

HEATING the MIDWEST, 27 April 2012 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin



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Austria's Successful Rise in Biomass Heating

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Austria – Basic Facts & Figures



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Member State of the **European Union**
since 1995

Size: 32,000 mi² (which is half the size of
Wisconsin)

Population: 8.4 million

GDP per capita: \$48,000 (10th
wealthiest country of the world)

Mountainous regions: 67% of country

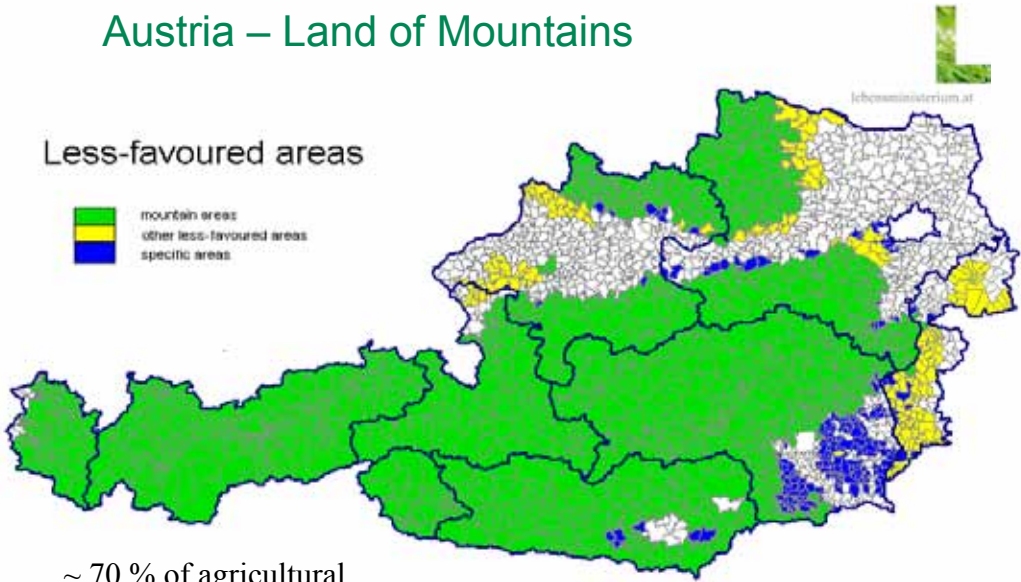
