


Regional Study for gas supply expansion for Podravje, Slovenia

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Are there existing filling stations and natural gas and biogas driven cars already in the region?	No

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1. Expansion Plans for gas filling stations

1.1. Identify regional network or partners for new filling stations

No network: There are 16 natural gas supply companies in Slovenia and they are associated in the National associations for natural gas.

According to their strategic documents there is no idea proposed about using the natural gas in transport sector. They do not want to take a risk to build a gas filling station (investment ca 100.000 EUR) if there is no customers. The network for natural gas supply is not very spread in Slovenia and therefore their main goal for the future is building the net. There are 4 biogas production plants in Slovenia. They all use biowaste from agriculture. It is very difficult to build a biogas plant in Slovenia. It takes a long time to get all the permission because environmental conditions are unacceptable by local population. All biogas plants are using biogas for cogeneration: electricity and heat production. The incentives on the national level are in a favor of electricity production. The producers get from 350 to 370 EUR per MWh of electricity produced. The contracting period for such premiums is 15 years. The economic evaluation of the production is therefore very positive. We were in a contact with the company that has made an economic research for upgrading the biogas for the use in cars and the results were very negative and such use is not acceptable.

There is no word about natural gas or biogas used in transport sector. It is not possible to buy a CNG car in Slovenia. They have to be specially ordered from abroad. There are some problems with the documentation for import of such cars.

1.2 Identify needs in your region

After a lot of activity in the field of spreading the information we have found that all national and local development programmes and financial sources are oriented only in following topics: In the frame of innovative local energy supply the following technological areas represent priorities:

- district heating systems using biomass, including the systems of heat and electricity co-generation;
- modern boilers and systems for co-generation of heat and electrical energy using biomass and natural gas;
- heat generation systems using biogas;
- generation of heat and electrical energy from geothermal energy.

The transport sector is dealing mostly with biodiesel.

1.3 Identify potential owners of new gas filling stations in your region

Noone is interested in having the filling station because of the priority to produce a electricity in cogeneration units fro gas or biogas and state is giving the subsidies for electricity.

1.4 Identify decision makers in your region

Slovenia has a central government system and the strategic documents in the field are prepared at national level. National Ministry for environment and spatial planning at national level and in very limited cases municipal authority.

1.5 What else is necessary to reach the planned expansion of gas filling stations in your region

To change the thinking of the people: the decision makers, public sector and also the gas supply sector

2. Expansion Plans for biogas plants

2.1. Identify regional network or partners for new biogas plants

The possible biogas plant investors are different companies – private and public but they all want to produce an electricity.

2.2 Identify needs in your region

In our region there are no big farmers, we do not separate a waste very efficient and our one water treatment plant has a technology where the production of biogas is not possible, it could be upgraded. The waste disposal site has a big difficulties with collecting a biogas and one very small biogas plant is operating but is producing an electricity also.

2.3 Identify potential owners of new biogas plants in your region

2.4 Identify biogas plant decision makers in your region

Ministry for environment and spatial planning at national level

2.5 What else is necessary to reach the planned expansion of biogas plants in your region

To change completely the thinking of people. Also some energy experts are not aware of the positive sides of using a biogas. The priority a security of energy supply is not on the top of any agendas: political, economic and financial.

Expansion Plans for plants for upgrading biogas to biomethane

3.1. Identify regional network or partners for upgrading

No network – they do not even know that such possibility exist,.

3.2 Identify needs in your region

No need

3.3 Identify upgrading decision makers in your region

Ministry for environment and spatial planning at national level

3.5 What else is necessary expand the upgrading in your region

4. Other comments