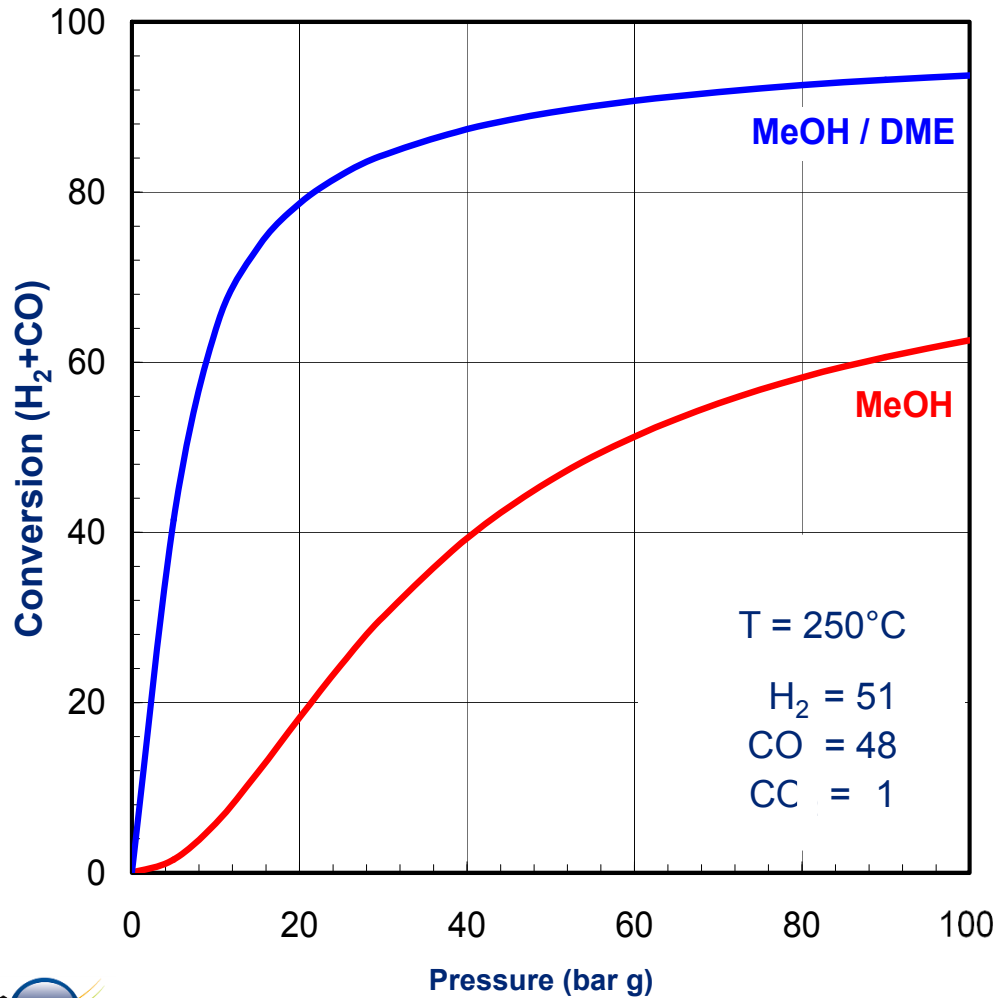
★ Acetic Acid

★ LPG Substitute  
& Make-Up

★ Transportation Fuel  
for Diesel & Fuel Cells

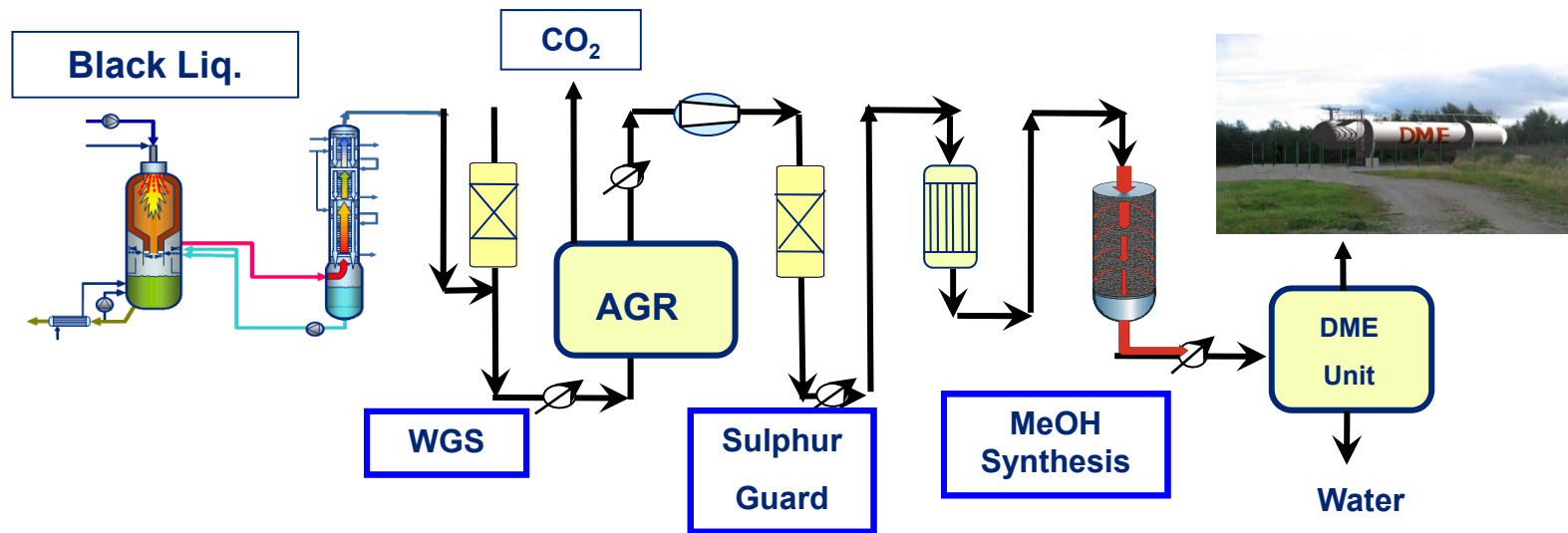


# Syngas to MeOH/DME Equilibrium



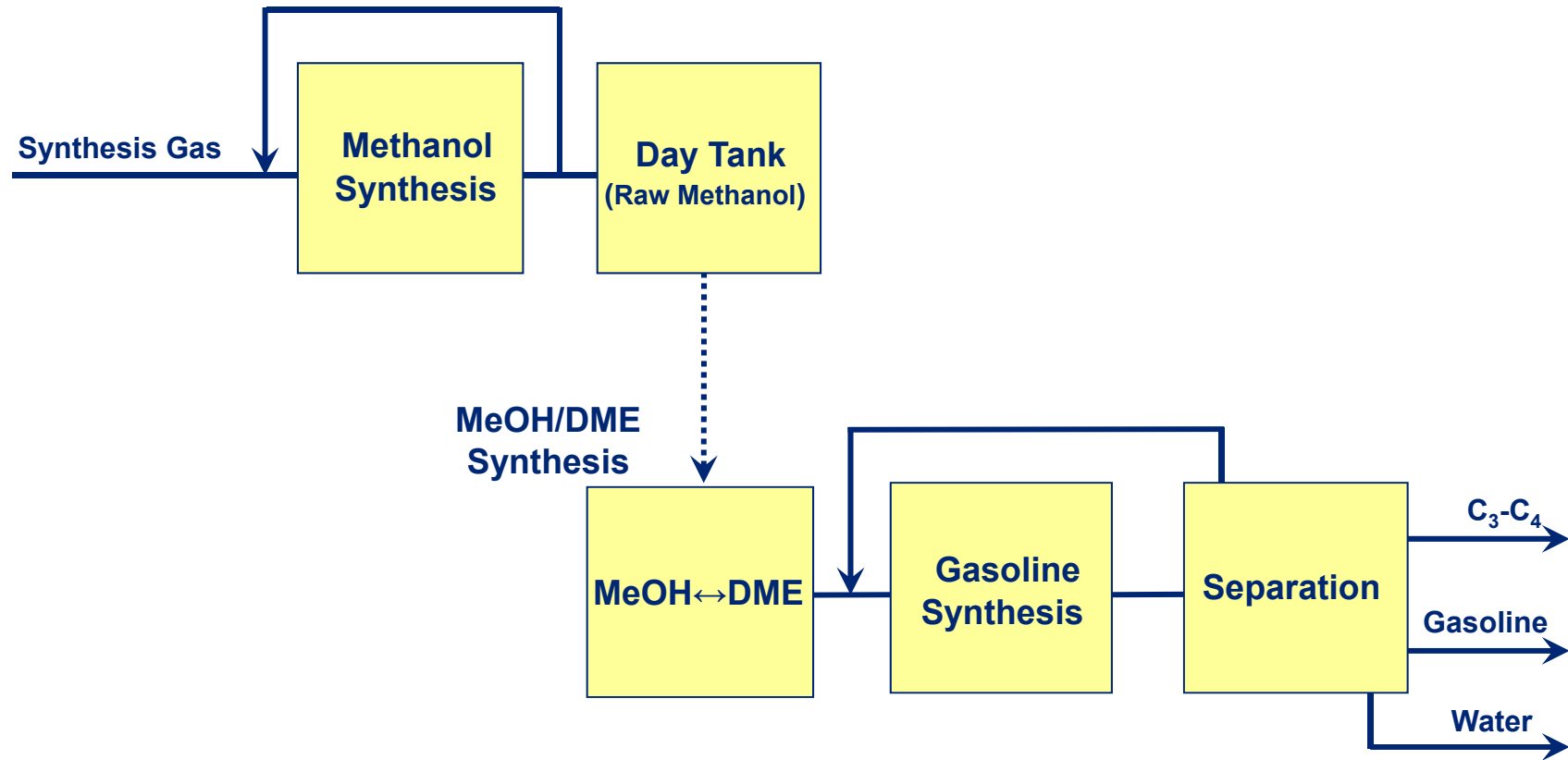
