

What is the most efficient way to defossilize the EU transport sector?

How to minimize global warming?

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) based on results of the “FVV Fuel Studies IV and IVb”

Dr. Ulrich Kramer

CEE Clean Energy & Mobility Summit 2026

Prague, 22 April 2026

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 - Realistically achievable Ramp-Ups of Single Technology Pathways
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- Summary
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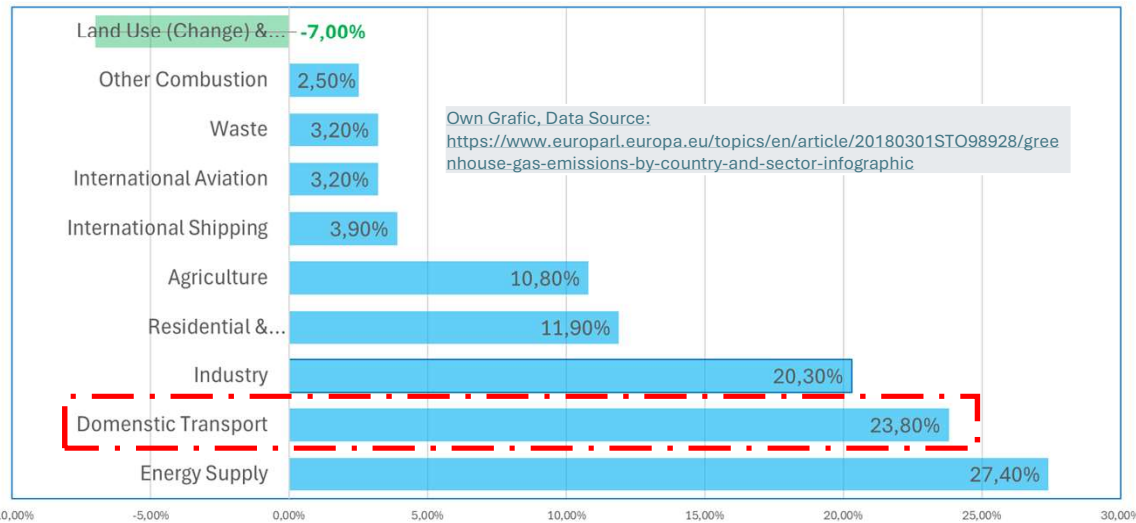
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Motivation: EU Targets 2050

European Green Deal → Climate-Neutral Economy by 2050

- **Climate-Neutral → Avoiding anthropogenic greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions by 2050** (net zero)
- **The EU assesses greenhouse gas emissions by sector:**

EU GHG Emissions by Sector 2022 (CO₂eq Share)



- **≈ 24 % Transport-related GHG emissions**
(Dominant GHG (≈ 90%): Fossil CO₂)

- **Vehicle Legislation: “Transport-related” GHG (CO₂) emissions are measured solely at the tailpipe!**

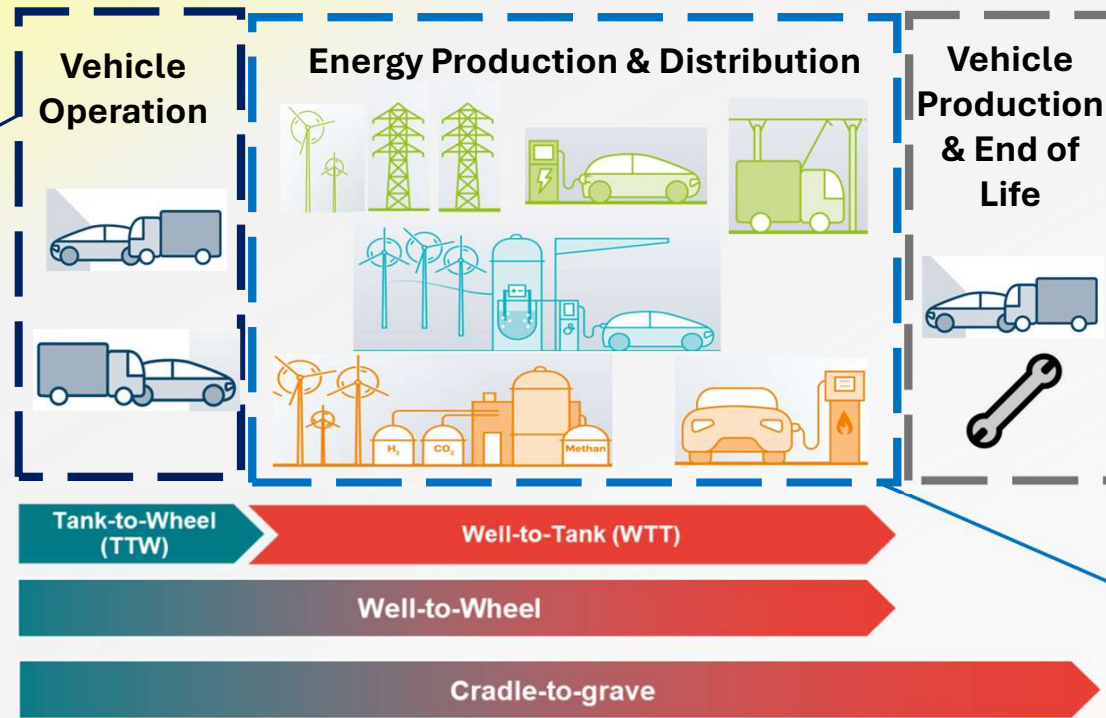
- **Inadequate sector-specific legislation → serious errors in the GHG accounting process.**



Motivation: Total GHG Emissions from Transportation

Affect various sectors - but only a portion is limited

Tank-to-Wheel (TTW) → ONLY TAILPIPE GHG emissions are regulated by EU legislation for vehicles
→ “Sector Target”



Vehicle manufacturing and scrapping.

Have not yet been addressed in EU legislation !

Well-to-Tank (WTT)

Energy production and transportation (fuel or electricity)

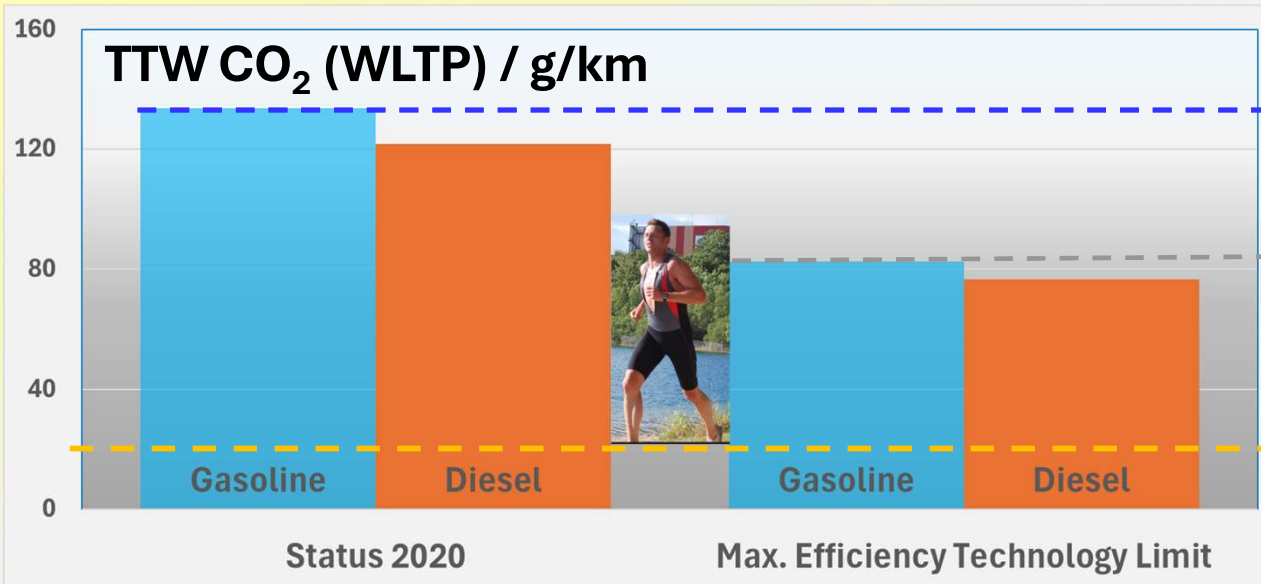
These are not taken into account in EU vehicle legislation.

Cradle-to-Grave → Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

Can be negative if CO₂ from the atmosphere is used for fuel production (e.g., e-fuel, bio-fuel)

Motivation: Gasoline/Diesel ICE* Vehicles – Physical Limits TTW CO₂ *ICE: Internal Combustion Engine

Reminder: “TTW” (Tank-to-Wheel) → only “exhaust pipe” emissions are regulated



Status 2020: typical C-Segment Vehicle (e.g., Ford Focus, VW Golf, ...)

Realistically achievable minimum TTW CO₂

- High efficiency engine
 - Max. hybridization
 - Lightweight
- expensive

For comparison: Marathon runner (75 kg man) ≈20 g CO₂/km (in addition to the basal metabolic rate)

Typical C-Segment Vehicle: 1360kg



EU „Fit for 55“ target 2035: „0 g TTW CO₂“

(EU Parliament 08.06.22; EU Council 28.06.22; Trilogue agreement 27.10.22).

De facto ban on internal combustion engines

Other GHG emissions (WTT, LCA) and also CO₂-reduction effects of non-fossil fuels (biofuels, e-fuels) are ignored by the European CO₂ regulation for vehicles

Motivation: GHG - Sector Targets are inefficient and counterproductive

Not a particularly smart way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Holistic Approach

Reality: Sector Targets



Status quo EU-Legislation: **Sector Targets**
→ prevent a holistic solution to the problem

What is the real problem?

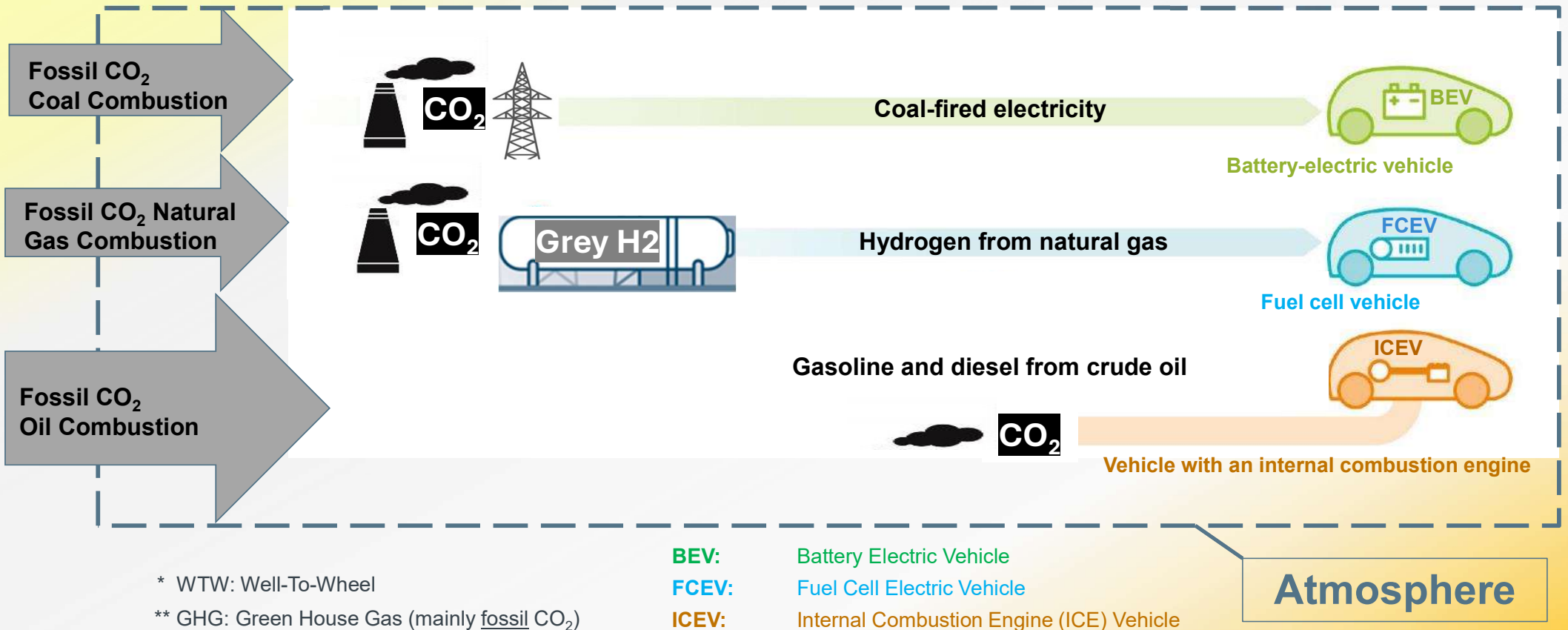
- NOT TTW CO₂ emissions,
- NOT internal combustion engines (ICE),

but... ..

