Energy definitions, conversion factors and the theoretical energy content of various fuels

Energy units

Energy is defined as the ability to carry out work. The basic unit of energy is the joule (J).

1	MJ,	megajoule	=	10 ⁶	J	=	1 million J
1	GJ,	gigajoule	=	10 ⁹	J	=	1 billion J
1	TJ,	terajoule	=	10 ¹²	J	=	1 000 billion J
1	PJ,	petajoule	=	10 ¹⁵	J	=	1 million billion J
1	EJ,	exajoule	=	10 ¹⁸	J	=	1 billion billion J

Sometimes, the following are also used for electrical energy:

1	kWh,	Kilowatt-hour	=	10 ³	Wh	=	1 000 Wh
1	MWh,	Megawatt-hour	=	10 ³	kWh	=	1 000 kWh
1	GWh,	Gigawatt-hour	=	10 ⁶	kWh	=	1 million kWh
1	TWh,	Terawatt-hour	=	10 ⁹	kWh	=	1 billion kWh

PJ is obtained by multiplying TWh by 3.6.

1 MWh is about the amount of electrical energy needed to heat a detached house during one week in winter.

1 TWh is about the amount of electricity used in one year by a town with around 50 000 inhabitants.

Power is energy per time unit.

The basic unit for power is watt, and the following units are used:

1	W,	watt	=	1	J/s		
1	kW,	kilowatt	=	10 ³	W	=	1 000 W
1	MW,	megawatt	=	10 ³	kW	=	1 000 kW

Conversion factors and average theoretical energy content of various fuels:

	MJ	kWh	toe r	Sm³ natural ga	barrel as raw oil	cord of wood*
1 MJ, megajoule	1	0,278	0,0000236	0,025	0,000176	0,0000781
1 kWh, kilowatt-hour	3,6	1	0,000085	0,09	0,000635	0,00028
1 toe, tonne oil equivalent	42 300	11 750	1	1 190	7,49	3,31
1 Sm ³ natural gas	40	11,11	0,00084	1	0,00629	0,00279
1 barrel raw oil (159 litres)	5 650	1 569	0,134	159	1	0,44
1 Cord of wood*						
(2,4 loose m ³)	12 800	3 556	0,302	359	2,25	1

* Depending on moisture content of fuel.

Challenges linked to establishing a CO₂ value chain – overview of the Government's work

A great deal of international attention has been focused for many years on the development of technology for CO_2 capture and storage, especially from coal-fired power stations. In Norway, attention has been directed at capture of CO_2 from gas-fired power stations and at creating a chain for transport and injection of CO_2 . A CO_2 chain covers capture of CO_2 from emissions, transport of CO_2 and use of CO_2 for increased oil production. Norwegian players are highly advanced in this area.

Power production and use of other fossil energy are the largest sources of greenhouse gases. Capture of CO_2 and storage in oil/gas reservoirs and geological formations stand out as a possible measure to reduce global emissions. Technology for capture and storage of CO_2 is still in the early stages of development. Available technology is very expensive and there is large uncertainty associated with costs and operation of a CO_2 chain.

Use of CO_2 for increased oil production could contribute to reducing costs of capture and storage, because the CO_2 that is captured gains added value. Use of CO_2 for increased oil production could render possible a profitable value chain for CO_2 , but there are large challenges to be met if the CO_2 value chain is to become a reality.

The FN Climate panel has concluded in its special report, Special Report on Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage (IPCC, 2005), that CO_2 storage could constitute up to half of the emissions reductions in this century, but that there are tremendous challenges to be solved before this potential can be realized. The IPCC report highlights that technology for CO_2 capture and storage is still largely immature and that there is not enough experience with CO_2 capture from major coal and gas-fired power stations.

CO, Capture

The costs of CO_2 capture and storage in connection with power production from fossil fuels is a crucial challenge, because this will significantly increase the costs of power production. The costs of CO_2 capture from a power station constitutes about 2/3 of the costs of the entire CO_2 chain, while transport and storage constitutes about 1/3. This distribution will apply roughly, regardless of the technology concept.

The technology for CO_2 capture from a gas-fired power station can be divided into three main categories: Post-combustion, pre-combustion and oxy-fuel. Post-combustion means that CO_2 is separated from the power station exhaust gases using chemical cleaning. Because CO_2 is separated from the exhaust gases, this technology can in principle be used in existing power stations without major modifications to the power station itself. Post-combustion is considered to be the most advanced technology, but there is nevertheless great uncertainty linked to its use.

