

# (1) The VESTA research project

## (2) HT-ATES in a deep carbonate aquifer

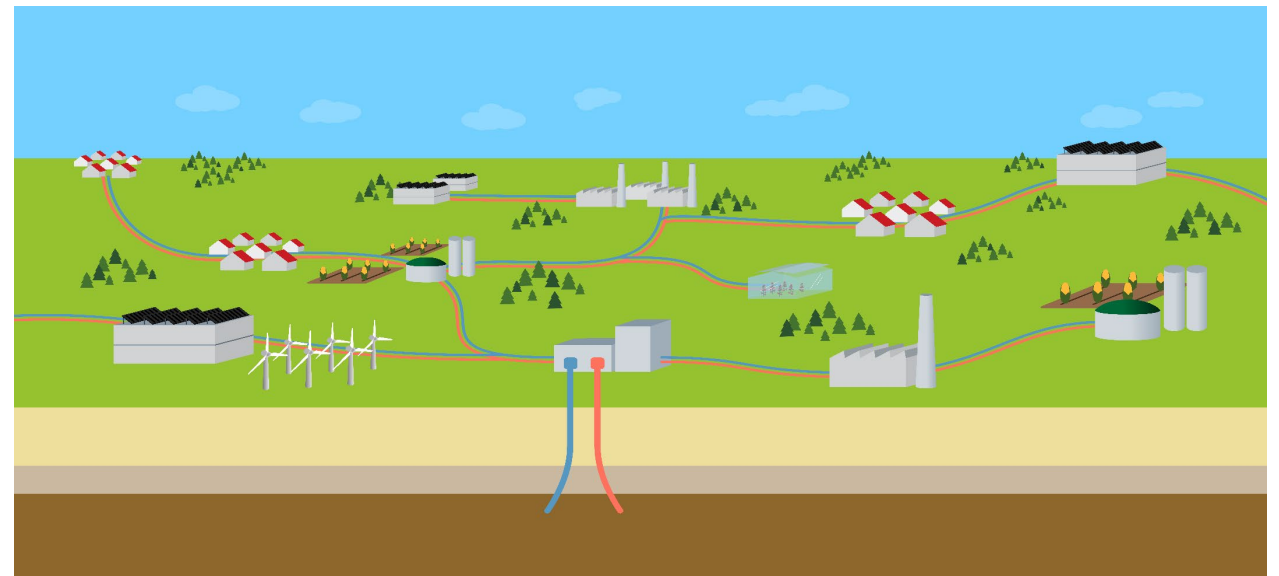
Thorsten Hörbrand, Maximilian Mayr & Jochen Conrad

## VESTA – Very-High Temperature Heat Aquifer Storage

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*1: KIT; 2: ENBW; 3: GFZ; 4: IEG; 5: SWM; 6: GES; 7: INL; 8: LBNL*



# VESTA – Very-High Temperature Heat Aquifer Storage

## ▶ Focus:

- ▶ Scientific investigations on high-temperature underground storage (HTS)
- ▶ Data from demonstration projects

## ▶ Joint project by 8 partners

### ▶ Germany

- ▶ Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) (Coordination)
- ▶ GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
- ▶ Fraunhofer Research Institution for Energy Infrastructures and Geothermal Systems IEG
- ▶ Stadtwerke München GmbH (SWM)
- ▶ EnBW Energie Baden-Württemberg AG

### ▶ Switzerland

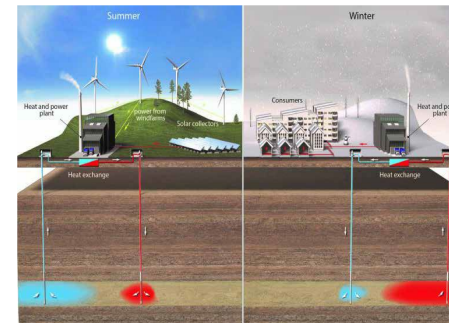
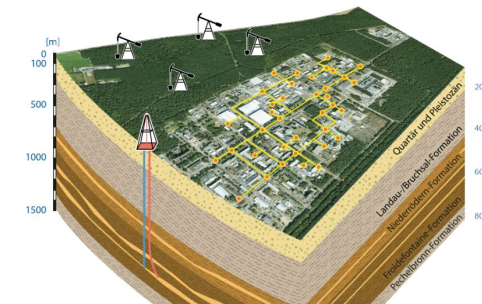
- ▶ Geo-Energie Suisse AG

### ▶ USA

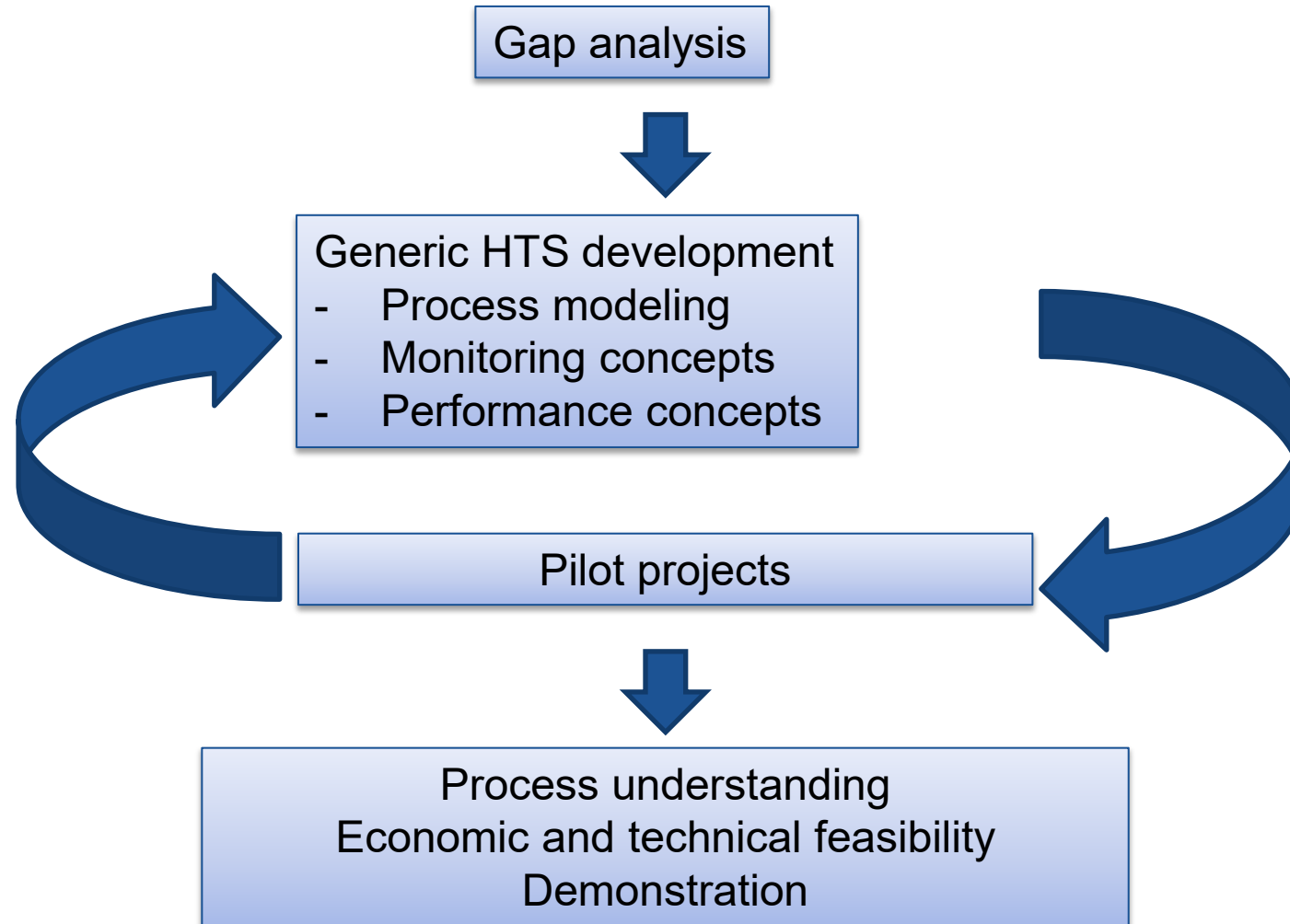
- ▶ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- ▶ Idaho National Laboratory

## ▶ Four pilot sites

- ▶ DeepStor at KIT
- ▶ Concept study Munich
- ▶ Geospeicher Forsthaus Bern
- ▶ Concept study Bochum



