



# Grosskraftwerk Mannheim AG

**GKM – Operating a coal fired CHP-power plant in an urban area**

**Dr.-Ing. Matthias Meierer**

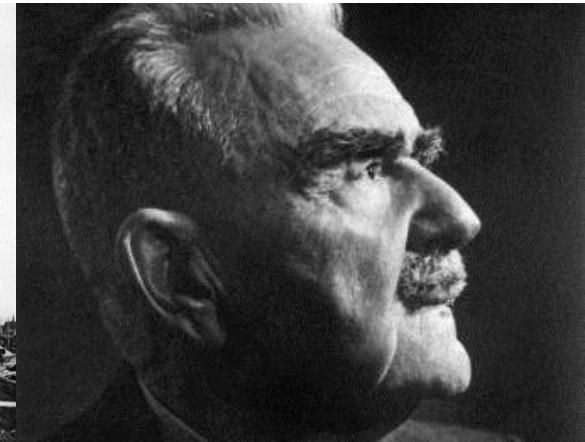
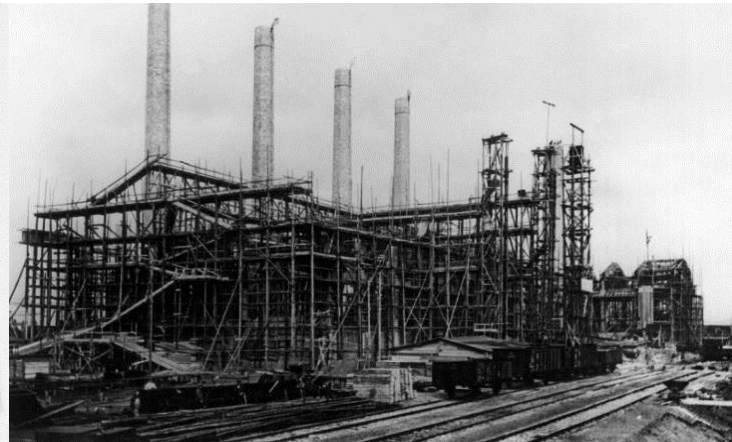
Flexibility-Workshop / VGB Power Tech - IGEF-Study-Tour

September 19, 2016 in Berlin

# Contents

1. Introduction / GKM Power Plant
2. Actual situation in Germany („Energiewende“)
3. New GKM heat storage system / optimization of  
CHP Process
4. Conclusions

# GKM history: the beginnings



**1921**

GKM is founded on  
8<sup>th</sup> of November

Start of construction work at a good location: close to town of Mannheim and directly sited at river Rhine; start of electricity generation in 1923

Mastermind: Dr. Karl Friedrich Marguerre,  
Executive Direktor

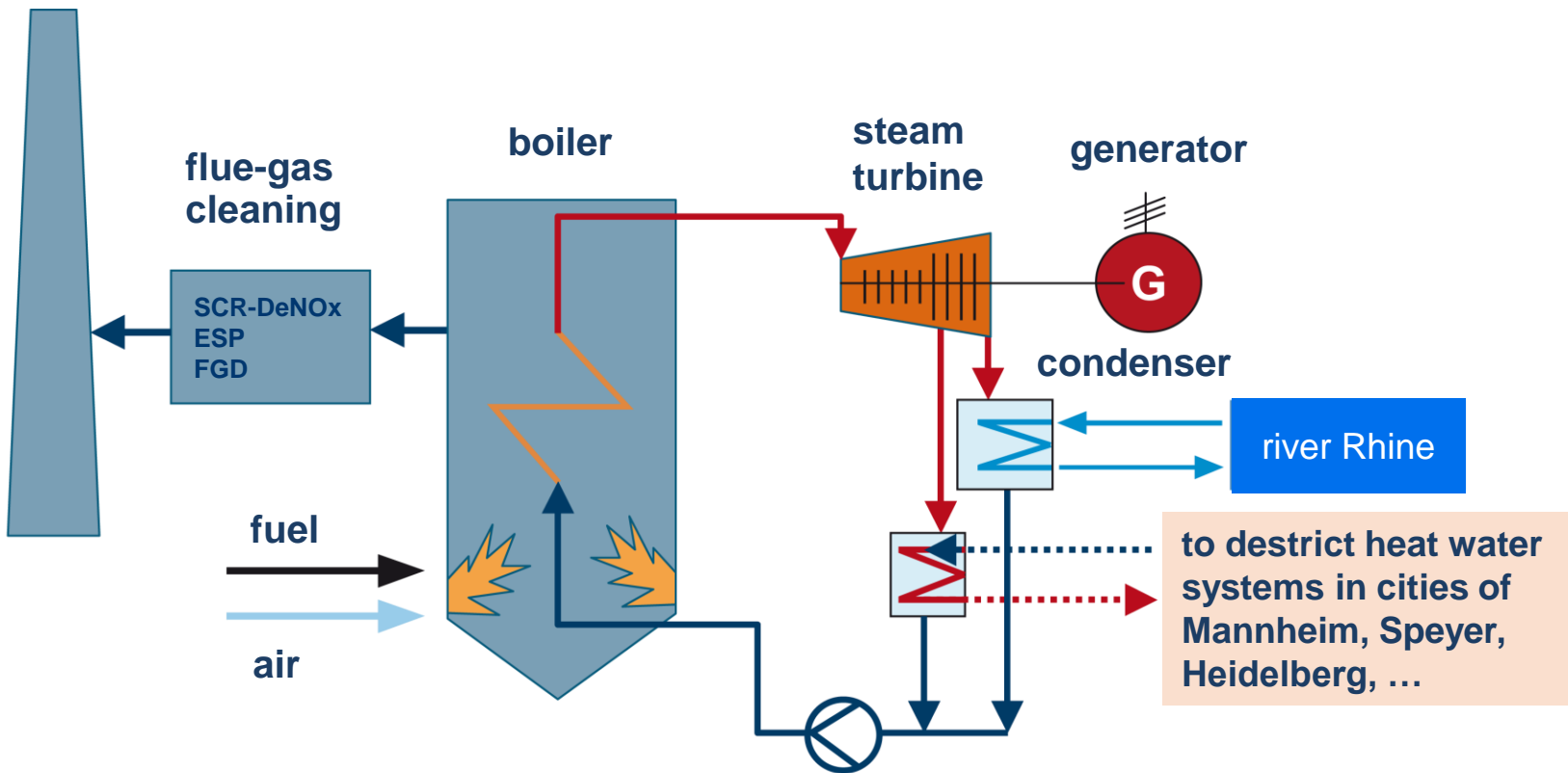
# GKM – founded 1921 ... new unit 9 in erection ...