Pre-combustion technology captures CO_2 before combustion. This takes place as the natural gas is converted to a hydrogen-rich gas mixture. The gas mixture is treated so that the CO_2 is captured, and the new fuel is thus decarbonised, giving an exhaust gas that contains very little CO_2 . Pre-combustion presupposes modification of the gas turbine and is considered to be far more complex than post-combustion technology.

In the case of oxy-fuel, combustion

takes place in the gas turbine in an atmosphere of pure oxygen instead of air. This means that the exhaust only comprises water vapour and CO₂, and the CO₂ can be separated out by cooling the exhaust. Today's gas turbines give very low performance with oxygen combustion, and at the moment investment is low in development of new types of gas turbines that are better suited for oxygen combustion. In addition, oxygen production is highly energy-intensive, and the technology for energy production is highly expensive. Oxy-fuel is therefore considered to be a very immature technology.

 CO_2 capture is energy-intensive. The IPCC report estimates that if 90 % of CO_2 from a power station is captured, fuel consumption will increase by 11-40 % depending on technology and fuel. CO_2 capture reduces the power station performance and results in an increase of other environmentally harmful emissions. The report estimates that the cost of power production will increase by 20-85% with CO_2 capture. If the current level of research and development is maintained, it will be possible to reduce the costs of CO_2 capture by 20-30 % over the next 10 years.

So far none of the mentioned technologies have been tested on a large scale in connection with a gas-fired power station. There is therefore large uncertainty around the use of current technology for CO_2 capture, particularly in relation to costs and performance.

Transport of CO₂

 CO_2 must be transported from its source to the geological structure in which it is to be stored. CO_2 can be transported by pipe or ship. In general, transport of CO_2 is that element of the CO_2 chain that is least complicated both with respect to technology and to estimating realistic costs. Nevertheless, the transport stage is both energyintensive and costly. Because CO_2 behaves quite differently depending on the pressure and temperature, it has to be transported in a controlled manner to avoid solidification and blockage of pipes or equipment.

Transport of CO₂ by ship is more complicated than by pipeline. To achieve maximum CO₂ load in a ship, the CO₂ is either pressurized or both pressurized and cooled to liquefy it. Good experiences with shipping CO₂ have been acquired through foodstuff production and industrial application of CO₂, but in a smaller volume. Storage of O_2 in geological formations on the Norwegian continental shelf would require transport of large volumes of CO₂, and there is a need for skips with larger transport capacity. The largest challenges are assumed to lie in delivery regularity and cost effective loading of CO₂ from a ship to an installation at sea. An alternative could be shipped transport to an intermediate store on land, connected to a pipeline out to the field.

Transport of CO_2 in pipes is highly similar to transport of hydrocarbon gas. The technologies are known and there is long experience with building and operation of large pipelines for transport of gas from the Norwegian continental shelf to the mainland. There is however, no experience with transport of large quantities of CO_2 through longer pipelines on the seabed. Such experience will only be acquired after Snøhvit comes into operation from 2007.

The most suitable method of transport will depend on need and circumstances in each case, including the number of emission sources, the volume of emission from each source, the distance from source to storage site and the volumes of CO_2 to be trans-

ported. With today's technology, pipe transport is considered to be the easiest and most cost effective, and from 2007 experience with transport of CO₂ in pipes will be acquired from the LNG plant on Snøhvit.

Storage of CO₂

Norway has long experience with CO_2 storage in geological structures. Since 1996, 1 million tonnes CO_2 have been separated out during gas production at Sleipner Vest in the North Sea and stored at Utsira in a geological formation 1000 metres below the seabed. 2007 will see the start of production of natural gas, NGL, and condensate from the Snøhvit field in the Barents Sea. Treatment of the well-flow at Melkøya will result in the separation and storage of 700 000 tonnes CO_2 in a reservoir 2 600 metres below the seabed.

There is vast technical potential for storing CO₂ in geological formations around the world. Current and old oil and gas fields, and other formations are suitable for such storage. Storage in abandoned reservoirs are a geologically sound solution because the structures are most probably impervious seeing that they have already held oil and gas for millions of years. Other formations may also be deemed safe for storage of CO₂. The international SACS project has documented that there has been no leak of CO2 from the Sleipner field that was pumped down into the enormous Utsira formation.

The probability of a leak from geological storage is deemed to be very small. The IPCC report concludes that if storage is effectuated in a proper manner, it is highly probable (90-99 % probability) that more than 99 % of the stored CO_2 will still be present 100 years later. After 1000 years, it is probable (66-90 % probability) that more than 90% will still be present.