Motivation: WTW* GHG** Emissions of EU Transport ...

... are dominated by fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas)

REAL PROBLEM: Enrichment of the atmosphere with GHG (fossil CO₂) → Global Warming

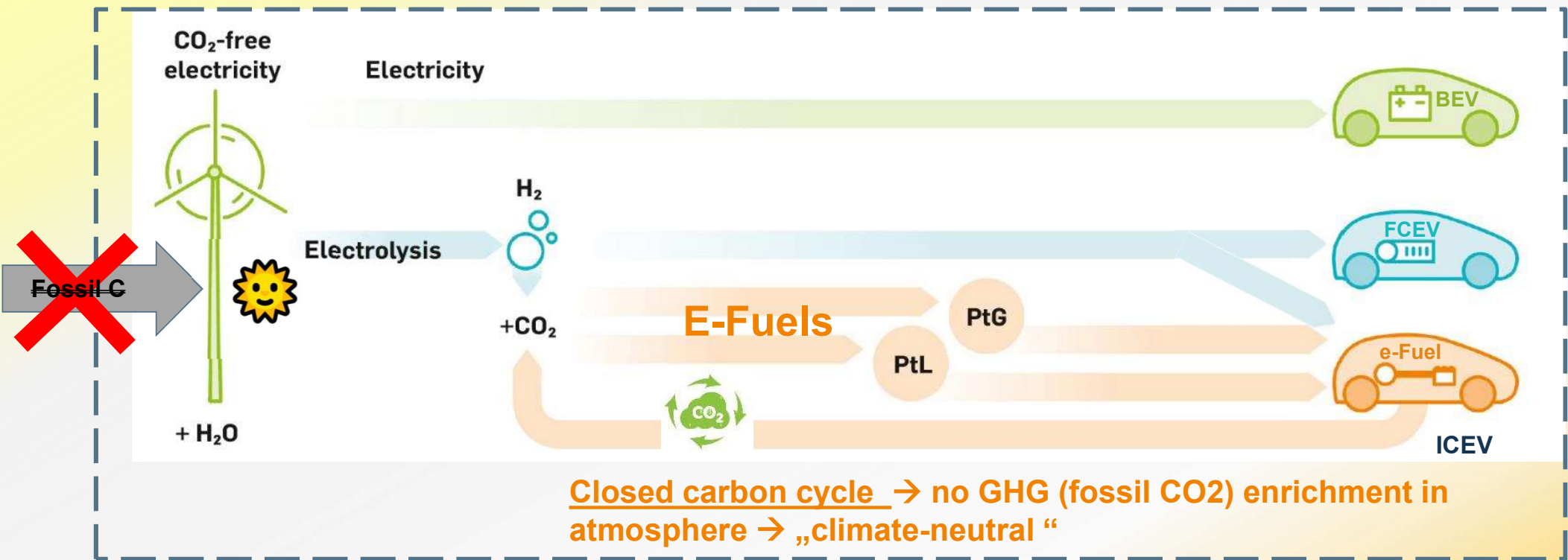


* WTW: Well-To-Wheel

** GHG: Green House Gas (mainly fossil CO₂)

Motivation: Target: “Climate-neutral” mobility (net zero GHG) in 2050

„Climate-neutral“ → GHG-neutral : No enrichment of the atmosphere with GHG (mainly fossil CO₂)



* WTW: Well-To-Wheel

** GHG: Green House Gas (mainly fossil CO₂)

BEV: Battery Electric Vehicle
FCEV: Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle
ICEV: Internal Combustion Engine Vehicle

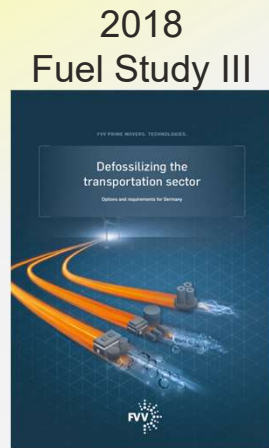
Atmosphere

History: FVV Fuel Studies I IVb / Outlook: FVV Energy Study

13 years lessons learned



Well-to-Wheel,
German (2050)
Transport Sector,
Arbitrary scenarios



Well-to-Wheel
German (2050)
Transport Sector,
Single Technologies



LCA
EU (2030/2050)
Transport Sector,
Single
Technologies



LCA
EU (ramp-up)
Transport sector,
Mixed
Technology Ramp-Up

Outlook Q4/2026
Energy Study



LCA
EU (ramp-up)
Complete Economy,
Mixed
Technology Ramp-Up

Research Partners	LBST	none <i>(FVV's own study)</i>	Frontier Economics, ifeu	Frontier Economics	Frontier Economics, ESU, IAEW, DVGW EBI
Chair (FVV)	FVV Board	U. Kramer (Ford)	U. Kramer (Ford)	U. Kramer (Ford)	Study Design & Start-up: U. Kramer (Ford) Meanwhile: Continuation with new FVV chairmen

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Research Approach

FVV Fuel Studies IV / IVb

GHG neutral transport EU27+UK in 2050 ...

Only solar-/wind power



2 regions of "solar/wind energy harvesting": Domestic vs. Global



Powertrains & Energy Carriers

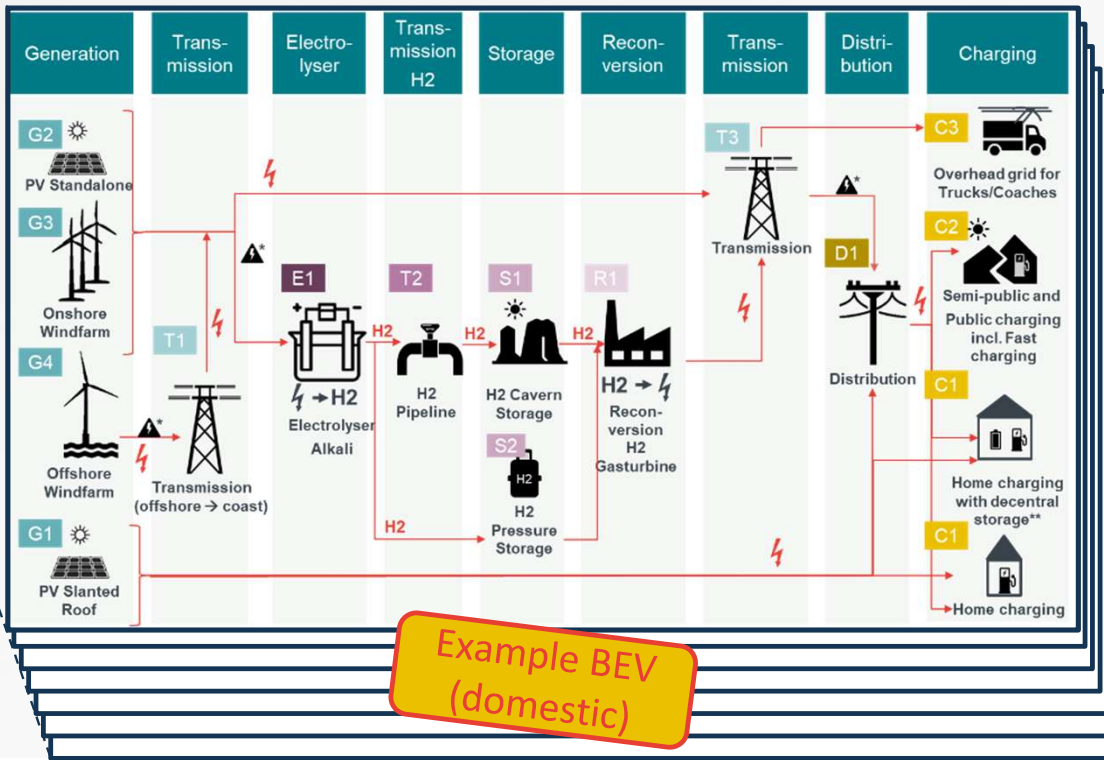
3 Vehicle Efficiency Classes

- Electric (BEV) >7.5t catenary line
- e-H₂ (ICEV, FCEV)
- e-FT Diesel/Gasoline (ICEV)
- e-CH₄ (ICEV)
- e-MtG (Gasol.)* (ICEV)
- e-MtG/FT* (PHEV)
- e-Methanol**
- e-DME**
- Status Quo**
- Balanced
- All-In**

* Only FVV FS IVb; ** Only FVV FS IV

- FVV FS IV: **Step 1: Single Technology Scenarios; Reference Ramp-Up**
- FVV FS IVb: **Step 2: Realistically achievable technology ramp-ups, assuming ideal regulatory and financial conditions** (similar to "COVID 19 vaccine introduction") + **Step 3: GHG-optimized Mixed Technology Scenario**

Simulation of the entire energy system for each "powertrain-energy combination". Considering all Life Cycle GHG emissions, including vehicle manufacturing / disposal, and the installation of the entire energy supply system.



Comparison of:

- Cumulated GHG emissions
- Costs
- Energy demand
- Raw material demand
- Other environmental aspects (land use, etc....)

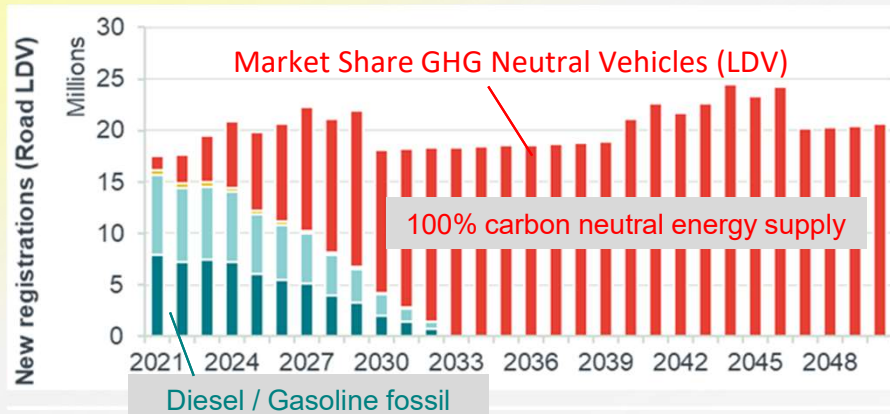
Research Approach: FVV Fuel Study IV - Reference Ramp-Up (GHG neutral in 2050)

limited solely by the fleet exchange rate (vehicle lifetime)

Example: Light Duty Vehicles (LDV) (which includes Passenger Cars)

Vehicle Sales: Market Sales Share

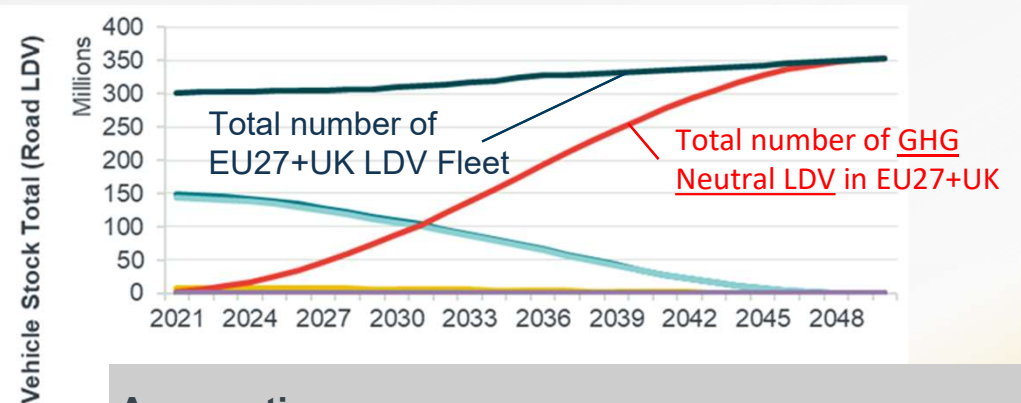
100% GHG Neutral Vehicle Sales Share in 2033



- Vehicles of out-phasing fleet, operated with fossil diesel
- Vehicles of out-phasing fleet, operated with fossil gasoline
- New carbon neutral vehicles, operated with defossilized fuel/energy
- Total number of vehicles (fleet stock)

Fleet Composition

100% GHG Neutral Vehicle Market Penetration in 2050



Assumptions:

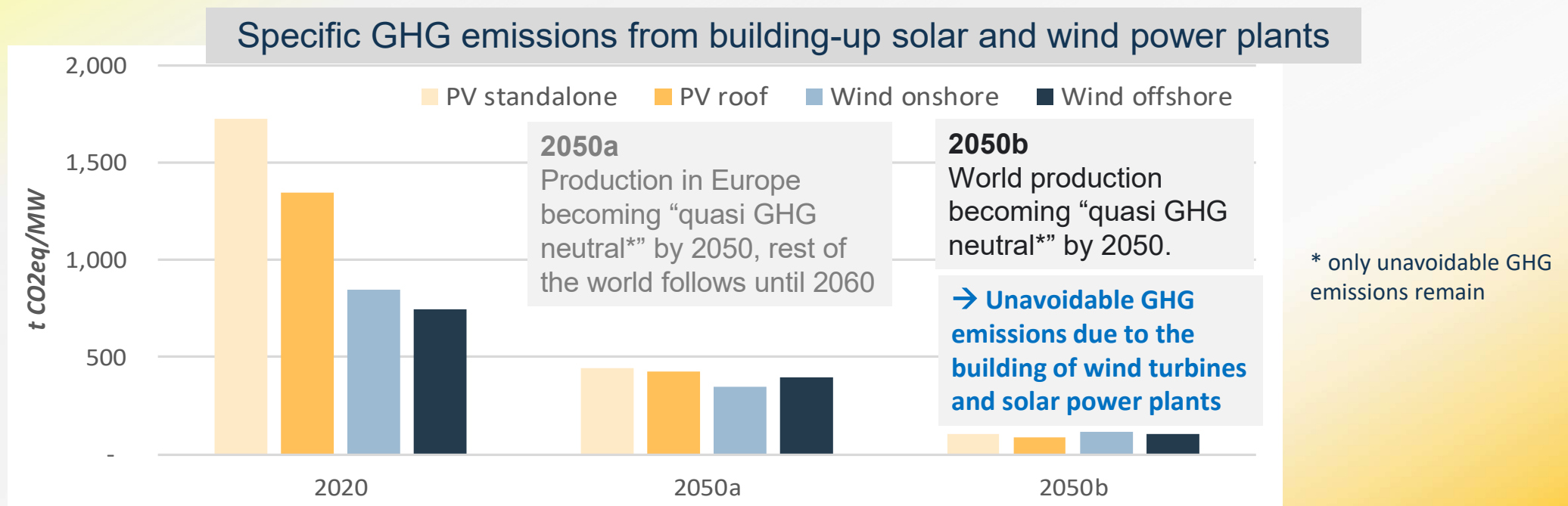
- GHG neutral transport in 2050
- Theoretical ramp-up for all pathways, determined solely by historical fleet replacement rates

▪ **Assumption:** All new vehicles will be powered exclusively by GHG-neutral energy!

Research Approach: FVV Fuel Study IV - Reference Ramp-Up (GHG neutral in 2050)

Future defossilization of the background system: GHG of building energy supply (wind/solar)

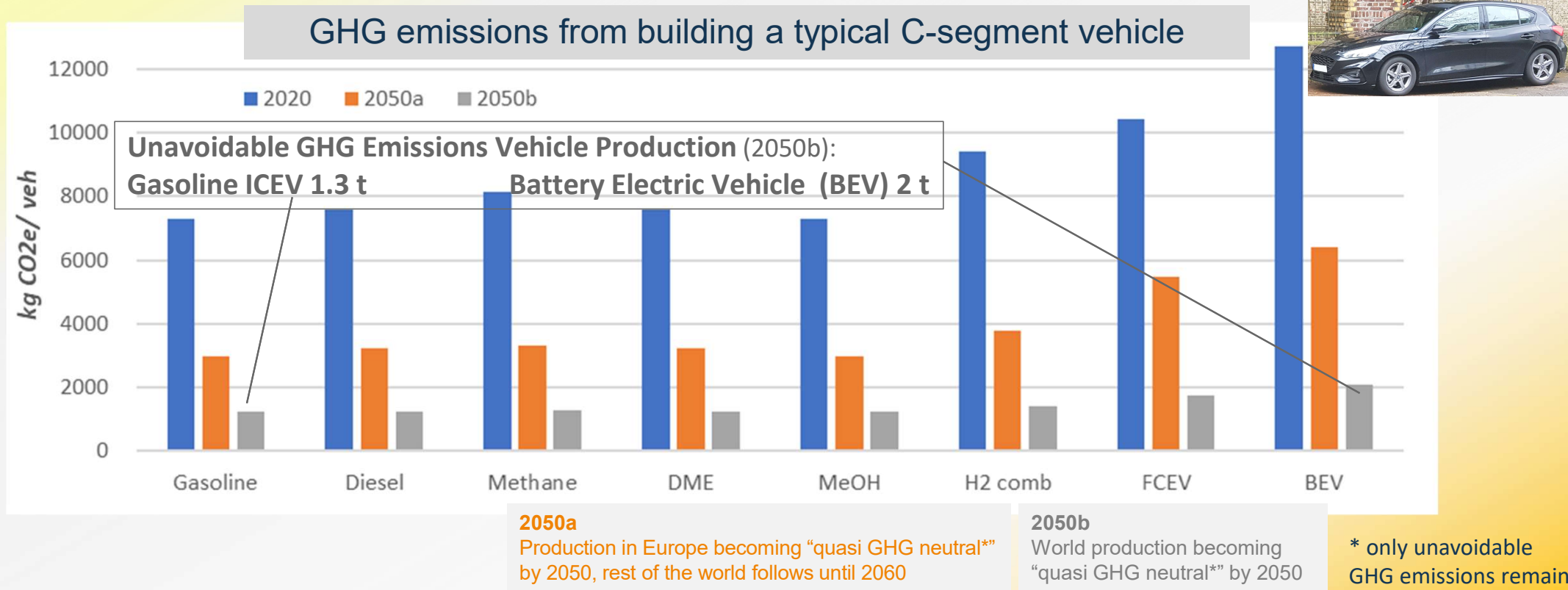
- Defossilization of background system, i.e., powering all production processes with wind and solar energy by 2050 (*Scenario 2050b*).
- Minimizing GHG emissions to build up of energy supply infrastructure (solar/wind power) by 2050
- **There will always be unavoidable GHG emissions** (in reality, GHG-neutral processes are almost unavailable)



Research Approach: FVV Fuel Study IV - Reference Ramp-Up (GHG neutral in 2050)

Future defossilization of the background system: GHG of vehicle production

- Defossilization of background system → **Minimizing GHG Emissions in Vehicle Manufacturing**
- **There will always be unavoidable GHG emissions** (in reality, GHG-neutral processes are almost unavailable)



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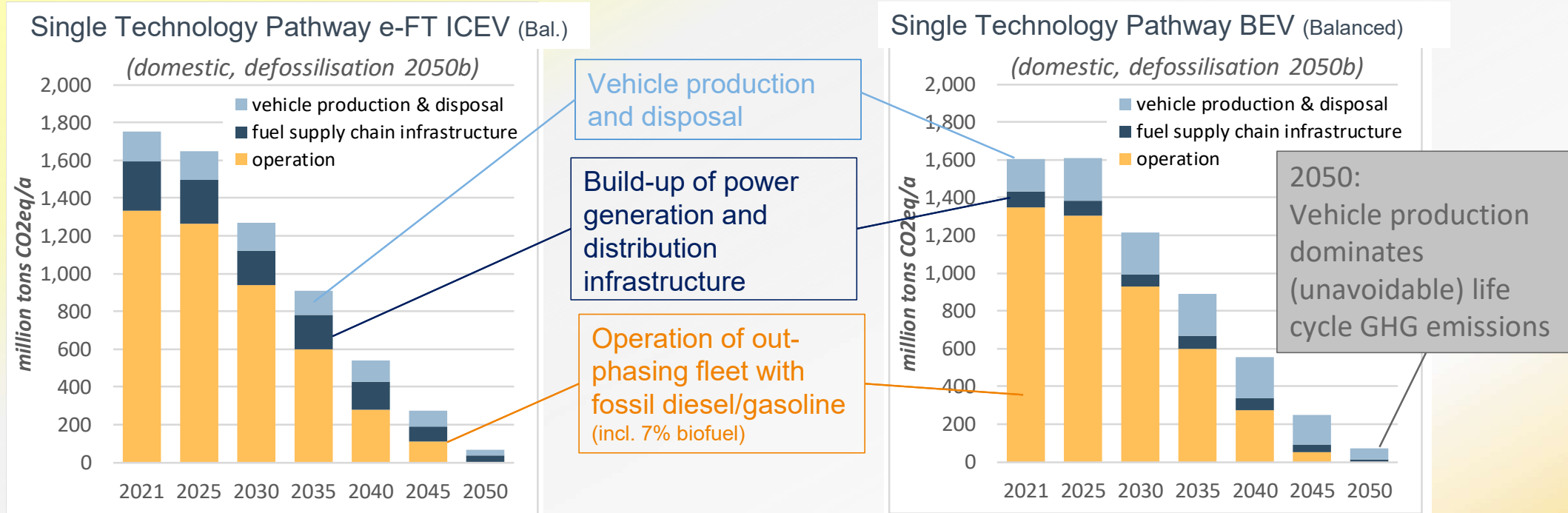


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GHG Results: FVV Fuel Study IV - Reference Ramp-Up: 2 Single Technology Pathways

Annual GHG-Emissions: “ICEV w/ e-Fischer-Tropsch-Diesel” vs. “BEV w/ green electricity”

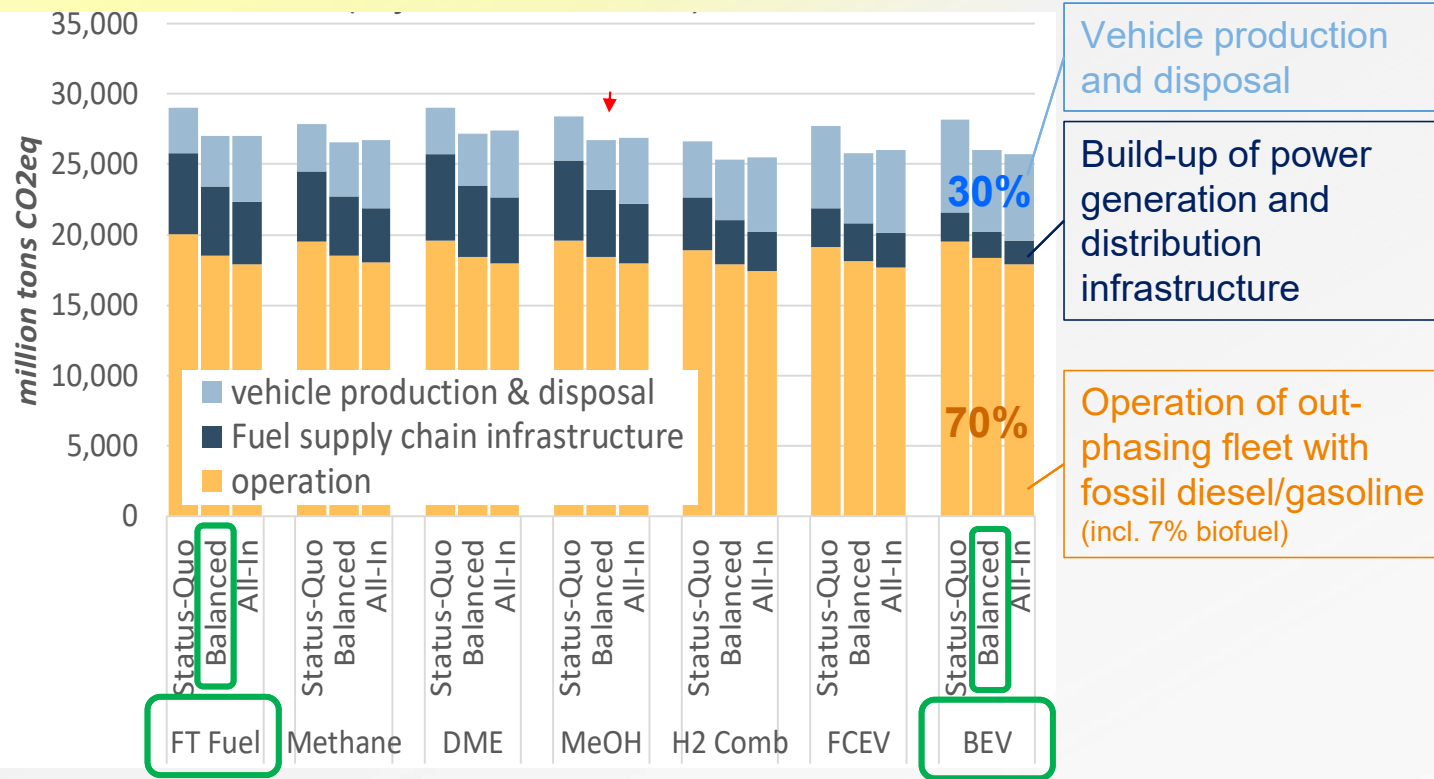


- Annual GHG emissions in 2050: 95-97% lower than in 2020 for all Single Technology Pathways
- Operation of existing fleet, still running on fossil diesel & gasoline, will account for the majority of GHG emissions until around 2040

** By 2050, only unavoidable GHG emissions will remain, primarily from background processes (e.g., the use of concrete for wind turbine foundations, methane leakage)*

GHG Results: FVV Fuel Study IV - Reference Ramp-Up: 2 Single Technology Pathways

The Key Factor in Global Warming: Cumulative GHG Emissions (2020 – 2050)



- ≈ 70% of cumulative GHG by **vehicle operation of out-phasing fleet with fossil fuels independent of future powertrain technology**
- ≈ 30% of cumulative GHG emissions by **vehicle production/disposal + building up the complete renewable (wind/solar based) energy infrastructure**

→ Not the choice of powertrain technology, but the achievable ramp-up speed of completely defossilised pathways (BEV, e-fuel, ...) determines the GHG reduction potential !