Forest cover: 48% of country



Austria – Land of Mountains

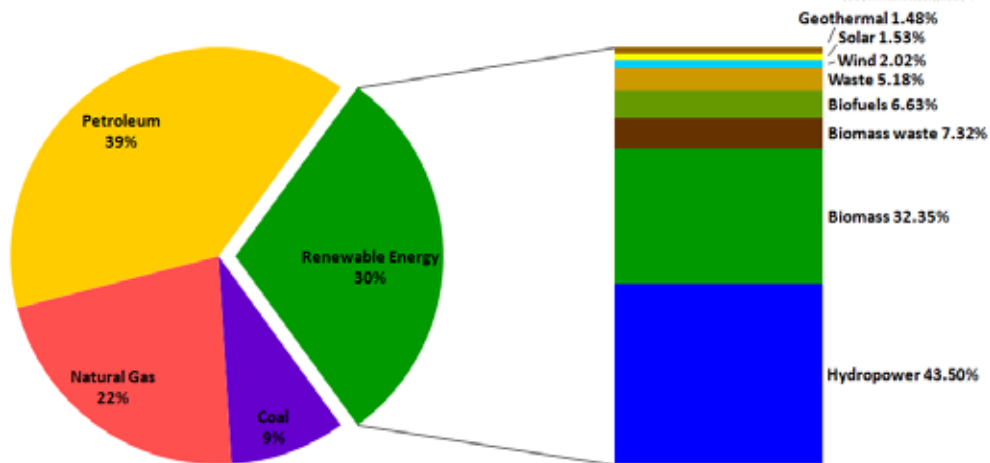
Less-favoured areas

- mountain areas
- other less-favoured areas
- specific areas



~ 70 % of agricultural land in Austria

Share of Renewable Energy in Austria

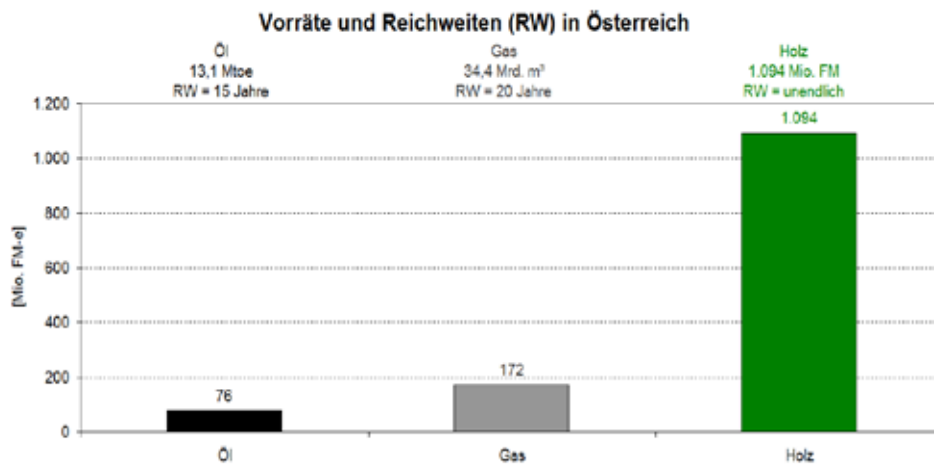


Philosophy behind Renewable Energy Policy in Austria

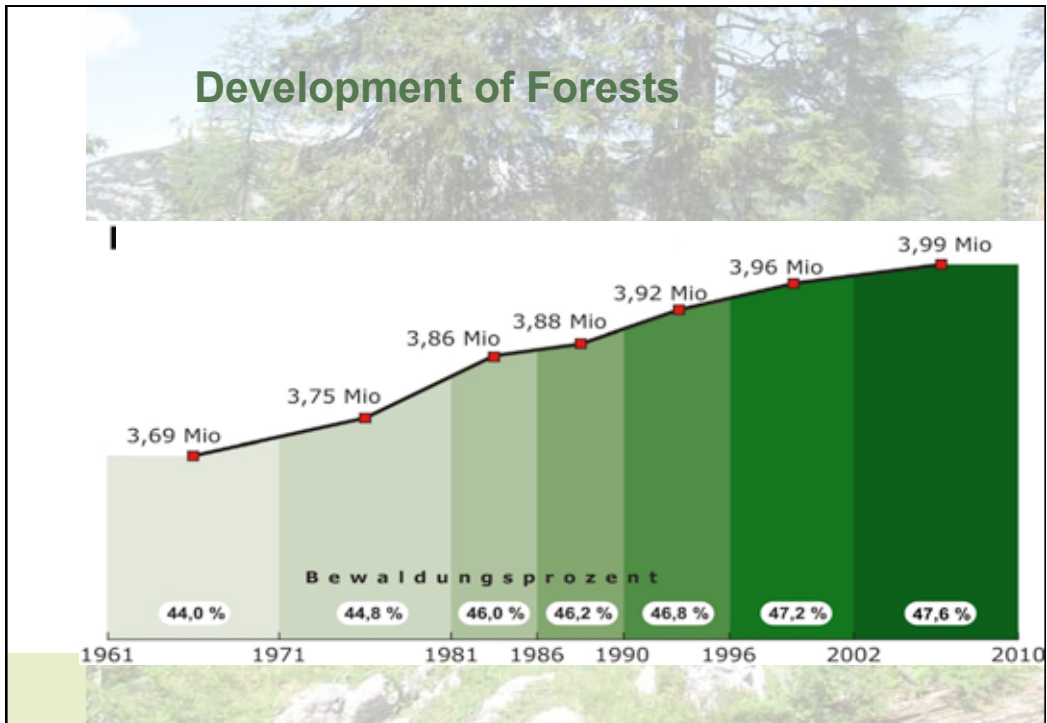


- EU Climate and Energy Policy
- Fossil fuels (oil, gas) depleting
- Dependency on Russian gas
- 48% of Austria covered with forests – share is growing
- Energy Independence
- Increasing fossil energy prices