# Methanol from sustainable sources

## BioDME Black Liqour to Green DME Demo



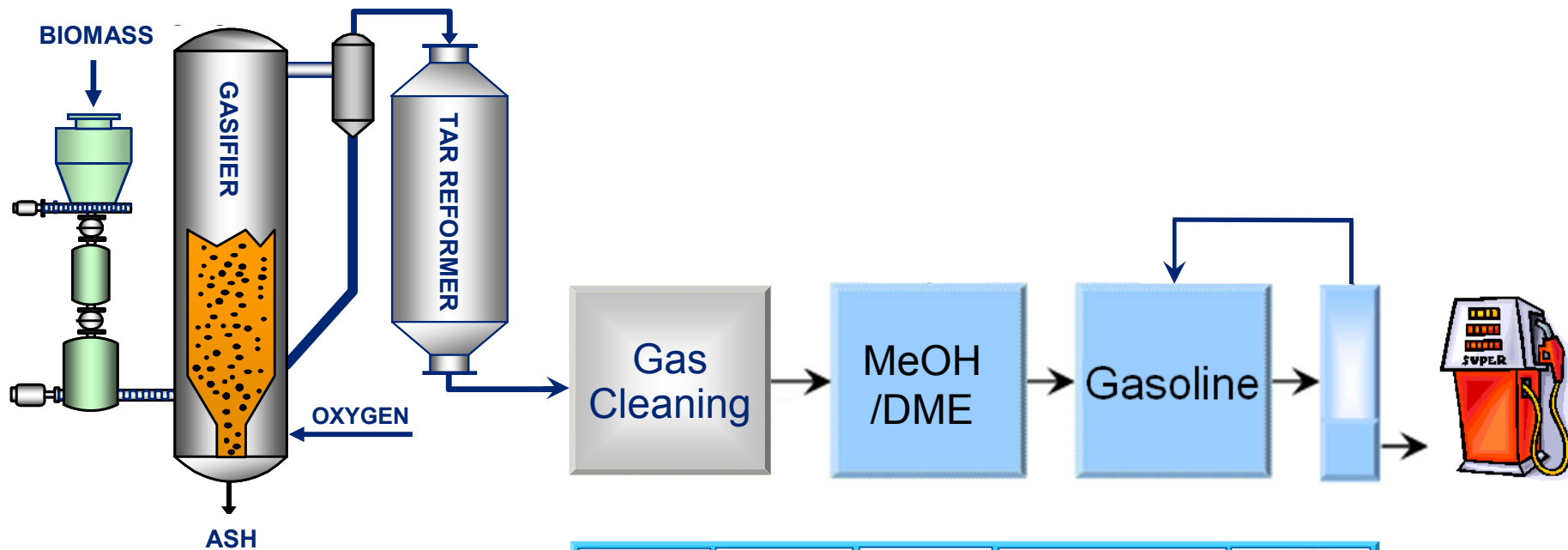
# TMGAS

## Topsoe Integrated Gasoline Synthesis

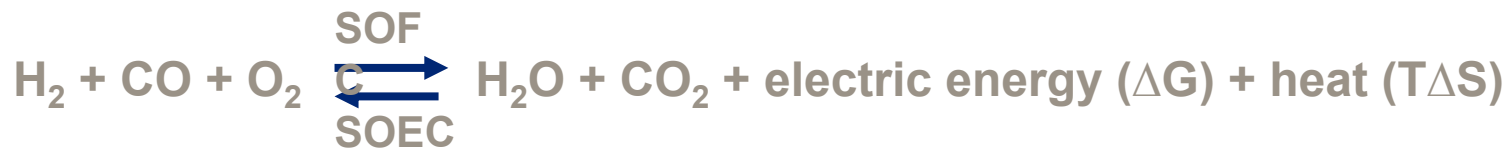
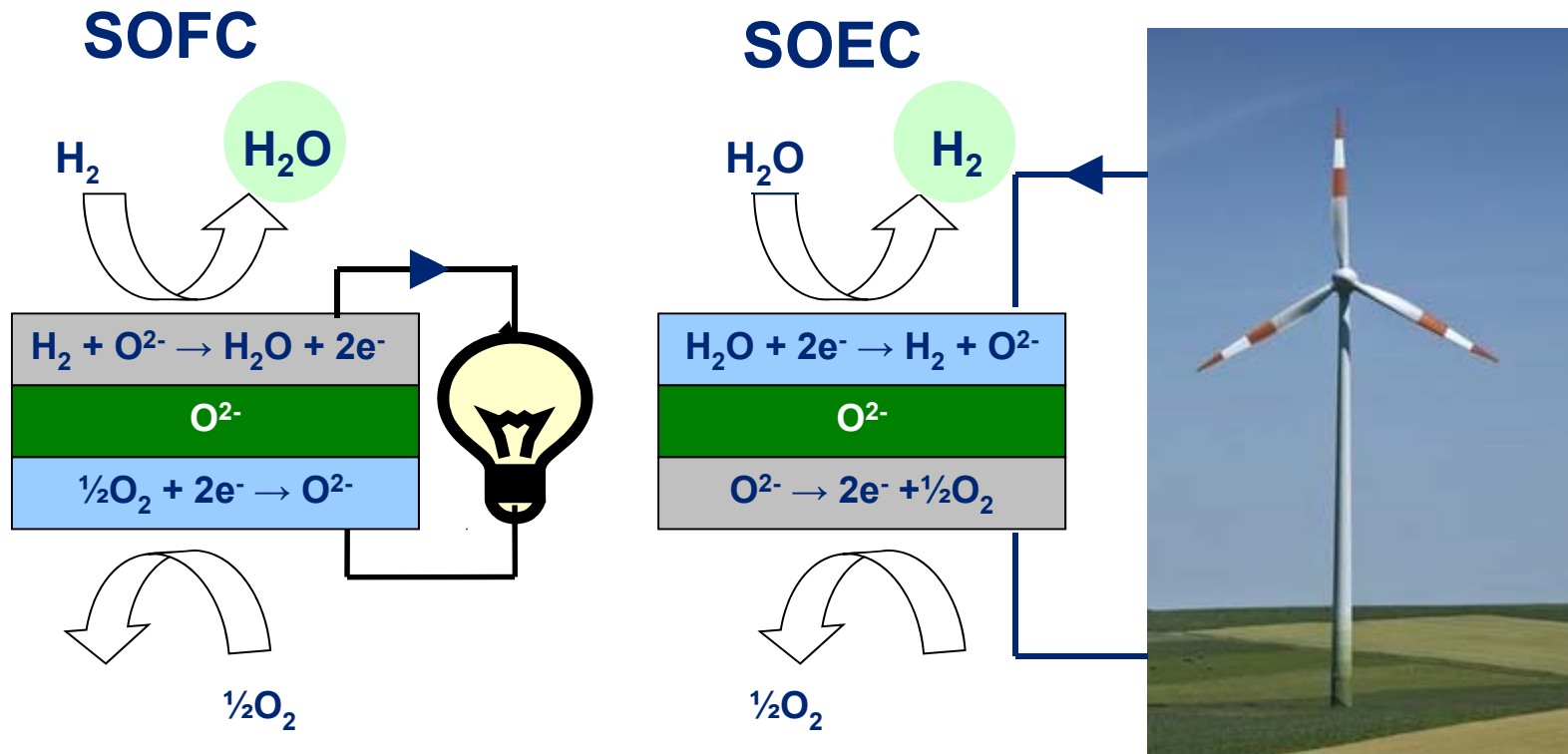


