Bundesministerium

Klimaschutz, Umwelt, Energie, Mobilität, Innovation und Technologie

Realistic expectations for the use of alternative fuels on the Danube in Austria

Comparison of possible future fuels and drawing a rough pathway

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Alternative Fuels - Comparison

	Biofuels / E-fuels	Methanol	Hydrogen
Regulations ship	none	ES-TRIN 2025	ES-TRIN 2027
Regulations Infra/fuel	Minor	Medium-high	Medium - high
Extra costs shipadaption	none	Medium - high	high
Extra costs infra	minor	low	high-very high
Extra costs handling	non	low	high
Safety level (fuel) compare to diesel	similar	lower	significantly lower
Energy desity (volume) comp. diesel	similar	50%	10-20%
Container needed	no	no	yes

Overview Prices

Very rough estimation on stock market prices!

Fuel	Price € / KWh
Diesel	0,08
HVO	0,11
Methanol (green/grey ?)	0,09
H2 /green	0,3

Alternative fuels - possible pathways on the Austrian Danube

Current approach: Making HVO on the Austrian Danube available

- Discussions have already been held with the providers and bunker stations to get a flagship project in Vienna
- Working on the regulatory frame
 - RED III, Tax regulations Very complex topic due to international dependencies
- Use of HVO on the ships of the viadonau and the Austrian Shipping Surveillance since autumn 2023 Test phase, no technical issues have currently occured

Alternative Fuels - possible pathways on the Austrian Danube

Future approach:

In our opinion, methanol could be the best option for inland shipping over long distances

Reasons:

- Relatively high volumetric density,
- significant lower handling risks than H2,
- low costs for adapting landside infrastructure,
- Methanol technology is better usable for retrofit
- Methanol might be one of the better solutions for energy transport.

Alternative fuels - possible pathways on the Austrian Danube

Measures to be taken:

Create a comprehensive strategic view for a future pathway on the Danube to limit the possible options to probable options.

Regulatory work:

• ES-TRIN will be MeOH ready with edition 2025!

Open Issues:

- NRMM Adaption for MeOH combustion engines
- RED III, Tax regulations Very complex topic due to international dependencies
- Regulations for Bunkering structures
- Regulations and Standards for fuel Quality

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HVO/GTL

Alternative fuels – An overview

Discussions with Bunkering	Methanol (most Likely)				
stations and Providers		H2 (Rhine, Probably Austria)			
Regulatory work	Strategic View over the				
International coordination	Danube International coordination Regulatory work Discussions with Bunkering stations and Providers	Strategic View over the Danube International coordination Regulatory work Discussions with Bunkering stations and Providers	Other alternatives like ethanol, ammoniak		

Action needed from stakeholders and the industry and technology providers

- Pilot Projects on ships, bunkering infrastructure and availability of alternative fuels
- Strategic decisions for production and IWT transport of energy along the Danube

Contribution to:

- Comrehensive work on the future path togethter with the authorities
- Work on regulations and standards

Many thanks for your attention



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