# GKM plant today

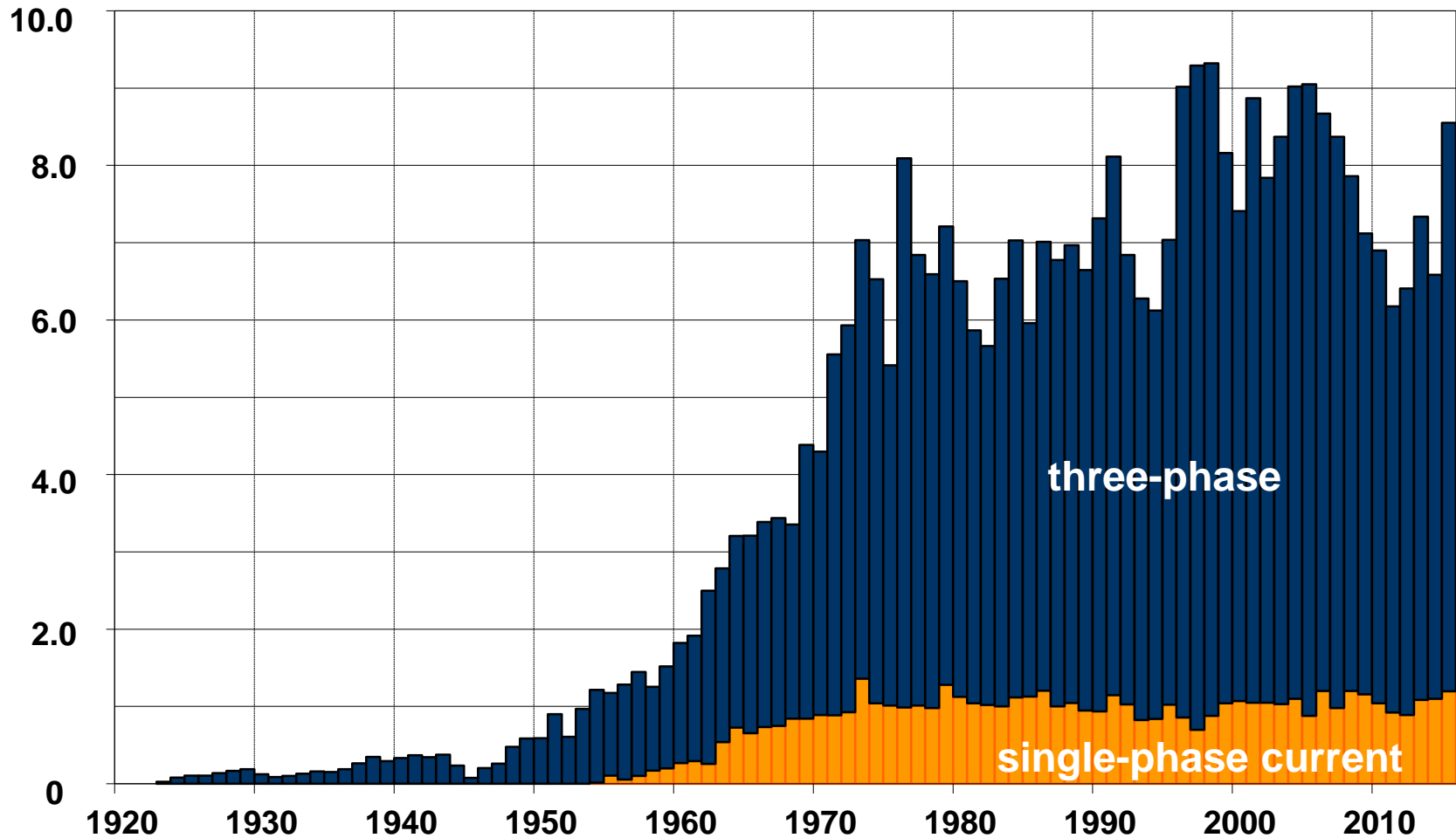


# CHP process (combined heat and power) in GKM

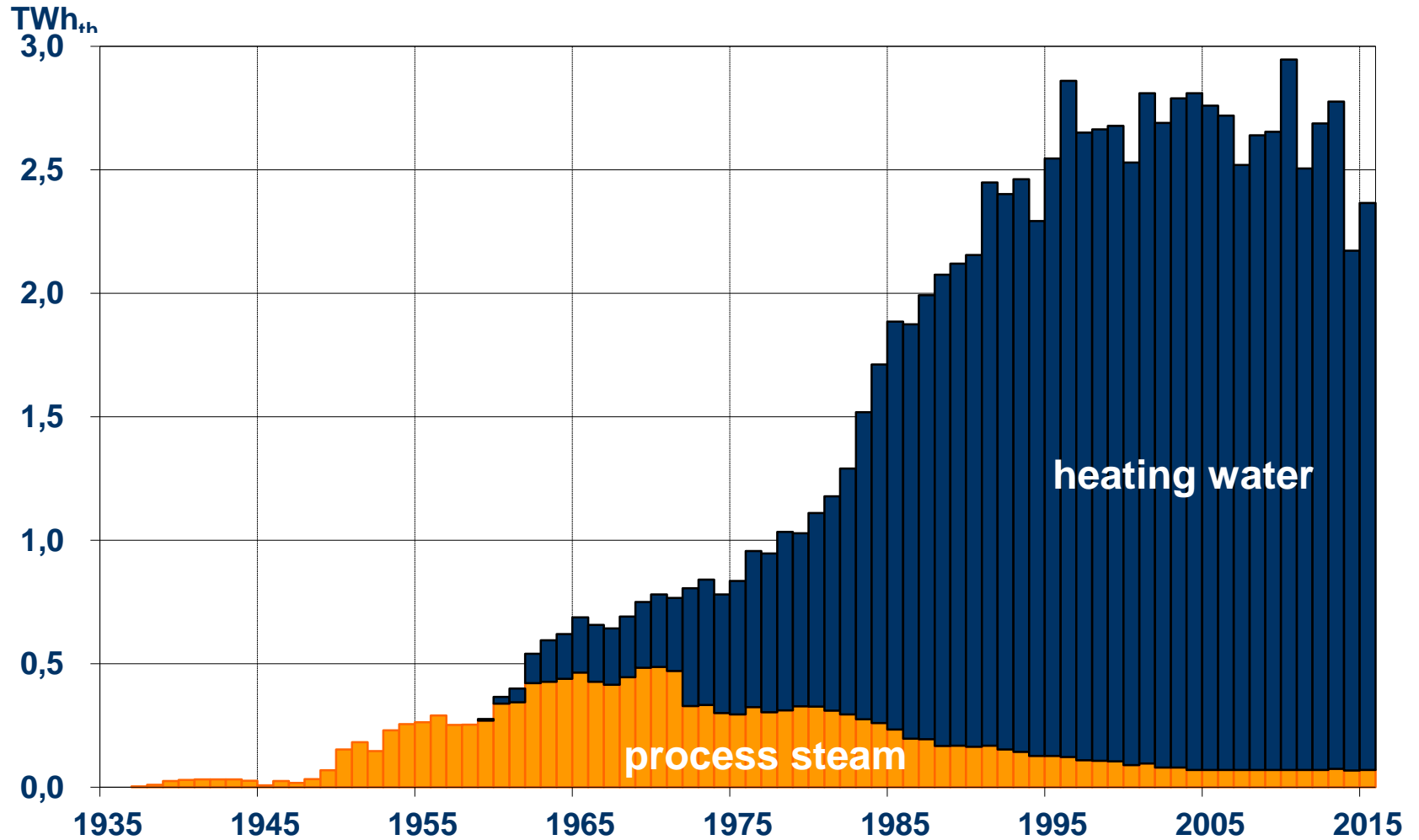


# GKM power generation (electricity)

TWh



# GKM district heat generation





# efficient generation of electricity and district heat



## energy for share holders and German Railway: reliable, cost-effective and friendly to environment

### 50 Hz three-phase alternating current

(share holders of GKM AG)

RWE Generation SE (40 %)

EnBW AG (32 %)

MVV RHE GmbH (28 %)

### 16.7 Hz single-phase alternating current

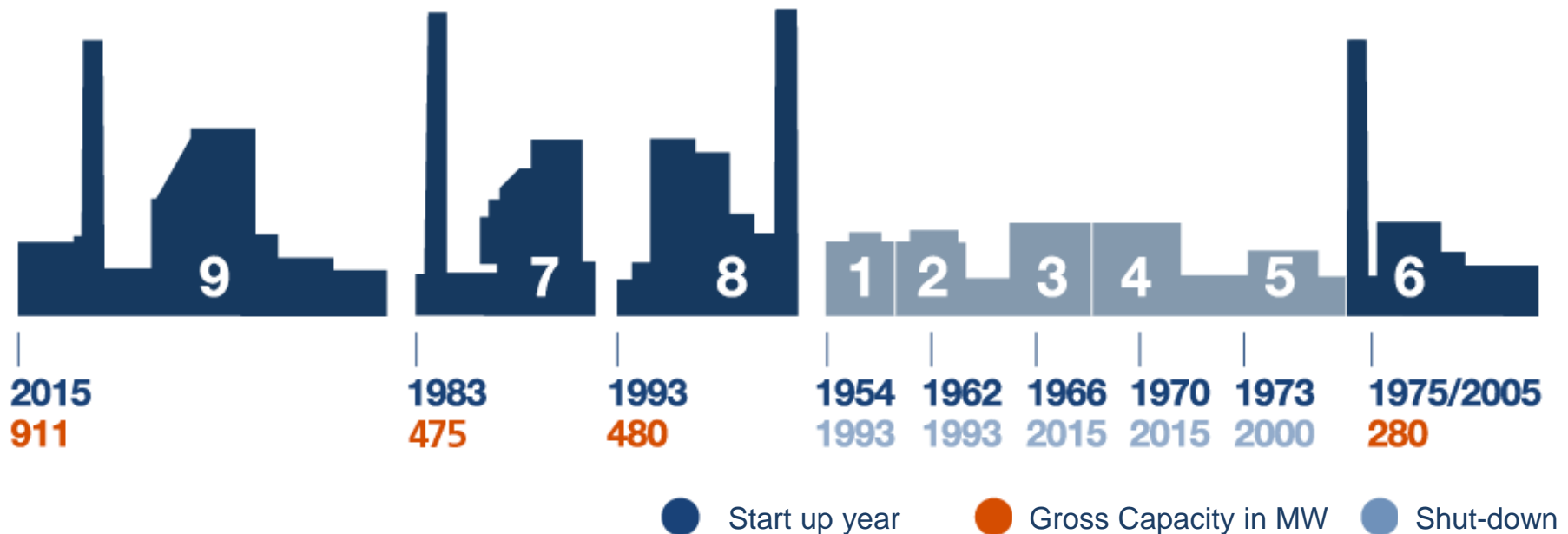
DB Energie GmbH  
(German Railway)