# VESTA – Working structure



# VESTA – Pilot sites

## DeepStor

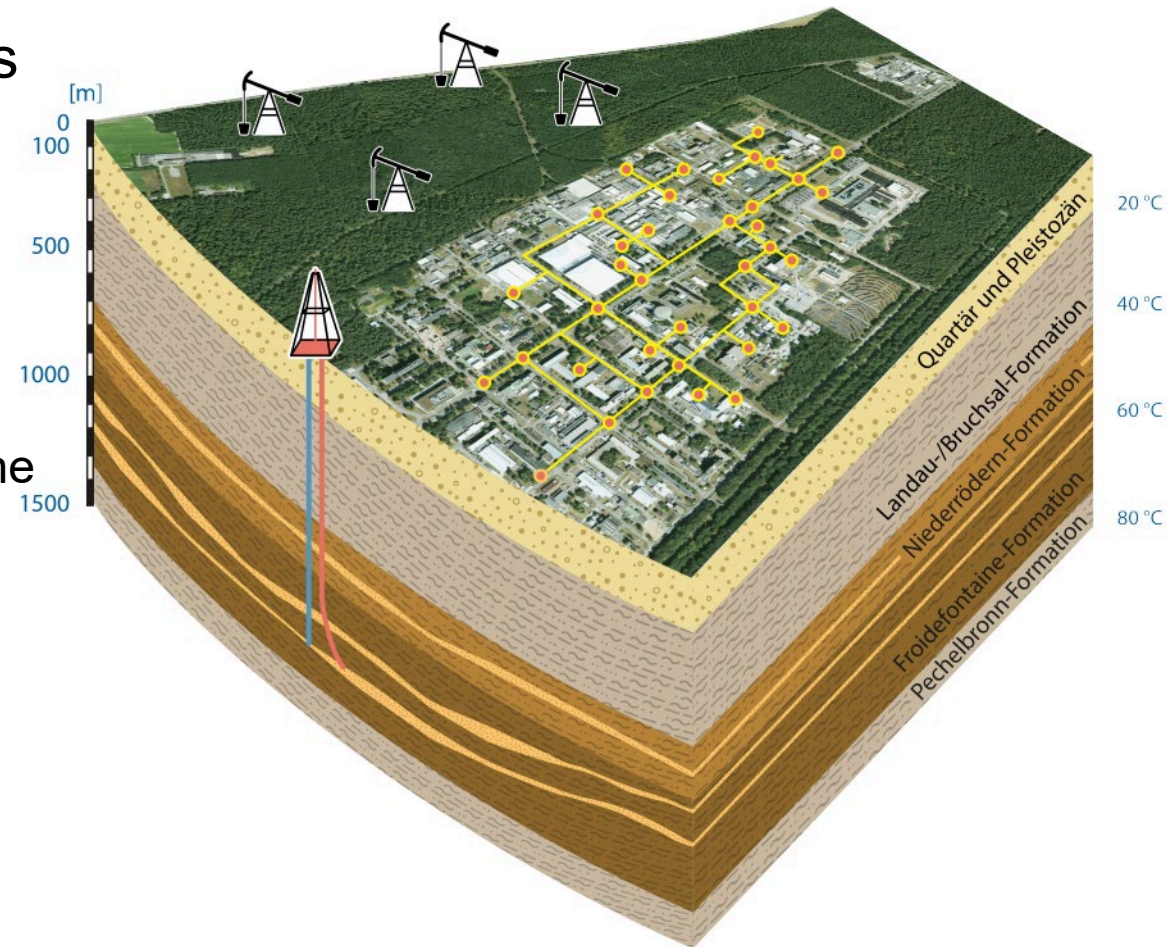
- ▶ Geothermal utilization of depleted oil reservoirs  
→ Transition from hydrocarbon production to geothermal storage

### ▶ Advantages

- ▶ High storage capacity of existing hydrocarbon wells in the Upper Rhine Graben (*Stricker et al. 2020*)
- ▶ Well explored
- ▶ Proven record of production
- ▶ Huge potential worldwide

### ▶ Research infrastructure DeepStor:

- ▶ Storage in water-bearing rim of depleted oil reservoir
- ▶ Analogue model for urban setting
- ▶ Risk sensitive approach due to highly sensitive infrastructure at Campus



*HTS at KIT Campus North*

*location of former oil wells and existing district heating network*

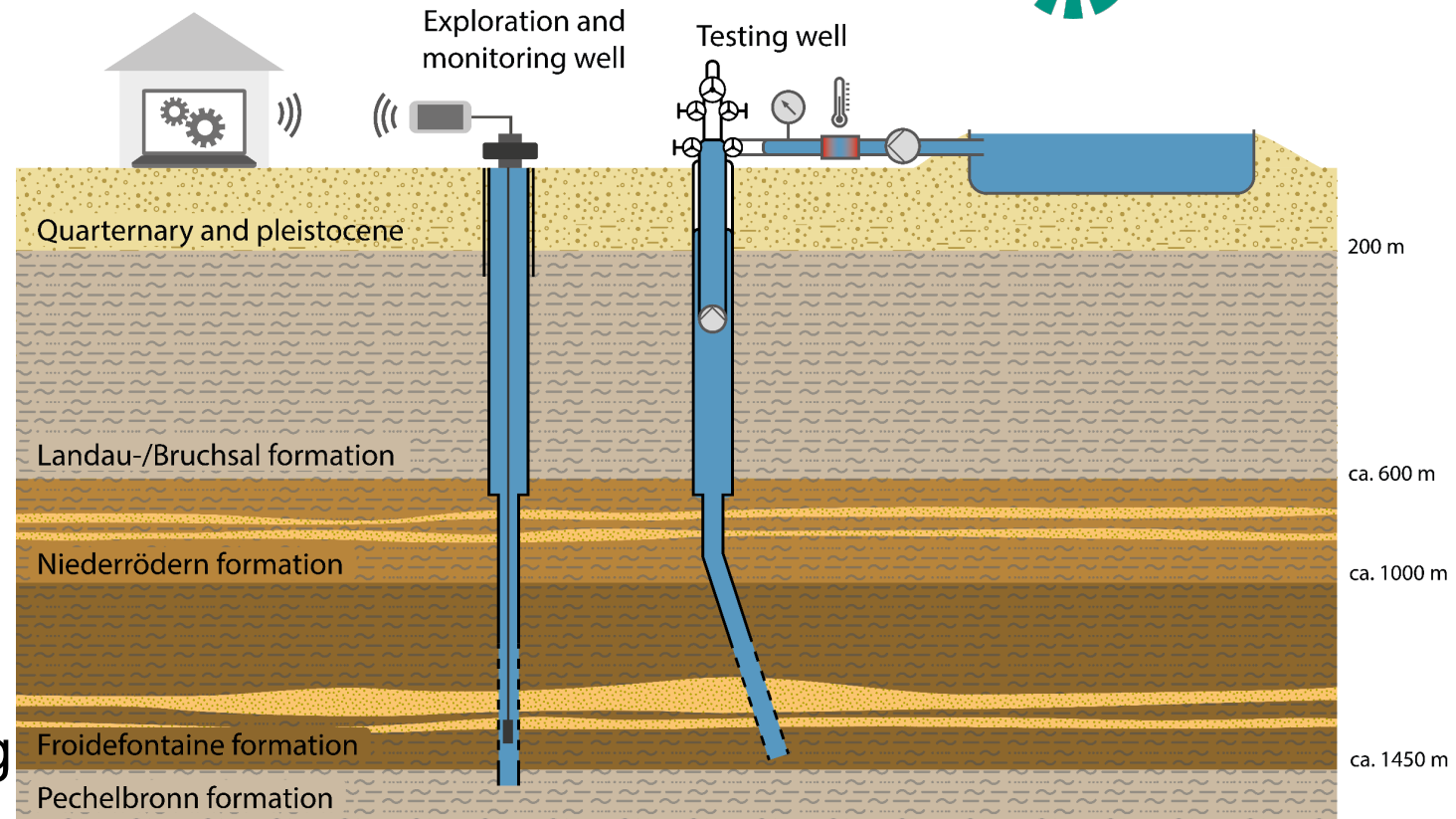
# VESTA – Pilot sites

## DeepStor

### VESTA

- ▶ DeepStor-1:
  - ▶ Exploration (coring, logging, testing)
  - ▶ Monitoring (isolation of 3 zones, P/T/seismic sensors, fluid sampling)
- ▶ DeepStor-2:
  - ▶ Production tests (pump 1)
  - ▶ Injection tests (pump 2)
- ▶ Separation and reinjection of hydrocarbons
- ▶ Basin
  - ▶ Storage volume of 4'000 m<sup>3</sup>
  - ▶ Heat exchanger plus mobile heating