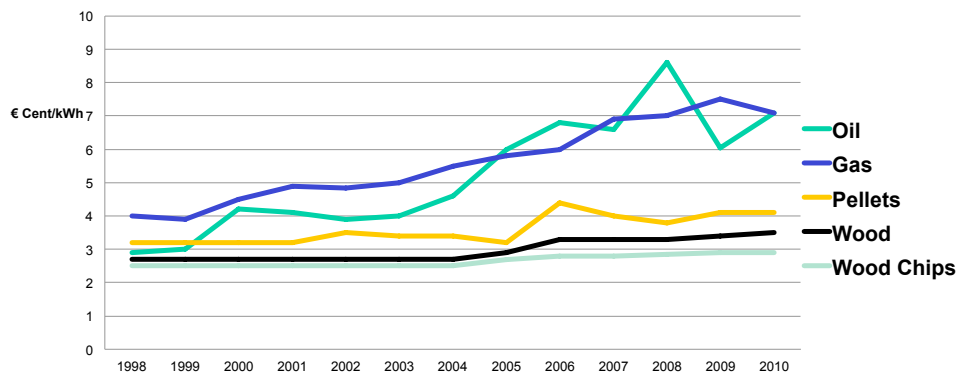
Resources of Energy in Austria



Development of Forests



Development of Heating Energy Prices (in € cents per kWh)



Biomass Market Development

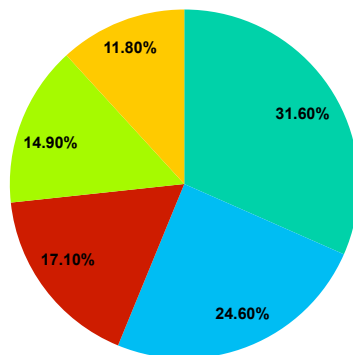
Important Drivers Contributing



1. Farmer
2. Entrepreneurs
3. Federal and State Government

Share of Wood used for Bioenergy

(2009: 22.8 million m³)