# 25 bbl/d Demonstration Plant

Green Gasoline from Wood Using Carbona Gasification and Topsoe TIGAS Processes

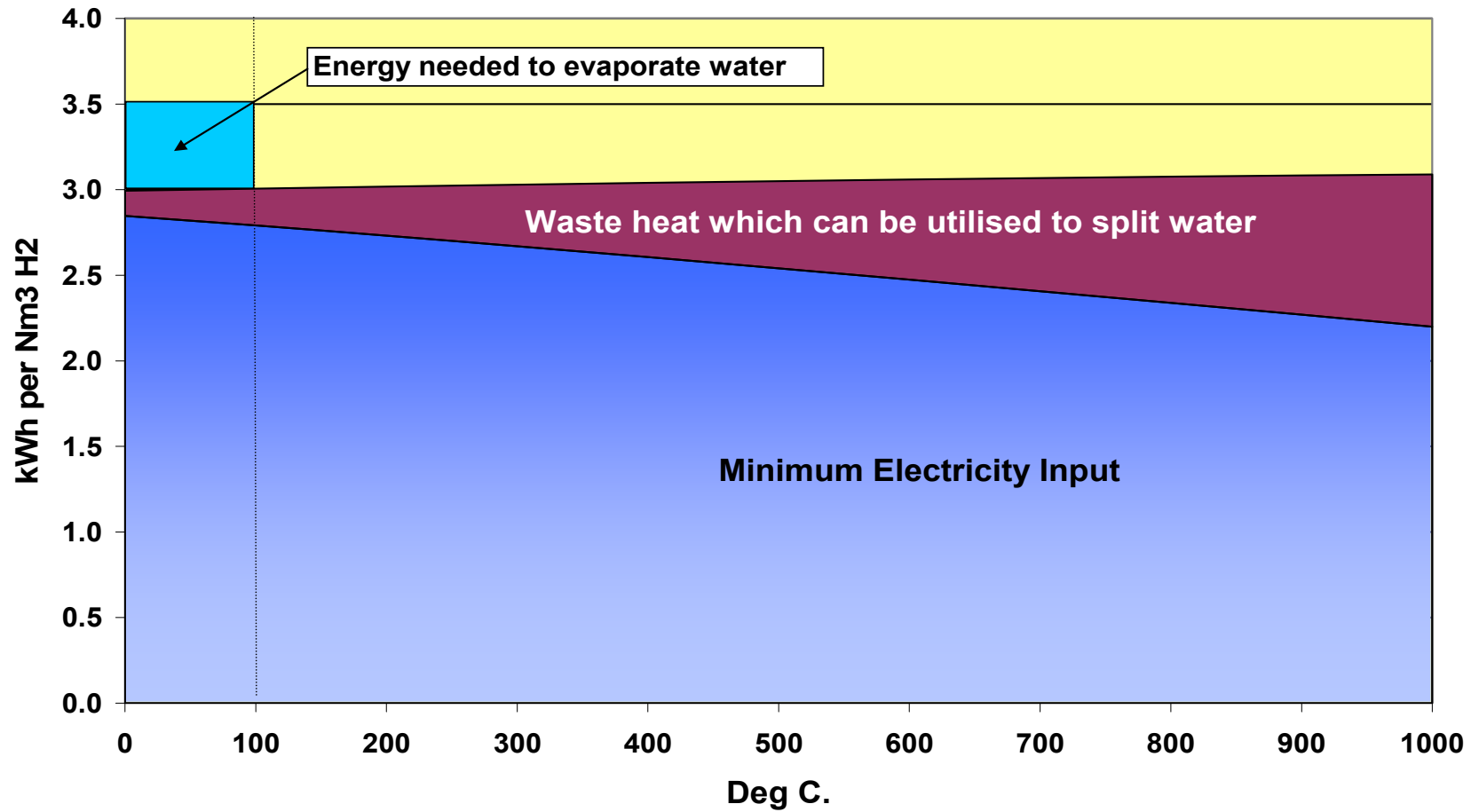


# Fuel Cell and Electrolyser



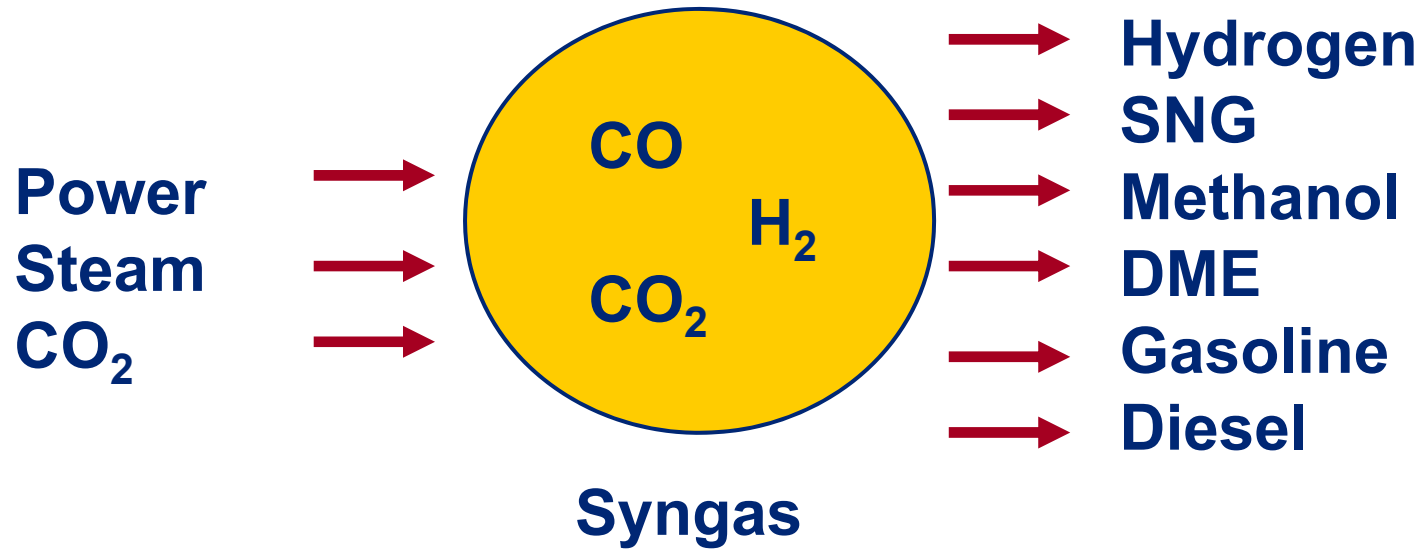
# SOEC more efficient than present Electrolysers

## Internal waste heat used to split water



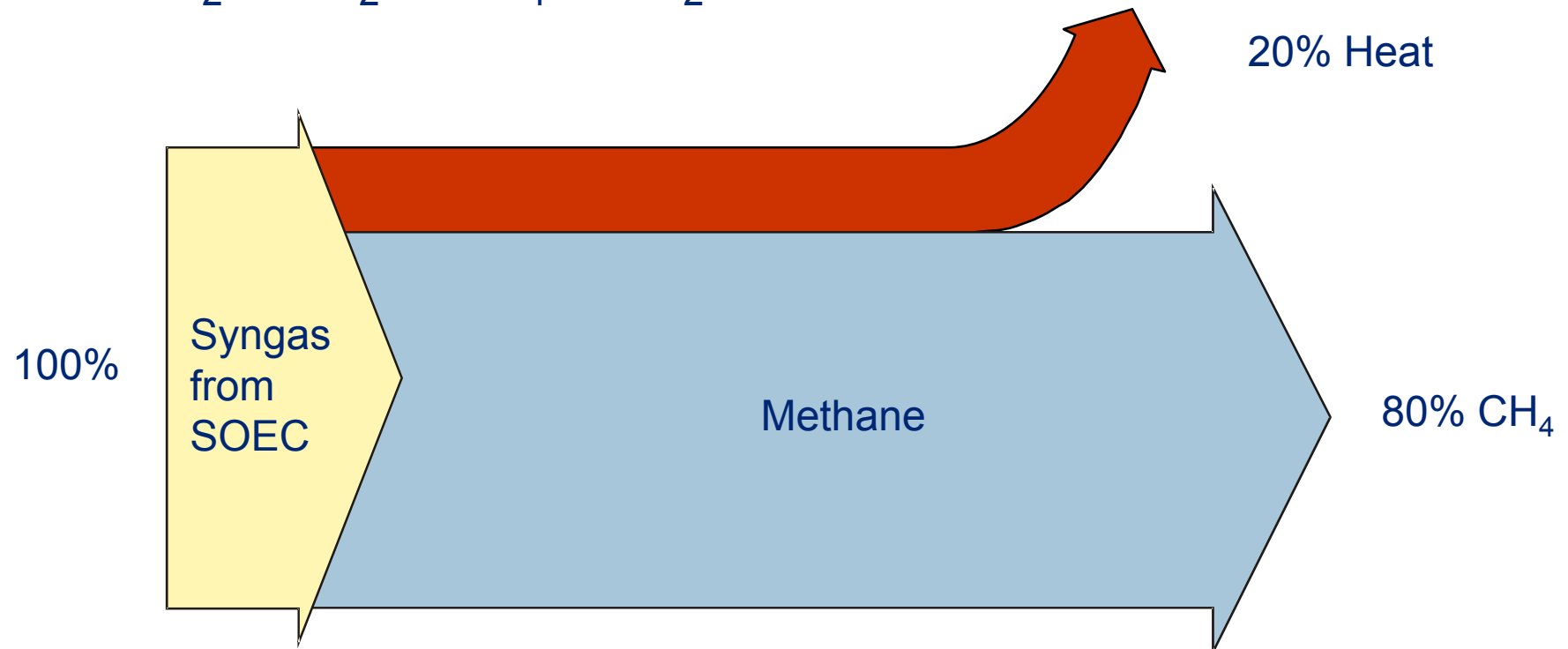


# Electrolysis



# Methanation essentials

- $\text{CO} + 3\text{H}_2 = \text{CH}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- $\text{CO}_2 + 4\text{H}_2 = \text{CH}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

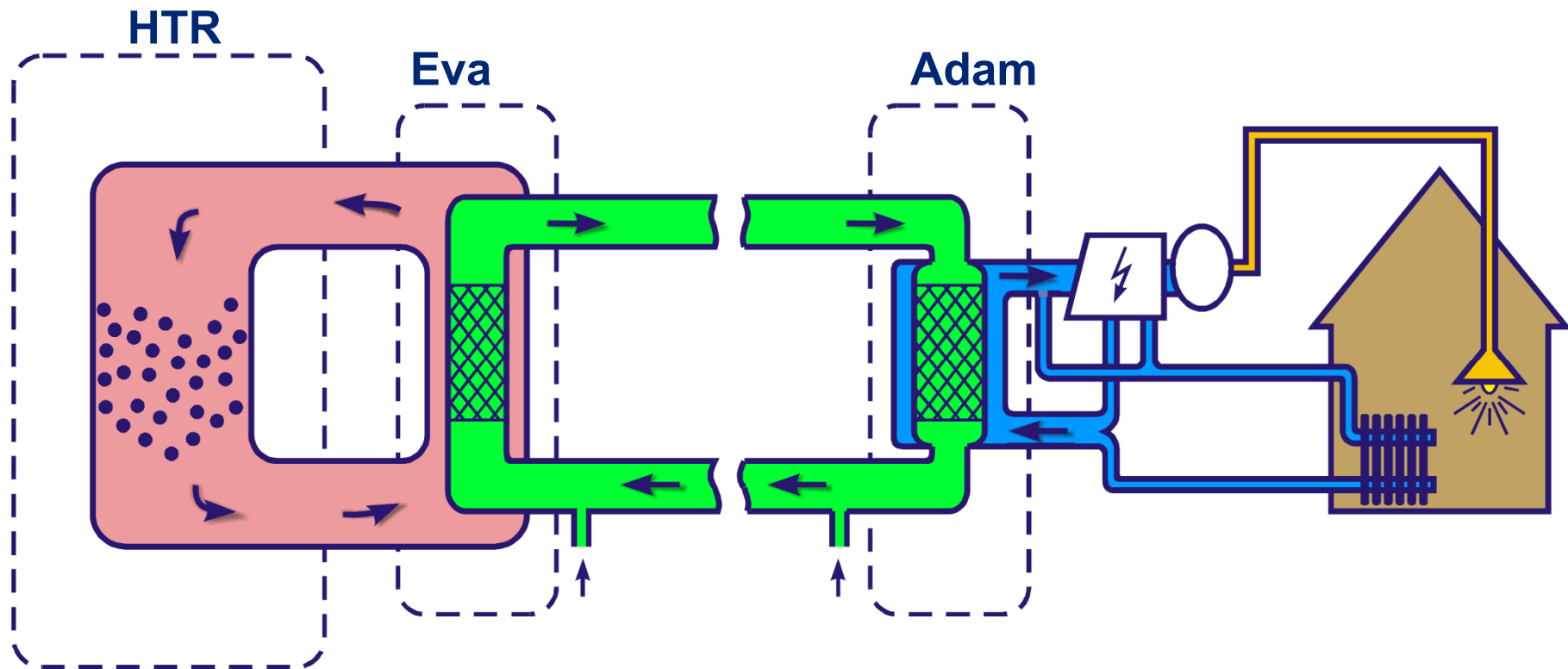


Heat recovery is the key to an efficient plant!