### ▶ Helmholtz Side Projects



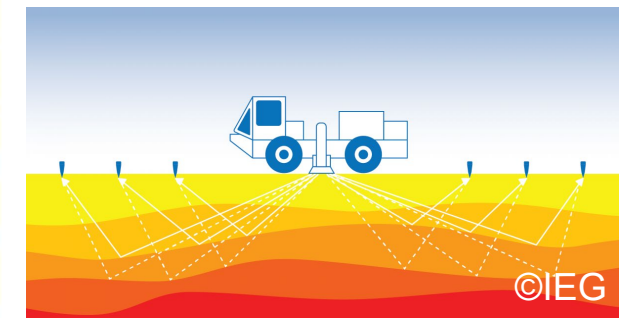
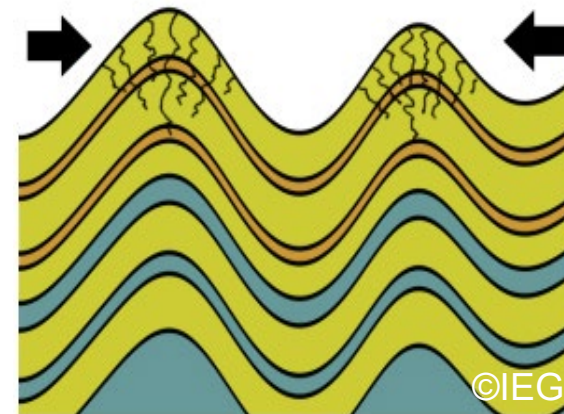
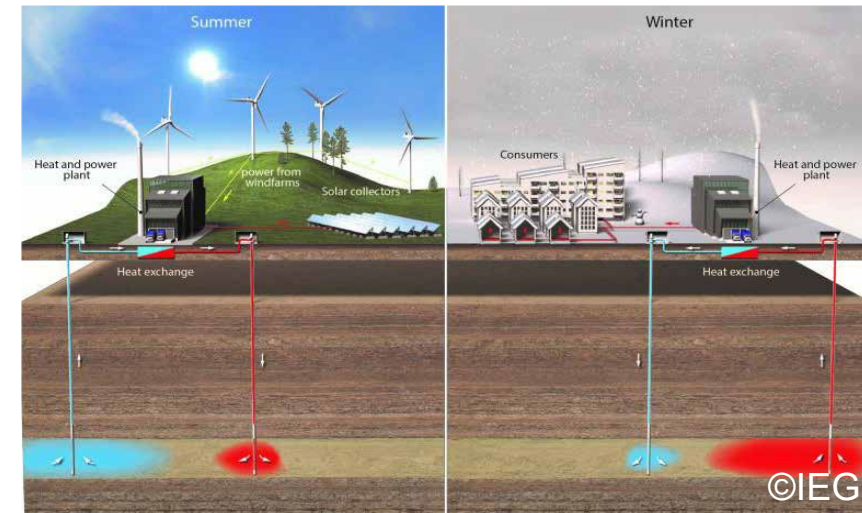
# VESTA – Pilot sites

## CONTRAST / IEG

### ▶ **CONTRAST – Carboniferous Temperature Storage**

#### ▶ **Aims:**

- ▶ Deep geophysical exploration for basic understanding of
  - ▶ geological situation / tectonic stress field
  - ▶ required borehole design
  - ▶ hydraulic regime
- ▶ Investigation of Carboniferous sandstone units Kaisbergformation, Namur B
  - ▶ Depth 1'200 – 1'500 TVD
  - ▶ folding/ jointing expected
- ▶ **2D Seismic Survey in 2023**
- ▶ Calibration of IEG subsurface model
- ▶ Well planing



# VESTA – Pilot sites

## Forsthaus Bern

- ▶ Pilot Project Geostorage Forsthaus Bern (BE)
  - ▶ Geostorage for seasonal heat storage as part of the urban district heating supply system
- ▶ Aims within VESTA cooperation:
  - ▶ Development of a general storage concept with VESTA partners
  - ▶ Logging with borehole simulations

see presentation by Peter Maier



*The "Geospeicher Forsthaus" is being built on the site of the Forsthaus energy center.*



*Drilling site in March 2022*



# VESTA – Pilot sites

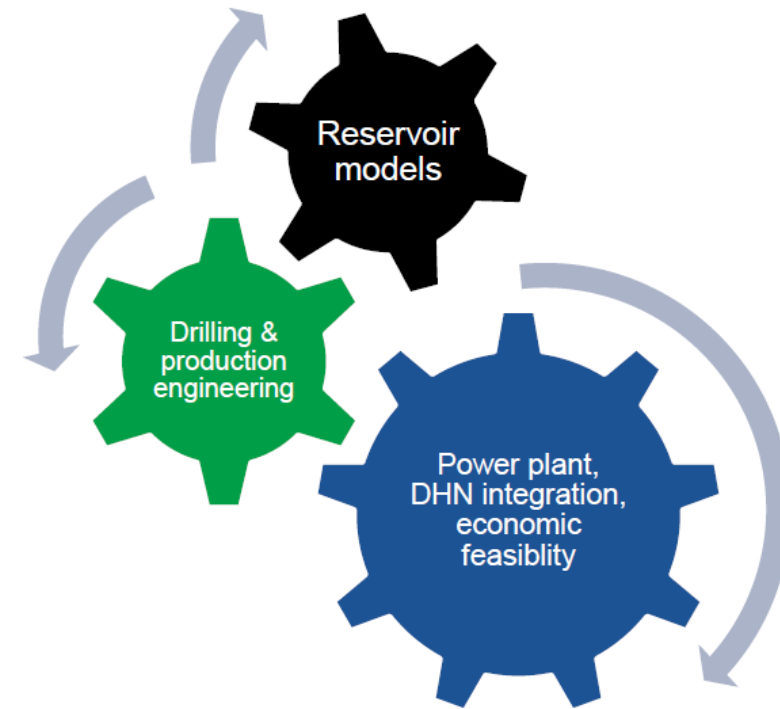
## Stadtwerke München

### ▶ **Overarching goal:**

- ▶ Heat supply for the city of Munich  
100% CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral in 2040
- ▶ High-temperature heat storage to secure supply in periods with high heat demand

### ▶ **Goal of VESTA Concept study:**

- ▶ Requirements of a high-temperature storage at a site
- ▶ Hydraulic-thermal, hydrochemical and geomechanical conditions
- ▶ Reliable monitoring methods
- ▶ Logging with borehole simulations
- ▶ Heat management
- ▶ Regulatory frameworks