### District heat

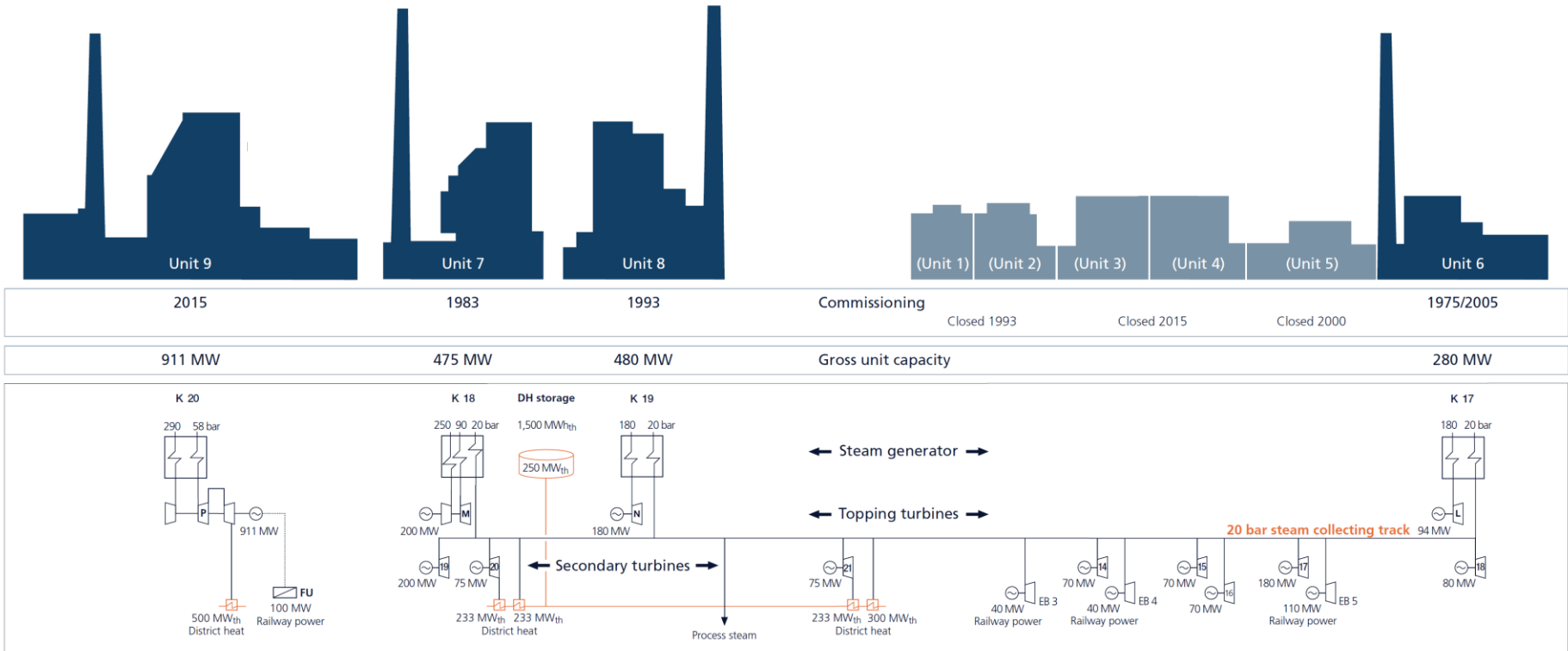
MVV RHE GmbH  
Mannheim

# GKM plant in 2016

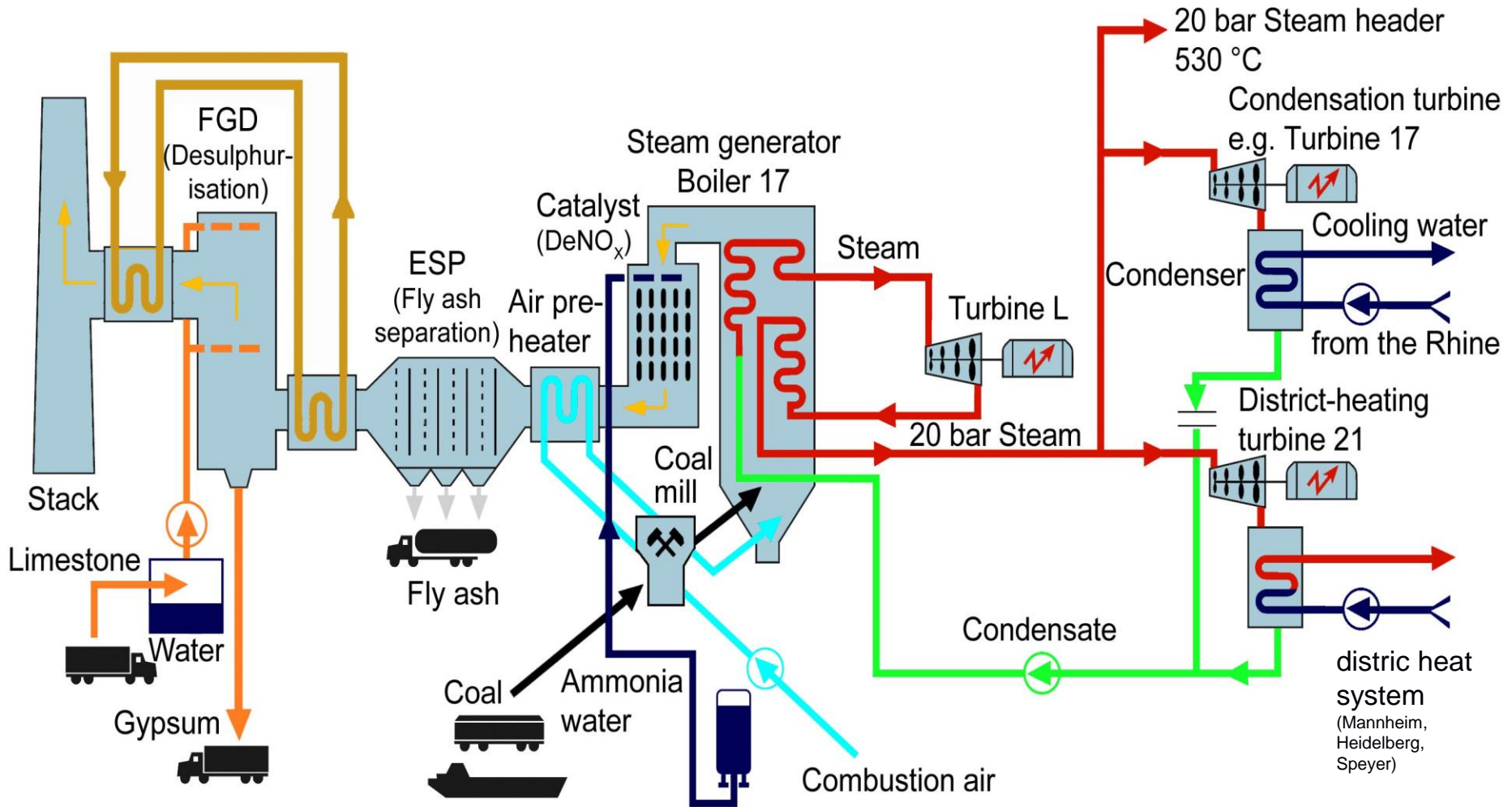
GKM plant: Installed capacity: 2.146 MW<sub>el</sub> (units 6,7,8,9)



# GKM plant overview



# flow sheet of GKM unit 6 (CHP)



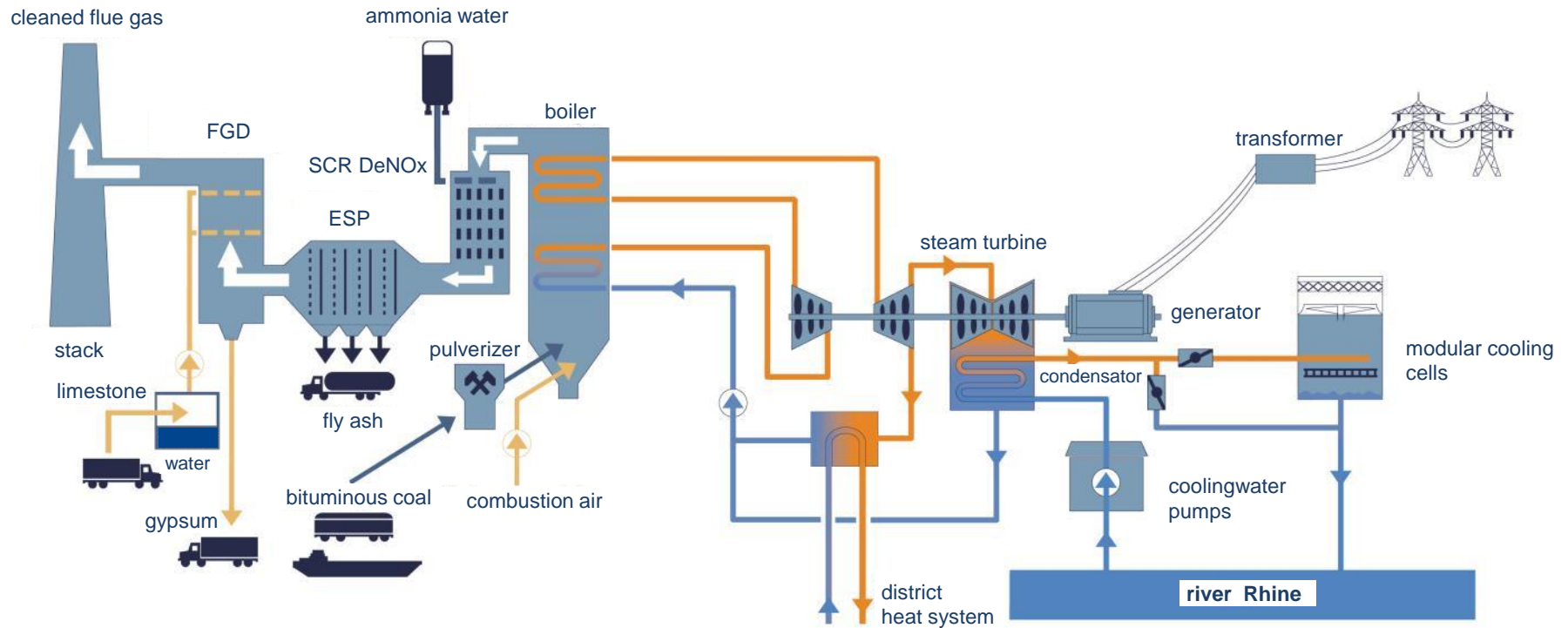
# new unit 9



Energy for Mannheim  
and the Region

# unit 9 – flow sheet

## combined heat and power unit 9 (CHP)





## facts and figures

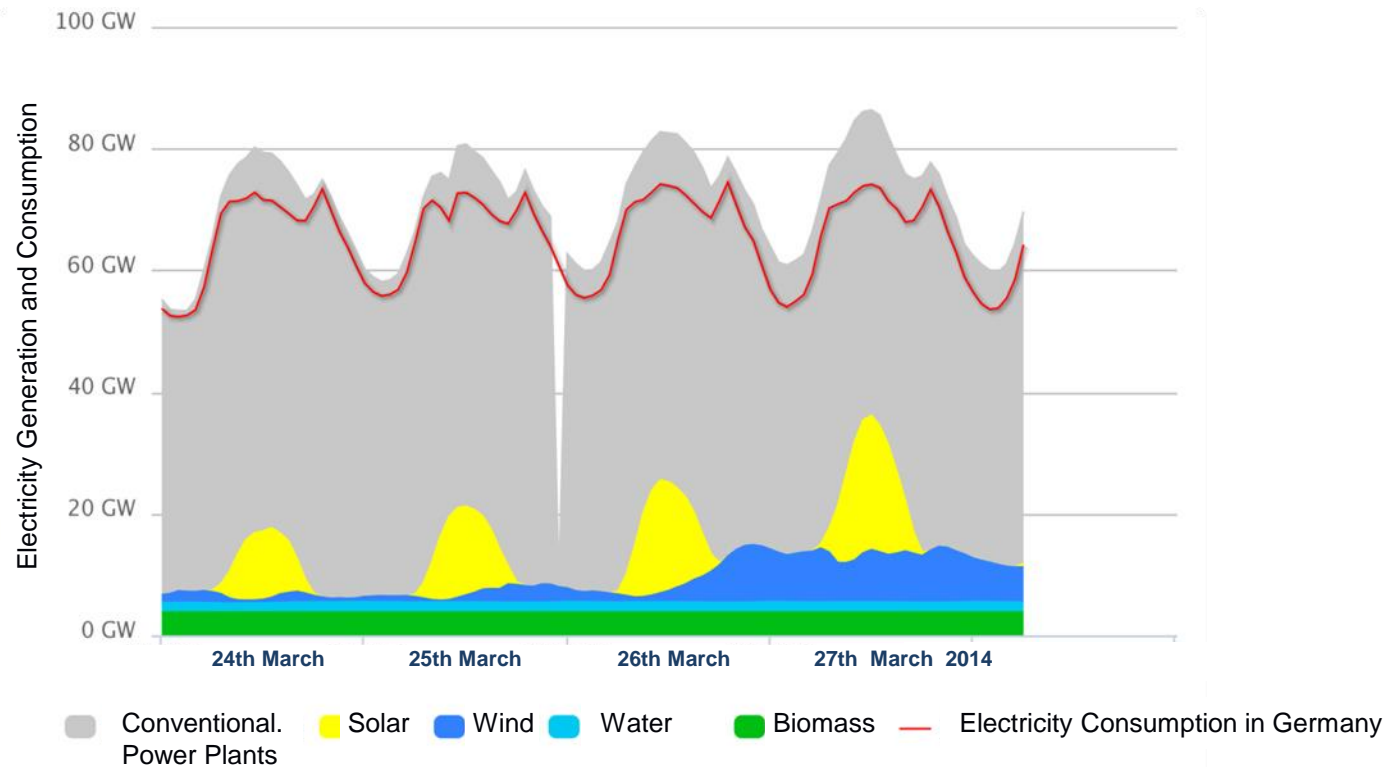
Commissioning/start of commercial operation	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2015
Investment volume	1.2 bil. €
Gross output	911 MW <sub>el</sub>
Electrical net efficiency	46.4 %
District heat generation with CHP	max. 500 MW <sub>th</sub>
Fuel utilization for CHP	max. 70 %
Railway electricity (16.7 Hz) (per transverter)	100 MW



