

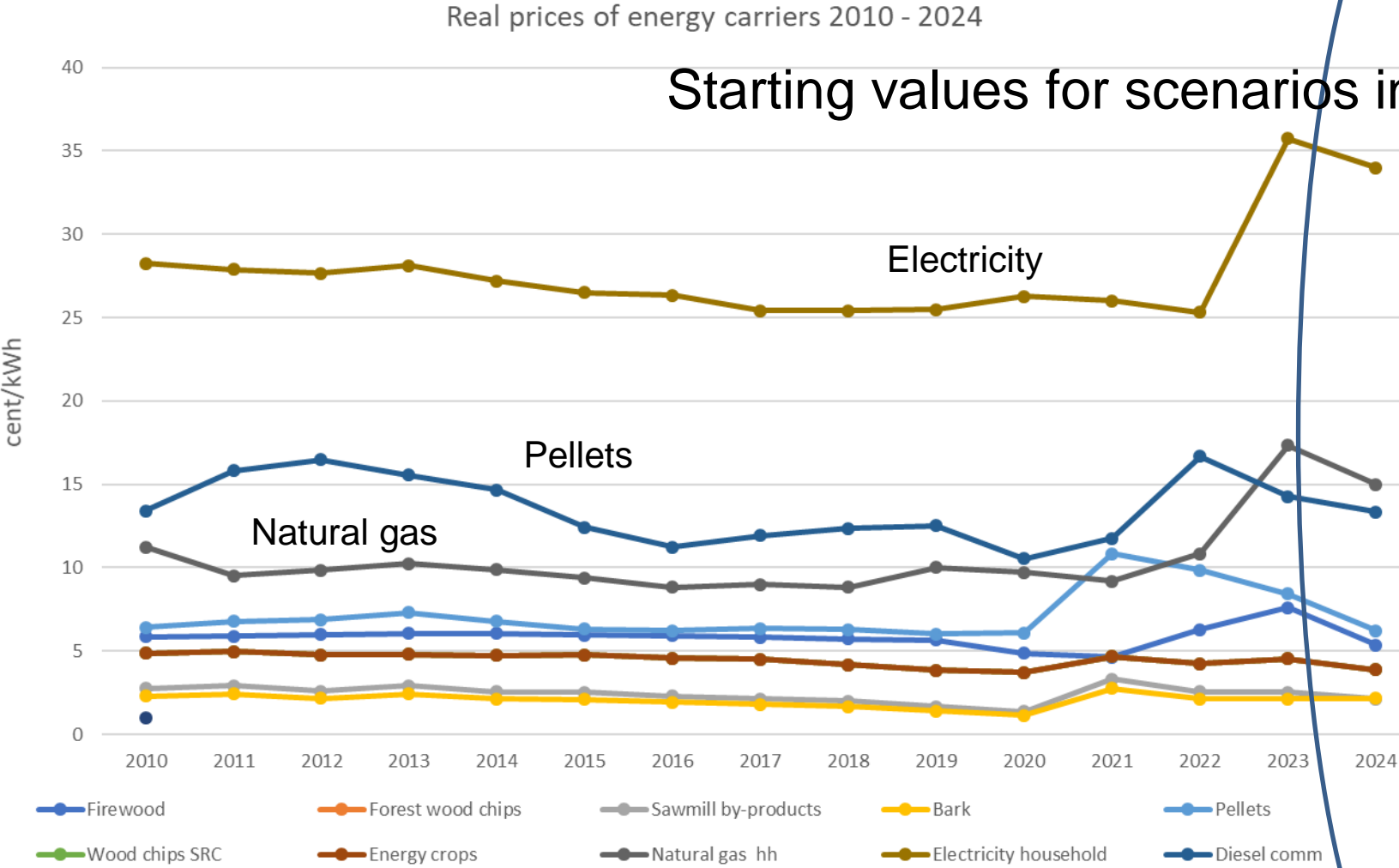
The costs of bioenergy use from forests in Austria – Scenarios up to 2050 – BIOSTRAT