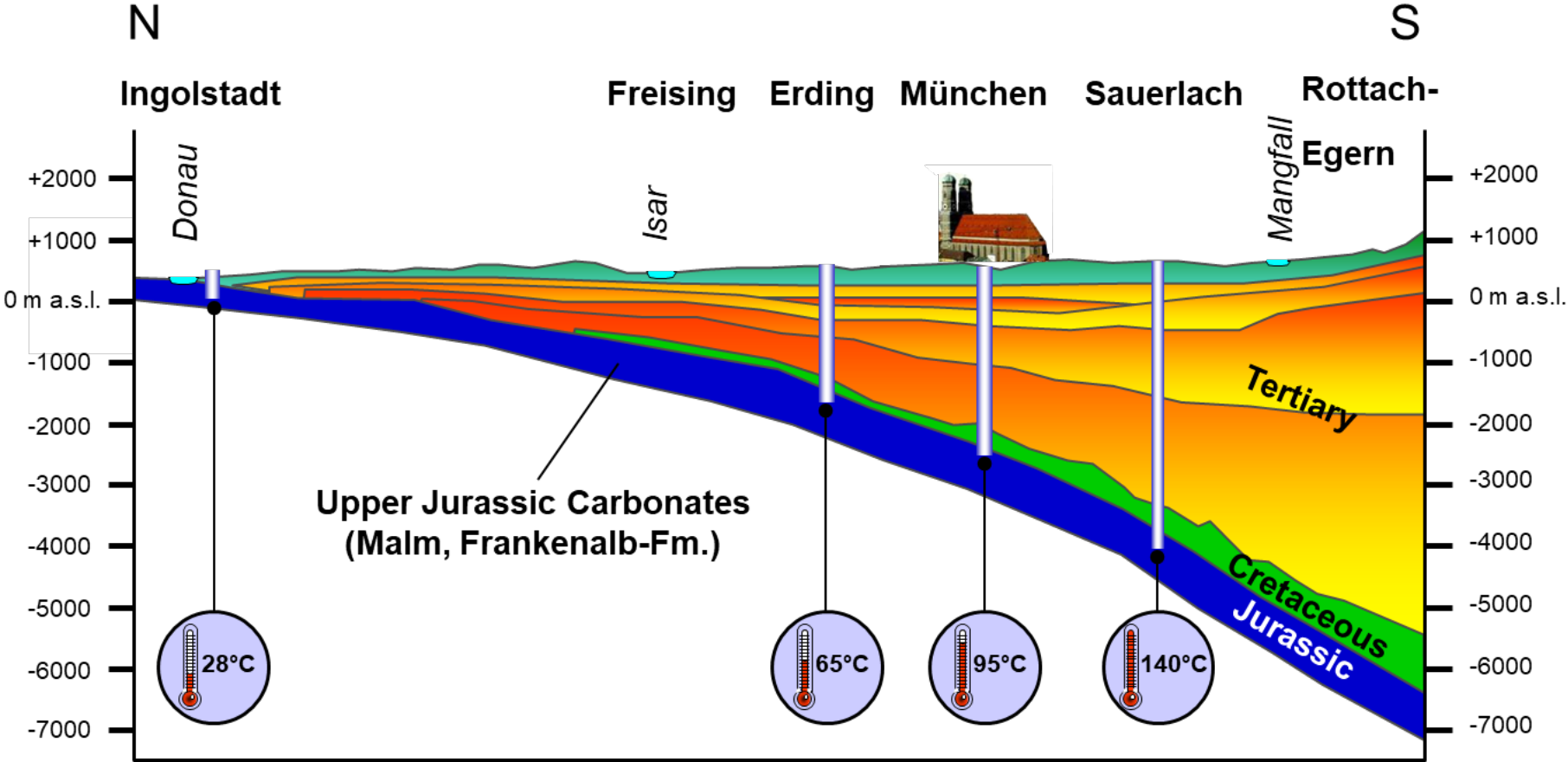
*Holistic approach by SWM*



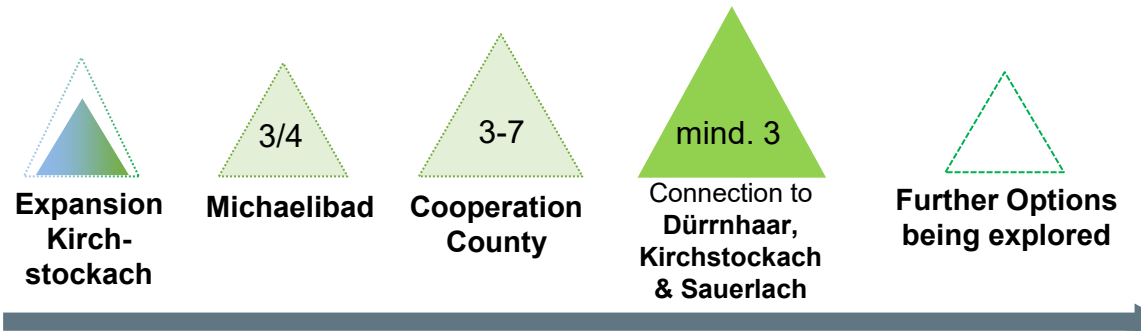
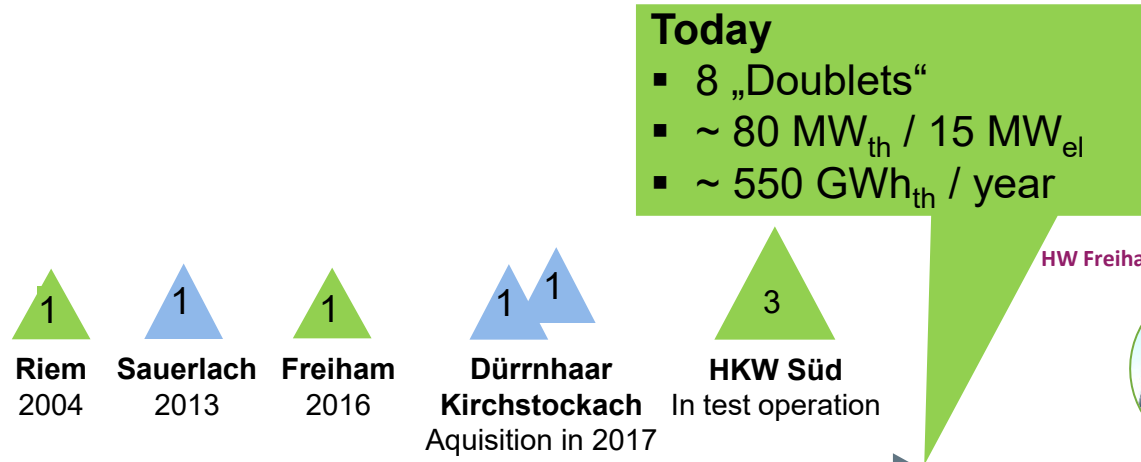
*Renewable heat generation: Germany's largest geothermal plant*

- 1 Strategic overview
- 2 Heat source availability
- 3 Technical challenges
- 4 Economic modelling

# Geology



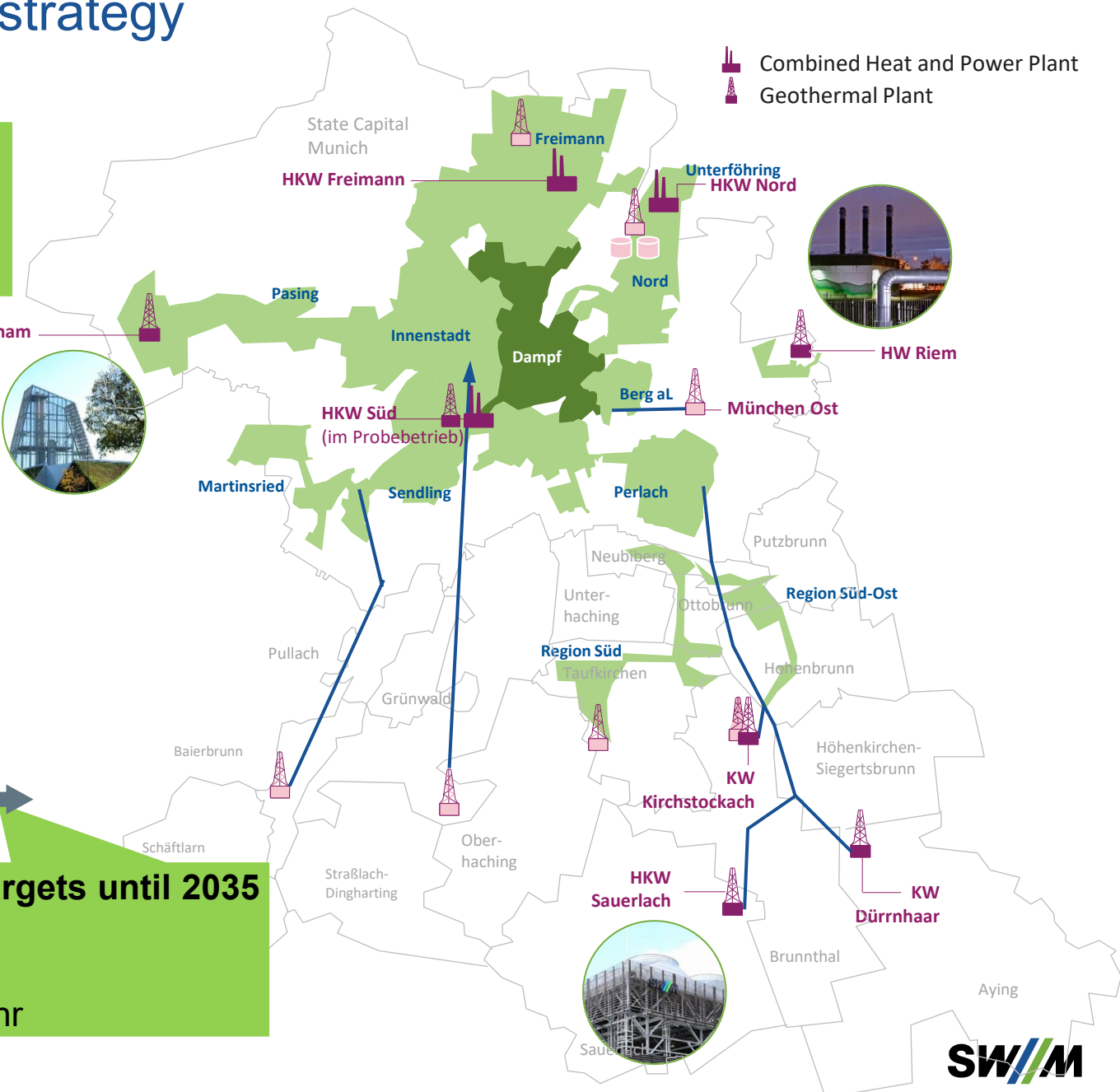
# SWM's deep geothermal development strategy



