

Baden-Württemberg REGIERUNGSPRÄSIDIUM FREIBURG

From hydro-electric to hydrogen Seveso establishment

15.09.2023 Mareike Strub

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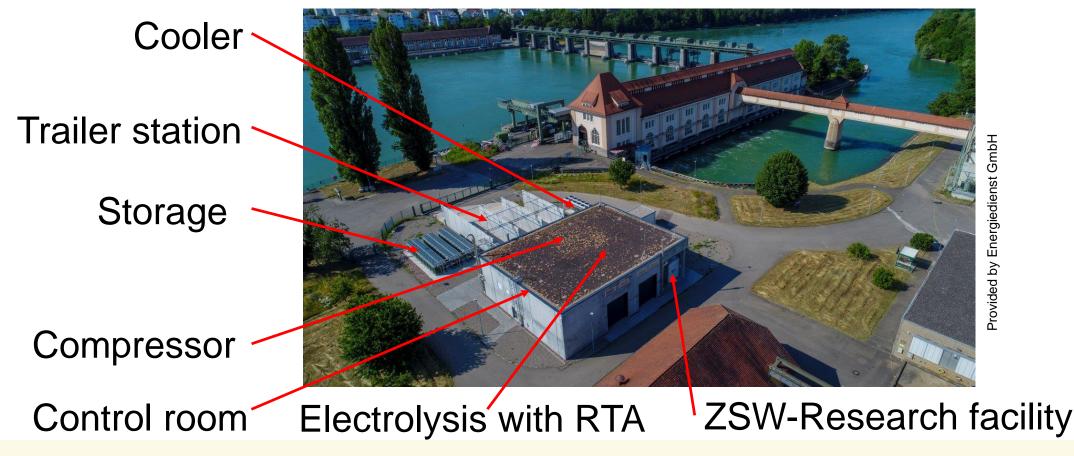
Hydro-electric power plant Wyhlen



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First permit (03/2018)





Electrolysis with RTA

- Alkaline electrolysis (potassium hydroxide solution), 1 MW
- Hydrogen production
 - $\,\circ\,$ at 30 bar
 - ~200 Nm³/h
 - $\circ\,$ Operating temperature ca. 80°C
- Purification of H₂ to remove contamination and humidity (5.0 purity)



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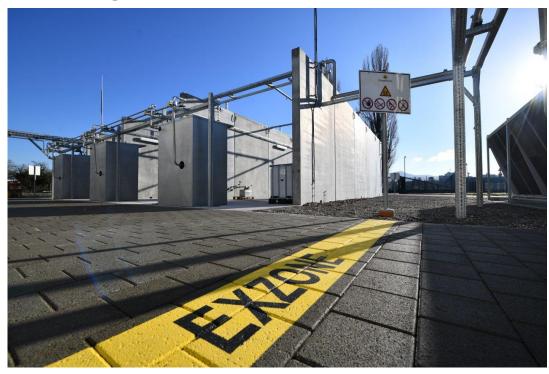
Compressor & Storage

- Compressor: Compression to max. 311 bar
- Noise level 101 dB(A) → noise reduction measures are required
- Storage consists of cylinder bundles
- 285 bar (300 bar)
- ca. 1,2 t hydrogen in total
- 3 units



Trailer filling points

Filling points with 3 boxes for a trailer at 200 bar



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Operating experience

- 12/2019: start of operations
- 06/2020: fire in the venting pipe
- 09/2020: restart of operations
- 06/2021: release of alkaline from the electrolysis stacks
- 08/2023: restart with new stacks for 100 h
- Future: again problems with stacks, stacks have to be changed by manufacturer
- \rightarrow Operation is intermittent with no long term practice



Expansion – Seveso establishment

- Current planned expansion:
 - Additional 5 MW electrolysis (PEM)
 - Compression to 500 bar
 - Additional storage of 3800 kg
 - 4 new trailer filling points with 200, 300 and 500 bar
 - Connection of the new unit to the existing storage
 - Connection of the new unit to the existing trailer filling points (boxes)
- \rightarrow Maximum quantity of hydrogen on site: **12,8 t**
- \rightarrow Welcome to Seveso!
- → Key problem: Land-Use-Planning and determining the appropriate safety distance



Conclusion

- Hydrogen is not new \rightarrow but the operators are new
- Time pressure due to government R&D funding and new regulations, e.g. EU "green hydrogen"
- Many proposals / advice and consultation by the authorities
- No proposal is the same → different questions and concepts



Conclusion

- Very few experienced third-party experts for hydrogen
- The location is significant for the permitting process
- Until now little experience from incidents
- We would like to avoid a Déjà-Vu with biogas plant





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