## Integration of renewable energy, hydrogen and natural gas in Europe



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#### North Sea network

SINTEF INTNU





### Integration of renewable energy, hydrogen and natural gas

Over the next years Europe faces an energy trilemma. In short

- Security of supply with an increasing renewable volume
- Affordable energy
- Clean energy

Hydrogen may play a role, but does not change the fact that there is energy shortage in the European system (clean, secure and affordable)



G. Durakovic, H. Zhang, B. R. Knudsen, A. Tomasgard, P. Crespo del Granado, Decarbonizing the European energy system in the absence of Russian gas: Hydrogen uptake and carbon capture developments in the power, heat and industry sectors, Journal of Cleaner Production, Vol. 435, 2024,



Wave

Wind offshore, floating Wind offshore, grounded

Wind onshore

# Lower availability of natural gas increases power generation from coal and renewables

With Russian gas



Without Russian gas







## Natural gas remains an important source of hydrogen, butters green hydrogen has tremendous future potential

Without Russian gas



With Russian gas

#### Hydrogen uptake in steel sector is sensitive to availability NTNU of affordable hydrogen



Without Russian gas



#### **Cement production**



Fig. 5. Evolution of European cement clinker production.

#### CO<sub>2</sub> - sequestration





Fig. 6. Expected cumulative amounts of  $CO_2$  sequestered in the North Sea.



#### Interconnection capacity

	Without hydrogen	With hydrogen
With offshore energy hub	248.7	264.8
Without offshore energy hub	154.0	165.0

North Sea grid transmission capacity (GW)





### Placement of electrolyzer capacity in North Sea

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#### Summary



- Restrictions on gas lead to a significant increase in total power generation capacity in Europe
- This increase is primarily in coal & renewables
- North Sea plays key role in all cases

### **H**<sub>2</sub>

- Natural gas reforming is a highly competitive source of hydrogen
- Green hydrogen much more attractive as natural gas supply is restricted



- Steel is primarily decarbonized through hydrogen
- The uptake of hydrogen depends heavily on the availability of cheap hydrogen

We need more renewable energy and CCS, and North Sea is central in both