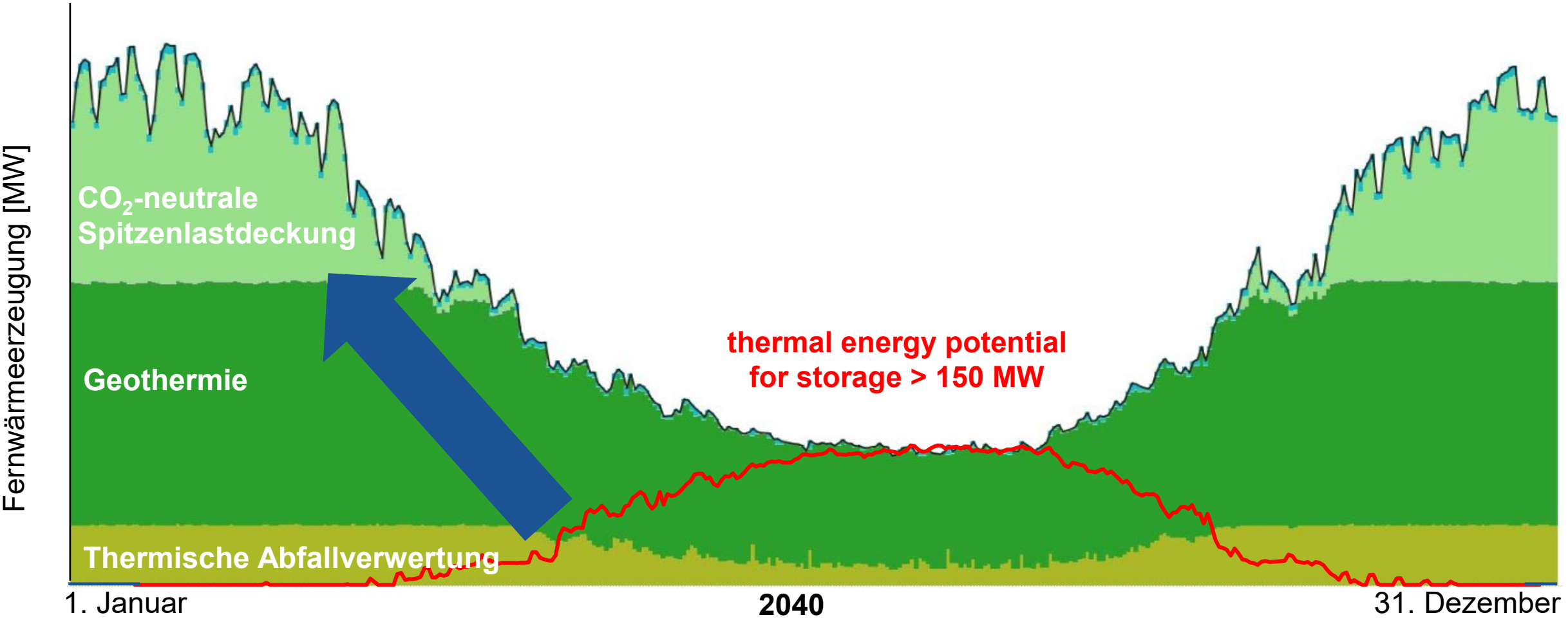
1 Number of „Doublets“

**Current minimum Targets until 2035**

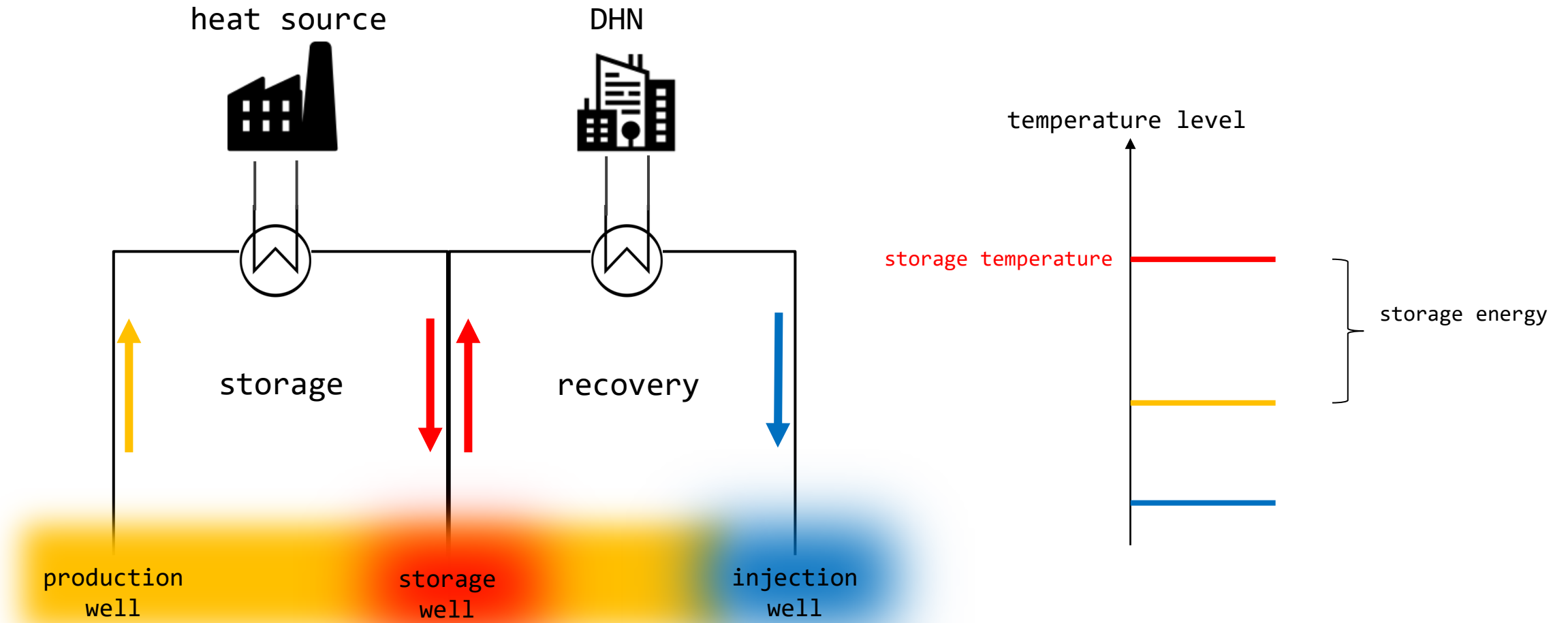
- ~ 17 „Doublets“
- ~ 375 MW<sub>th</sub>
- ~ 2.500 GWh<sub>th</sub> / Jahr



# Seasonal heat storage



# ATES configuration (triplet)

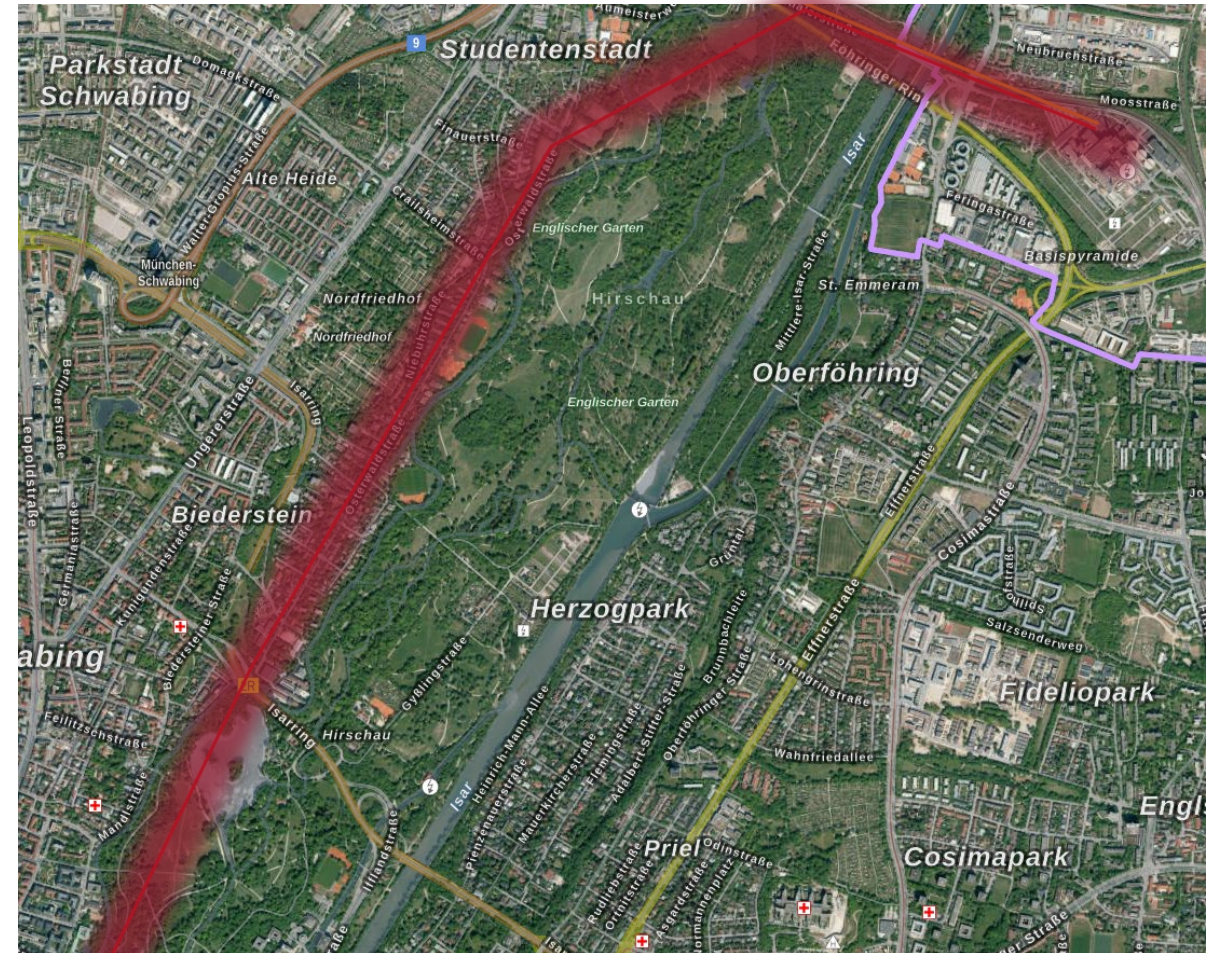
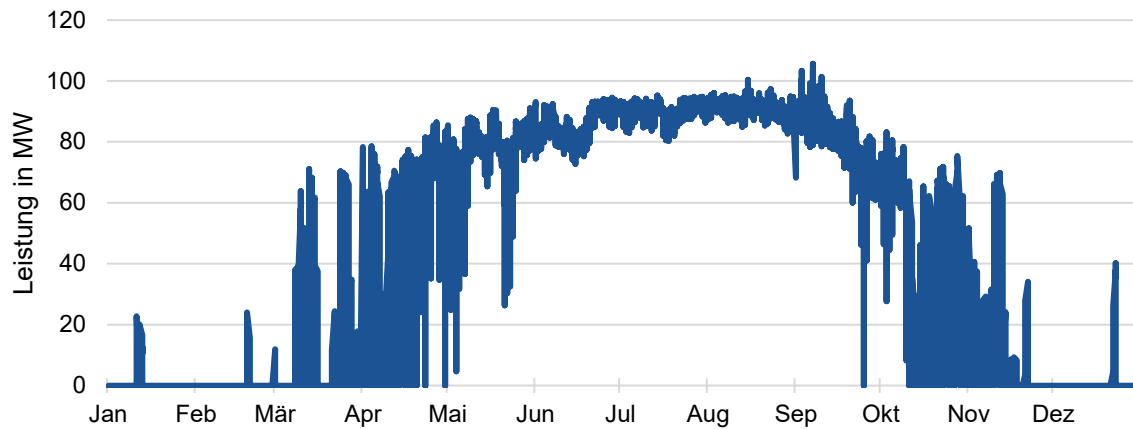