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# electricity generation / actual situation in Germany (example)

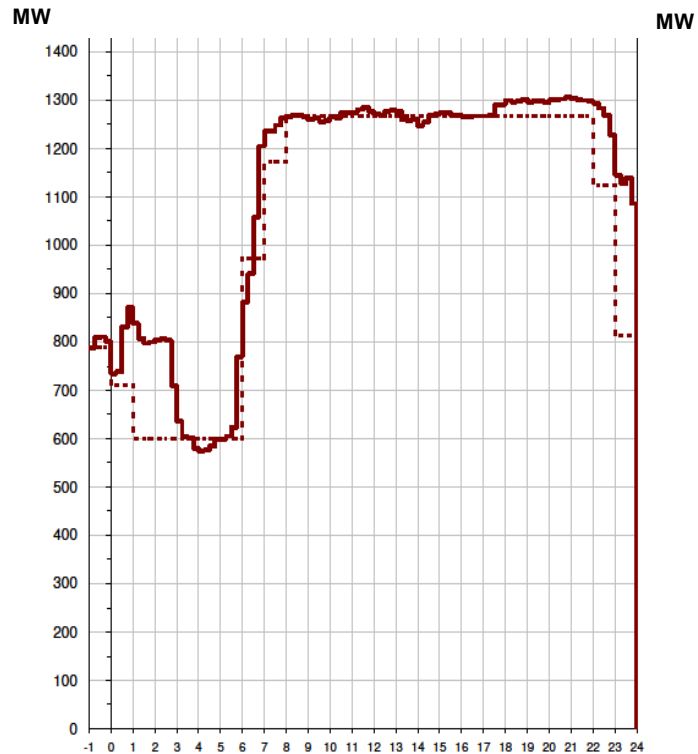


**remarkable export of electricity from Germany to neighbour countries during high generation of solar and wind power**

# GKM / daily operation situation 2007 vs. today

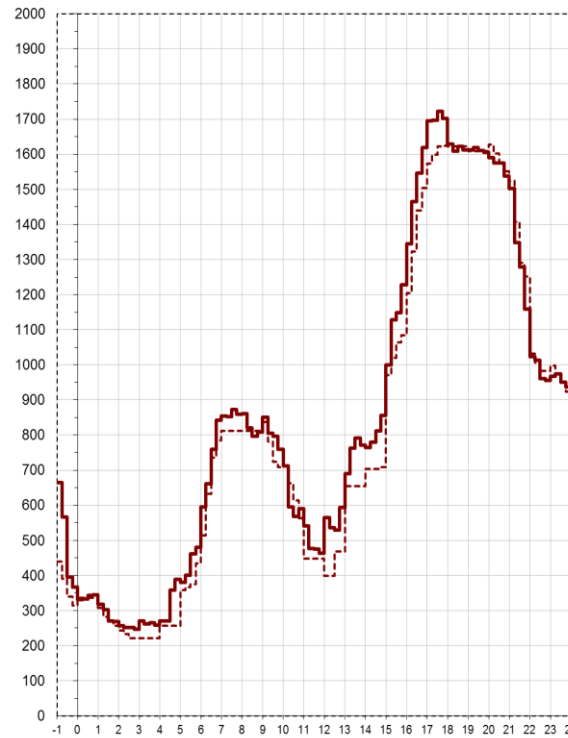
## GKM Operation in 2007

Wednesday, March 21, 2007



## and today (planned and real output)

Monday, March 16, 2015

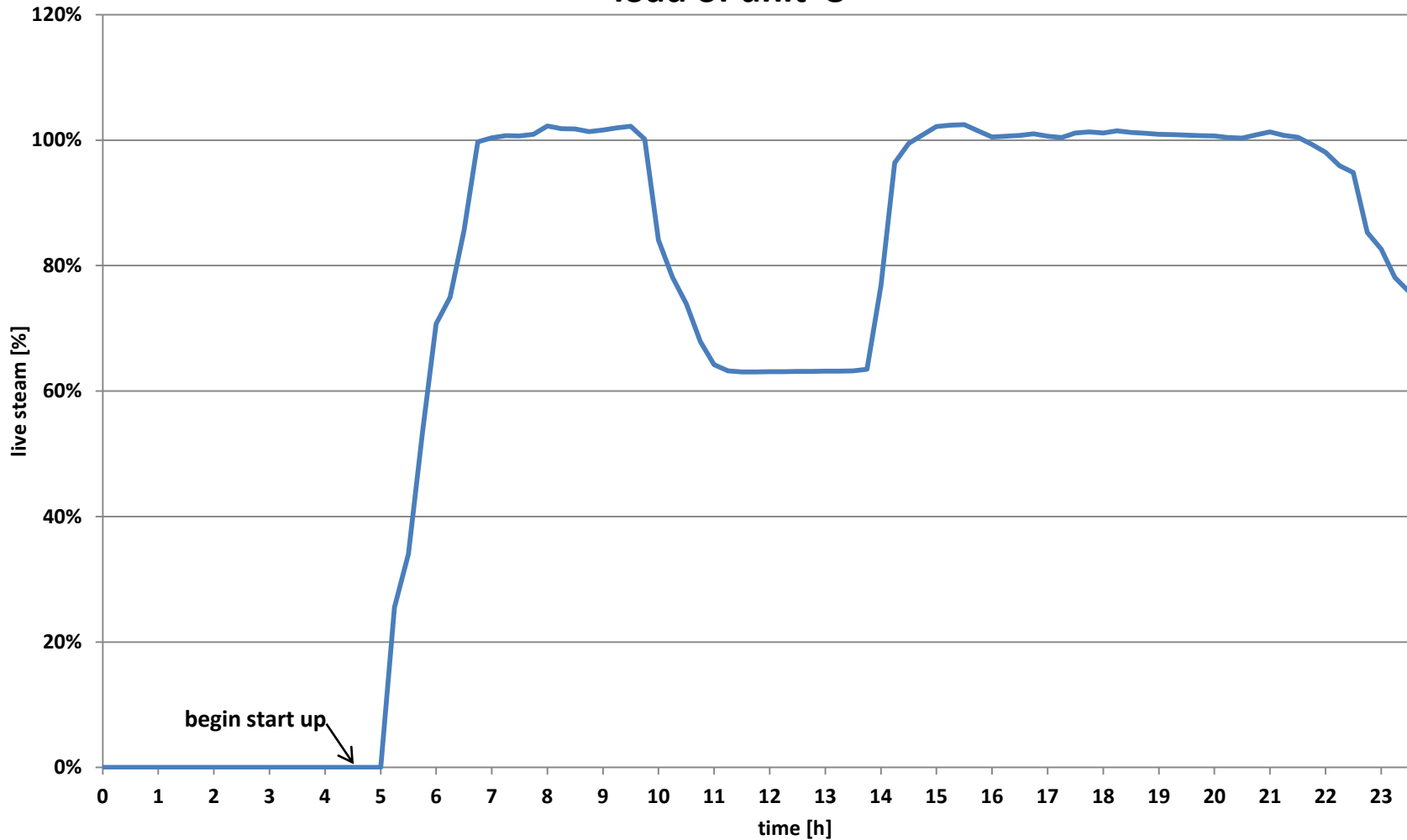


— real output      - - - - - planned output („day ahead“)

today's requirements in electricity market mean high demands on equipment and personell in GKM: high flexibility in load changes and timing

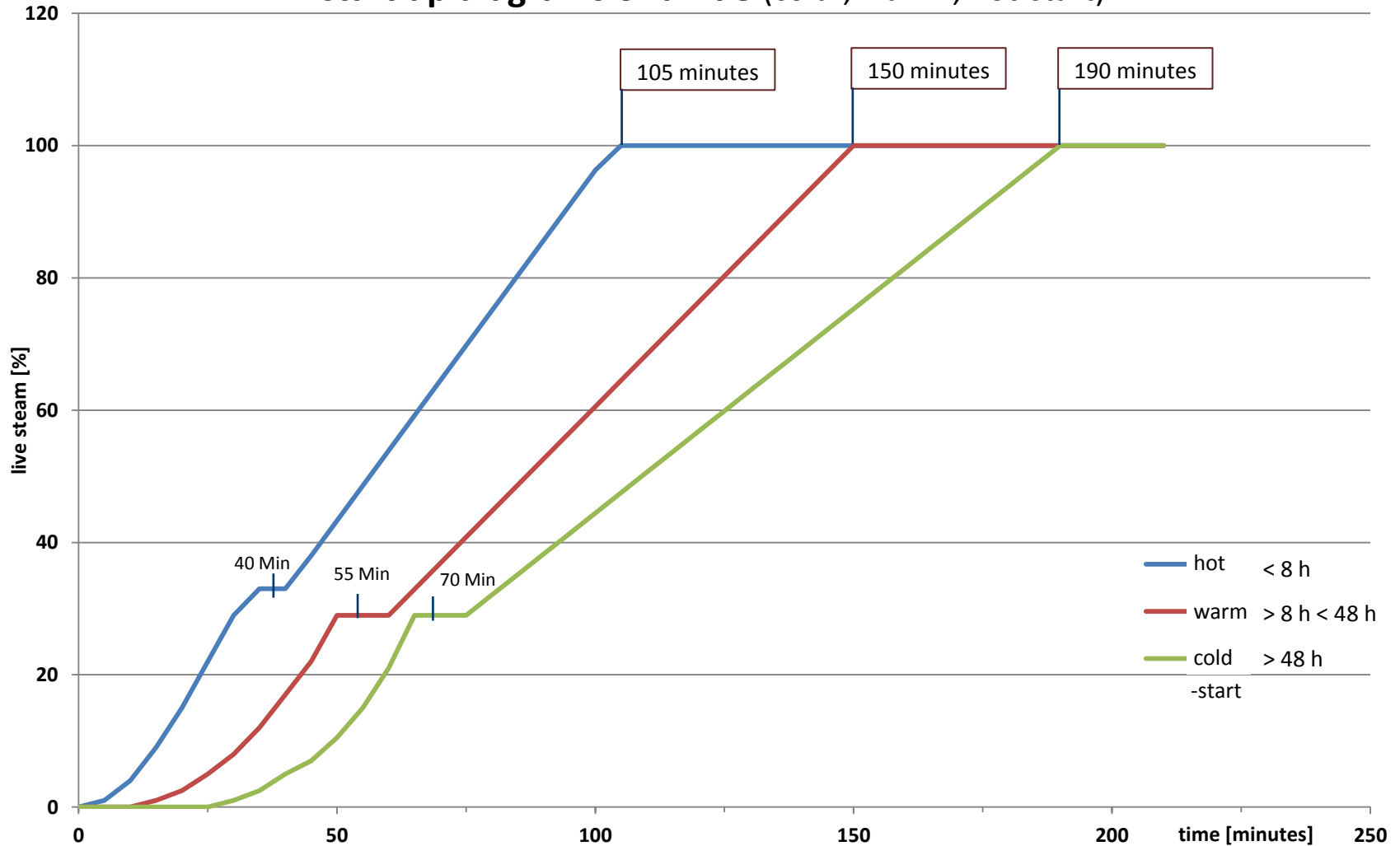
# GKM / unit 8 load diagram (example)

