

Energy connectivity & current developments in Austria

Jasmin HAIDER

Department for International Climate, Environment and Energy Affairs

Geneva, 14 September 2023

Austria's climate & energy goals

- Climate neutrality by 2040
- 100% renewable electricity by 2030 (national balance)
 - additional 27 TWh of renewable electricity across all technologies
- Phase-out of oil and gas in heating sector (oil: 2035; natural gas: 2040)
- Cars & LDV's: phase out of combustion engines (EU legislation)

Renewable Energy Expansion Act

- Legal and organisational framework & long-term stable investment climate
- Modernised AT support system for green electricity
- Citizens' engagement through energy communities and acceptance of decentralised electricity generation
- Creation of the Austrian Grid Infrastructure Plan

Austrian Grid Infrastructure Plan (ÖNIP)

- Overarching strategic planning instrument.
- Detailed planning remains with responsible authorities & grid operators.
- NIP does NOT designate areas for expansion of renewable energy NOR plan at project level.
- NIP brings together expected energy production, consumption and necessary energy grids.
- Looks at electricity and gas infrastructure in integrated way for the first time.

Austrian Grid Infrastructure Plan (ÖNIP) – Key messages

- AT has high renewable generation potentials. Transmission capacities in electricity sector need to be strengthened though.
- Need for hydrogen infrastructure in gas sector. First step to connect large industrial centres. Existing parallel structures can mainly be used.
- Methane networks's role must adapt to decreasing demand for methane. At the same time, serve to develop national bio-methane potentials.

Austrian Grid Infrastructure Plan - Process

- 1st draft published on 7 July 2023 and is still open for public consultation until 15 September.
- Based on a series of scientific elaborations that were validated by TSOs and market area manager.
- Number of stakeholders from energy industry, environmental organisations, federal and state government etc. involved.
- NIP will be updated, as the expansion of renewable energy and infrastructure planning is an on-going process.

Thank you for your attention!

Jasmin HAIDER

Policy Officer – Department for International Climate, Environment and Energy Affairs
Geneva, 14th September 2023