# Topics

- 1 Strategic overview
- 2 Heat source availability
- 3 Technical challenges
- 4 Economic modelling

# Thermal storage potential: Example target Area 1 – ATEs North-East

- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral & low-cost storage potential = residual load Block 1/3 (Waste-to-Energy)
- ▶ **Heat source:** steam at approx. 4 bar (= 144°C)
- ▶ **Storage potential:** ca. 60 - 80 MW over ca. 5 months

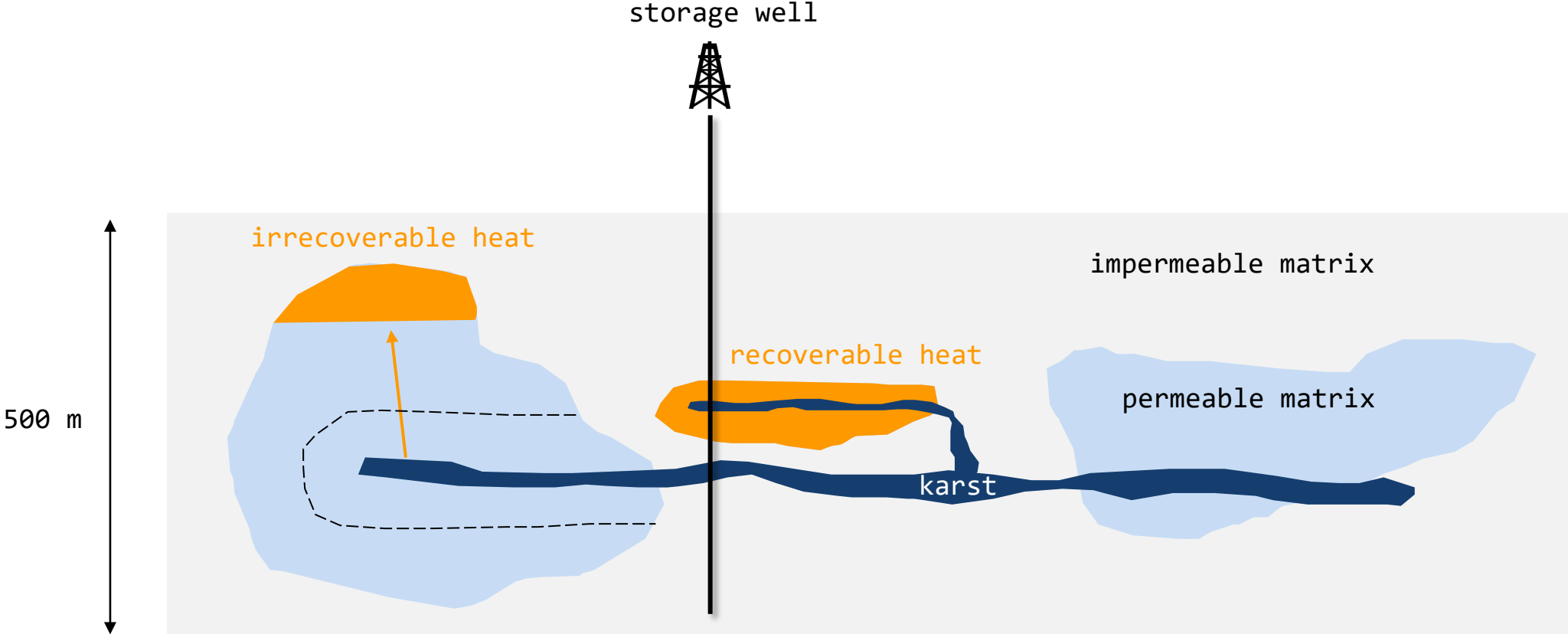




# Topics

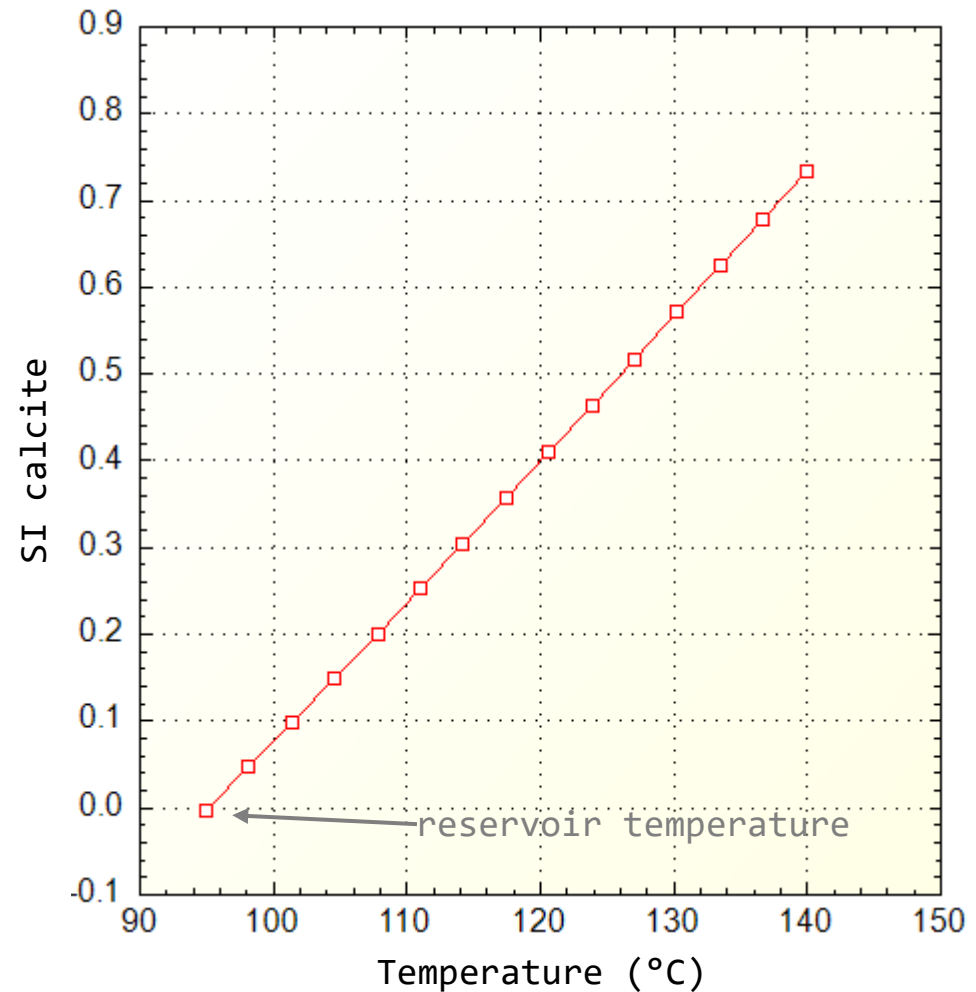
- 1 Strategic overview
- 2 Heat source availability
- 3 **Technical challenges**
- 4 Economic modelling

