

Press release

Leipzig, 31.05.2022

DBFZ starts installation of a pilot plant for the production of "green methane"

Since 2018, the pilot project "Pilot SBG - Bioresources and Hydrogen to Methane as a Fuel", funded by the German Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (BMDV), has been implemented at the DBFZ. The objective of the research project initiated as part of the German government's Mobility and Fuel Strategy (MKS) is to convert previously unused biogenic residues, by-products and waste by using hydrogen into renewable methane as a fuel for the transport sector. As an essential part of the project, the starting signal was given on 31 May 2022 for the installation of a pilot plant on the DBFZ site in Leipzig.

With the pilot project "Pilot-SBG", the DBFZ makes a significant contribution to the further development of advanced, renewable fuels with high GHG abatement, to the mobilisation of unused material flows for high-quality products and to a circular economy. For this purpose, the technical conceptual design and the construction of a pilot plant are on the agenda of the project, with which the entire process chain from raw material to renewable methane and other by-products can be processed and monitored. At an internal "kick-off" with those responsible for the project and the companies involved, the official go-ahead was given on 31 May for the installation of the plant, which is to be built in the upcoming months on the DBFZ site in Leipzig.

The planned pilot plant will be built on an area of about 800 square metres and will essentially combine the anaerobic fermentation of selected residual and waste materials with the subsequent methanation of the resulting biogas. Innovative upstream and downstream processes are to increase resource efficiency and provide valuable by-products. The hydrogen used in the methanation process significantly increases the methane yield of the entire process. "We are currently assuming a monthly input of up to 1.2 tonnes of raw material and up to 80 standard cubic metres of renewable methane as output. This is to be used in a subsequent tank facility as renewable CNG in the DBFZ vehicle fleet," says project manager Karin Naumann, outlining the objectives of the plant.

After the operational campaigns starting in 2023, the facility will be available to stakeholders from science and industry as a technology platform for research and development and is designed in such a way that different technology modules can be used flexibly. To a limited extent, it can also be used for these purposes during the Pilot-SBG project period.

Further Information:

www.dbfz.de/pilot-sbg

General Management:
Prof. Dr. mont. Michael Nelles (scient.)
Ronny Bonzek

Seat and competent court: Leipzig
District court of Leipzig HRB 23991

Chairman of the supervisory board:
Olaf Schäfer

Tax ID: 232/124/01072
VAT ID: DE 259357620
Deutsche Kreditbank AG
IBAN: DE63 1203 0000 1001 2106 89
SWIFT BIC: BYLADEM1001





Official starting signal for the construction of the pilot and demonstration plant at the DBFZ (Picture: Paul Trainer, DBFZ)

Smart Bioenergy – innovations for a sustainable future

The DBFZ works as a central and independent thinker in the field of energy and material use of biomass on the question of how the limited available biomass resources can contribute to the existing and future energy system with sustainability and high efficiency. As part of the research the DBFZ identifies, develops, accompanies, evaluates and demonstrates the most promising fields of application for bioenergy and the especially positively outstanding examples together with partners from research, industry and public. With the scientific work of the DBFZ, the knowledge of the possibilities and limitations of energy and integrated material use of renewable raw materials in a biobased economy as a whole should be expanded and the outstanding position of the industrial location Germany in this sector permanently secured – www.dbfz.de/en.

Scientific contact:

Karin Naumann

Phone: (0)341 2434-711

karin.naumann@dbfz.de

Dr. Kati Görsch

Phone: (0)341 2434-329

kati.goersch@dbfz.de

Press contact:

Paul Trainer

Phone: (0)341 2434-437

paul.trainer@dbfz.de