

Water Supply Network Integrated Energy Recovery to Replace Energy Wasting Pressure Regulation Valves for Improving Operational Efficiency and Reducing Operational Carbon Emissions

Jem Irving
University of Strathclyde, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow
Email: jem.irding@strath.ac.uk
www.hydronationscholars.scot

Introduction

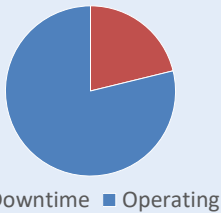
- The water network loses an estimated 8.8GWh/year of potential hydrokinetic energy through using Pressure Reduction Valves to regulate pressure.
- That could power
3250 UK homes [1]

Or drive an electric
car 50,000,000km[2]
- This project is dedicated to harnessing that energy by replacing pressure reduction valves with turbines.

Existing technology

- Scottish Water currently have 3 sites which use Difgen turbine technology.
- These proved not as reliable as hoped.
- By prioritising robustness and reliability, energy recovery can be increased.
- To demonstrate the impact of this.

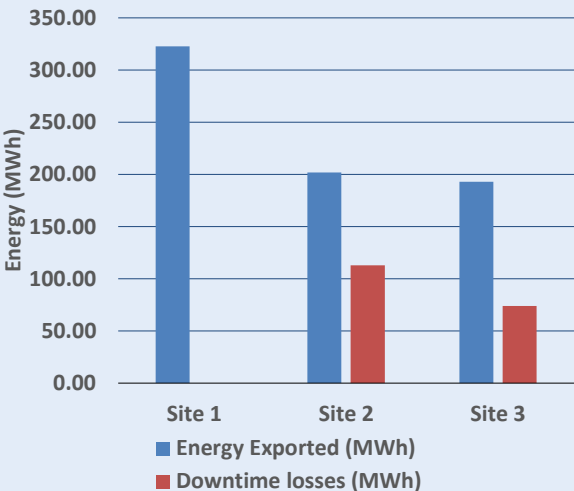
Graph 1: Difgen Turbines Downtime



Methodology

- Collected generation data from the 3 sites.
- Calculated average daily generation over 3 1-year periods.
- Calculated average energy that wasn't captured due to downtime.
- Calculated equivalent CO₂e that could have been saved had there been no down time.

Graph 2: Year 1 of Difgen Scheme



References

- [1] Average gas and electricity usage (no date) Ofgem. Available at: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers/energy-advice-households/average-gas-and-electricity-use-explained#:~:text=We%20estimate%20the%20typical%20household,of%20gas%20n%20a%20year.> (Accessed: 07 March 2024).
- [2] Model X (no date) Tesla. Available at: https://www.tesla.com/en_gb/modelx (Accessed: 07 March 2024).
- [3] Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2023) Greenhouse gas reporting: Conversion factors 2023, GOV.UK. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2023> (Accessed: 07 March 2024).

Graph 3: CO₂e Equivalent Not Captured Due to Downtime (all sites) [2]