# Energy transportation system

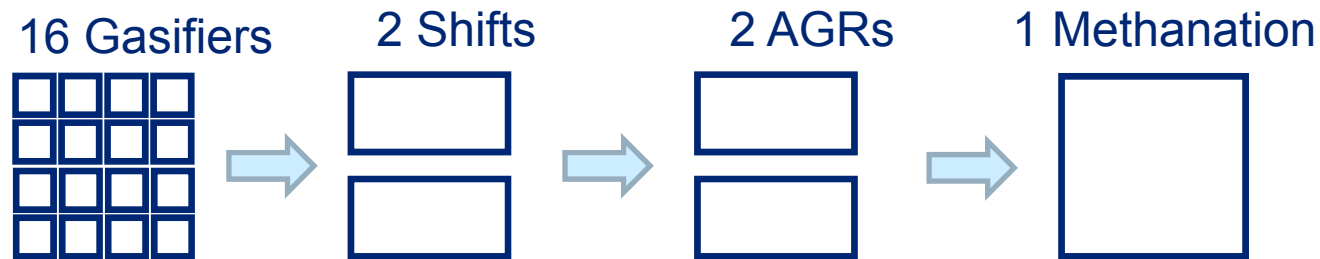
## Chemical recuperation of nuclear energy

### Experiments in Jülich 1980's

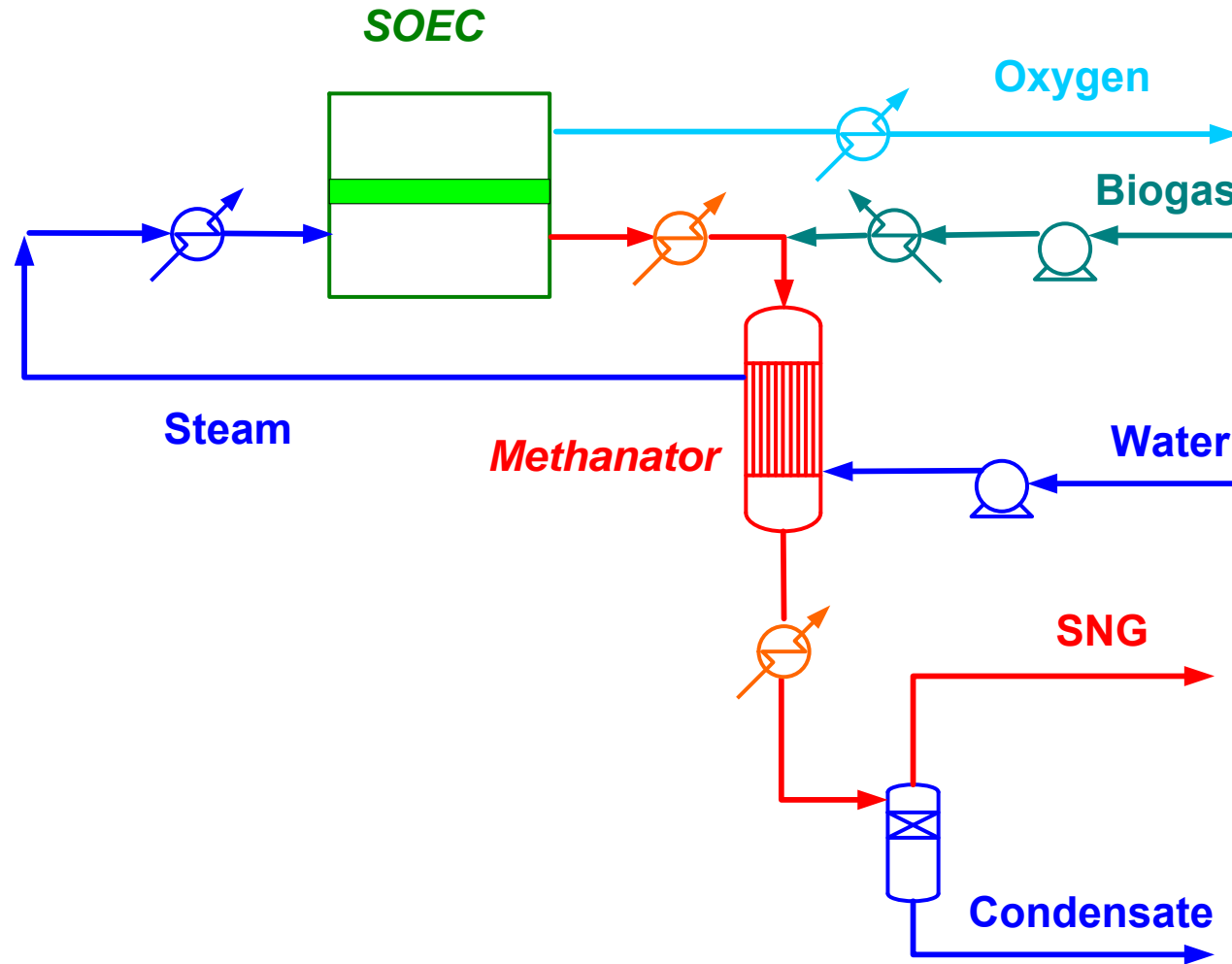


# How to build the world largest SNG plant

- Qinghua plant is largest single line SNG (methanation) in world.

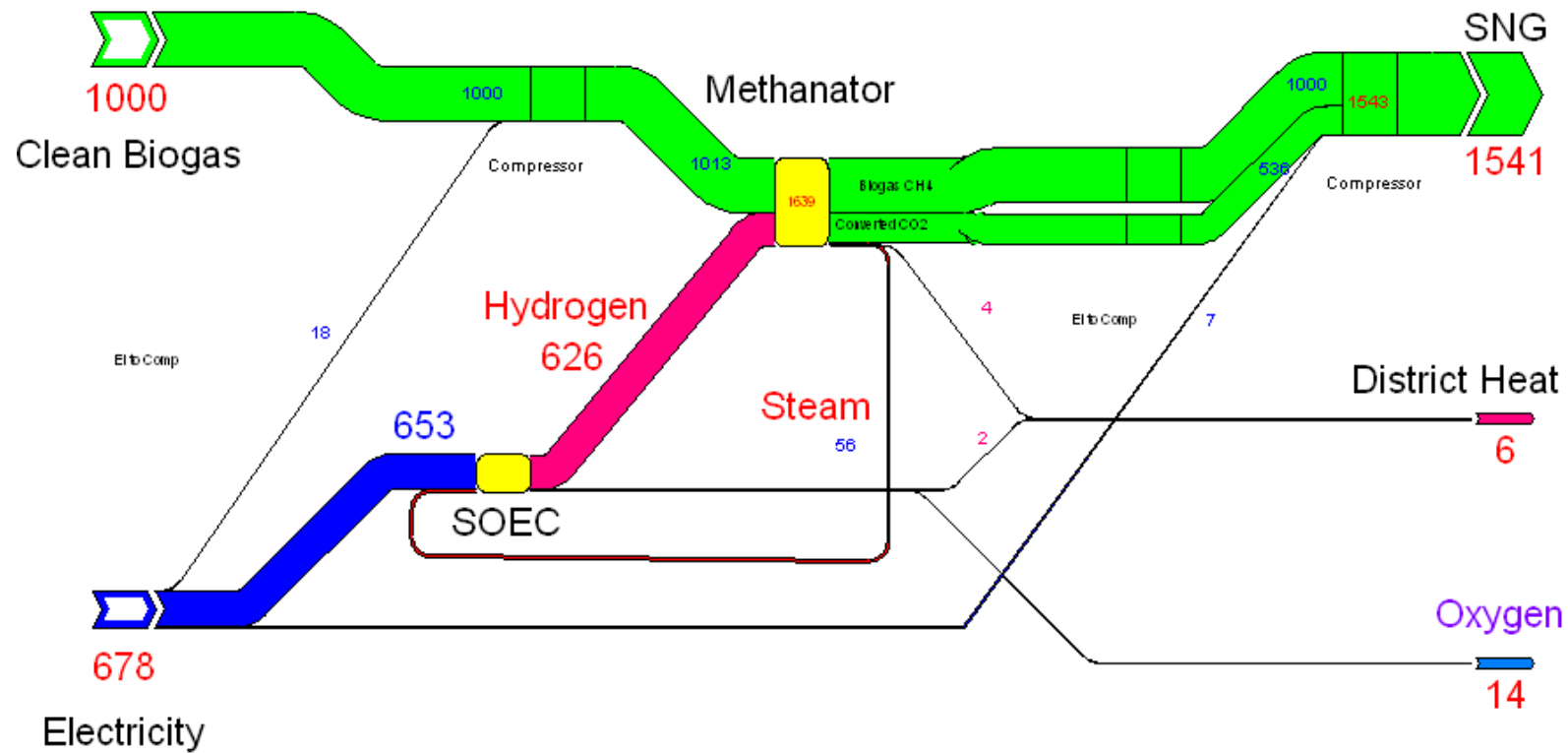


# Biogas to SNG via SOEC and methanation of the CO<sub>2</sub> in the biogas



# Exergy Flows in CO<sub>2</sub> case

Power to Gas Exergy Efficiency 79.8 %



# New EUDP project 40 kW SOEC and 10 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h methane



**Participants:**  
Haldor Topsøe A/S  
Aarhus University  
HMN Naturgas  
Naturgas Fyn  
EnergiMidt  
Xergi  
DGC  
PlanEnergi  
Ea Energianalyse  
Cemtec

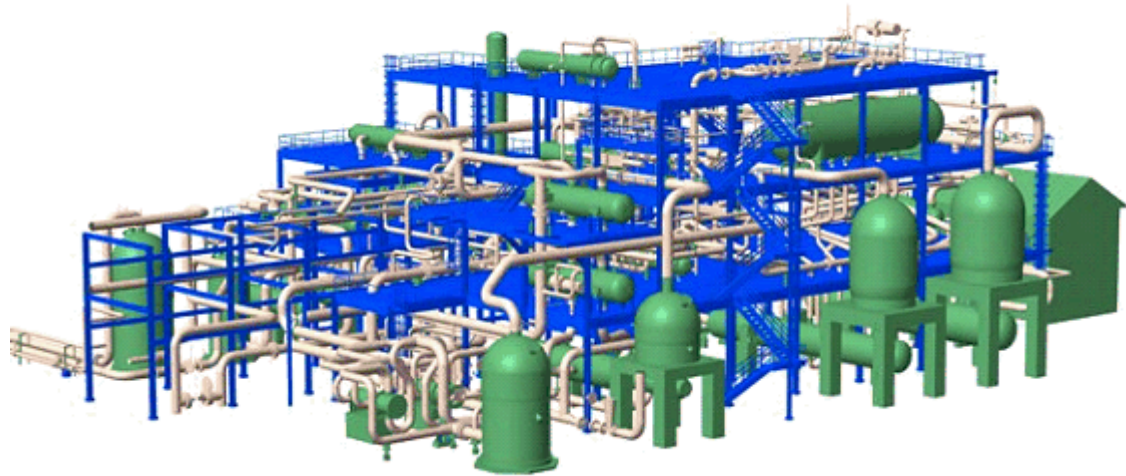
**Coordinator:**  
**HALDOR TOPSØE**   
CATALYSING YOUR BUSINESS