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.....taking real-world
bottlenecks into account
(FVV FS IV b)



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GHG: FVV FS IVb - Exemplary Technology Ramp-ups with real, technical bottlenecks*:

(e.g., „Critical Materials“, „Electrolysis“ and „Fuel Synthesis“)

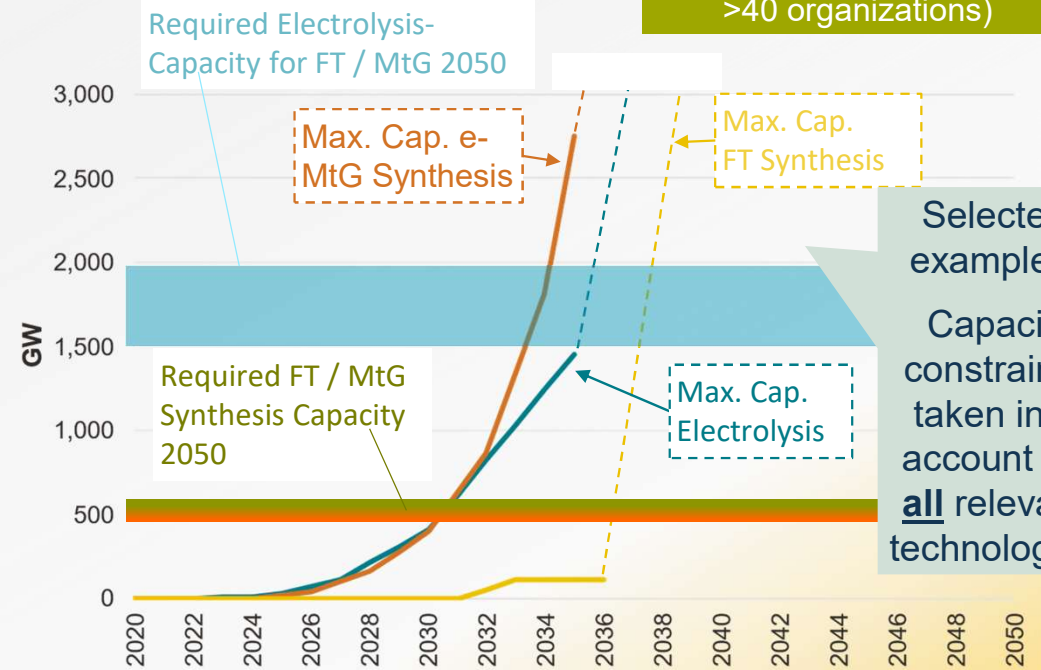
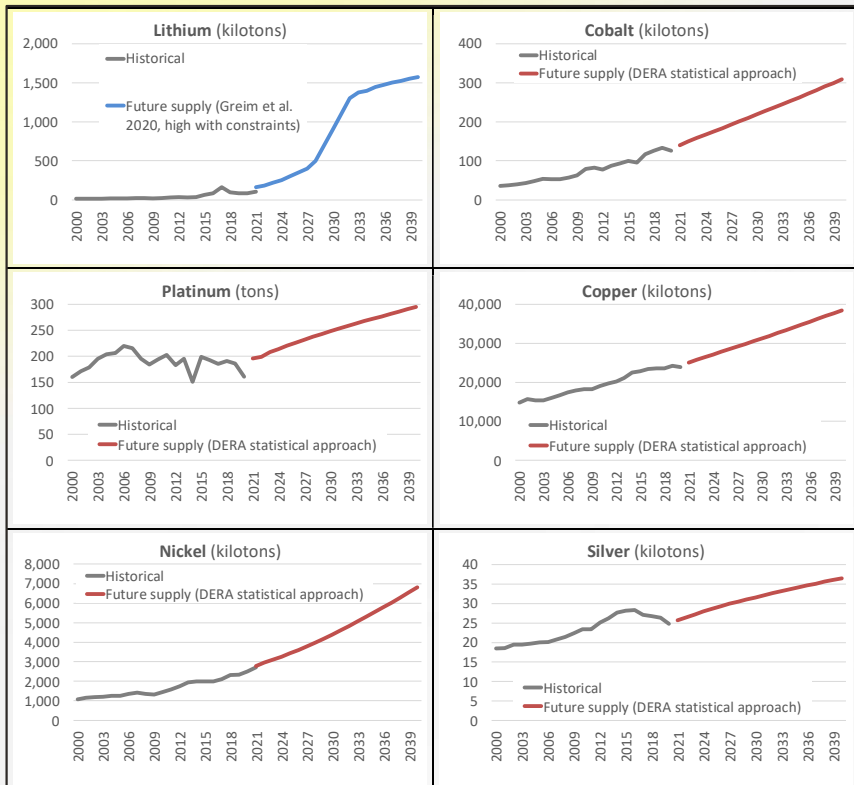
At best, available raw materials

Max. material supply determined with the help of DERA ***

... Electrolysis, MTG and FT Synthesis

Determined in 7 Working Groups (>50 Experts from >40 organizations)

***Source: DERA (Deutsche Rohstoff Agentur), Greim et al. 2020



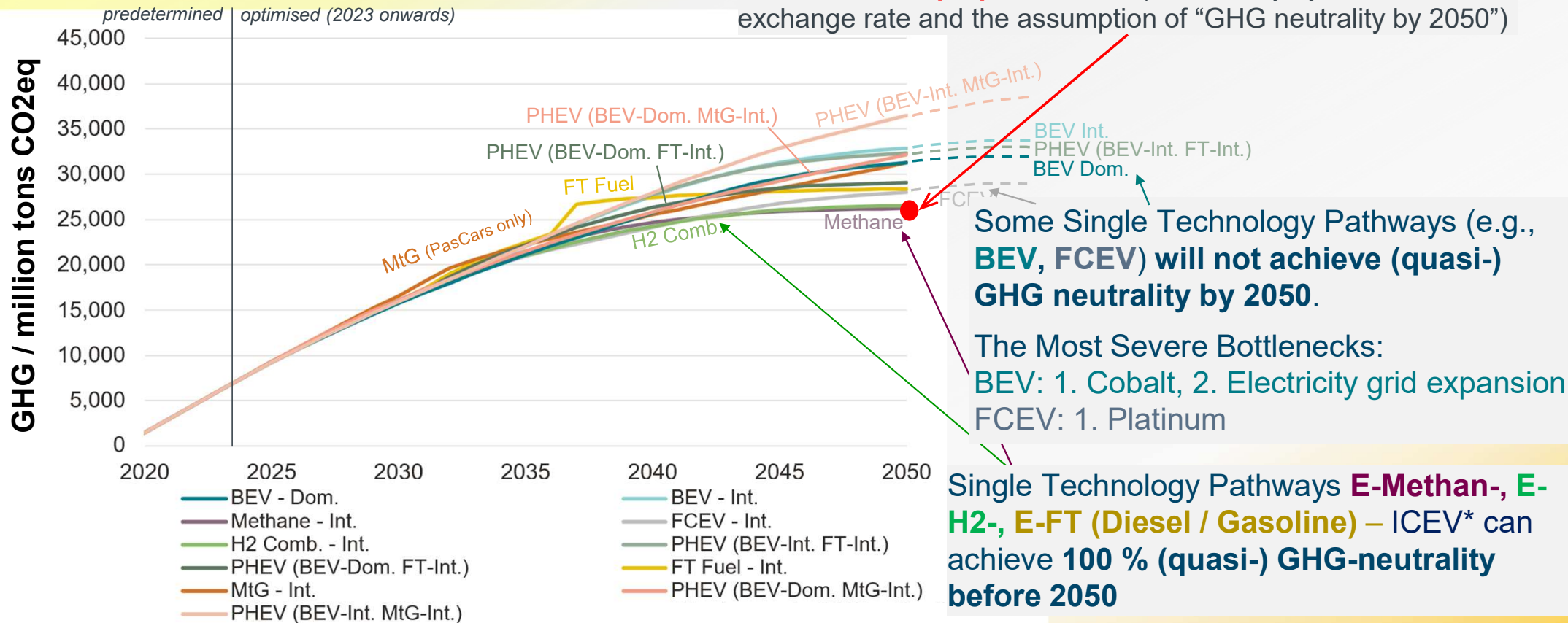
** 90 % Recycling collection rate Recycling
Material specific recycling rates: 55 ... 90 %

* Focus solely on "technical bottlenecks", assuming ideal regulatory and investment conditions ("COVID 19 vaccine development" scenario)

GHG: FVV FS IVb - Single Technology Pathways – cumulative GHG emissions

Taking into account actual technical bottlenecks

Reference Ramp-up FVV FS IV (limited only by the fleet exchange rate and the assumption of “GHG neutrality by 2050”)



Higher cumulative GHG for all Single Technology Scenarios vs. Reference Scenario

*ICEV: Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles

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**.... Not a hypothetical scenario,
but the results of a mathematical optimization!**

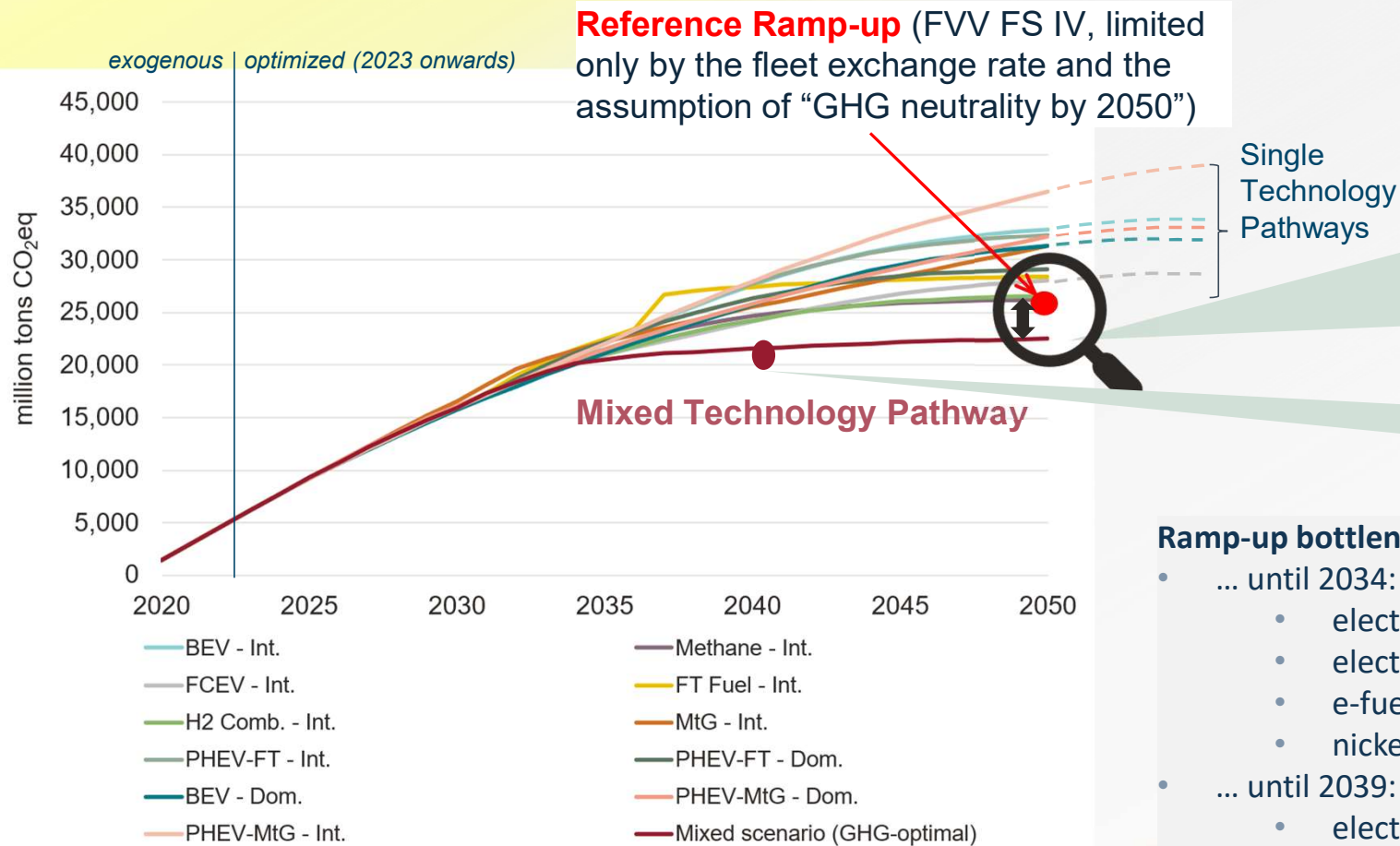


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GHG: FVV FS IVb - GHG Optimized Mixed Technology Pathway