Reinhard Haas, TU Wien

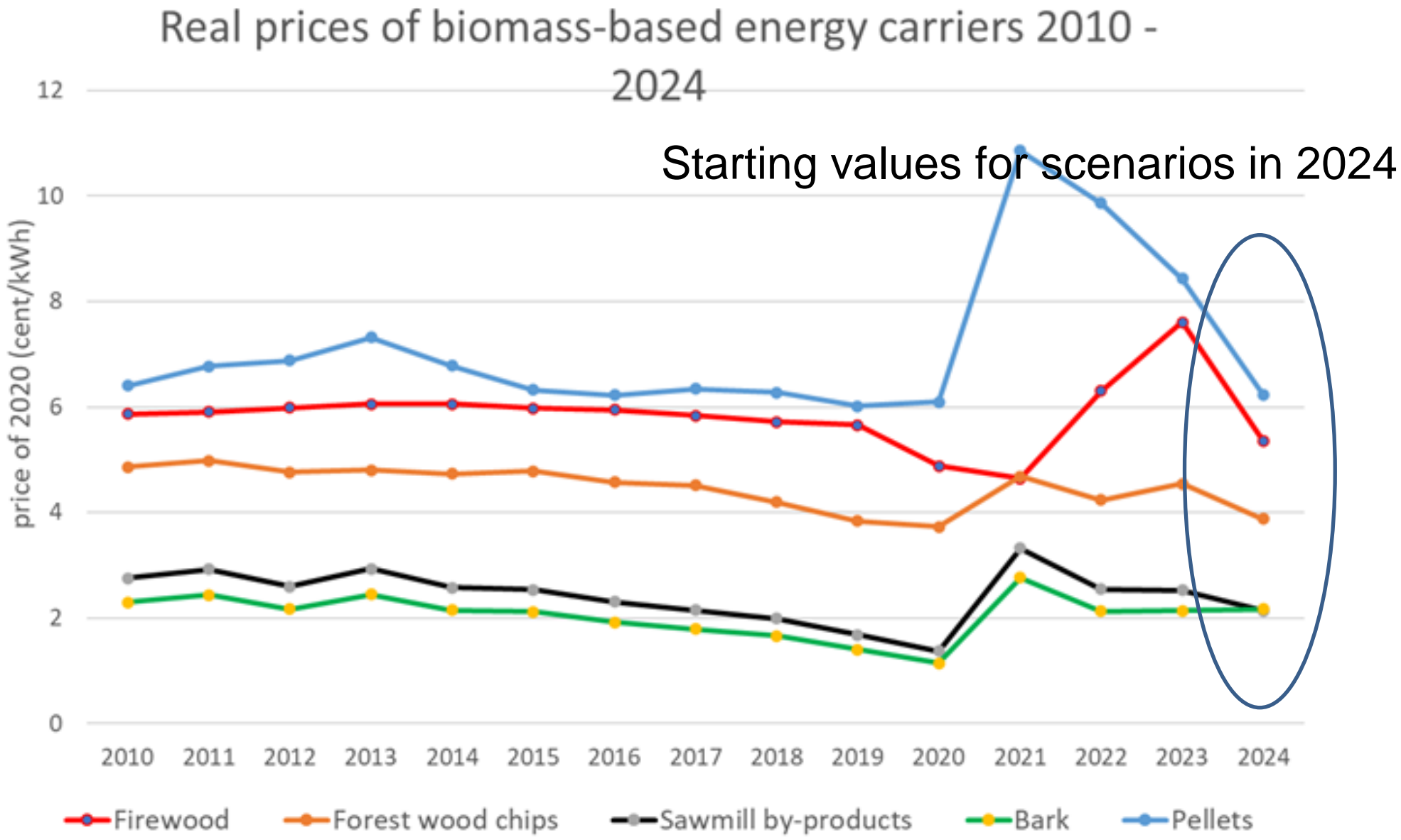
Praha 11 Novembre 2025

Introduction

- Biomass may play an important role for the energy transition
- Analysis of the economics of different feedstocks for various end uses
- Assessment of the carbon emissions of biomass vs fossil fuels
- Estimation of static and dynamic sustainable potentials
- Analysis of priority end uses for biomass use
- Scenarios for developments up to 2050