Duration:  
June 2013 -  
July 2016  
Project sum:  
5.3 mio €  
Location:  
Foulum



# Challenges no 2: Biogas plants are small

- First modern SNG plant to start up is in China: Xinjiang Qinghua

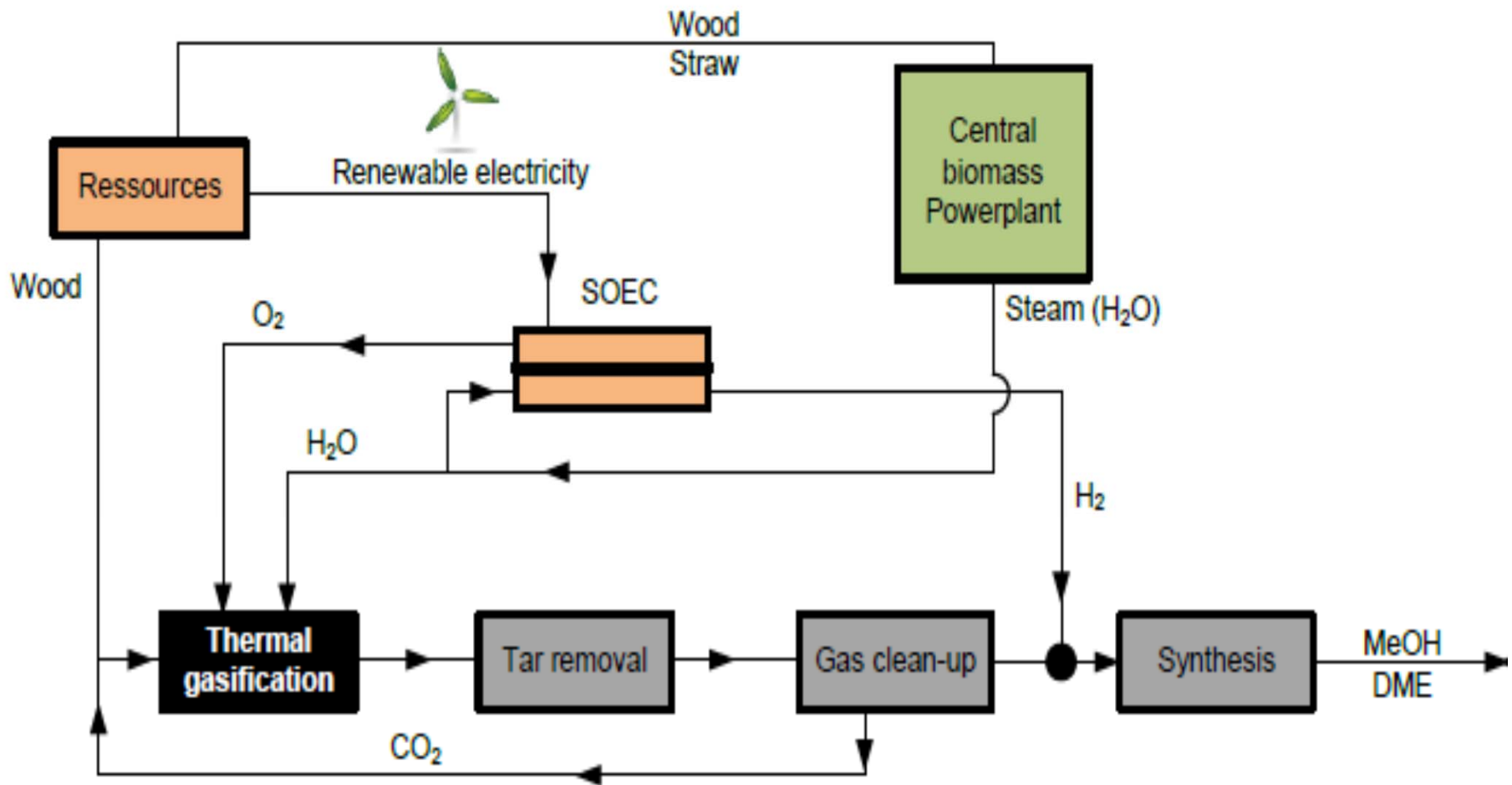


- Largest single train SNG plant ever: 1,4 billion Nm<sup>3</sup>/year = 50 PJ/year
- One biomass gasification plant @ 200 MW wood = 4 PJ/year
- One biogas upgrading plant @ 5 million Nm<sup>3</sup> biogas = 0,06 PJ/year

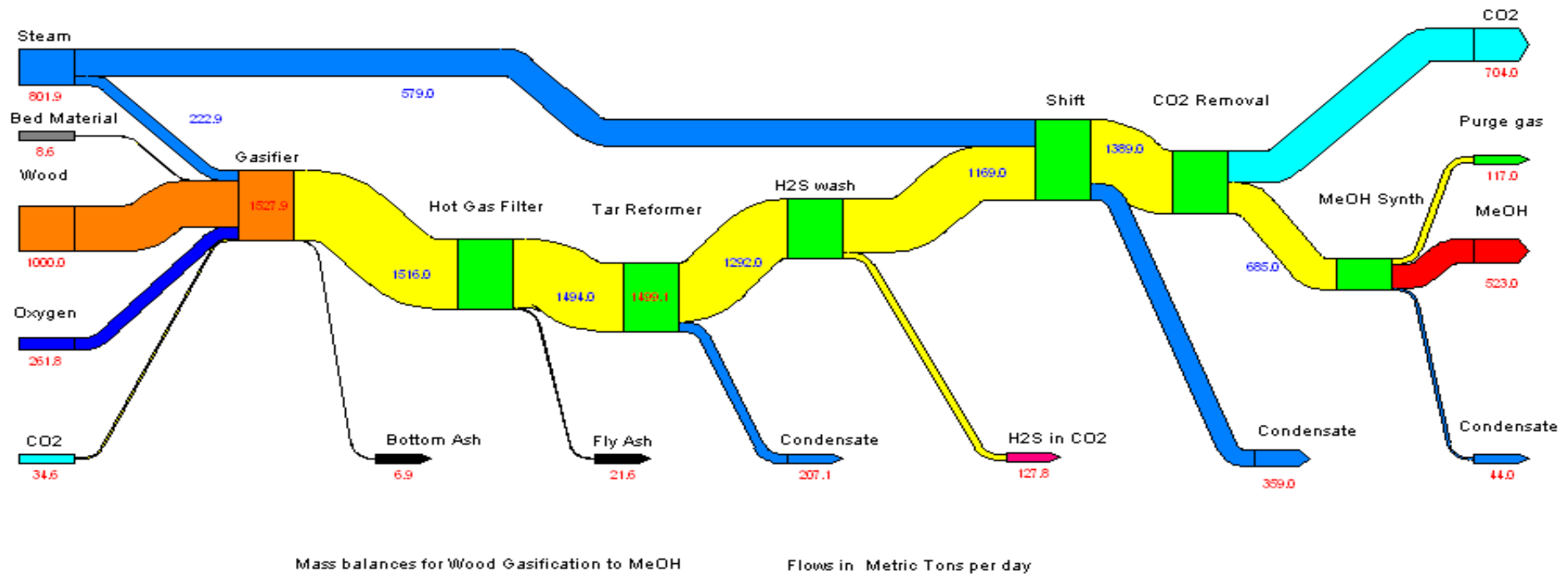
We need economy of numbers not scale !