**load of unit 8** February 17, 2014



# GKM / start up diagrams of unit 8

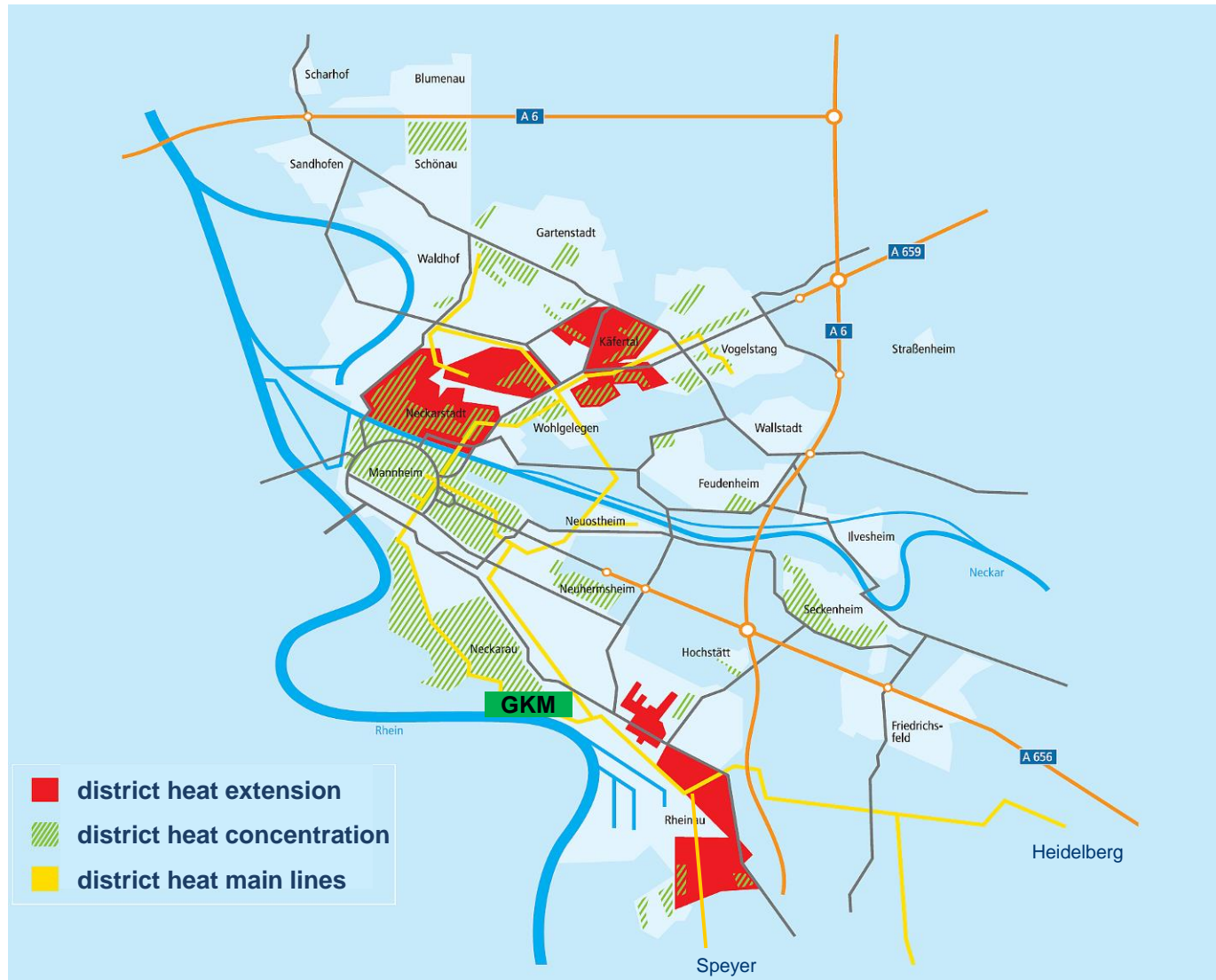
## start up diagrams of unit 8 (cold-, warm-, hot-start)



# Contents

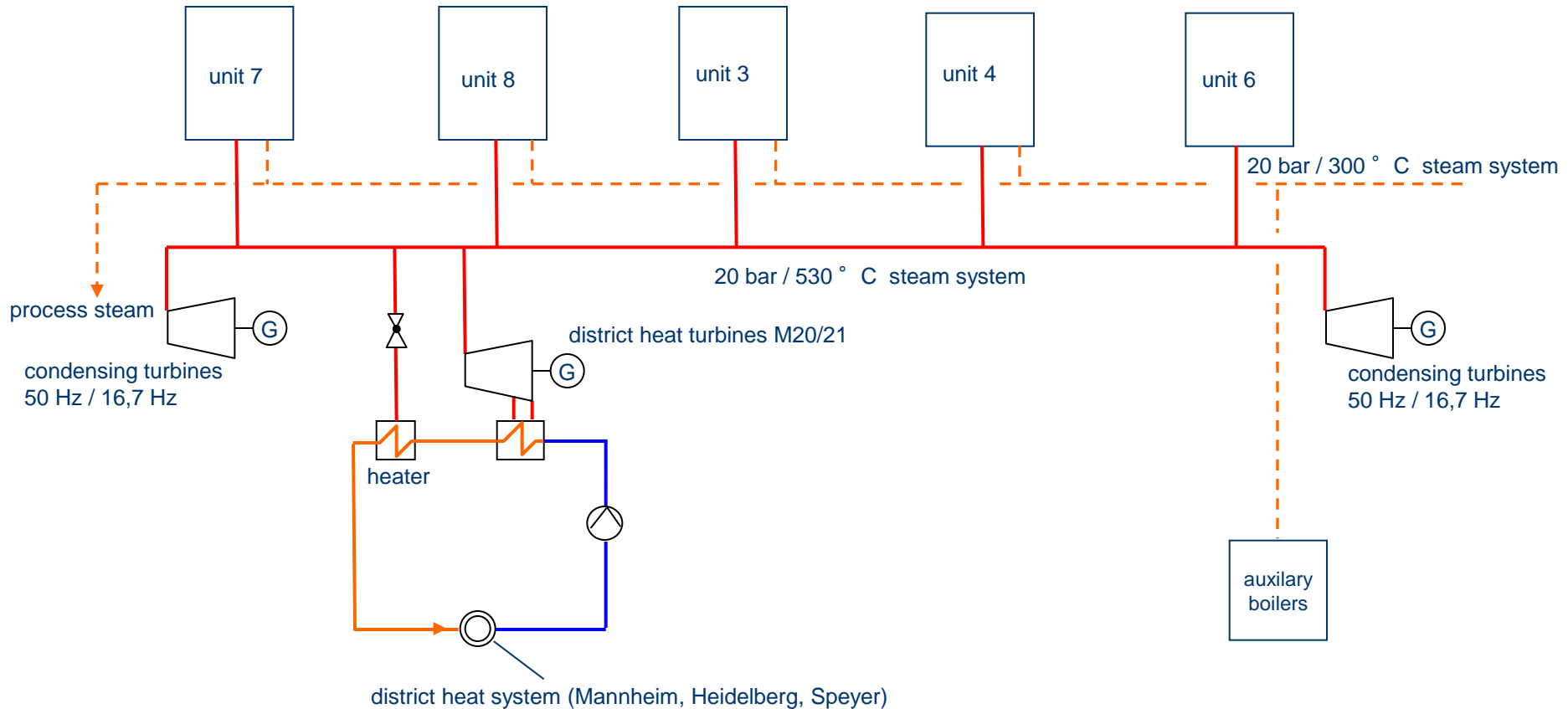
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# Mannheim district heat system / GKM CHP Plant



# GKM Plant / district heat system until 2013

**GKM „2-units-operation“ necessary at minimum load because of need for secure supply of district heat system (until end of 2013)**





# CHP plants in Germany / need for energy storage

In energy supply systems for heat and power energy storage systems help to bring **energy consumption and energy generation into balance**

Actual need for higher and more energy storage capacities in Germany:

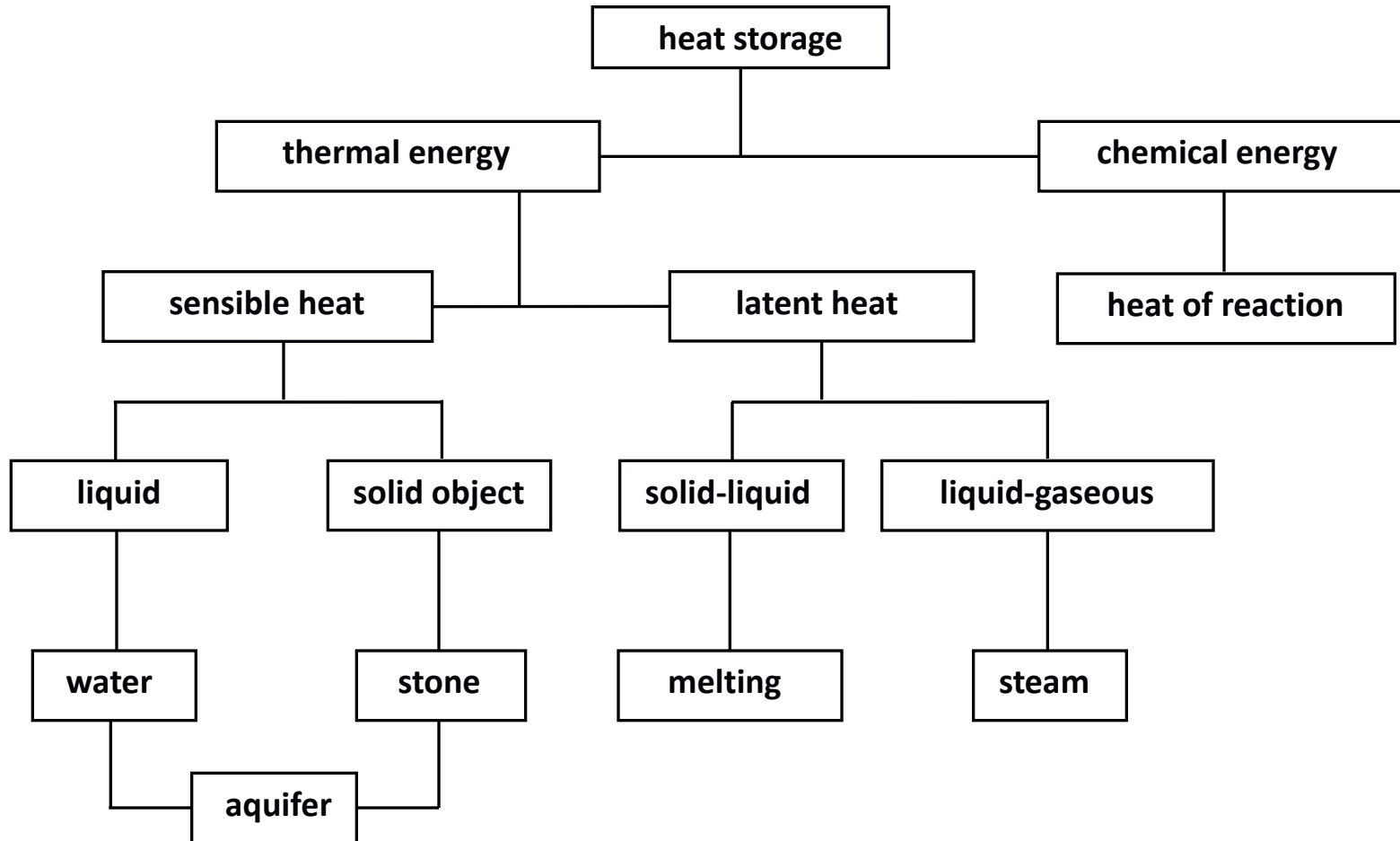
- increasing capacities of „renewables“ (esp. solar (PV) and wind) for power (electricity) and heat supply
- combined heat and power plants (CHP) „struggle with economics“: low EEX-prices for electricity and „must run production of electricity“ because of need to produce heat continuously

## energy storage systems / thermal storage

Thermal energy storage: heat storage: worldwide use of different types in large scale

- different substances (e.g. water, salts, sand, concrete, aquifer, ...)
- different temperature / pressure
- different technical types / functions
- integrated in different systems e.g. power plants; CHP; district heat systems; local heat systems, industrial systems, ...
- activities in research and development: to develop systems with higher capacities (MWh, MW) and improvement of the technical systems
- focus: better integration of renewables in existing energy supply systems (**heat and power**)

# heat storage systems / overview



## thermal storage systems / water not pressurized

Water energy storage systems / not pressurized: worldwide use since long time in power plants, industry, and heating systems

- simple constructions / different types / easy to integrate in power plants
- storage system type „Dr. Hedbäck“ >80 tanks worldwide, most in Europe and South Korea
- water system (well known)
- positive long time experiences
- limited temperature level (<100 ° C), atmospheric pressure, high volumes (up to 50,000m<sup>3</sup> per tank) and capacities (up to 300 MW, up to 1500 MWh)
- reasonable investment costs (depending on system integration demand)

## heat storage systems / conclusions

- thermal energy storage (heat): worldwide use of different types in large scale
- water is most common storage substance (easy to handle, cheap, not corrosive, high heat capacity, friendly to environment, ...)
- research and development for other storage substances (e.g. salts, sand, concrete, aquifer, metals, ...) and process optimization ongoing
- better integration of renewables and other sources (e.g. waste heat) in existing energy supply systems (heat and power) needed
- focus: energy storage systems with high capacities (MW, MWh), high load flexibility and gradients
- **actual: difficult commercial conditions for large storage systems and installations**

## Load demands on CHP Plant GKM

- 50 Hz Electricity Generation for RWE, EnBW, MVV
- 16,7 Hz Electricity Generation for DB Energie
- District Heat Generation and **secure supply** of Mannheim, Heidelberg and Speyer

## Situation at German Electricity Market

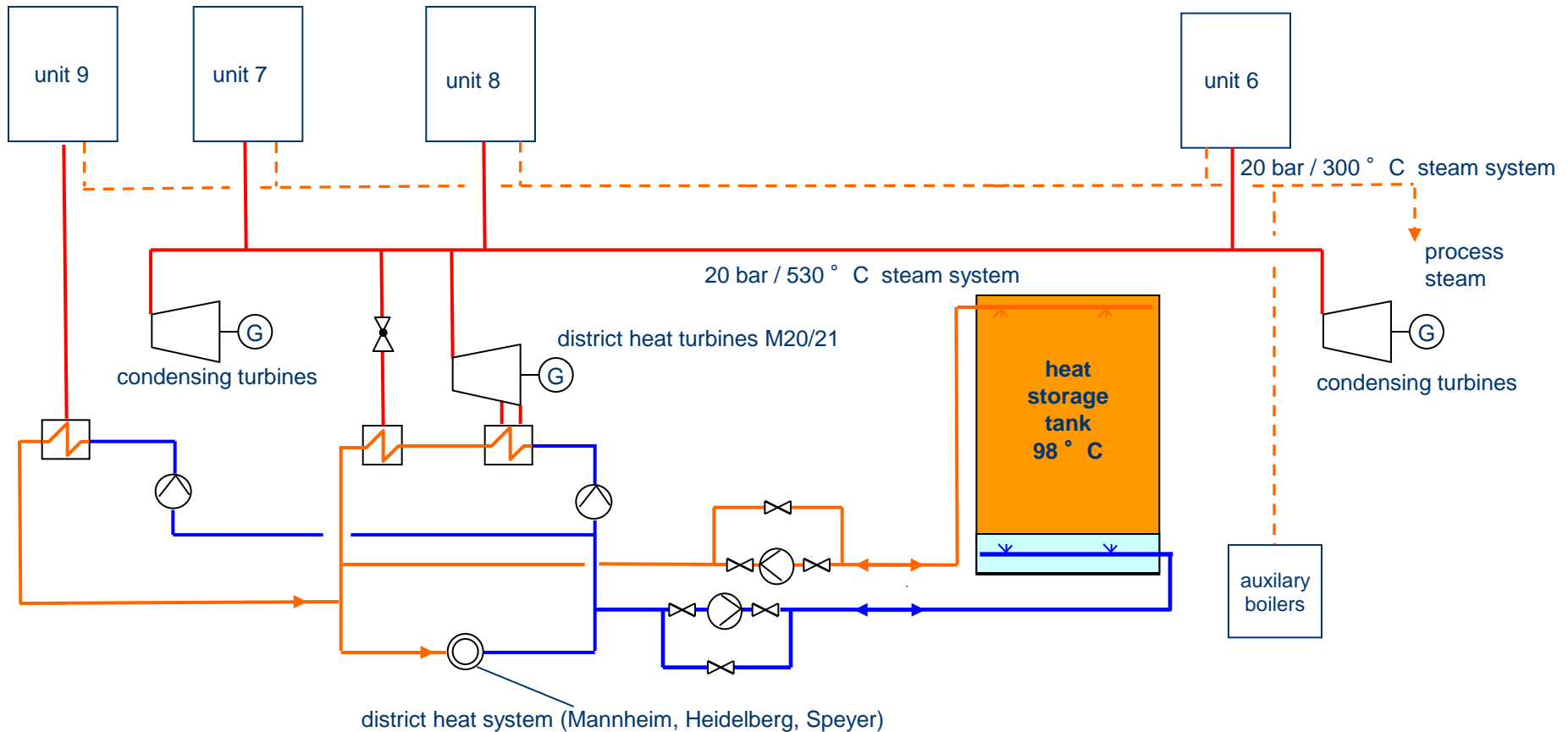
- GKM Plant Load corresponding to EEX Prices (Spot-Market „day-ahead and intraday“): volatile and often not fitting to district heat energy consumption

## Functions of new heat storage system in GKM

- in times of low EEX Prices the GKM Electricity Generation must be as low as possible (minimum technical load)
- the new heat storage tank enables GKM to operate **only 1 unit** during minimum load (**instead of 2 units before**)
- during minimum load the heat content in the tank is sufficient to supply the district heat nets at least for 2 hours
- additionally the heat storage tank is used to optimize the plant operation depending on EEX Prices (e.g. **charging at night, discharging by day**)