Minimum cumulative GHG emissions (no hypothetical scenario, results of a mathematical optimization)



Cumulated GHG emissions until 2050 **≈3,700 Mt CO₂eq lower** than best single technology pathway (e-Methane), equivalent to app. 5 years of **total** German GHG emissions (all sectors)

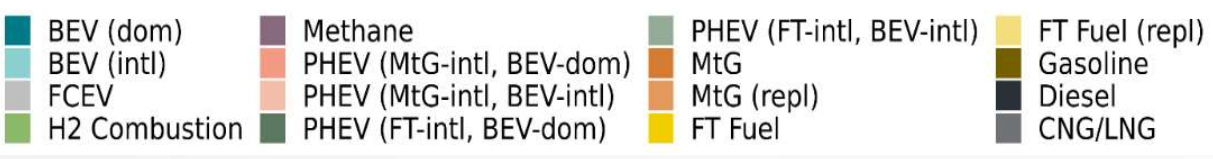
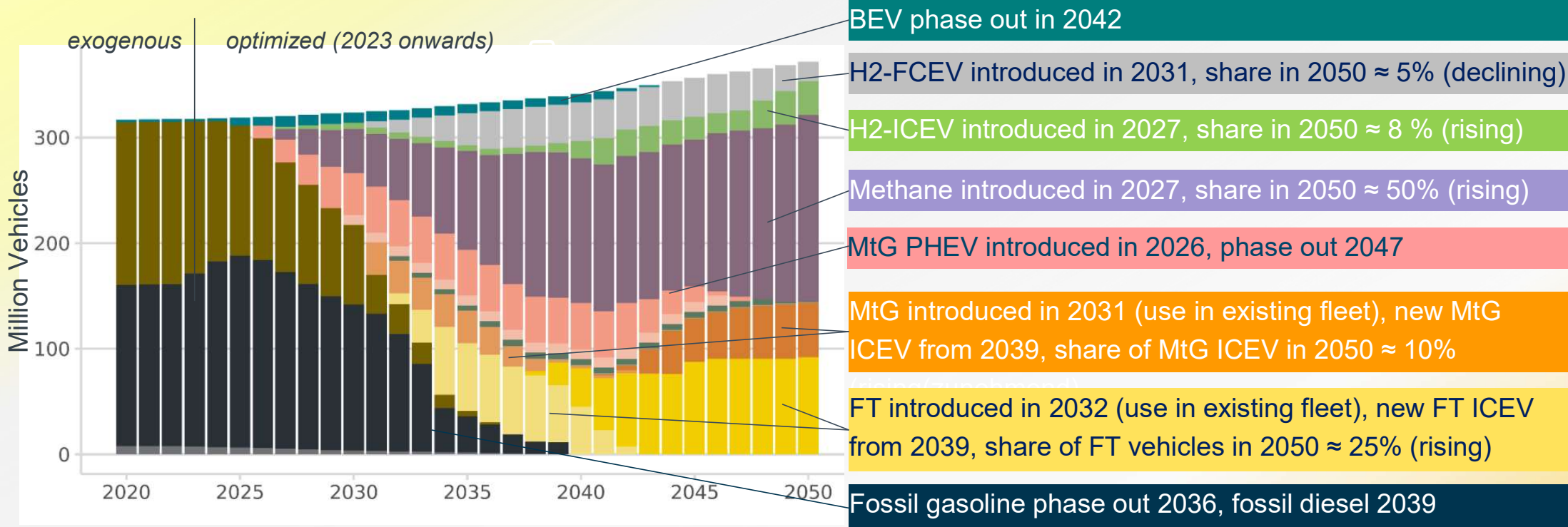
"Quasi"* GHG neutrality can be achieved before 2040

Ramp-up bottlenecks (GHG opt. mix):

- ... until 2034:
 - electricity grid
 - electrolysis
 - e-fuel synthesis
 - nickel
- ... until 2039:
 - electricity grid
- ... after 2039:
 - no restrictions

GHG: FVV FS IVb - GHG Optimized Mixed Technology Pathway (min. cum. GHG)

Fleet Development LDV* (Passenger Cars + small (N1) vans / trucks) *LDV: Light Duty Vehicles
<https://alternative-fuels-observatory.ec.europa.eu/general-information/vehicle-types>



Dominating LDV pathways 2050

- e*-Methane-ICEV
- e*-FT & MTG-(Diesel/Gasoline) ICEV
- e*-H2-ICEV

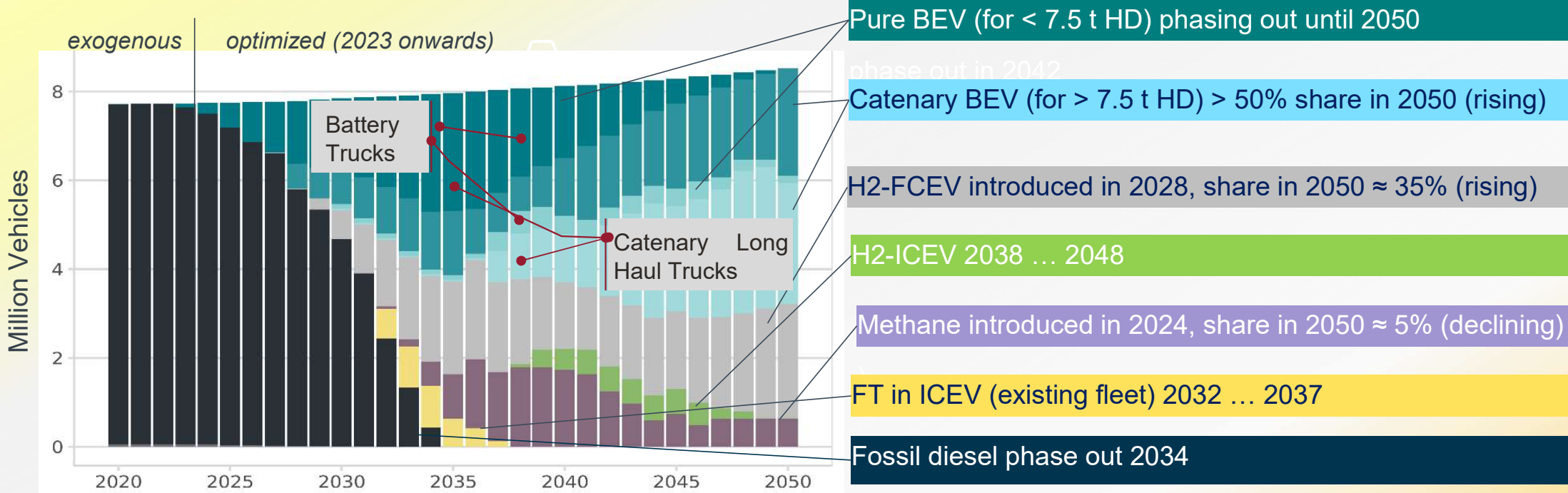
**all e-fuels*

GHG: FVV FS IVb - GHG Optimized Mixed Technology Pathway (min. cum. GHG)

Fleet Development HDV* (large (N2/N3) trucks)

*HDV: Heavy Duty Vehicles

<https://alternative-fuels-observatory.ec.europa.eu/general-information/vehicle-types>



Pure BEV (for < 7.5 t HD) phasing out until 2050

phase out in 2042

Catenary BEV (for > 7.5 t HD) > 50% share in 2050 (rising)

H2-FCEV introduced in 2028, share in 2050 ≈ 35% (rising)

H2-ICEV 2038 ... 2048

Methane introduced in 2024, share in 2050 ≈ 5% (declining)

FT in ICEV (existing fleet) 2032 ... 2037

Fossil diesel phase out 2034

Dominating HDV pathways 2050

- Catenary BEV* (for Long Haul HDV > 7.5t)
- H2-FCEV (for Delivery Trucks < 7.5t)

Reminder: Long haul truck (>7.5t) electrification assumed only with catenary (overhead) line, not with pure BEVs. Changed in "FVV Energy Study".

***Please note,** this is the result of a GHG optimization. Optimizing to other constraints (costs, feasibility, etc.) may lead to different results.

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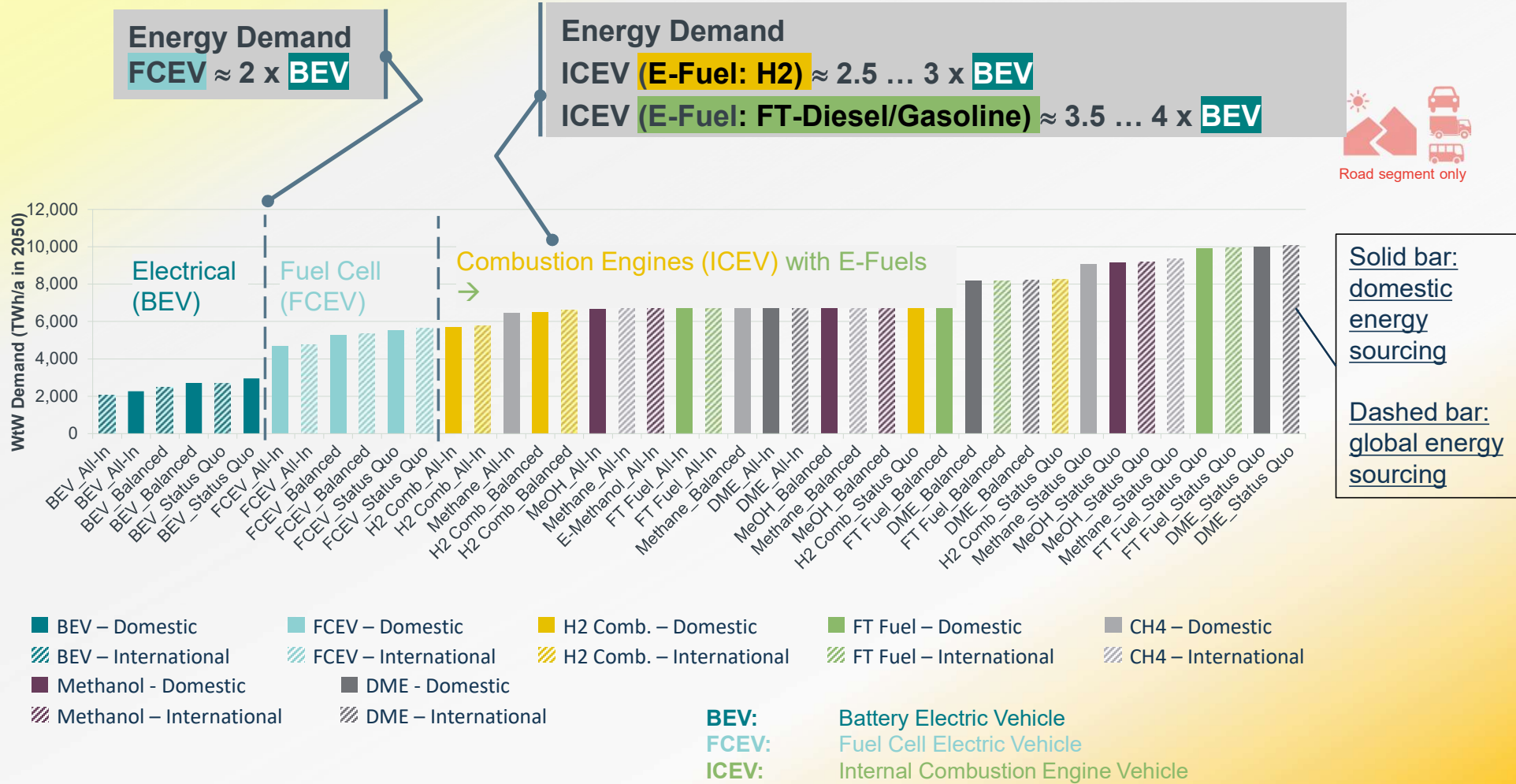


