Symposium Gas and Electricity Networks 19-23 May 2002, Brasilia

Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers

Bjørn H. Bakken, PhD Michael M. Belsnes, MSc Jarand Roynstrand, MSc

SINTEF Energy Research N-7465 Trondheim Norway www.energy.sintef.no





Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers Background

New technologies for energy conversion, storage and transport are emerging

- better possibilities to design sustainable energy systems for the future
- more complex energy systems to design, operate and maintain
- An overall system perspective is necessary
- More flexible and comprehensive planning tools are needed
- New tool under development with detailed technology models combined in a generic linear network



Customer needs are related to use and comfort, not specific forms of energy...





Possible energy sources to end-users





Possible local energy resources







Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers Methodology

- OBJECTIVE: develop a flexible tool for analysis of complex energy systems with multiple energy carriers
- generate system model with standard modules for transport channels, energy conversion processes and storage capacity
- ✓ detailed models of different energy technologies and energy carriers
- connection to superior system model through simple and uniform set of variables
- ✓ superior system analysis in a general network model
- multi-criteria optimization



Sample: Energy supply to industrial site





System model for industrial site





Network model for industrial site





Case: Hylkje suburb, Bergen



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Hylkje system model





Hylkje sample results





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Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers **Summary**

- Introduction of new technologies for energy conversion and transport creates more complex energy systems to design and operate
- More flexible and comprehensive tools are needed to handle multiple technologies
- New tool under development with standard modules for transport channels, energy conversion processes and storage capacity
- connection to superior system model through simple and uniform set of linear variables
- superior system analysis in a general network model
- multi-criteria optimization



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Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers Special Report Questions - 1

- Which are the dominating objectives and criteria in the planning process of the total energy distribution system?
- Who should make the weighing factors?
- Tool for scenario studies to evaluate different investment alternatives, price sensitivity, public taxes, environmental constraints etc
- Use of objectives and criteria depending on who is using the tool and which aspects they are considering
 - Private investors: Minimize costs subject to existing and future public demands like environmental taxes and/or constraints – How sensitive are the alternatives to different demands?
 - Official staff: Obtain public goals regarding environment and energy efficiency by using taxes and constraints – What means are best suited to reach the goals without destroying the economy of the projects?



Multi-criteria optimization





Energy Distribution Systems with Multiple Energy Carriers Special Report Questions - 2

- Is a multi-criteria approach still valid under liberal market conditions?
- In general, an actor in an ideal liberal market might have a single criterion optimization (max Profit / min Cost), but he would still have to consider aspects like financial risk, security, environment, public opinion etc
- Note that even though market operations are liberalized, the system expansion planning is still highly regulated with numerous public demands, constraints and taxes
- Multi-criteria approach is a systematic approach to handle non-quantifiable and non-comparable objectives related to energy system planning like security, aesthetics, public opinion etc
- In addition, multi-criteria methods are suited for fuzzy techniques with "soft" constraints







=> Expansion planning level



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Mathematical tools

- Linear Programming with possible extension to MIP
- AMPL as matrix generator, CPLEX for solver(s)
 - + Mathematical equations rather than program code
 - + Easy to modify and expand during testing and development
 - + Easy to use in iterations
 - Difficult to implement GUI
 - Possible limitations in tool difficult to bypass
 - Difficult to combine several solvers in AMPL
 - Expensive!
- **Final implementation environment not decided**