# Reservoir heterogeneity & heat recovery



# Scaling and Corrosion

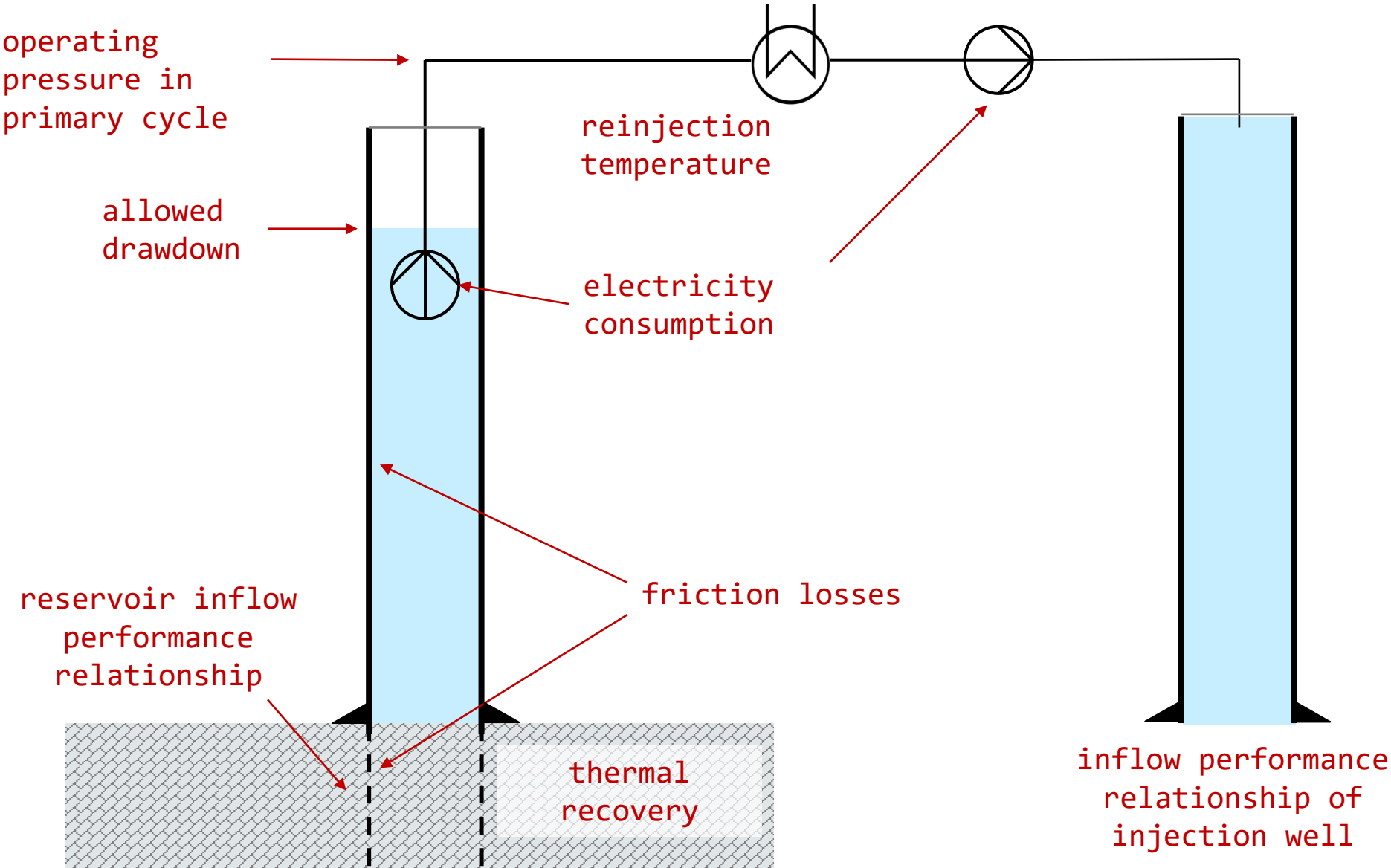
- ▶ Successful testing of 2 different inhibition methods
  - ▶ CO<sub>2</sub>
  - ▶ Threshold inhibitor (polymere)
  
- ▶ Currently no corrosion issues
- ▶ Potential addition of CO<sub>2</sub> poses corrosion risk due to high supersaturation



# Topics

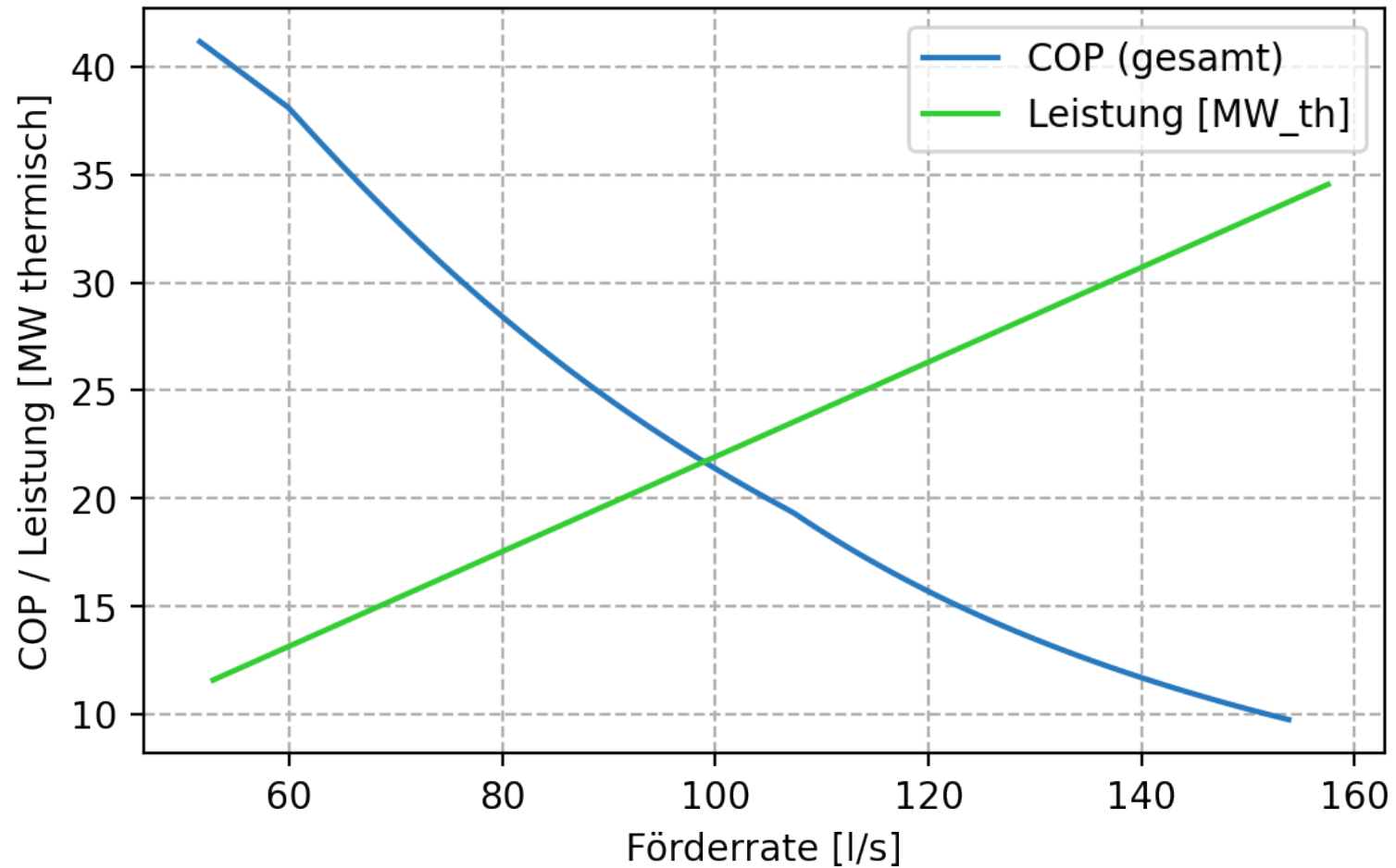
- 1 Strategic overview
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# Digital twin of the geothermal production system