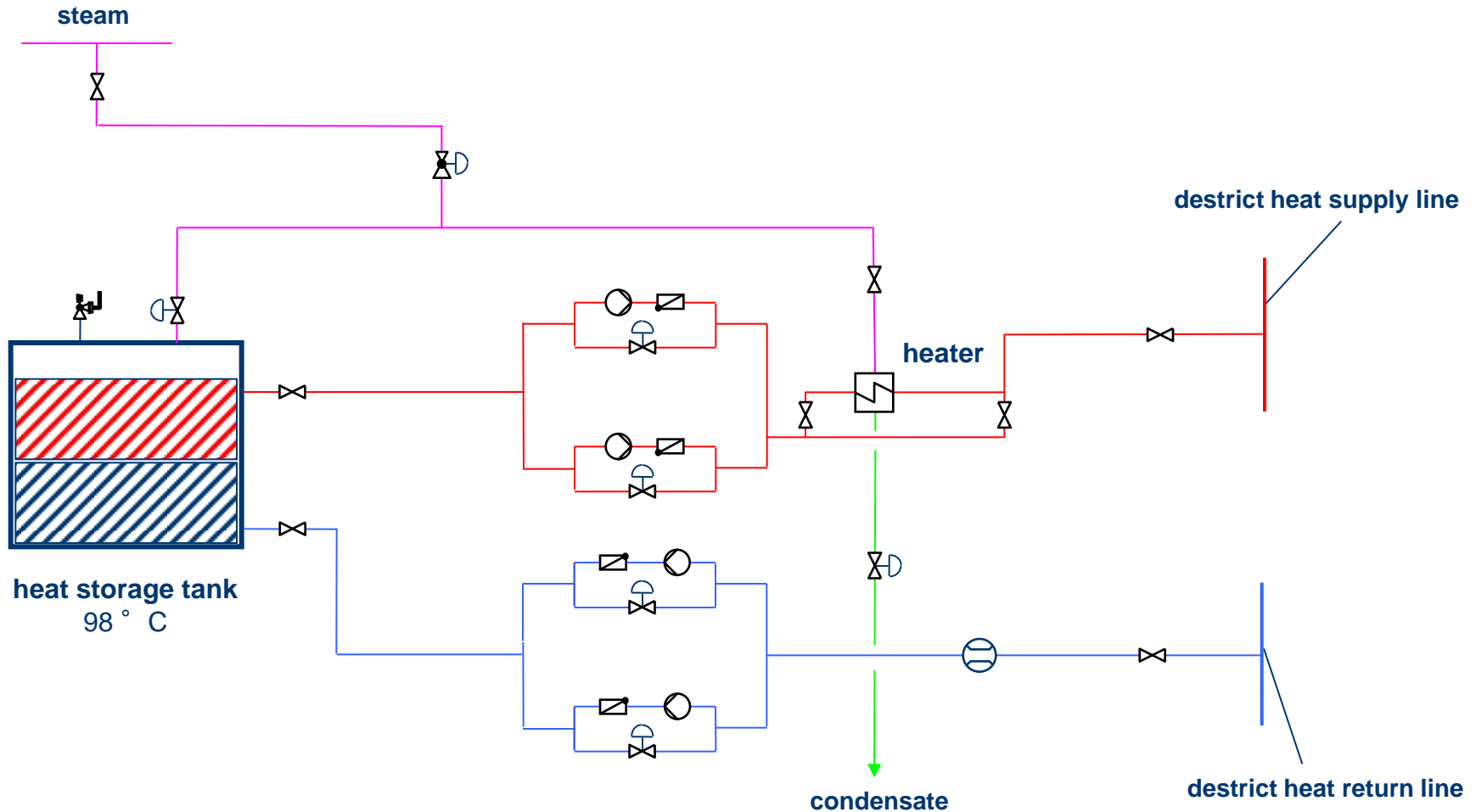
# GKM Plant / district heat system since 2015

**GKM „1-unit-operation“ possible at minimum load / if district heat load < 250 MW** (since heat storage system finished: end of 2013)



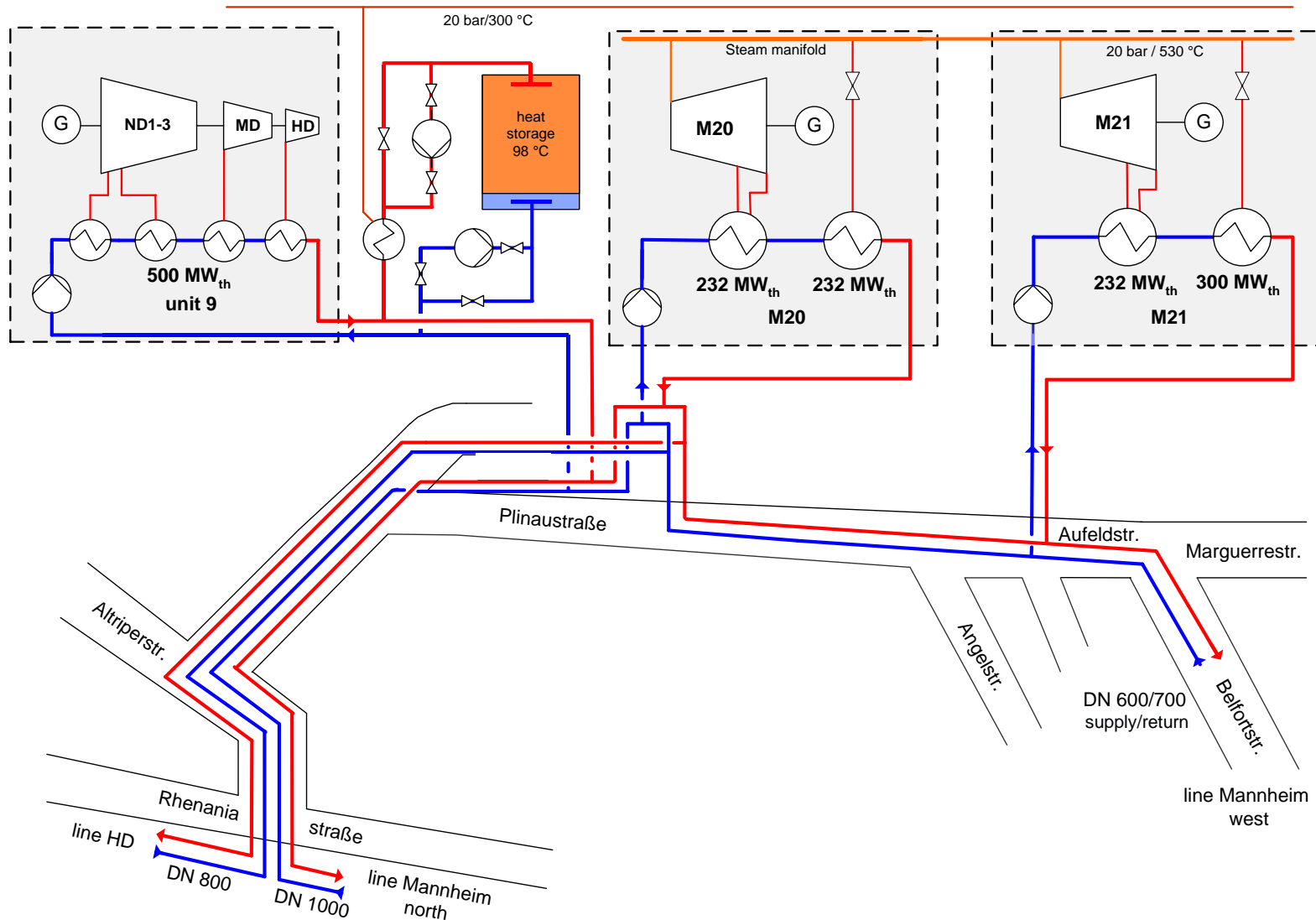
**new heat storage system enables GKM CHP plant to reduce the minimum load significantly**

# GKM water heat storage system / not pressurized

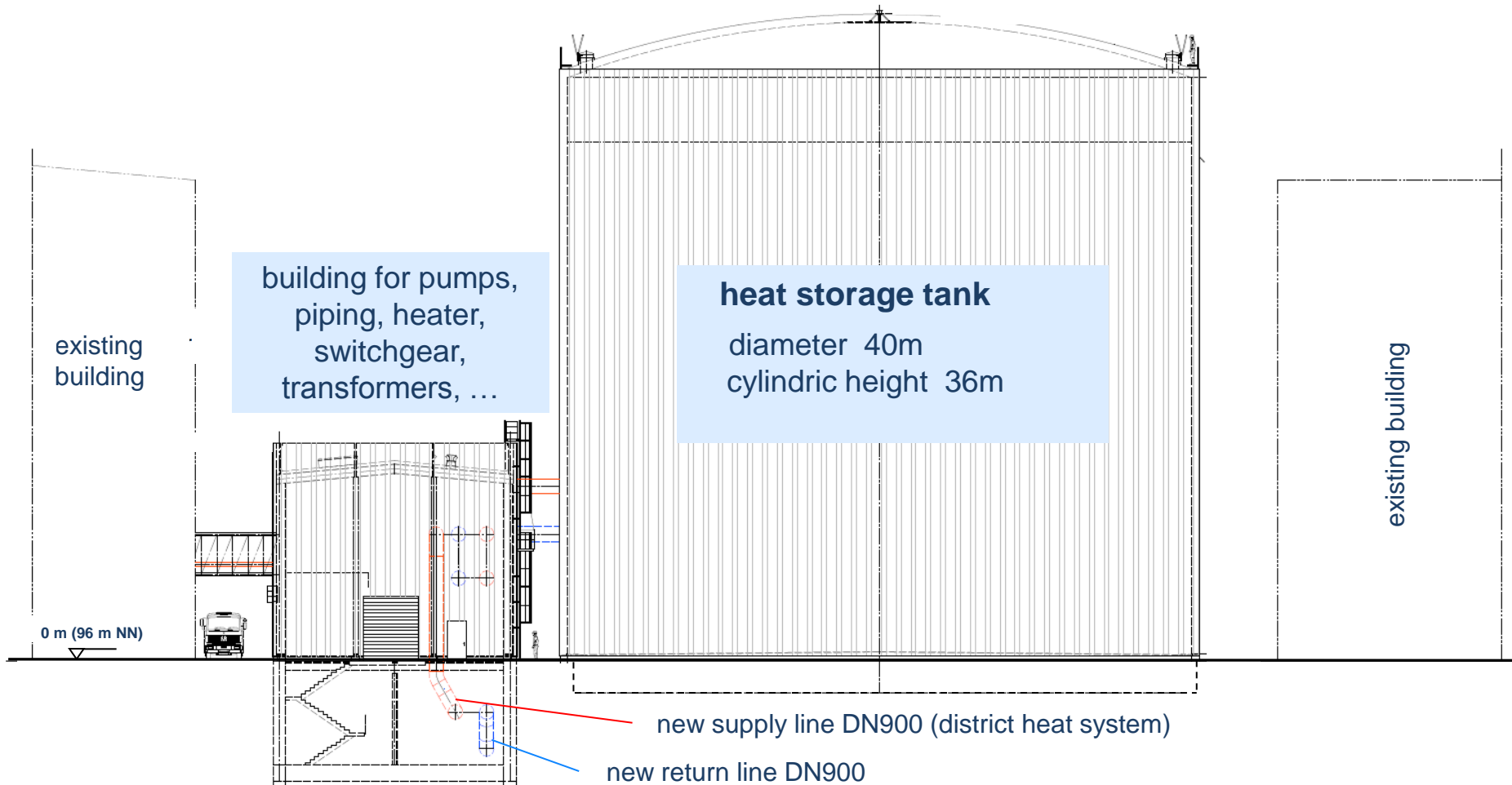




# heat storage tank / integration district heat system



# GKM new heat storage tank and system



# GKM Plant / location for new heat storage tank



location of new heat storage tank

## Heat storage tank ("system Dr. Hedbäck")

diameter tank	m	40
cylindric height tank	m	36
storage capacity	m <sup>3</sup>	43.000
max. flow to / from tank	t/h	6.200
max. storage water temperature	°C	98
effective heat storage capacity	MWh	1500
max. load (water flow)	MW	250