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Well-to-Wheel Energy Demand 2050 (2,000...10,000 TWh/a)

Calculation for the entire production chain: 42 Pathways (FVV FS IV)

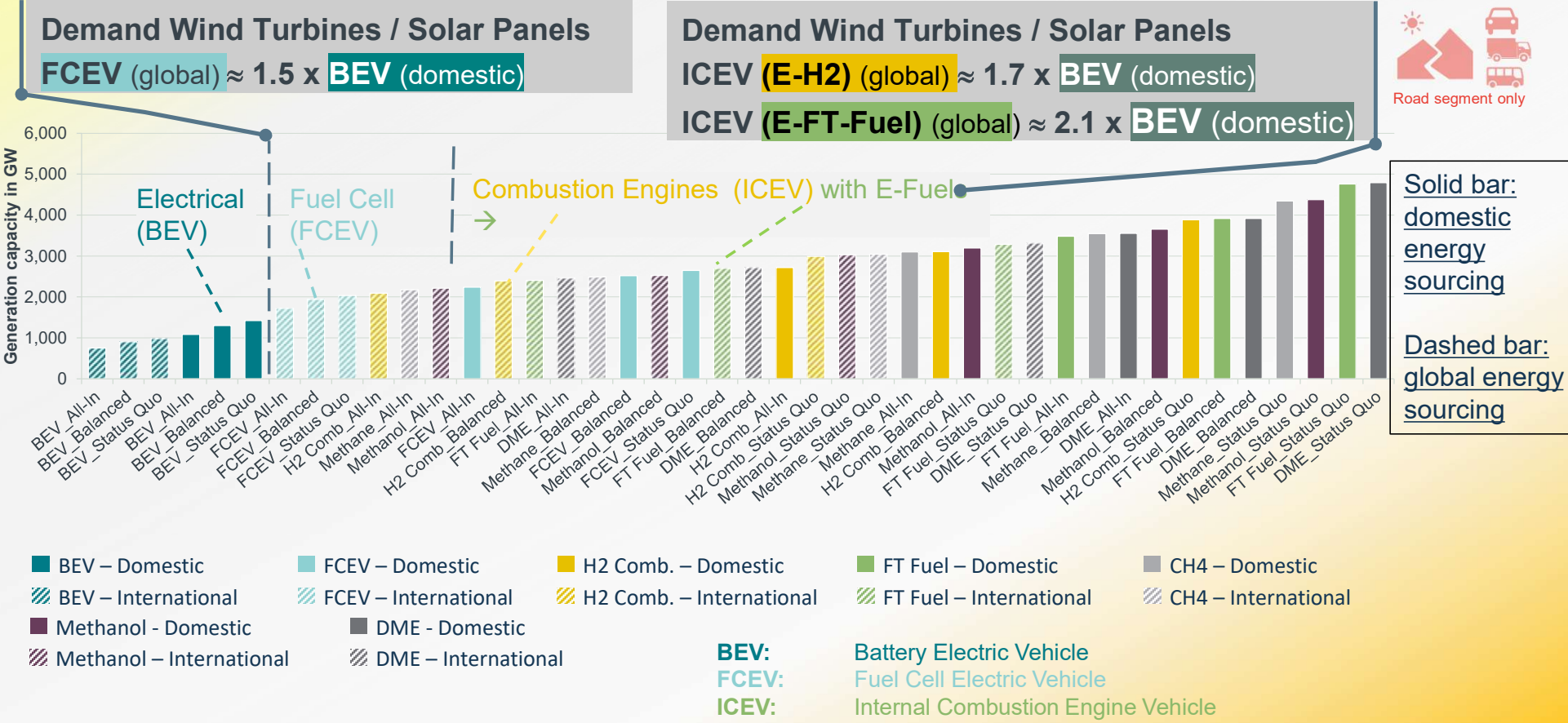
Well-to-Wheel Energy Demand 2050 / TWh/a



Power Generation Capacity in 2050 → Environmental factors and costs are determined not only by energy demand, but also by the location of the wind turbines and solar panels (FVV FS IV)

BEV: needs locally generated grid-connected energy
E-Fuels: can be harvested & produced in sunny/windy prime regions of the entire world

Required installed Power Generation Capacity in 2050 / GW



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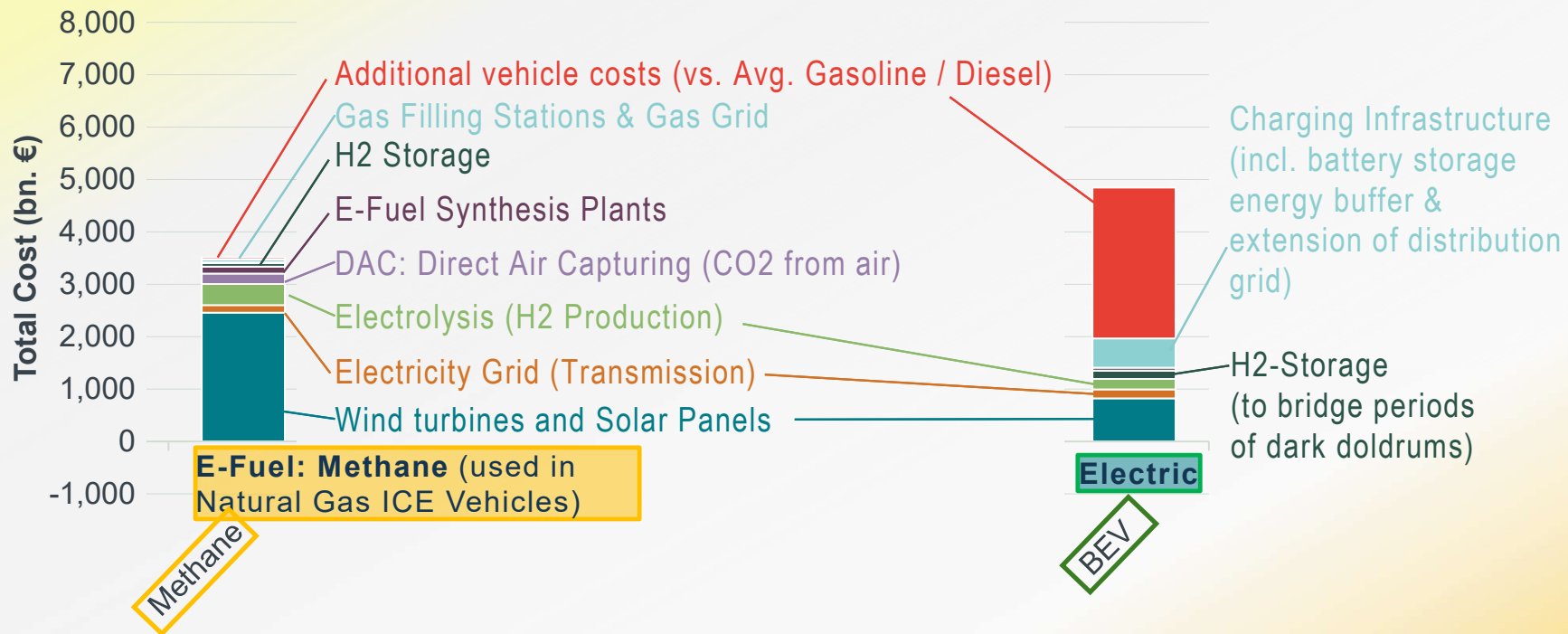


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Costs: Depending on the powertrain / energy pathway, the main costs are generated in different areas (sectors) (FWV FS IV)

Status Quo domestic pathway

Cumulative, Incremental Costs 2020...2050 / billions of €



- Generation (incl. vehicle costs)
- Transmission (electricity)
- Electrolyser
- DAC
- Synthesis
- H2 Storage (Buffer)
- Final Storage
- Fuel Transmission
- Fuel Distribution
- Charging/Filling Station
- Vehicles (Increase) - adjusted

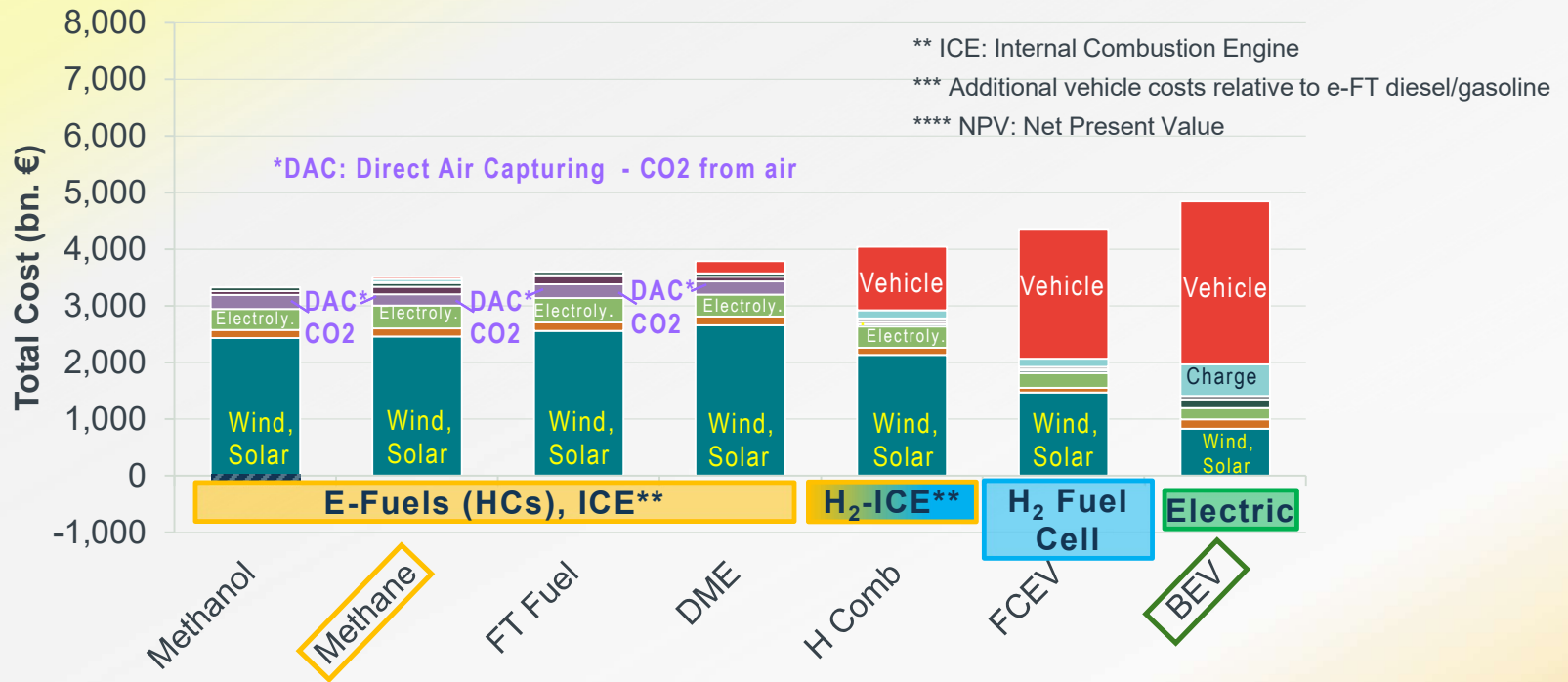
• **Vehicle costs are dominating the system costs**

Cumulative, incremental*** costs (NPV****)

2.600 ... 5.300 billions of € (FVV FS IV)

Status Quo domestic pathway

Cumulative, incremental Costs 2020...2050 / billions of €



- Generation (incl. vehicle costs)
- Transmission (electricity)
- Electrolyser
- DAC
- Synthesis
- H2 Storage (Buffer)
- Final Storage
- Fuel Transmission
- Fuel Distribution
- Charging/Filling Station
- Vehicles (Increase) - adjusted

- Most expensive: BEV
- Followed by FCEV
- Cheapest: e-methanol ICEV (conventional non-hybrid)