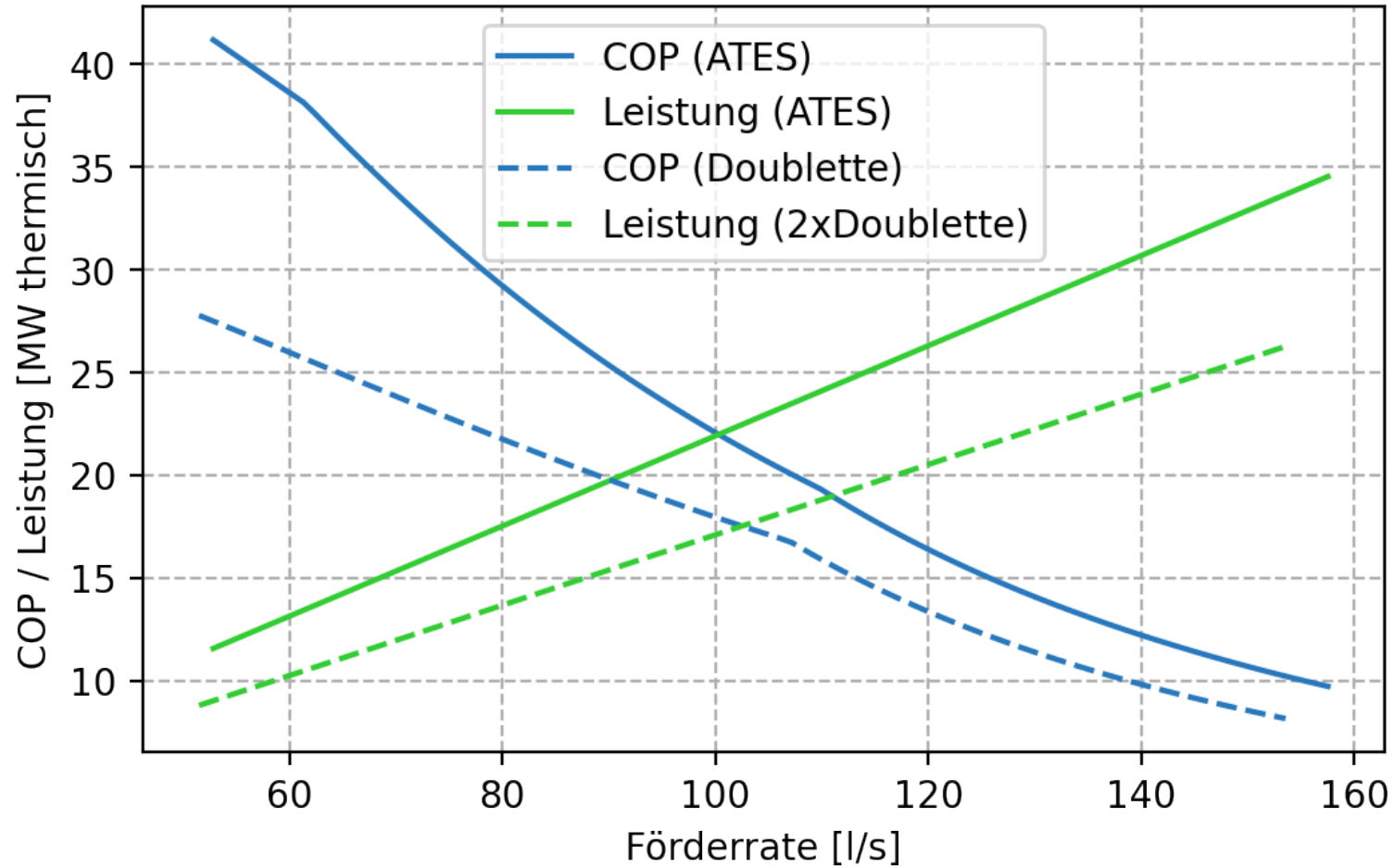


# ATES (recovery & storage)

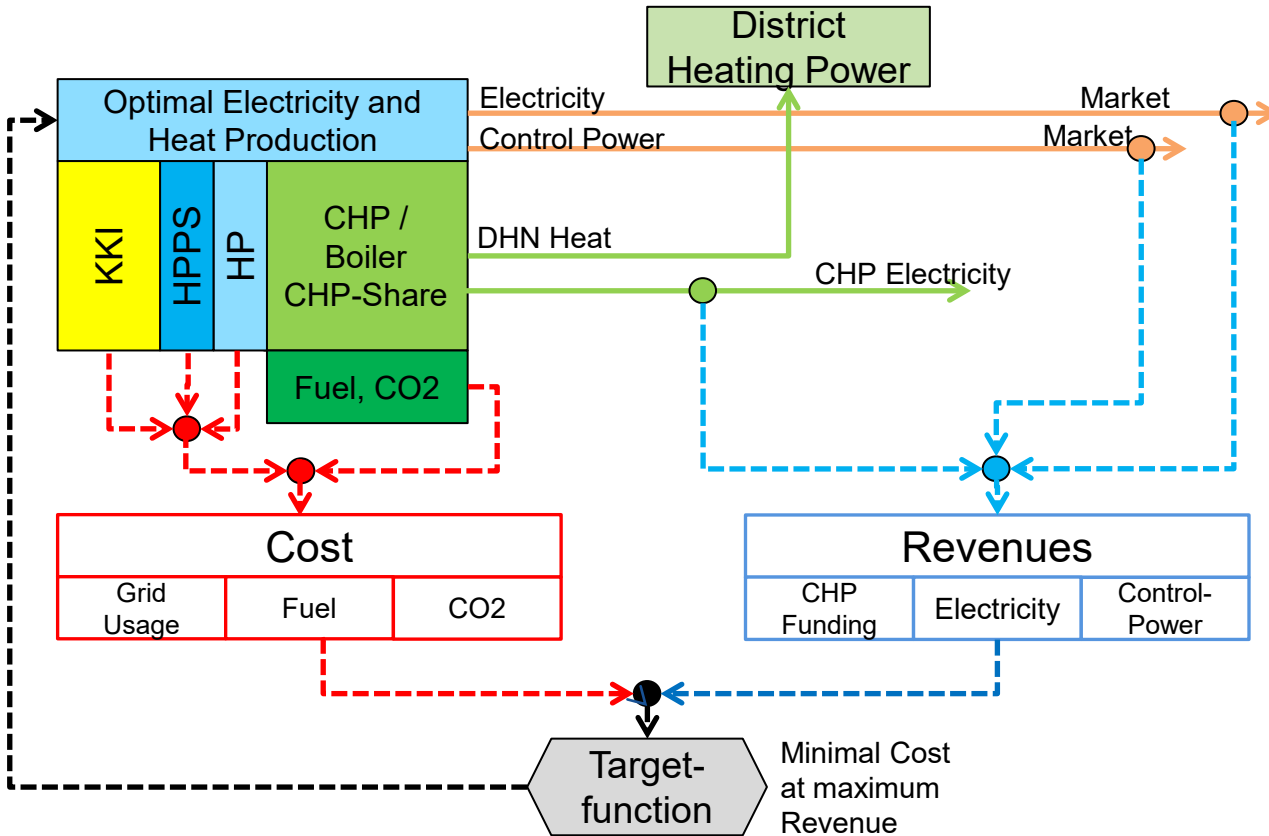
$$COP_{tot} = \frac{E_{th}}{(E_{TKP} + E_{IP})_{rec} + (E_{TKP} + E_{IP})_{store}}$$



# Comparison ATES with 2 conventional geothermal doublets



# Modeling & Simulation of ATEs in future SWM power plant portfolio using BoFiT

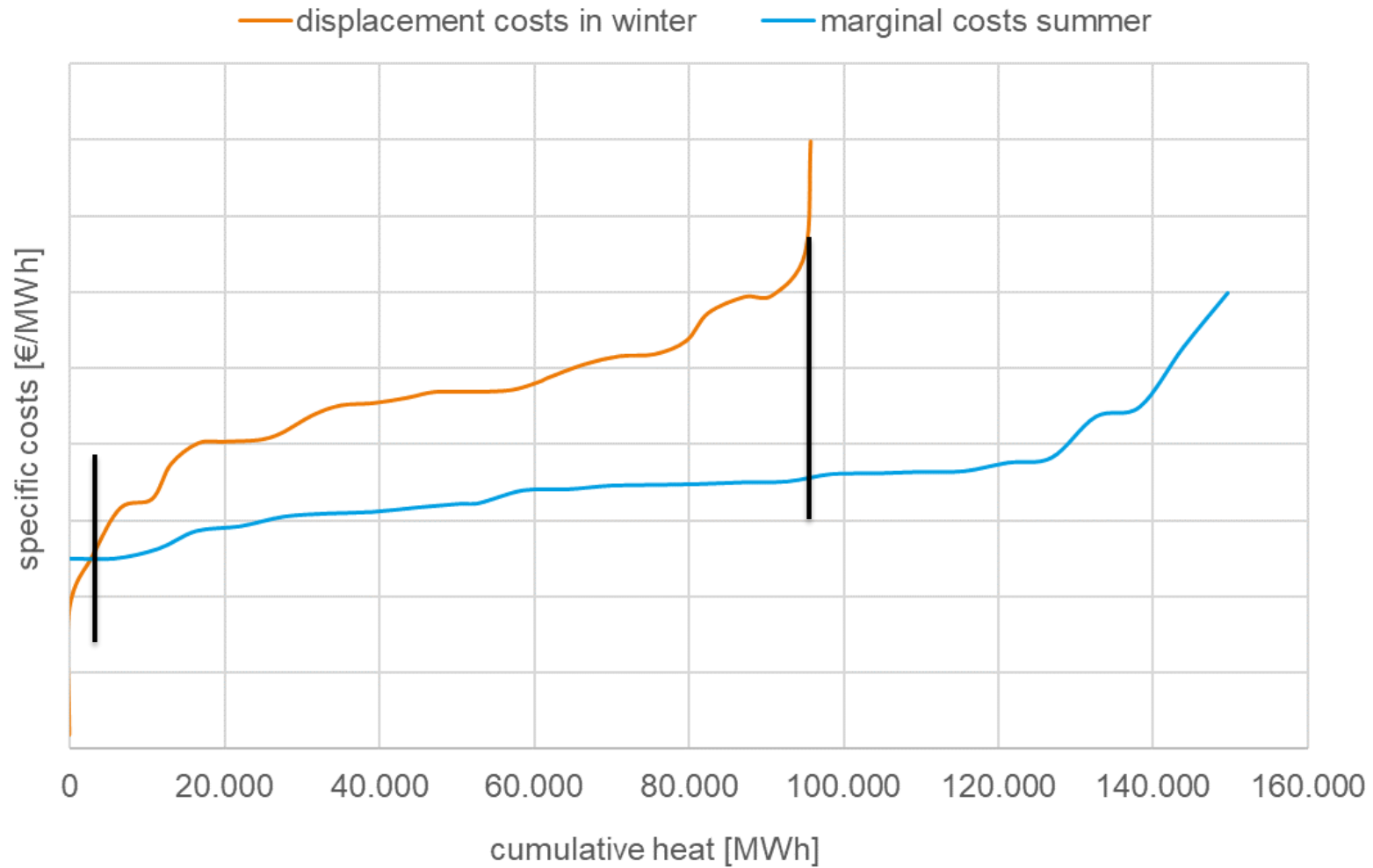


## Longterm Simulations (time horizon: 2025 ... 2050)

- ▶ Evolution of SWM plant fleet (incl. new plants, decommissioning, refurbishing...)
- ▶ Strategic considerations (commodity prices, CO2 price etc.)
- ▶ Long-term supply concept



# Arbitrage in seasonal heat price





Der Puls unserer Stadt