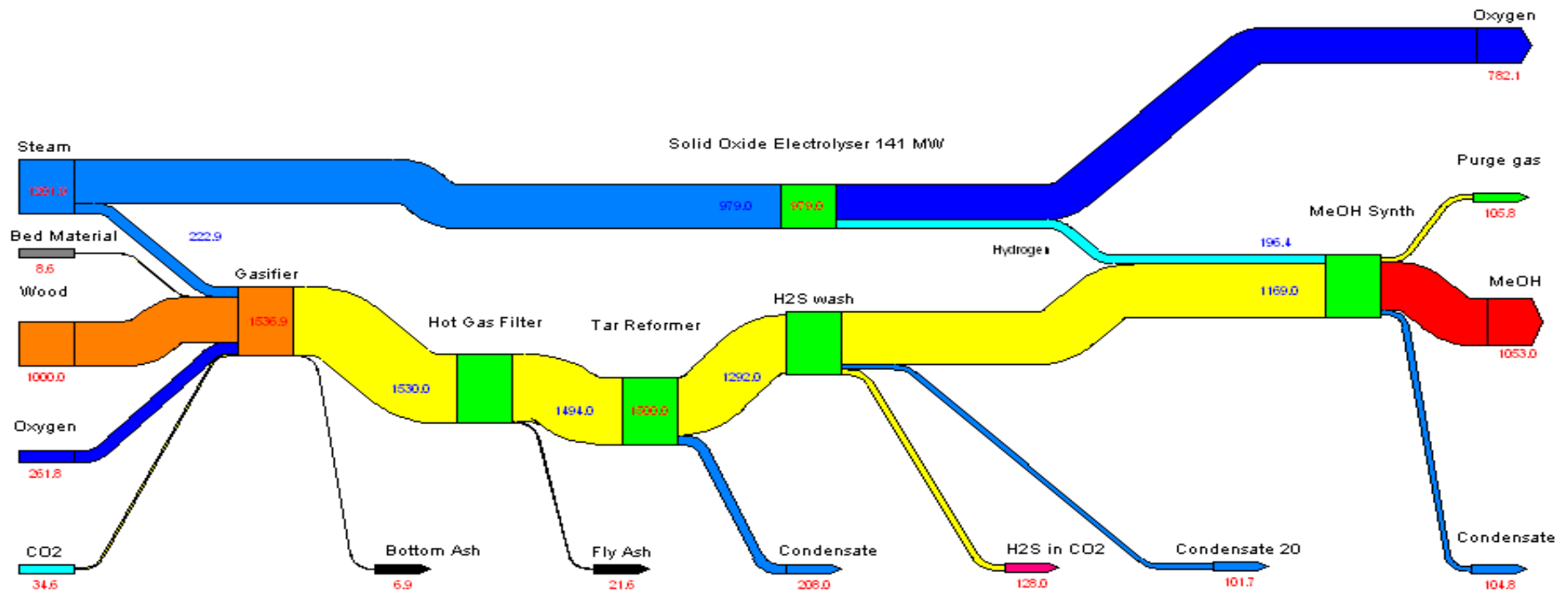
# GreenSynFuel Project



# Mass Flows in Wood to MeOH



# Mass Flows in Wood + SOEC to MeOH



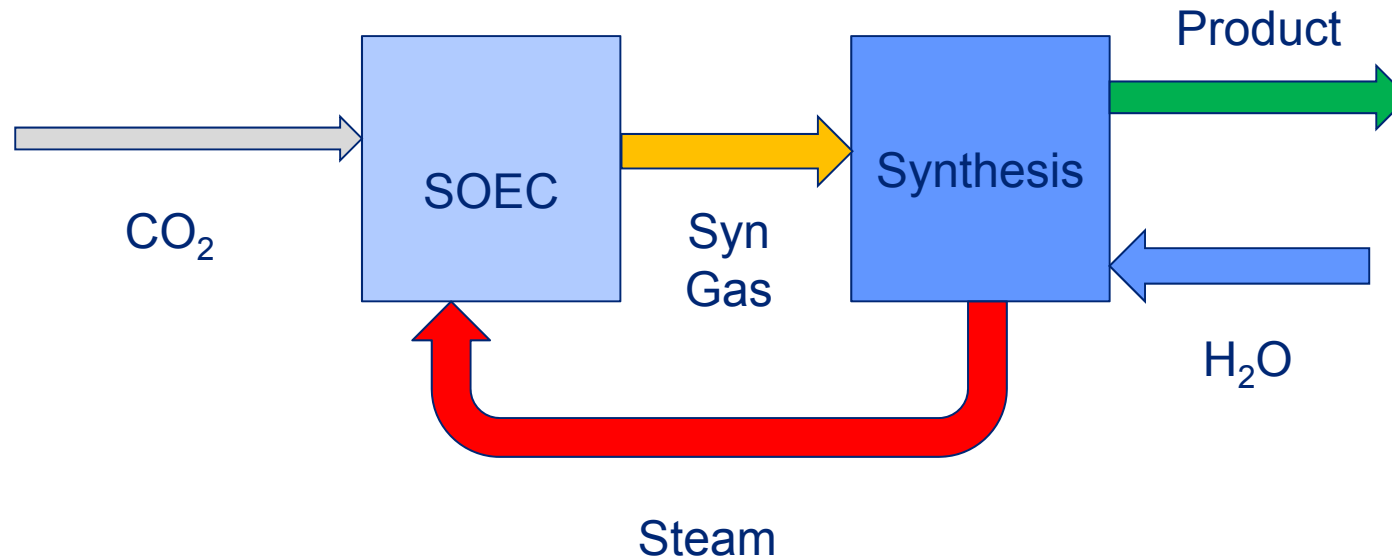
Mass balances for combined Wood Gasification and SOEC to MeOH

Flows in Metric Tons per day

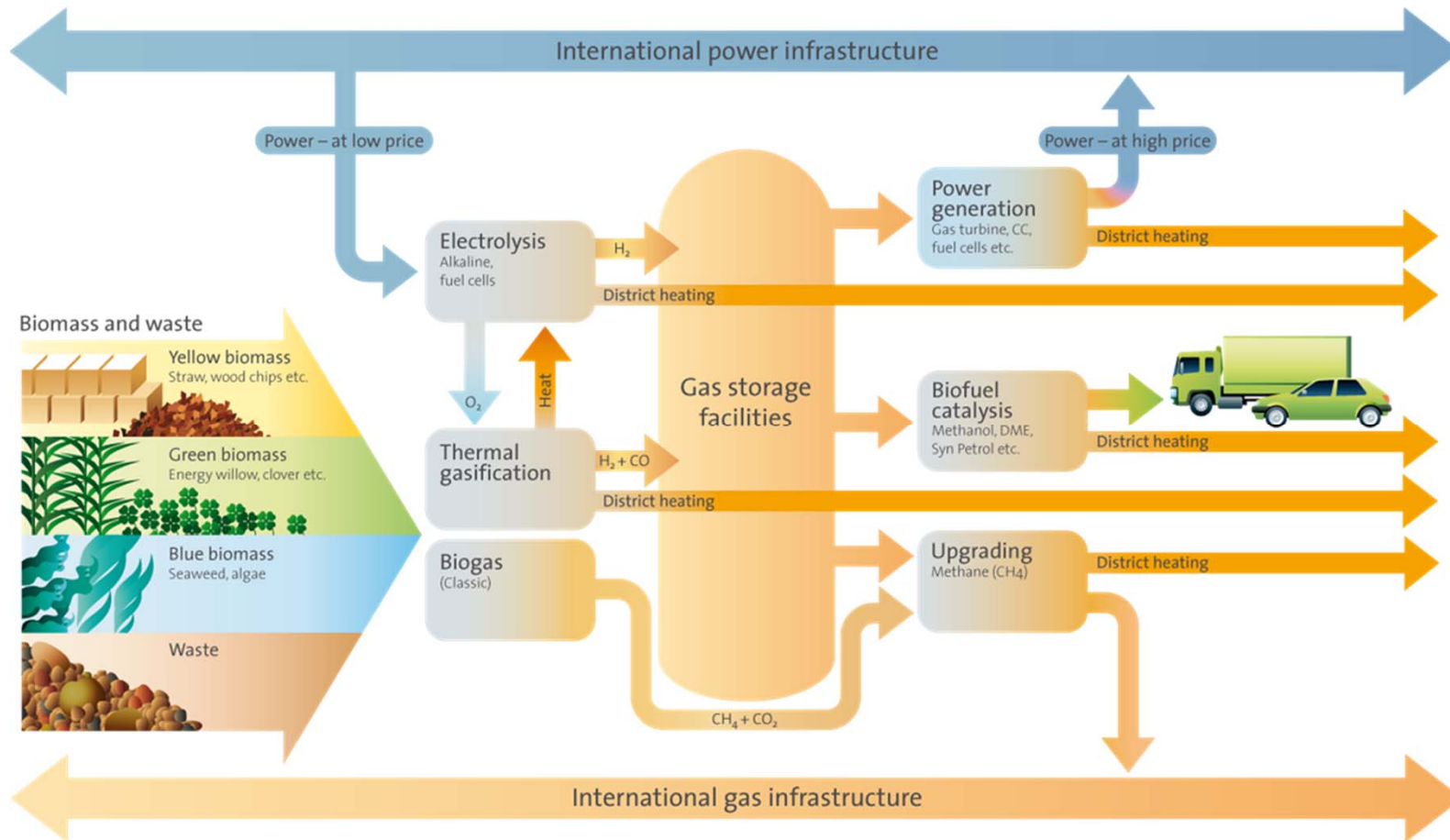
# Efficiencies: Stand alone wood gasifier and gasifier plus SOEC

<b>LHV Efficiency %</b>	<b>Wood Gasifier alone</b>	<b>Wood gasifier Plus SOEC</b>
<b>Methanol</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>70.8</b>
District Heat	22.6	10.8
Total	81.8	81.6

# Synergy between SOEC and fuel synthesis



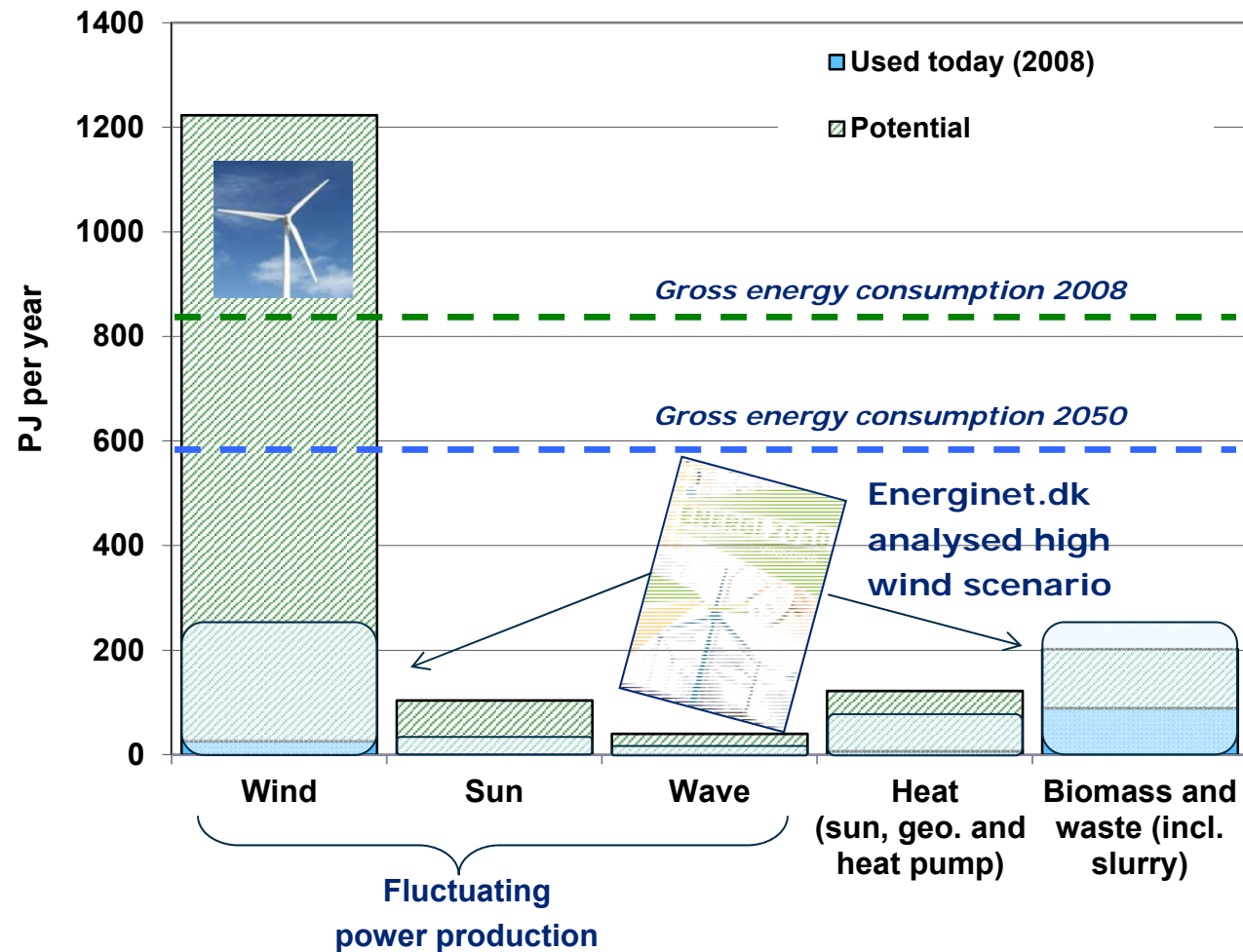
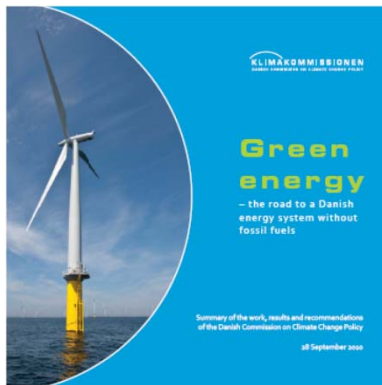
# Using the gas system as a key integrator