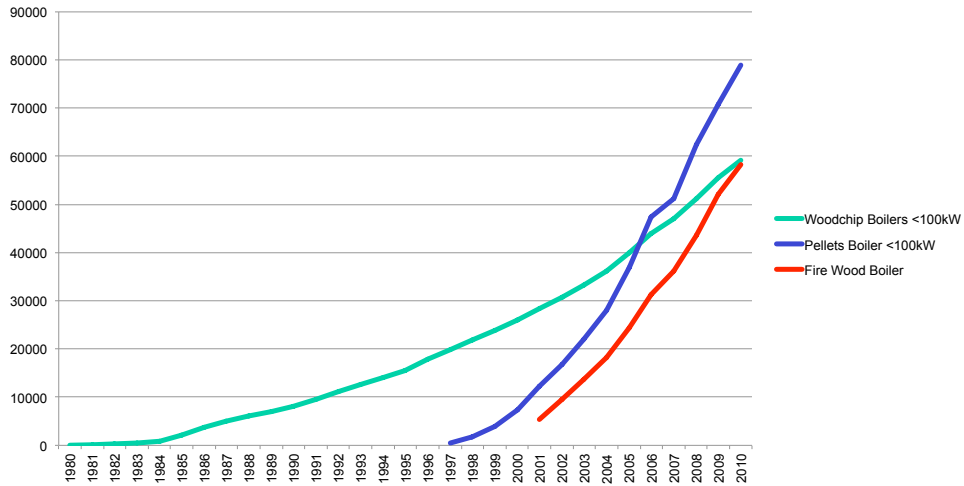


- Firewood
- Pellets
- Wood Chips
- Black Liquor
- Bark

Development of Biomass Heating Boilers



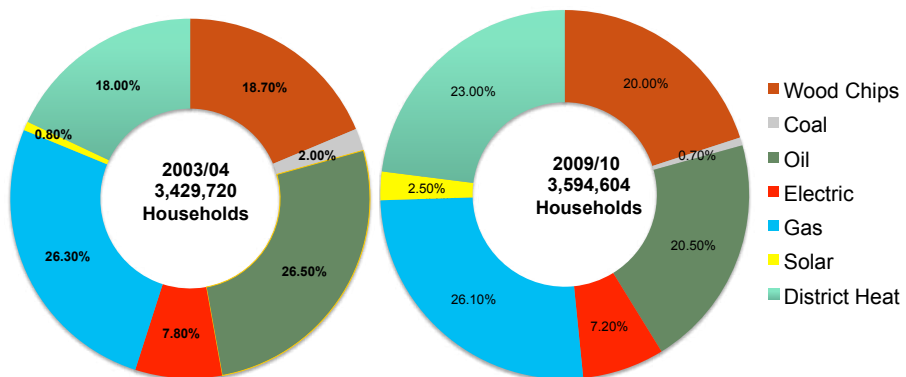
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Heating Technologies used in Austrian Households (2003/04 – 2009/10)



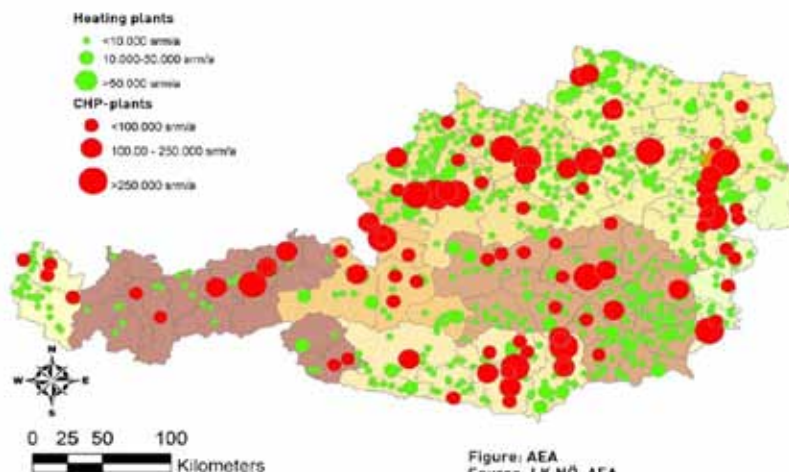
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Biomass Heating Plants Growing like Mushrooms



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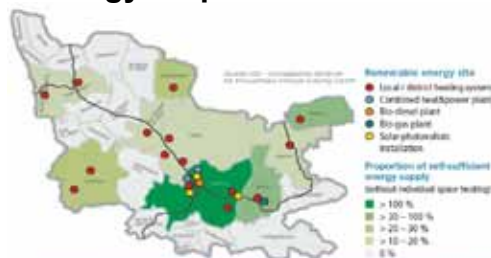
Güssing – the World’s Largest Energy Independent Region



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- Within 10 years total departure from fossil energy
- 100% energy independent based on renewable energy
- 50 new companies established
- 1.100 new „green“ jobs
- \$28 Mil. annual turnover from energy surplus

Güssing has been awarded honors as the “environmentally most friendly town” and “most innovative municipality” in Austria.



Sites and proportion of self-sufficient energy supply in the district of Güssing
<http://www.oekoenergieerland.at/konzept.html>

Biomass Steam Gasification Plant



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Grassroots Strategy towards Energy Independence



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Sticks, Carrots & Tambourines for Biomass Heating



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Thank you for your attention!



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