

# Public policy for deploying power- to-gas

Insights from the debate in  
Germany

Dr. Christian Friebe, Brussels, 27th June 2019



# Cooperation creates added value – this conviction allows the Thüga Group to master any challenge

## Partnership Model



### Responsibilities of our Partners

- Provide market proximity
- Management and operation of energy supply systems
- Local sales and customer service
- Promotion of the local brand

### Thüga Business Activities

Investment partner for cities and towns. Minority shareholder with consulting and shared services. Adds value by

- providing guidance as to how invest funds and manage risks
- coordinating cooperation
- benchmarking

# The Thüga Group constitutes the largest alliance of municipal utilities in Germany

## Key Figures 31.12.2017



Turnover  
**€ 20.0 billion**

Employees  
**19.300**

Gas sales  
**120.9 billion kWh**

Gas customers  
**1.9 million**

Electricity sale  
**53.2 billion kWh**

Electricity  
customers  
**4.0 million**



# 13 companies of the Thüga Group build a pilot PtG plant in 2013 in Frankfurt – the technology is not the problem any more



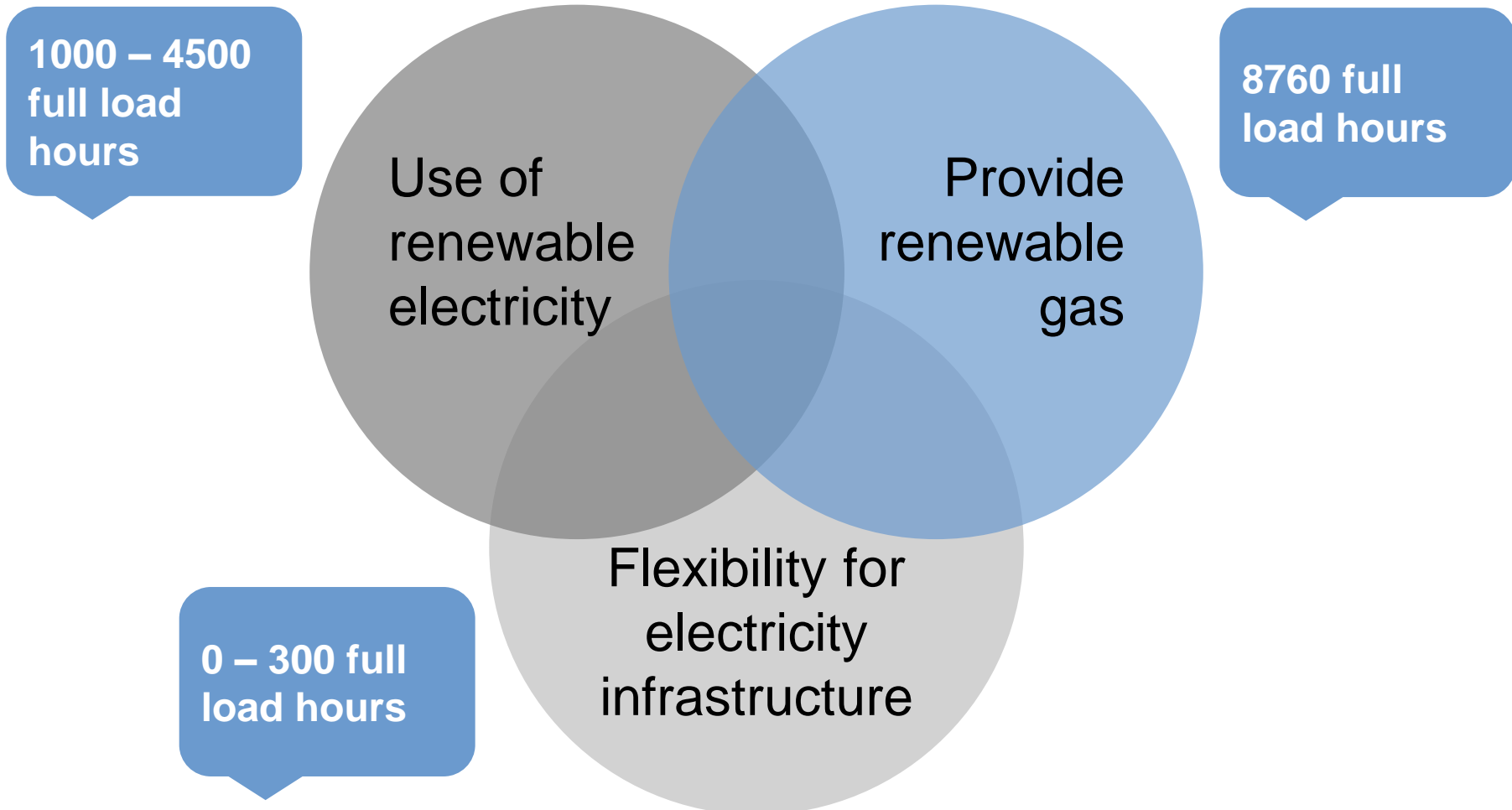
**Technology:** PEM – Electrolyser  
**Electric power input:** 300 kW  
**Hydrogen production:** 60 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h

## Comprehensive test of different operation modes over a period of 3 years

- Offer flexibility for electricity grid – both secondary and primary reserve
- Link PtG operations to renewable power generation
- Understand the technology itself and how to integrate it with the electricity and gas infrastructure

# How to design a policy framework for Power-to-Gas that integrates electricity and gas infrastructure perspectives?

## Conflicting targets for public support systems for power-to-gas



# How to design a policy framework for Power-to-Gas that integrates electricity and gas infrastructure perspectives?

## Conventional solutions for a support system often create strange results

### Options for policy support

#### Reduce CAPEX:

- Direct investment support
- Power-to-Gas as a regulated asset



### Full load hours of the PtG-plant

0 full load hours

#### Reduce OPEX:

- No taxes and levies for PtG



0 full load hours or 8760 full load hours

#### Generate demand for H<sub>2</sub>:

- Quota for H<sub>2</sub> from PtG
- Feed-in tariff for H<sub>2</sub> from PtG
- Consumers benefit from H<sub>2</sub> use



8760 full load hours

# In April 2019 the PtX-Allianz proposed an idea for building 5 GW of PtX in Germany within the next 5 years



Renewable Electricity (PPA + GOA)

Exemption from taxes and levies only when the grid operator requires flexibility

Public support limited to a maximum of 4380 full load hours per year over a period of 12 years

Elektrons

Power to X plant

Hydrogen

Tender for public support:

- PtX before the meter
- PtX between infrastructures
- PtX behind the meter

Consumers benefit from the use of renewable hydrogen and are willing to pay more





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