Use of CO₂ for increased oil production

As the oil fields mature, the pressure in the reservoirs sinks and there is a need for additional pressure to maintain production. In some parts of the Norwegian continental shelf, water or natural gas is used to provide the extra pressure needed to maintain production. Injection of CO₂ can be an alternative or supplement to water or natural gas as the pressure provider. Under certain conditions, CO₂ can be mixed in the reservoir oil, which causes swelling of the oil and reduces its viscosity. CO₂ can thus contribute to increased oil production over and above that achieved with water or gas injection.

There are major challenges associated with using CO₂ to increase oil production from the fields of the Norwegian continental shelf. In particular, there are major costs associated with modification of existing installations and equipment for injection and posttreatment of recovered CO2. Several of the possible candidates for CO₉ injection contain large amounts of gas, and recovered CO₂ must be separated from the gas in accordance with gas retail specifications. These processes require a lot of space and in many instances it will be necessary to build a new installation to accommodate the necessary equipment.

There is not necessarily concordance between access to CO_2 from a gas power station and the need for CO_2 at an oilfield. The expected lifetime of a gas power station is considerably longer than the need for CO_2 at an oilfield. Furthermore, the need for supplementary CO_2 will decrease as more and more CO_2 is produced in the process flow. This CO_2 must be separated from the process flow and be re-injected into the field. After a while, the amount of CO_2 produced by the process flow and reinjected will be sufficient for the oilfield, and there will be no further need for additional CO_2 from an external source. As the need for CO_2 for increased oil production is reduced, an infrastructure will become necessary for transport of CO_2 to storage.

An oilfield requires a constant supply of CO_2 , if it is to be used to increase oil production. A commitment to supply CO_2 to an oilfield could therefore affect the operational strategy of a gas-fired power station. In order to ensure the agreed volume of CO_2 to the oil field the gas power manufacturer must ensure sufficient uptime of the gas-fired power station. In these circumstances, the operating strategy could be different to that where the station's primary production is linked to the relationship between power price and gas price.

Huge volumes of CO_2 are necessary if it is used to increase oil production. CO_2 from just one source (for example Kårstø) will probably not be sufficient for optimal injection in the oilfield. It could therefore be necessary to procure CO_2 from other sources in Norway or abroad.

Projects to ensure progress in the work to establish a CO₂ chain

The government has initiated three projects to ensure the progress of the work in establishing a CO_2 chain and the involvement of relevant players.

Sub-project 1 covers the entire CO_2 chain with capture, transport and injection of CO_2 for increased oil production or storage. The earnings and costs for all stages of the CO_2 chain shall be quality assured in preliminary negotiations between the gas-fired power stations and other major point sources of CO_2 and the oil companies. Mapping of the players' actual willingness to pay will provide an overview of possible income in the chain, and thus also of the framework for state involvement. Sub-project 2 will delineate the time perspective and costs of establishing a cleansing plant at Kårstø. The goal is to have established a cleansing plant at Kårstø by 2009. The work will demand close collaboration with suppliers of CO_2 cleansing technology. A judicial unit will also be established that will assume responsibility for tenders and procurements, construction, operation and ownership.

In sub-project 3, the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy will clarify various aspects of the organisation and the judicial framework for the national involvement in the CO_2 chain in cooperation with relevant Ministries.

Cooperation between the authorities and industry

If CO_2 capture and storage is to be an important measure in the battle to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, technological solutions must be found that make capture and storage of CO_2 a competitive alternative to other energy solutions in a global context.

Norwegian authorities are participating in international research and technology joint-ventures. At government level, the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, cooperations under the jurisdiction of the International Energy Agency, and various research programs in the EU, in addition to bilateral cooperations are important arenas for collaboration and coordination.

Several prominent Norwegian research institutes and companies are participating in international collaboration projects, in which energy and supply operators cooperate with the authorities of several countries. These projects ensure that both the necessary technology developers (supply companies) and technology procurers (energy companies) participate in the technology development. Capture and storage of CO_2 is an important topic in the energy dialogue with the EU Commission. The Government will cooperate with the EU commission about CO_2 capture and storage and its application to achieve increased oil production.

In 2005, The Norwegian Minister for Petroleum and Energy signed a joint declaration with the British Minister for Energy about geological storage of CO_2 in the North Sea, and appointed a Working Group for the North Sea basin. The goal is to define common principles as a foundation for the regulation of CO_2 storage in the North Sea.

Gassnova SF

Gassnova is the national centre for ecofriendly gas technology and was established in 2005. The purpose of Gassnova is to promote the development of future, environmentally-friendly and cost effective gas-fired power technology. Gassnova supports projects that are at the stage between research and commercial units, such as pilot or demonstration units. In collaboration with the Norwegian Research Council, Gassnova manages the national program Climit, which supports development and demonstration of solutions for gas power stations with CO₂ management.

