

BigSolar for the decarbonization of current district heating systems Potentials & Challenges

SOLID Solar Energy Systems GmbH

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Solar Heat and DH Solar Cooling Solare Process Heat



n'Par



26 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN LARGE-SCALE SOLAR THERMAL 300 SYSTEMS BUILT IN MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES OFFICES IN THE USA, SINGAPORE, GERMANY

### **City of Graz - Overview**



The second largest city of Austria

Approx. 300.000 inhabitants

Approx. 120.000 people supplied by district heating

District heating demand: 1.200 GWh/a

Peak load: 530 MW











2013

2014



Simulation of existing and potential future Heat sources



# Energy mix of the future





# Storing summer sun for winter heating





### **Results of Feasibility**





Target Costs Heat < 40€/MWh for production and management "BIG SOLAR"

## Key challenges- Area





Comparison to other infrastructure areas in Graz

Big Solar concept~ 100 haAirport Graz~ 300 haMotorw. junc. Graz~ 40 haGeneration plant Mellach ~ 110 ha

required solar system area < 0,8 % of the city area

> Areas for renewable energy need to become a part of urban planning!

## Key challenge Area





### Drake Landing, Canada





## Vojens, Denmark





#### Langkazi, China





## **Projects under Developement**



- Detailed Studies and Feasibilities for app. 20 cities show major potential in regards of economic competitiveness, land needs and technical interfaces
- Some central European Projects are in the phase of preparation for implementation (securing land, permits, financing)
- The system works in different climates and under different interfaces to existing environment.
- The more modernized the DH- net, the higher solar fraction can be achieved
- BigSolar represents a clean technology that can be locally implemented and that can deliver significant shares of district heating independent from world energy prices and supply chains

## **Potentials**



- Depending on temperatures in DH, climate, other existing heat sources today Big Solar systems can cover 10-90% of a District Heating demand.
- Solar Fractions of up to 50% already today are often competetive.

Potential for Investment in 20 years- A change supply structure

Austria	4.4 Bio €	12 TWh	50% of DH
EU	70 Bio €	200 TWh	30% of DH
China	200 Bio €	700 TWh	

## Summary



- Some realized BigSolar projects in operation in small municipalities < 10,000 inh. (Denmark, Canada, China)</li>
- Several projects in development phase in Austria and South East Europe in larger municipalities (30,000 – 1,000,000 inh.)
- Technology is ready to go but will improve still in the next years
- Institutional requirements are necessarry (e.g. for securing land, public authorization process, funding options, capacity building)
- Big Solar has a huge potential and can contribute to decarbonizing DH significantly

### Thank you for your attention!