# heat storage tank / beginning of mantle erection (floor already finished, January 2013)



# heat storage tank / built by „spiral method“ (roof already finished, March 2013)



# heat storage tank / „spiral method“ (April 2013)



# heat storage tank / „completely welded“ (during water pressure test in June 2013)





# heat storage tank / heat insulation of mantle (September 2013)



# heat storage sytem / building for pumps, piping and heater in erection (July 2013)



# heat storage system / new district heat lines DN900 supply and return lines in erection (July 2013)

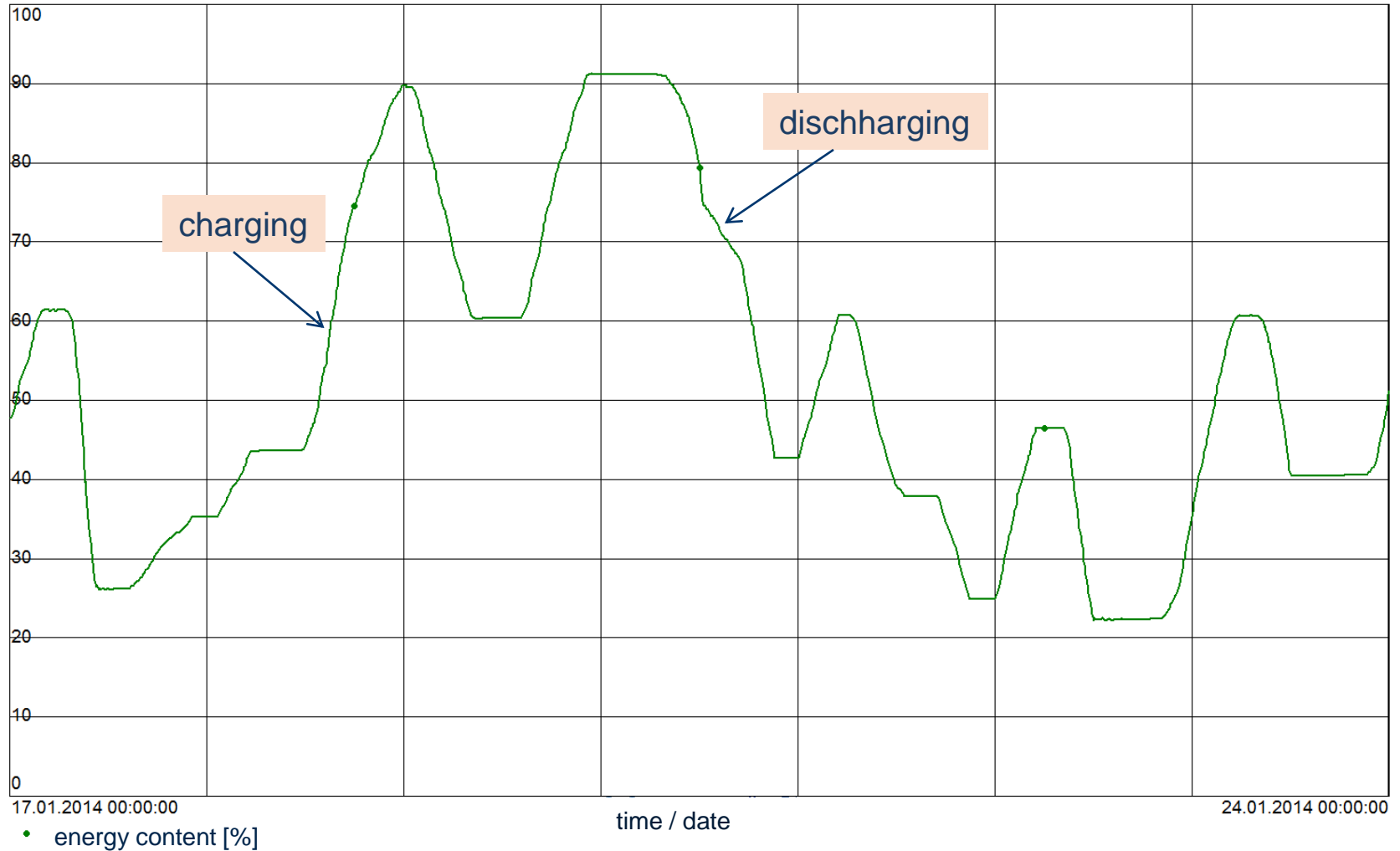


# GKM heat storage tank completed (September 2013)



# operation of heat storage tank (7 days, example)

energy content [%]

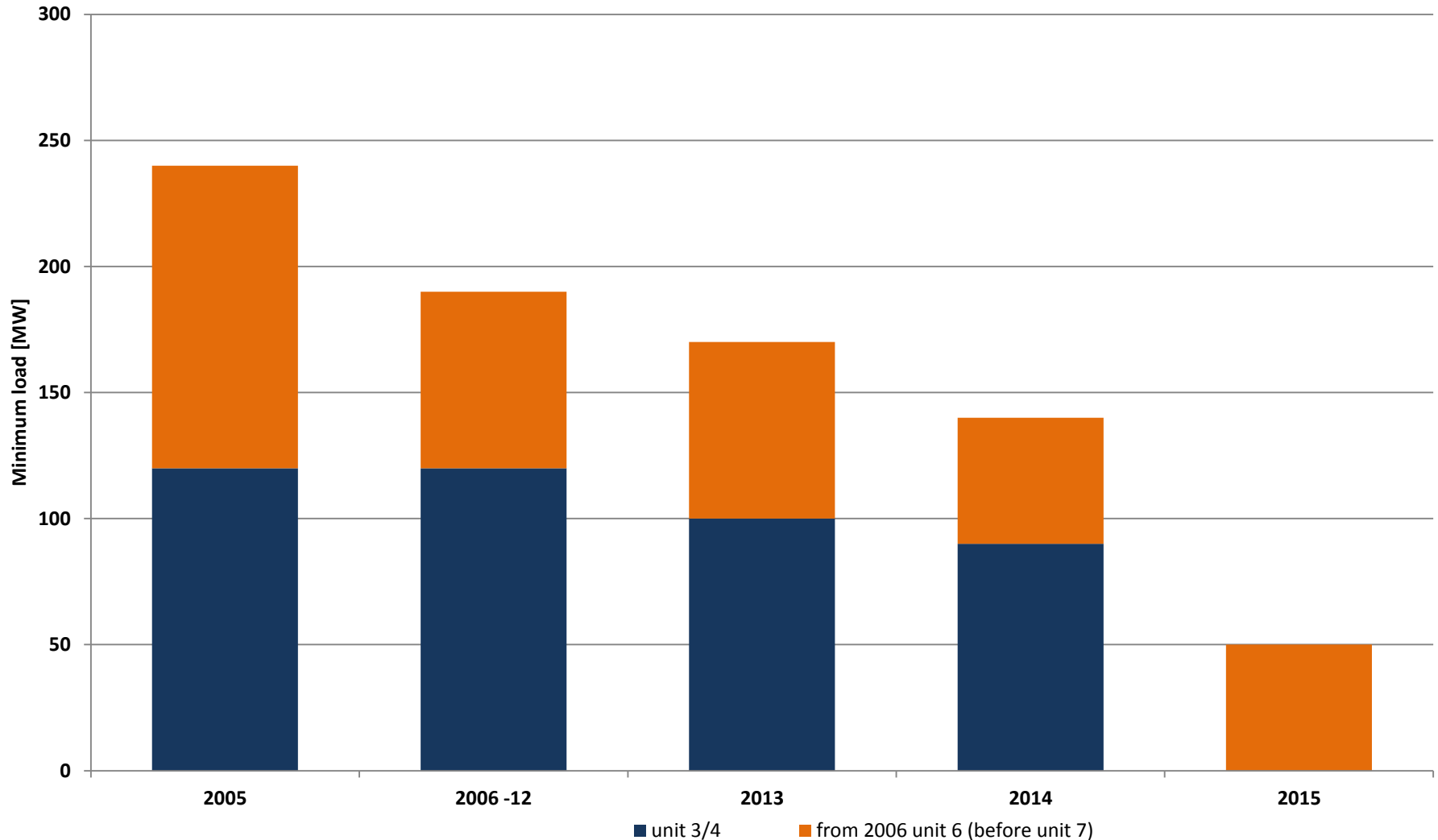


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# GKM / reduction of minimum load 2005 vs. today

## Minimum load GKM



## Actual situation of CHP Plants in Germany / „Energiewende“

- increasing and high capacities of „renewables“ (esp. solar (PV) and wind) for electricity generation with fixed and governmental guaranteed compensation
- since more than 4 years constantly decreasing and volatile EEX Prices

## Situation at GKM

- GKM Plant load corresponding to EEX Prices (Spot-Market „day-ahead and intraday“), production volume and operation hours of units are decreasing
- need for permanent District Heat Generation and secure supply of Mannheim, Heidelberg and Speyer
- combined heat and power plants (CHP) „struggle with economics“

## Functions of new heat storage system in GKM

- new heat storage system enables GKM to operate **only 1 unit** during minimum load (instead of **2 units before**)
- heat storage system is used to optimize the plant operation depending on EEX Prices (e.g. storage tank charging at night, discharging by day)



# GKM Plant in Mannheim



Thank you for  
your attention.

[WWW.GKM.de](http://WWW.GKM.de)