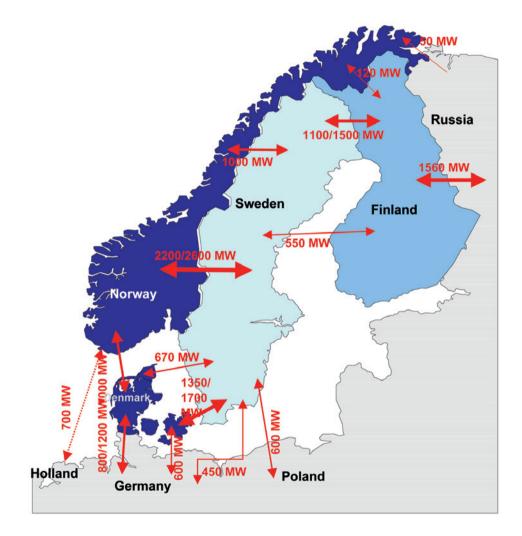
	Total	Change from 2004	
Average years' production capacity for			
Norwegian hydro power (inflow series 1970-1999)	119.8	+0.8	
Production	137.6	+26.0	
Hydropower	136.1	+26.6	
Thermal power	1.0	+0.1	
Wind power	0.5	+0.2	
International trade			
Import	3.7	-11.6	
Export	15.7	+11.9	
Net import	-12.0	23.5	
Net consumption			
Energy intensive industry	35.9	+0.2	
Pulp and paper	6.4	0	
Mining and other industry	8.7	+0.3	
Households, service providers, etc.	60.6	+0.8	

Key figures for the energy sector for 2005, in TWh

Net domestic end-consumption of energy, in TWh

	Total	Coal, coke	Bio- energy	Petroleum products	Gas	Electricity	District heating
Aggregated	225,0	12,1	12,4	79,2	6,7	112,2	2,4
Industry	81,1	12,1	4,4	7,2	6,0	51,0	0,4
Energy intensive							
industry	51,9	8,6	0,1	1,9	5,3	35,9	0,1
Pulp and paper	11,4	0,0	3,2	1,7	0,1	6,4	0,1
Mining and othe	r						
industry	17,8	3,7	1,1	3,6	0,6	8,7	0,2
Households, servi	ce						
providers, etc.	84,6	0,0	8,0	13,6	0,5	60,6	2,1
Transport	59,5	0,0	0,0	58,7	0,1	0,6	0,0





Publications from the Energy and Water Resources Department

in 2005

Parliamentary Bills

Fakta 2005	Energi- og vassdragsvirksomheten i Norge
Other	
St.prp. nr. 49 (2004-2005)	Om løyve til overføring av vatn gjennom bygging av ein tunnel mellom Breidalsvatnet og Raudalsvatnet
St.prp. nr. 24 (2005-2006)	Om endringar av løyvingar på statsbudsjettet for 2005 m.m. under Olje- og energidepartementet
St.prp. nr. 1 (2005-2006)	FOR BUDGET PERIOD 2006

Useful internet addresses:

Ministry	v of Petroleum and Energy	 www.oed.dep.no
wiinsu	y of Felloleum and Lhergy	

Other players

The Barents Euro-Arctic Councilw	ww.barentsenergy.org
BASREC	www.cbss.st
CORDIS (the EU R&D Information service)	
The Norwegian National Committee on Large Dams (NNCOLD).	
The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)	
The International Energy Agency (IEA)	
The Norwegian Electricity Association EBL	
The Energy Charter	www.encharter.org
The Swedish Energy Agency	
The Danish Energy Agency	www.ens.dk
Enova SF	www.enova.no
Energy Saving Trust Norway (Fres)	www.enok.no
Gassnova SF	www.gassnova.no
The General Directorate for Transport and Energy (DG Tren)	http://europa.
eu.int/comm/	dgs/energy_transport
International Centre for Hydropower	www.ntnu.no/ich
Labro College	. www.labroskolen.no
The Lågdal Museum and the Museum of Water Resources Labro	
5	net/laagdalsmuseet
The Ministry of the Environment	www.md.dep.no
Norad	
Nordel	
Nordic Energy Research (NEFP) www.nordi	5
The Nordic Council of Ministers	
Nord Pool.	
The Norwegian Research Council	
Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate	
The Norwegian Petroleum Industry Association	
Statistics Norway.	
Statkraft SF	
Statnett SF	www.statnett.no