

Country Report Switzerland

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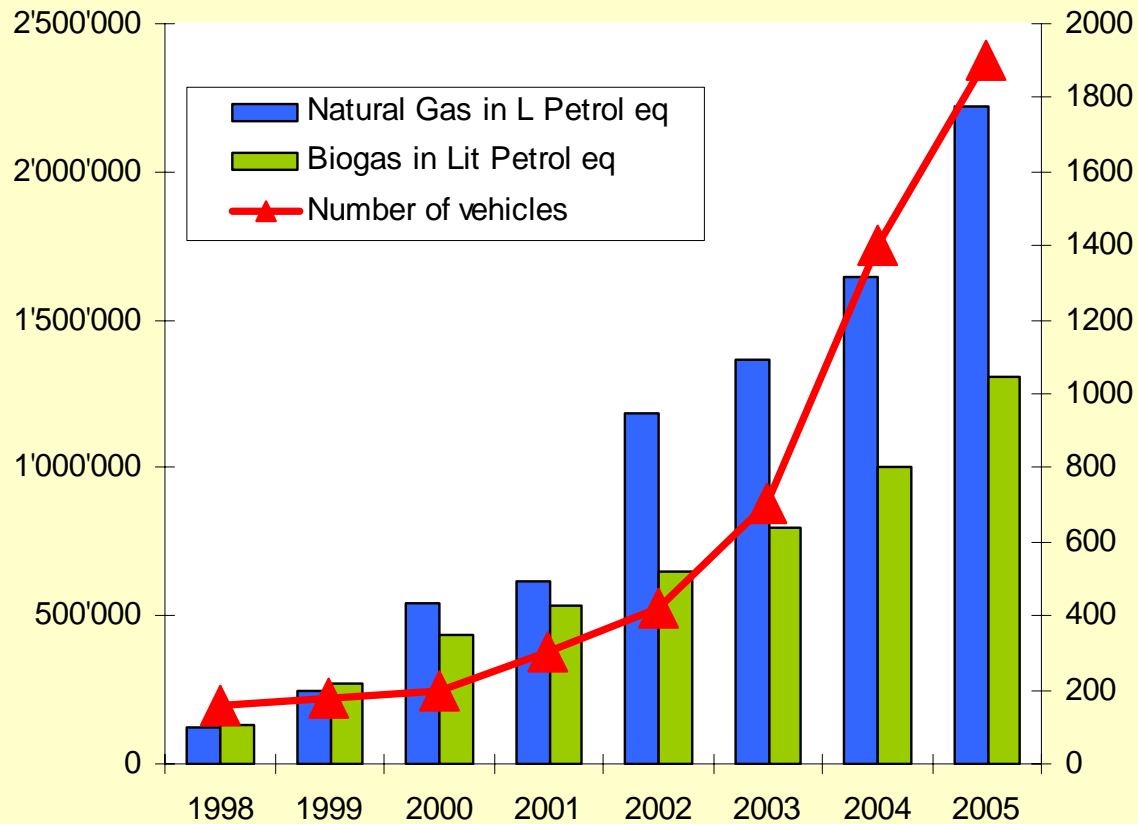
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Biogas fuel in Switzerland

	2003	2005	2006	2007
Number of vehicles	730	1900	2400	3600
Number of upgrading plants	4	7	6	7
Number of pump station	35	60	65	78
Share of biogas [%]	45	37	37	n.k.
Price at pump station	Biogas	0.62	0.64	80.8
in €cts/l petrol eq.	Natural Gas	1.32	1.32	81.7 to 1.2

Gas as fuel in Switzerland



Political decisions: 1. Feed-in law

- The electricity produced from renewable energy of all new plants or significantly reshaped plants built after January 1, 2006 has to be accepted by the grid operator and recompensated at the cost of production
- Renewable energy plants are those using solar energy, wind, geothermal power, small hydro power up to 10MW, biomass and biomass containing wastes
- The compensation will be calculated according to the prices of actual reference plants that utilize the most efficient technology.
- The construction of geothermal plants will be supported by a risk warranty covering max. 50% of the drilling cost. Not more than 150 Mio. SFR (approx. 123 Mio. \$) should be invested in total.
- The compensations shall not be higher than 0.6 cts/kWh of electricity consumed in Switzerland

Political decisions: 1. Feed-in law

From the total roof of 0.6 cts./kWh (corresponding to approx. 320 Mio. SFR per year or 260 Mio US\$) the renewable energies will receive maximal the following shares:

- Hydro power 50%
- PV
 - 5% if additional cost is higher than 50cts/kWh
 - 10% if additional cost is between 40 and 50 cts./kWh
 - 20% if additional cost is between 30 and 40 cts./kWh
 - 30% if additional cost is lower than 30 cts/kWh
 - (all costs in SFR)
- All other technologies (including PV) with additional cost of max. 30 cts/kWh shall receive max. 30%

In total this makes 145% for renewable energy plus 5% for quota on energy efficiency and risk warranty for geothermal power

→ There will be some competition!

Political decisions: 2. Mineral oil tax

- All renewable vehicle fuels will be free of mineral oil tax
- Natural gas and LPG will have a reduced tax by 0.4 SFR/l gasoline eq. (actually the tax is 56 cts./l petrol eq.)
- The quantity of imported renewable fuel which is tax free will be regulated by the government
- The government defines the sources and the proveniences of the fuels considered as renewable in function of environmental parameters, the production in Switzerland and the cost of fossil fuel

Political decisions: 3. Law on spatial planning

- All buildings and installations necessary for the production of renewable energy and corresponding post-composting may be built on agricultural land without special permission for an industrial production (zonenkonform) if the primary material utilized for energy production is produced in agriculture and has a direct connection to the place of production.
 - ➔ It has to be material produced on the farm(s) or transported from a „near“ distance of from another farm in possession of the farmer(s) involved.

Political decisions: 3. CO2 tax

- An increasing tax will be introduced on fossile fuels for heating purposes in function of the fulfillment of the CO2 law starting in 2008 with 12 SFR/to of CO2 (3 cts./l of light oil) and reaching a maximum of 36 SFR/to of CO2 (9 cts./l of oil) in 2010