Biogas in the future  
integrated energy system

# Domestic renewable resources to reach 100 per cent renewable energy by 2050

*Danish Commission on Climate Change Policy, 2010*



Source: **ENERGINET/DK**

# Storage of Wind Energy

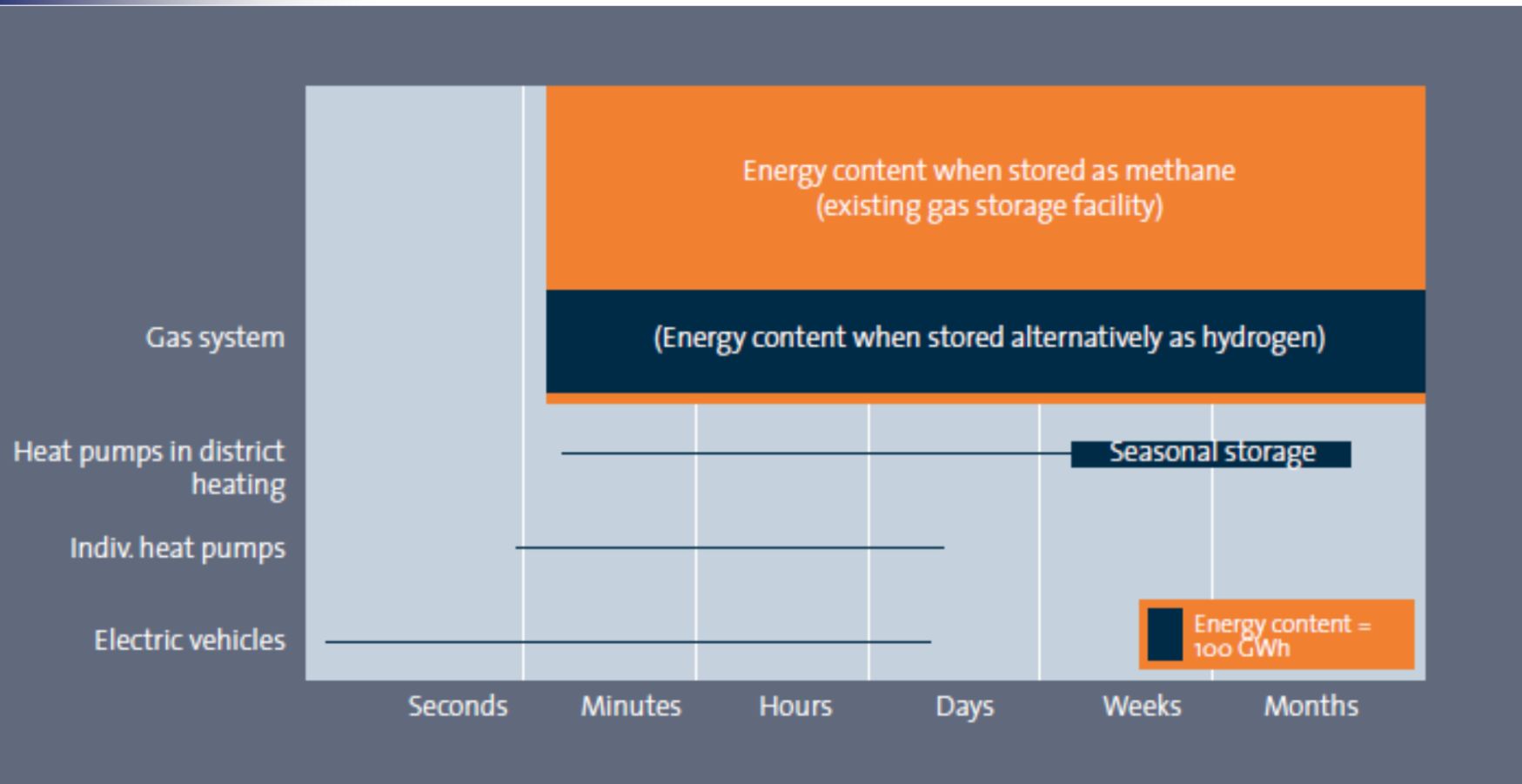
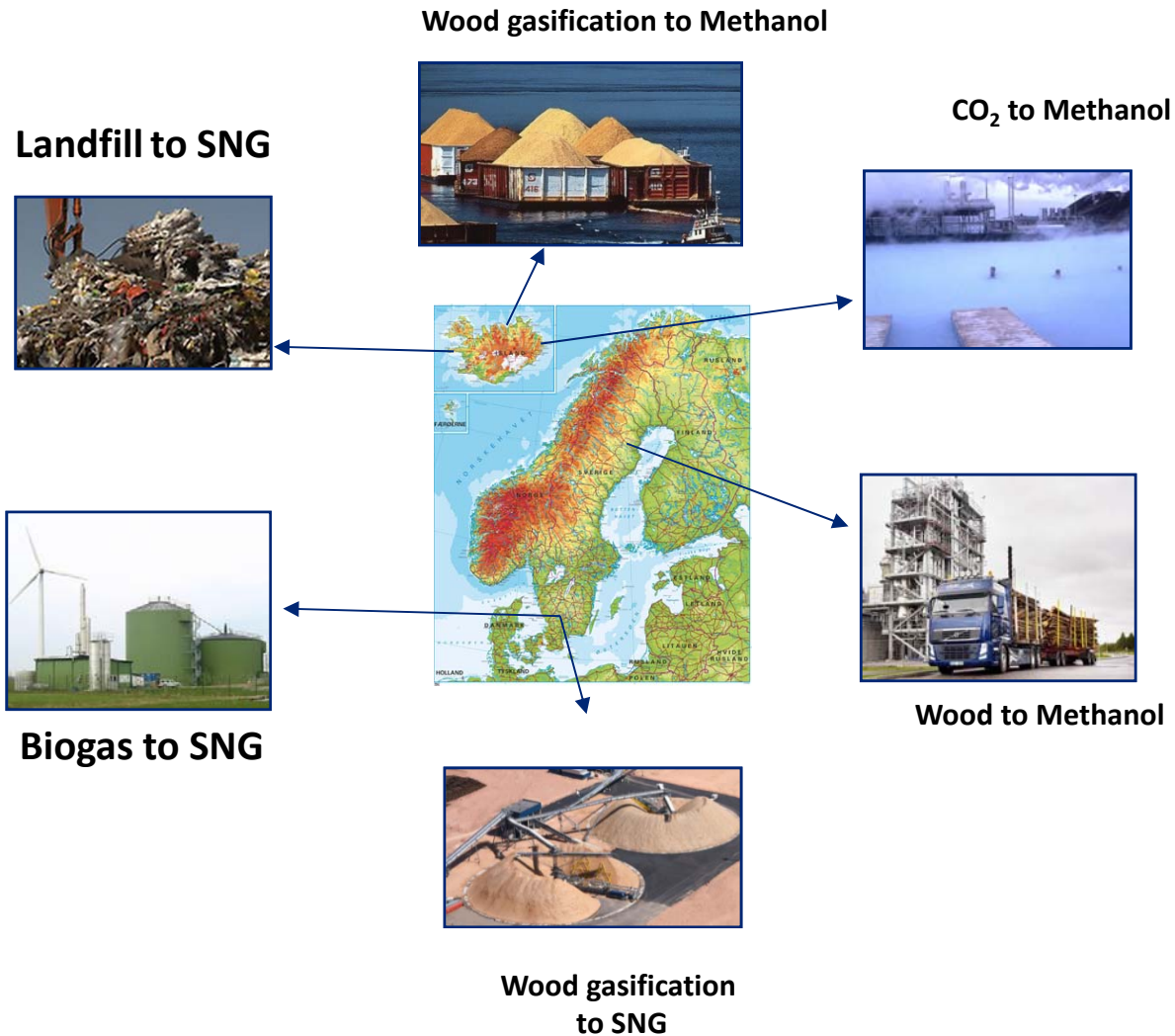


Figure 1-8: Energy content (electricity input) of different storage types in the energy system. The orange areas show the size of the potential energy storage. For gas, the small black box indicates the content if the gas is stored as hydrogen rather than methane.



# CO<sub>2</sub> Electrofuel Project Sponsored by NER



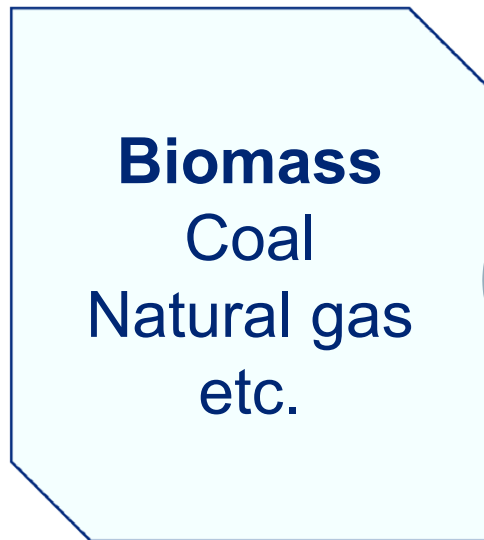
# Conclusions

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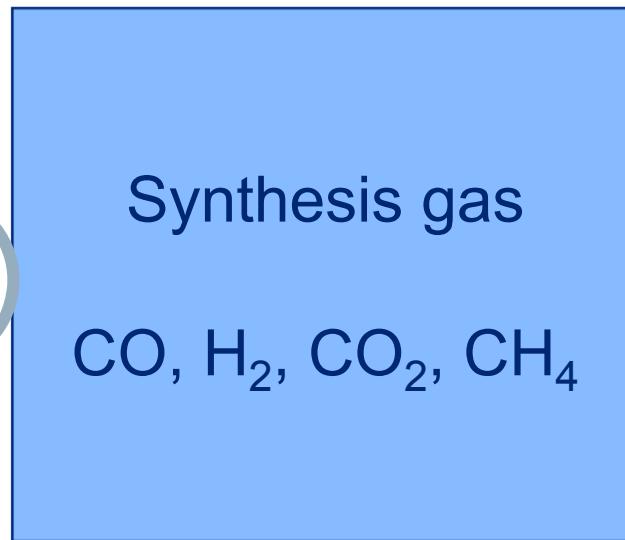
- Dusty tar reforming is now commercially proven
- Clean tar reforming has been demonstrated in connection with successful meOH/DME and gasoline synthesis at 25 bbl/day
- Sustained black liquor to DME has been proven at 4 MTPD scale and truck operation as well
- Coupling SOEC with biomass gasification can double the biomass potential by converting excess carbon.