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Summary

GHG Emissions

- **Climate change** caused by transportation is **largely** (min. $\approx 70\%$) **the result of the operation of the out-phasing vehicle fleet** using fossil fuels.
- The **key to limiting global warming** is **not the choice of powertrain technology, but the ramp-up speed** at which the entire sustainable technology chain is implemented
- **Relying solely on BEVs is absolutely inadequate to achieve GHG neutrality* by 2050.**
- **Under ideal regulatory and financial conditions, Europe can achieve GHG neutrality* with an optimized technology mix by 2040.**
- **A technology-neutral legislation framework is required** to support such a development.
- **GHG-neutral, fleet-compatible e-fuels (including for passenger cars) are essential and a necessary building block of such an optimized technology mix.**
- **Building a comprehensive e-fuel infrastructure over the next 10 to 15 years is crucial to achieving greenhouse gas reduction targets**

* “Quasi”-GHG-neutral: only unavoidable GHG emissions remain

Summary

Energy Demand (Efficiency) & Costs

- **Energy consumption (i.e., energy efficiency) is a parameter of only minor importance in terms of a technology's GHG reduction potential and costs.** → When it comes to limiting global warming, it is not “best powertrain efficiency” (i.e., BEVs) that makes the difference).
- **E-fuel production only makes sense in countries with significant wind and solar potential** that can meet many times today's energy demand with wind and solar energy alone.
- **Importing energy in a chemically bound form is essential** (ideally hydrocarbons → e-fuel)
- **GHG-neutral* European mobility is more expensive than today's options, but affordable:**
 - 0.5 ... 1.1 % of GDP per year over 30 years
- **Highest Cumulative Costs: BEV (4.500 ... 5.300 bil. €) ahead of FCEV (3.900 ... 4.500 bil. €)**
 - Vehicle Costs dominate the Total Costs* **
- **Lowest costs (≈ 3.000 bil. €) are achieved with conventional vehicles equipped with combustion engines that run on e-fuels** (e-Methanol, e-Methane, e-Gasoline/Diesel)

* Assumption: 300 – 500km range (LDV)

** Specific battery system costs: 160 €/kWh for 2020, 120 €/kWh for 2030, 80 €/kWh for 2050

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Policy Recommendations

to reduce further global warming in an effective and cost-efficient manner

- **Immediate & complete deletion of all bureaucratic and inefficient GHG (CO₂) sector targets**
- **In particular: Immediate deletion of the EU CO₂ regulation for motor vehicles, which limits CO₂ emissions only at the exhaust ("so-called internal combustion engine ban")**

Along with the removal of EU CO₂ sector targets (→ to minimize global warming):

- Implementation of an (at least EU-wide) **sufficiently high carbon price, applied exclusively to the exploration of fossil fuels** (oil, natural gas, coal)

Need to Protect the EU Economy (maintain European competitiveness):

- **Careful Introduction of a Carbon Price** (alignment with EU economic strength)
- **GHG-based import duties on products from countries that do not impose a carbon price**, to protect the European economy from low-cost, GHG-intensive imports
- If necessary, **export subsidies for low-GHG European products to countries that do not impose a carbon tax** (must be affordable) → **need for a sufficiently large economic area with carbon price**

Thank you very much for your attention.

Questions?

BACKUP

Information Basis - FVV Fuels Studies IV & IVb

Cross-disciplinary studies, steering committee composed of many advisors from industry and research

Future Fuels FVV Fuel Study IV

Dr. Ulrich Kramer (Ford)
(Chairman FVV)

Dr. David Bothe, Maximiliane Reger, Marion Lothmann, Dr. Christoph Gatzen
(all Frontier Economics Ltd.)

Frank Dünnebeil, Dr. Kirsten Biemann, Axel Liebich
Dr. Monika Dittrich, Sonja Limberger, Marian Rosental, Dr. Thomas Fröhlich
(all ifeu)

+ >27 Further Consultants



Publication: Oct. 2021

Download Studie:

https://www.fvv-net.de/fileadmin/Transfer/Downloads/Publikationen/FVV_Future_Fuels_StudyIV_The_Transformation_of_Mobility_H1269_2021-10_EN.pdf

Dr. Ulrich Kramer

Transformation of mobility to the GHG neutral post fossil age FVV Fuel Study IVb

Dr. Ulrich Kramer (Ford)
(Chairman FVV)

Dr. David Bothe
Dr. Christoph Gatzen
André Pfannenschmidt
Carolin Baum
Fabian Schrogl
Osama Mahmood
(all Frontier Economics Ltd.)

+ >45 Further Consultants



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CEE Clean Energy & Mobility Summit, Prague, 22 April 2026

FVV Fuels Studies IV

Authors & Consultants

Authors:

Dr. Ulrich Kramer, Ford-Werke GmbH
(Studienleiter FVV)

Dr. David Bothe, Frontier Economics

Frank Dünnebeil, ifeu

Maximiliane Reger, Frontier Economics

Marion Lothmann, Frontier Economics

Dr. Christoph Gatzen, Frontier Economics

Dr. Kirsten Biemann, ifeu

Axel Liebich, ifeu

Dr. Monika Dittrich, ifeu

Sonja Limberger, ifeu

Marian Rosental, ifeu

Dr. Thomas Fröhlich, ifeu

Co-Authors & Consultants:

Corentin Prié, Audi AG

William Lilley, Aramco

Victor Gordillo, Aramco

Dr. Lars Menger, BMW

Ansgar Christ, Bosch

Bram Hakstege, DAF Trucks

Maximilian Heneka, DVGW

Dr. Sebastian Barth, Honda

Florian Raß, Honda

Dr. Thorsten Schnorbus, FEV Europe GmbH

Dr. Benjamin Rausch, Freyberger Engineering

Ralf Thee, FVV

Dr. Markus Bauer, MAN Energy Solutions SE

Pierre Gobin, Liebherr Machines Bulle SA

Dr. Michael Harenbrock, MANN+HUMMEL GmbH

Dietmar Schwarzenthal, Porsche AG

Ralf Müller, Rolls-Royce Solutions GmbH

Andrew Auld, Ricardo

Dr. Simon Edwards, Ricardo

Trevor Downes, Ricardo

Dr. Karsten Wilbrand, Shell

Dr. Ingo Mikulic, Shell

Arndt Döhler, Stellantis

Paul Decker-Brentano, Toyota

Dr. Martin Lohrmann, Volkswagen AG

Per Harnap, Volvo Cars

Dr. Monica Johansson, Volvo Trucks

FVV Fuels Studies IVb

Authors & Consultants

Co-Authors & Consultants :

Dr. Karsten Wilbrand (Shell Global Solutions GmbH)
Dr. Ingo Mikulic (Shell Global Solutions GmbH)
Svetlana van Bavel (Shell Global Solutions B.V.)
Andreas Schleiffer (Deutsche BP AG Global Fuels Technology)
Dr. Norbert Neumann (Deutsche BP AG Global Fuels Technology)
Dr. Uta Weiss (Mabanaft GmbH & Co. KG)
Dr. William Lilley (Aramco Fuel Research Center)
Victor Gordillo (Aramco Fuel Research Center)
Dietmar Schwarzenenthal (Porsche AG)
Dr. Lars Menger (BMW AG)
Corentin Prié (Audi AG)
Dr. Jörg Wind (Mercedes Benz AG Cell Technology)
Paul Decker-Brentano (Toyota Gazoo Racing Europe GmbH)
Stefan Kaimer (Ford-Werke GmbH)
Christian Hofmann (Ford-Werke GmbH)
Dr. Sebastian Barth (Honda R&D Europe GmbH)
Florian Raß (Honda R&D Europe GmbH)
Uwe Heßler (Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd. & Co KG)
Dr. Stefan Koch (MAN Energy Solutions SE)
Christian Obermeier (MAN Energy Solutions SE)
Torsten Buddenberg (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries EMEA Ltd.)
Florian Möllenbruck (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries EMEA Ltd.)

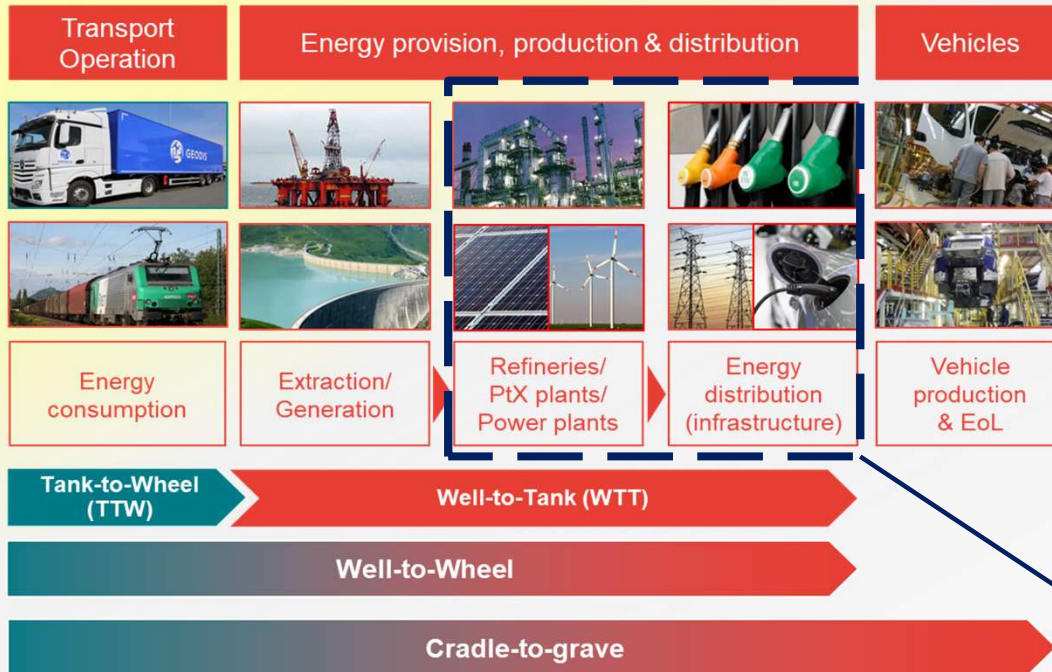
Dr. Ansgar Christ (Robert Bosch GmbH)
Matthias Mansbart (Robert Bosch GmbH)
Mario Kuschel (CAC Chemieanlagenbau Chemnitz GmbH)
Dr. Toni Raabe (CAC Chemieanlagenbau Chemnitz GmbH)
Klaus Reuhl (CAC Chemieanlagenbau Chemnitz GmbH)
Dr. Peter Prenninger (AVL List GmbH)
Marc Sens (IAV GmbH)
Dr. Michael Harenbrock (MANN+HUMMEL GmbH)
Dr. Thorsten Schnorbus (FEV Europe GmbH)
Dr. Benjamin Rausch (Freyberger Engineering GmbH)
Maximilian Heneka (DVGW-EBI-KIT)
Wolfgang Köppel (DVGW-EBI-KIT)
Olaf Toedter (IFKM KIT)
Frank Dünnebeil (ifeu GmbH, Heidelberg)
Dr. Monika Dittrich (ifeu GmbH, Heidelberg)
Axel Liebich (ifeu GmbH, Heidelberg)
Siyamend Al Barazi (Deutsche Rohstoffagentur (DERA))
Trevor Downes (Ricardo UK Ltd.)
Dr. Richard Osborne (Ricardo UK Ltd.)
Dr. Simon Edwards (Ricardo UK Ltd.)
Simon Terry (Ricardo UK Ltd.)
Ralf Thee (FVV)

Authors:

Dr. Ulrich Kramer (Ford-Werke GmbH)
(Studienleiter FVV)
Dr. David Bothe (Frontier Economics Ltd.)
Dr. Christoph Gatzert (Frontier Economics Ltd.)
André Pfannenschmidt (Frontier Economics Ltd.)
Carolin Baum (Frontier Economics Ltd.)
Fabian Schrogl (Frontier Economics Ltd.)
Osama Mahmood (Frontier Economics Ltd.)

