

Matthias Ederhof, ENH Board member



„Community participation in district heating in Hamburg“

Content:

- 1. After privatization : Battle for energy network as base for better energy politics**
- 2. Referendum 2013 : remunicipalisation of Hamburg's largest heating network**
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- 4. Hamburger Heating Dialog: After confrontation - dialog oriented exchange & participation**
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Falkirk, 29 th of April, 2016



1. Battle for better energy politics



Privatization of public companies in Hamburg since late 1990er years, e.q.:

Electricity grid, gas network, large heating networks, telecom network, ... (until 2000)

Close partnership between private energy trusts and Hamburg government (all time)

Climate damaging decisions with large impact: new coal power plant with 1,8 MW_{el} (2009)

Fukushima accident lead to new energy politics in germany & people engagement (2011)

2. Referendum 2013 results



2 Requirements

Part 1: Remunicipalisation of 3 energy grids (power, heat & gas) (privatized in 2000)

Part 2: New societal values as base for better decisions: „Transition of the Hamburg energy system towards renewable energy, climate protecting technologies, social fairness and (a *more direct*) **democratic control**“

Implementation (partly)

Government accepted Part 1 and finalised contracts for remunicipalisation in Jan. 2014 for all three energy grids

3. Foundation of the cooperative

Reason: Long-term democratic control and financial participation

Foundation in Jan 2013: 9 month before the referendum

Primary goal: Becoming a partial shareholder of Hamburg's power distribution grid

Go Public: May 2013

Referendum: Sep. 2013

Concession procedure in 2014

Attractive ENH offer for concession



4. After confrontation: establ. dialog

Situation in Jan 2014 after the referendum:

Deep gaps between winners and losers

Strategic decisions with high climate impact are necessary

Part 2 of the referendum are more general guard rails than rules

Part 2 needed to be interpreted and discussed by all stakeholders

Part 2: New societal values as base for better decisions: „Transition of the Hamburg energy system towards renewable energy, climate protecting technologies, social fairness and (a *more direct*)
democratic control“

4. After confrontation: establ. dialog

In Jan. 2014: communication vacuum and missing dialog in town

Main strategic challenge: „Decarbonizing of the heat grid“

Some people organized 2 platforms within the

„Hamburg Heating Dialog“ (since Feb. 2014)

1. Monthly open expert round table about „district heating“
2. Public podium discussion with politicians, government, experts
two parts: a) podium discussion and after that
b) question&answers with the guests

4. The Hamburg Heating Dialog

Respect & fairness

Different podium opinions

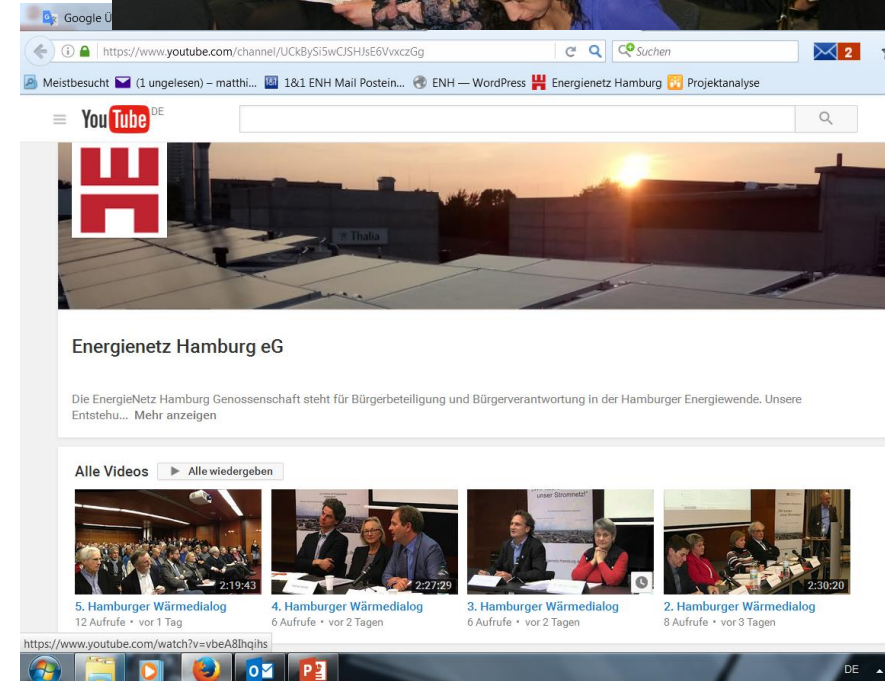
Mixed audience

Half of the time is reserved to people's Q&A

Transparency

Protocols, fotos, videos in the web

=> increasing interest (2/14: 75 => 2/16: 130)



4. From dialog to formal participation

Ruling party promised during first public Heating dialog:

„We will continue this dialog in the town hall“, A. Dressel, 2/2014

This lead to the „BET participation process“ (June ´14 to Dec. ´15)

Formal participation process with the main question:

„How can we decarbonize the largest existing, coal-based heating network ?“

The process generated a lot of new and pragmatic suggestions.
As main result, all decisions of the past were revised & improved.

4. Democratic Control ?

The BET process was a temporary participation mechanism.

Evolution: next step in establishing democratic control since

Since April 2016: „**Political Energy Grid Council**“

The new grid council will work constantly and represents as a discussion platform with formal rules and rights for enabling a respectful dialog between different parties

Formal Base: Rules of procedure

Goal: Better strategic decisions in Hamburg energy politics & consensus instead of public battles

4. Benefits

Benefits of the different Hamburg participation platforms:

- New ideas, good suggestions, more transparency
- Better strategic decisions on energy politics
- Climate protecting is now a strategic dimension
- Gap closing between referendum parties

Vision: Make the consumers to involved producers!



Energy Transition Made By Citizens

We make the „Hamburg Energiewende“!

Thank you for your attention!

More information: www.energienetz-hamburg.de

Contact: [info @ energienetz-hamburg.de](mailto:info@energienetz-hamburg.de)

Tel. +49 . 40 . 2577676 18