# Gasification process

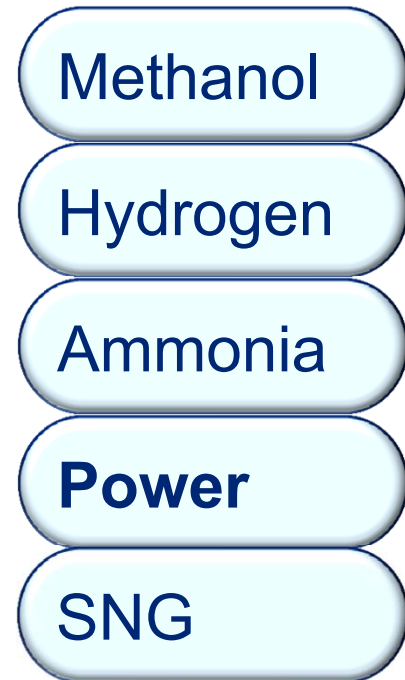
**Raw materials  
for gasification**



**Building blocks**



**Products**



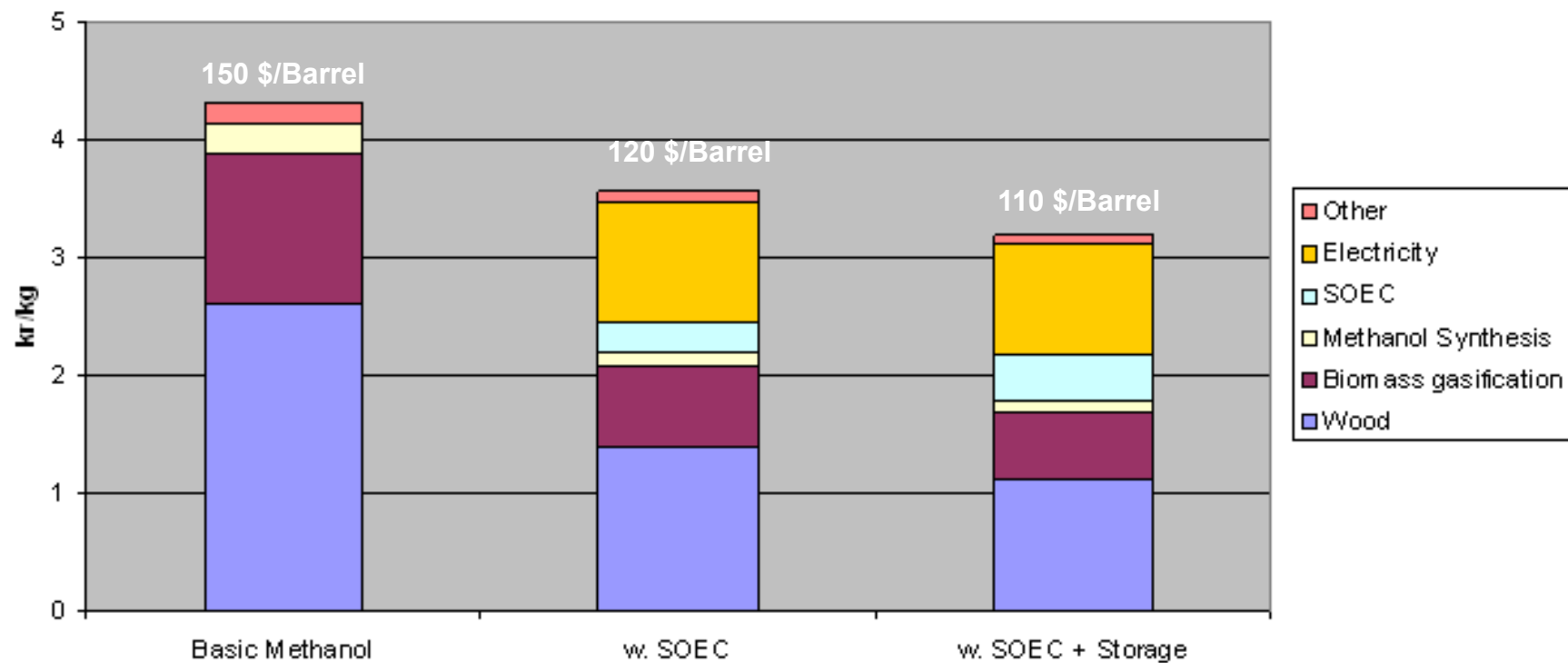
etc.

Tar removal

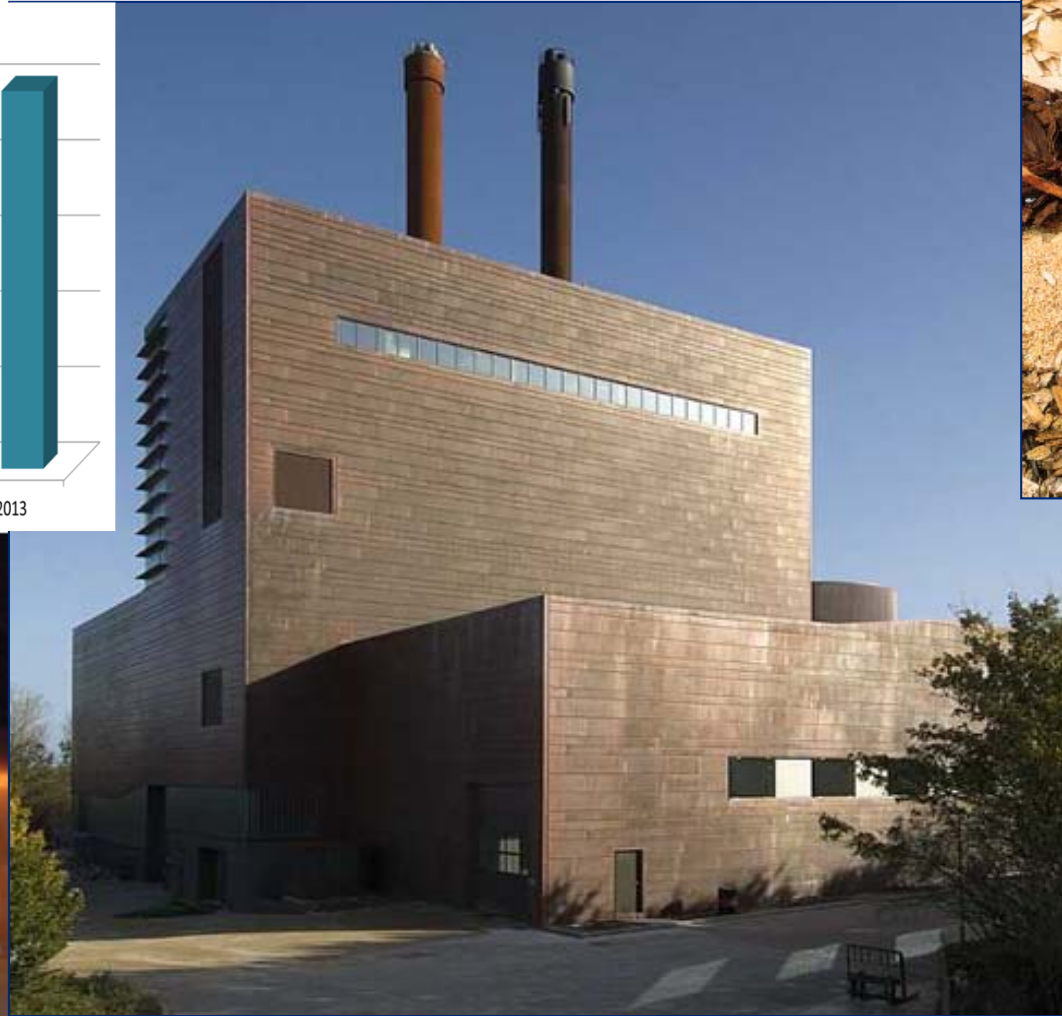
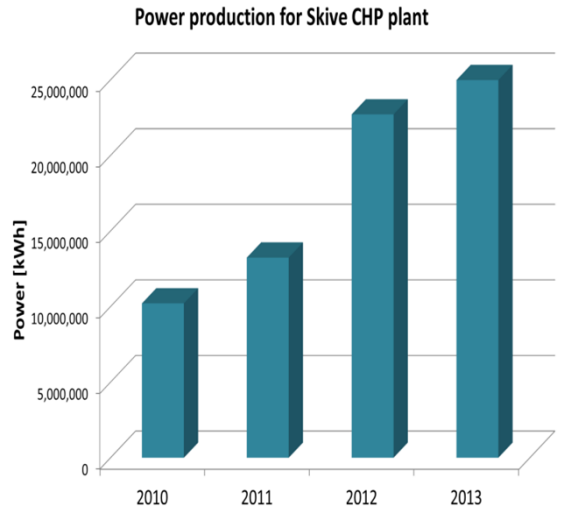


# Is this (economically) viable?

Wood to Methanol price estimates



# Skive District Heating/Power Plant



CO	23.41
CO <sub>2</sub>	9.90
H <sub>2</sub>	20.71
H <sub>2</sub> O	3.32
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.93
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	0.001
C <sub>x</sub> H <sub>y</sub>	0.001
N <sub>2</sub>	41.72

≈ 16 MW<sub>th</sub>

# Topsoe SNG plants

Client	Location	Capacity Nm <sup>3</sup> /yr	Year awarded	Start-up
Qinghua	China	1.4 billion	2009	<b>2013</b>
Gobigas (Bio-based)	Gothenburg, Sweden	19.4 million	2010	2014
Petrochina (COG)	Wuhai, Inner Mongolia, China	2 x 450 million	2011	<b>2013</b>
Huineng	Inner Mongolia, China	400 million	2011	2014
CNOOC (COG)	Shandong, China	160 million	2011	<b>2013</b>
CPI	Yili, Xinjiang, China	2 x 1 billion	2011	2015
POSCO	South Korea	700 million	2010	2014
Guizhou	Guizhou, China	290 million	2013	2015
SANJU (COG)	Inner mongolia	470 million	2014	2014