FVV Fuels Studies IV & IVb - Cradle-to-Grave (C2G) Analysis Approach

Separate report of GHG for Energy infrastructure Installation

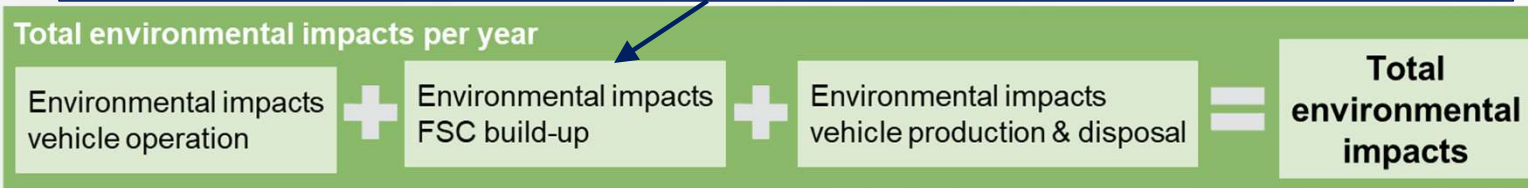


- Environmental databases and studies**
- LCA databases and models: e.g. Ecolinvent, Umberto, eLCAR
 - Emission factor databases: HBEFA 4.1, TREMOD
 - ifeu scientific studies: e.g. SYSEET, RESCUE
 - Scientific literature research

Cradle-to-grave (C2G) approach

- includes GHG emissions of
- fossil fuels consumption (wtw)
 - building-up defossilised energy supply and distribution infrastructure
 - vehicle production and disposal

Separate disclosure of **building-up** the power generation and energy/ fuel distribution infrastructure




→ GHG emissions are accounted **in the year they occur, not depreciated over lifetime** (and then added to the WtT emissions)

FVV Fuels Studies IVb - Ramp-up Bottlenecks

Technologies, Ramp-Up Bottlenecks

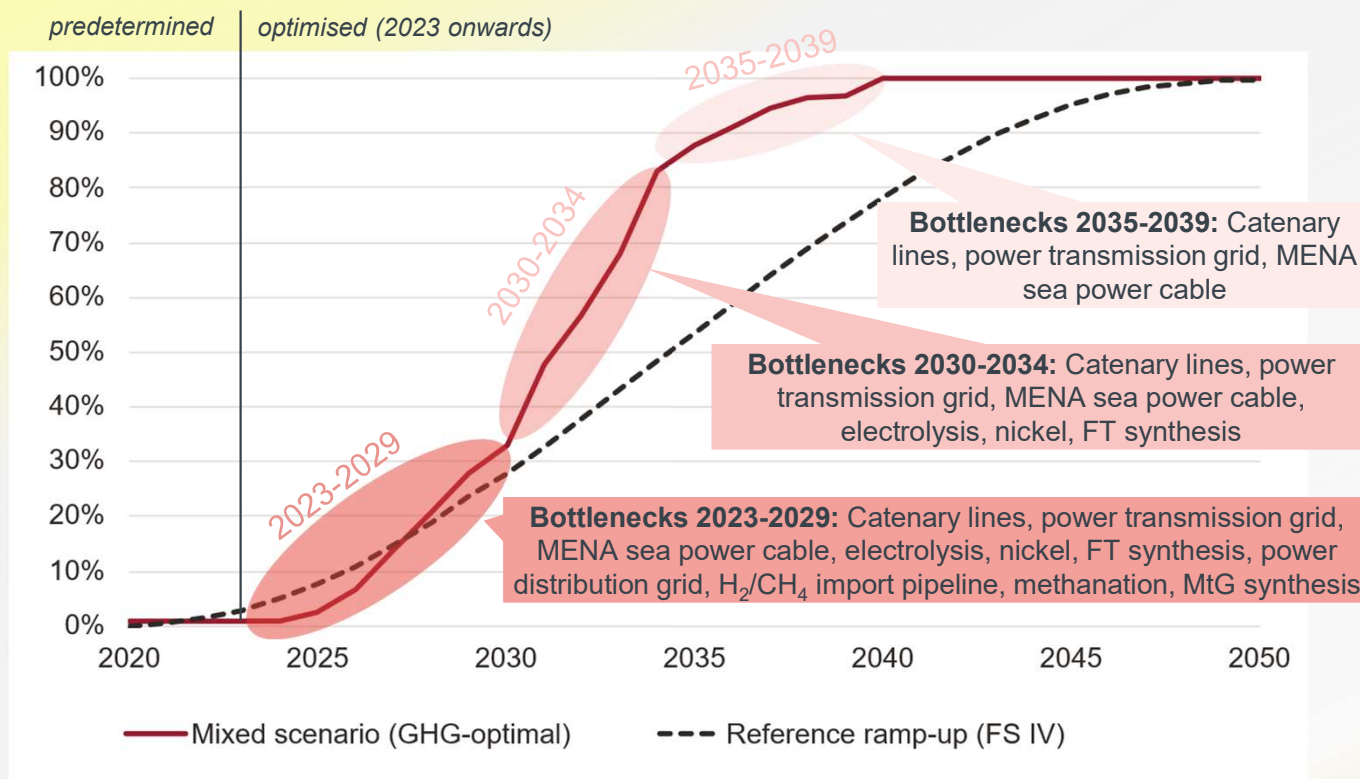
Fair share of other sectors and other areas than EU considered.

- Ramp-up times, limited only by technical bottlenecks!
- Appropriate representation of sectors and regions other than the EU

				2020-2029	2030-2039	2040-2049
BEV (Battery Electric Vehicles) (Long Haul > 7.5t: Catenary HDV)	Domestic			Power transm. grid, catenary lines, cobalt, battery prod., wallboxes	Power transm. grid, catenary lines, cobalt, battery prod., wallboxes	Power transm. grid, cobalt
	International			Sea power cable, catenary lines, cobalt, power transmission grid	Sea power cable, catenary lines, cobalt, power transmission grid	Cobalt, power transm. grid
FT (Fischer Tropsch)		International 		FT synthesis, nickel, electrolysis	FT synthesis, nickel, electrolysis	
MtG (Methanol-to-Gasoline, only LDV (Passenger Cars+ N1))				Electrolysis, renewable electr. generation , MtG synthesis	Electrolysis, renewable electricity generation	
Synthetic Methane				Methanation, CH ₄ import pipelines, electrolysis	Methanation, electrolysis	
H2 Comb. (Hydrogen Combustion)				H ₂ import pipeline, electrolysis	H ₂ import pipeline, electrolysis	H ₂ import pipeline
FCEV (Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles)				H ₂ import pipeline, platinum, battery production,	H ₂ import pipeline, platinum	Platinum
PHEV (Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles)	BEV + FT		Dom. (BEV-share)	FT synthesis, battery prod., electrolysis, wallboxes	FT synthesis	
			Int. (BEV+E-Fuels)	FT synth., sea power cable, batt. prod., electrolysis, wallboxes	FT synthesis, sea power cable	
	BEV + MtG (only LDV)		Dom. (BEV-share)	Wallboxes, public chargers, electrolysis	Wallboxes, public chargers	
			Int. (BEV+E-Fuels)	Sea power cable, wallboxes, public chargers	Sea power cable, wallboxes, public chargers	

FVV Fuels Studies IVb - Ramp-up Bottlenecks

Main technical bottlenecks of “Min GHG Mixed Technology Scenario” restricting the ramp-up



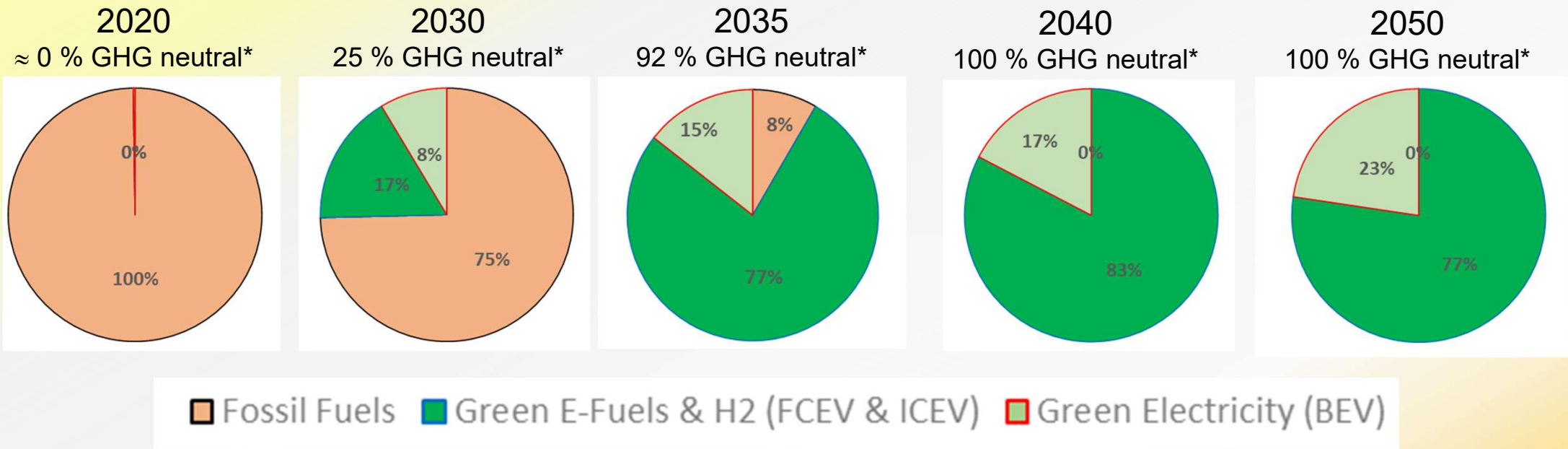
Main ramp-up bottlenecks of GHG opt. mixed scenario:

- ... 2034:
 - electric supply network
 - electrolysis
 - e-fuel synthesis
 - nickel
- ... 2039:
 - electric supply network
- ... after 2039:
 - no restrictions

FVV Fuels Studies IVb - Minimum GHG - Mixed Technology Scenario

Energy Distribution (Road Transport)

Theoretically achievable maximum ramp-up gradients, assuming ideal regulatory and investment conditions (similar to "COVID 19 vaccine introduction")



Theoretically (ideal regulatory and investment conditions), up to **92 % GHG neutral* energy** in European road transport **achievable by 2035 (77% e-fuels and H₂)** (other sectors and worldwide demand considered)

Benefits of e-fuels:

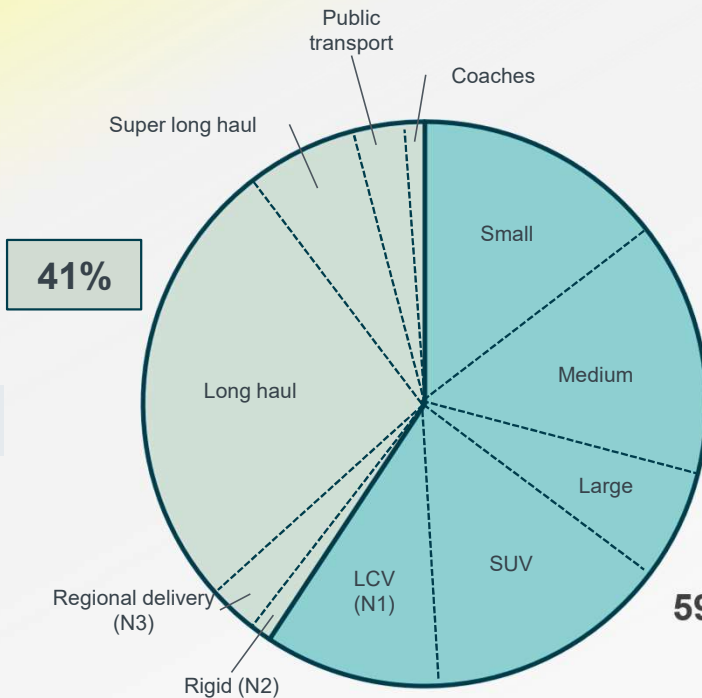
- Short-term: applicable to the existing vehicle legacy fleet (drop-in)
- Long-term: lowest **unavoidable GHG** emissions (C2G)

FVV Fuels Studies IV - Single Technology Pathway e-FT-Diesel

Share of energy consumption: HDV and LDV

Trucks account for 2% of the European vehicle fleet. Yet they consume 41% of the energy!

HDV



98% of the EU vehicle fleet consists of LDV. These account for 59% of energy consumption!

LDV (Passenger cars + light N1 vans)

59%

- Passenger cars
- Heavy-duty vehicles

“

- Trucks:** relatively
- low CO₂ during manufacturing
 - high CO₂ during operation

“

- Passenger cars:** relatively
- high CO₂ during manufacturing
 - low CO₂ during operation

FVV Fuels Studies IVb –Technology Mix Optimizer for min cumulative GHG

Optimizer (by Frontier Economics) - Functional Scheme (simplified)



Beispiel: Fahrzeugneuzulassungen in 2030

In der Praxis ist das Modell "perfekt vorausschauend", was bedeutet, dass es die Auswahl der Antriebstechnologien in allen Segmenten und Jahren parallel optimiert