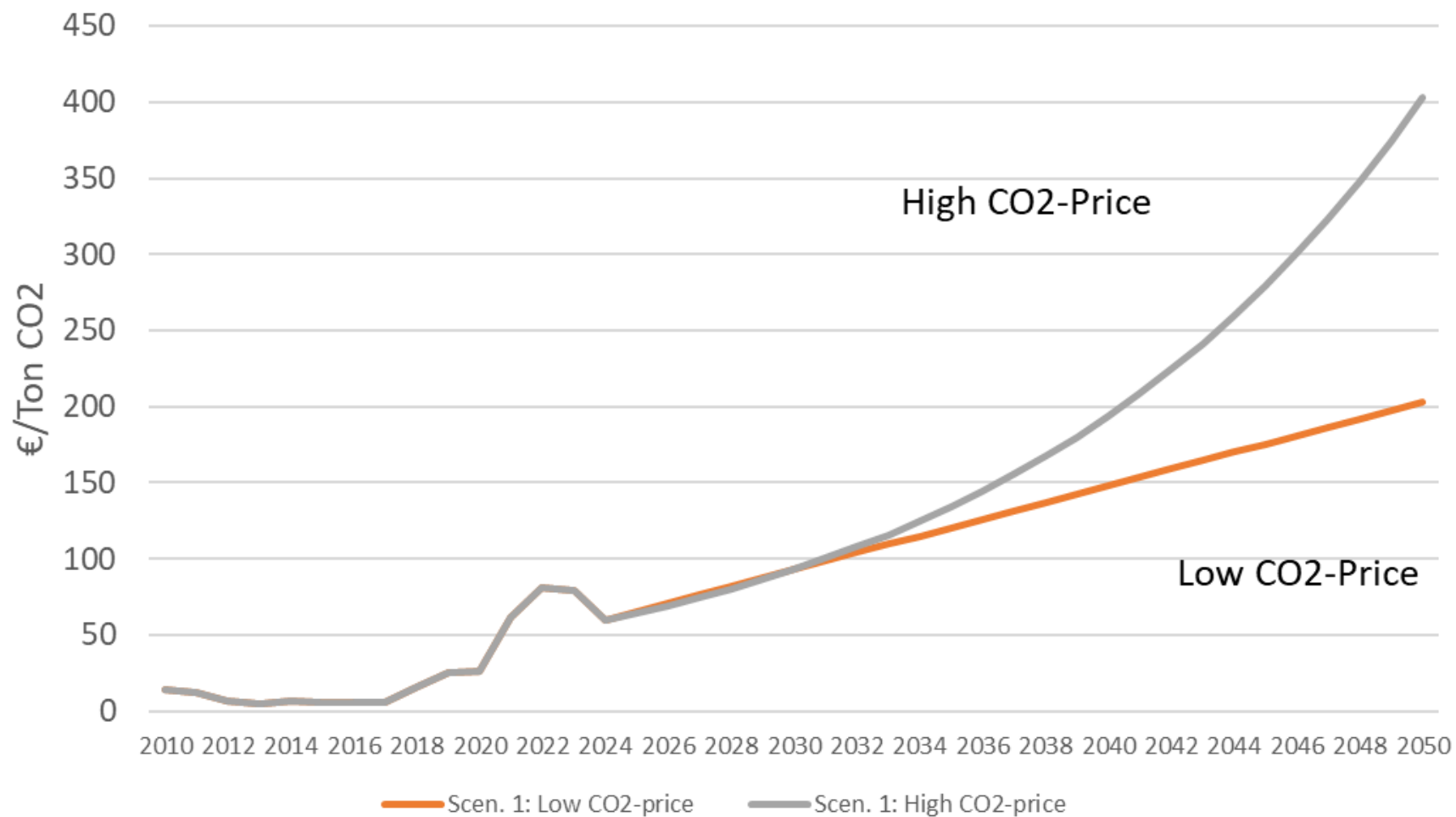


Energy prices as of 2024



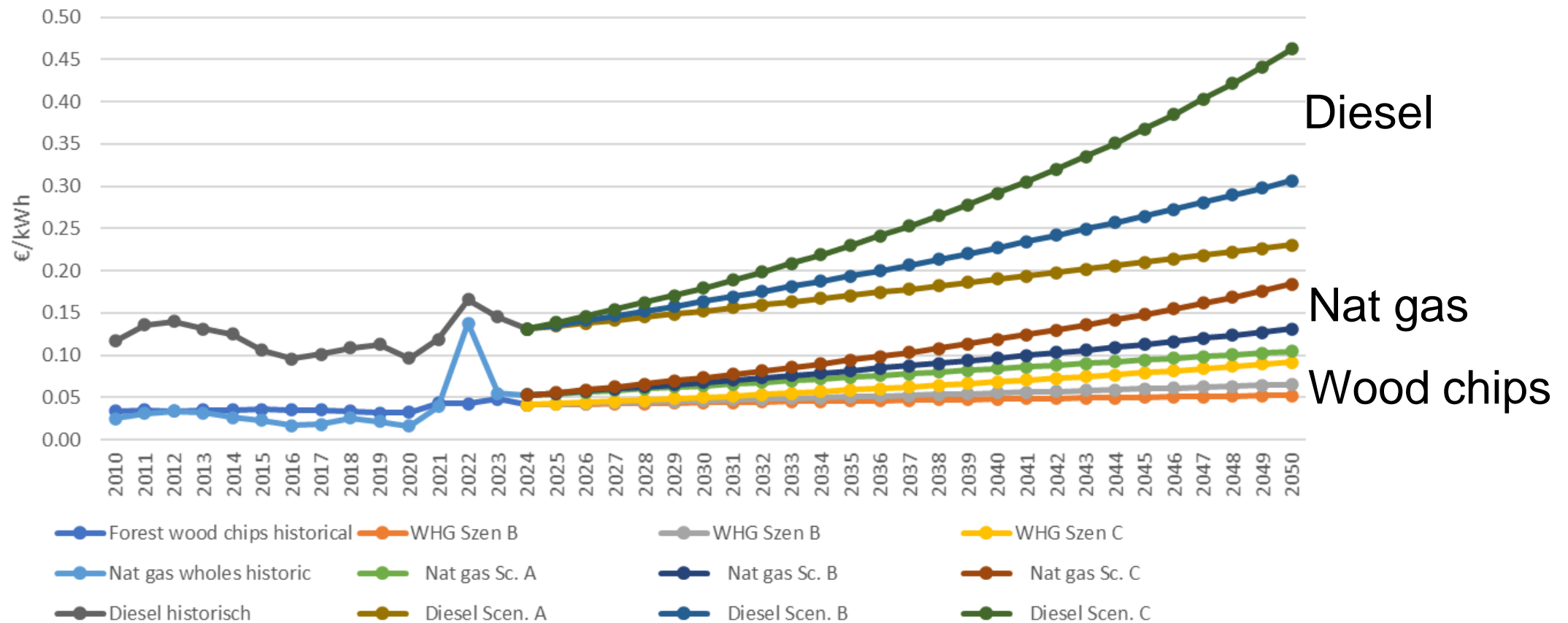
CO2-price scenarios

Scenarios of development of CO2 price up to 2050



Price scenarios

Scenarios for price development for Forest wood chips, Natural gas and Diesel
(Scenario low CO2 price)



Sectors and end uses

- Residential SH& WH (incl. Agriculture)
- District heating
- Electricity generation (incl. CHP)
- Industry (high temp applications)
- Industry (low temp applications)
- Transport (FT-Diesel)

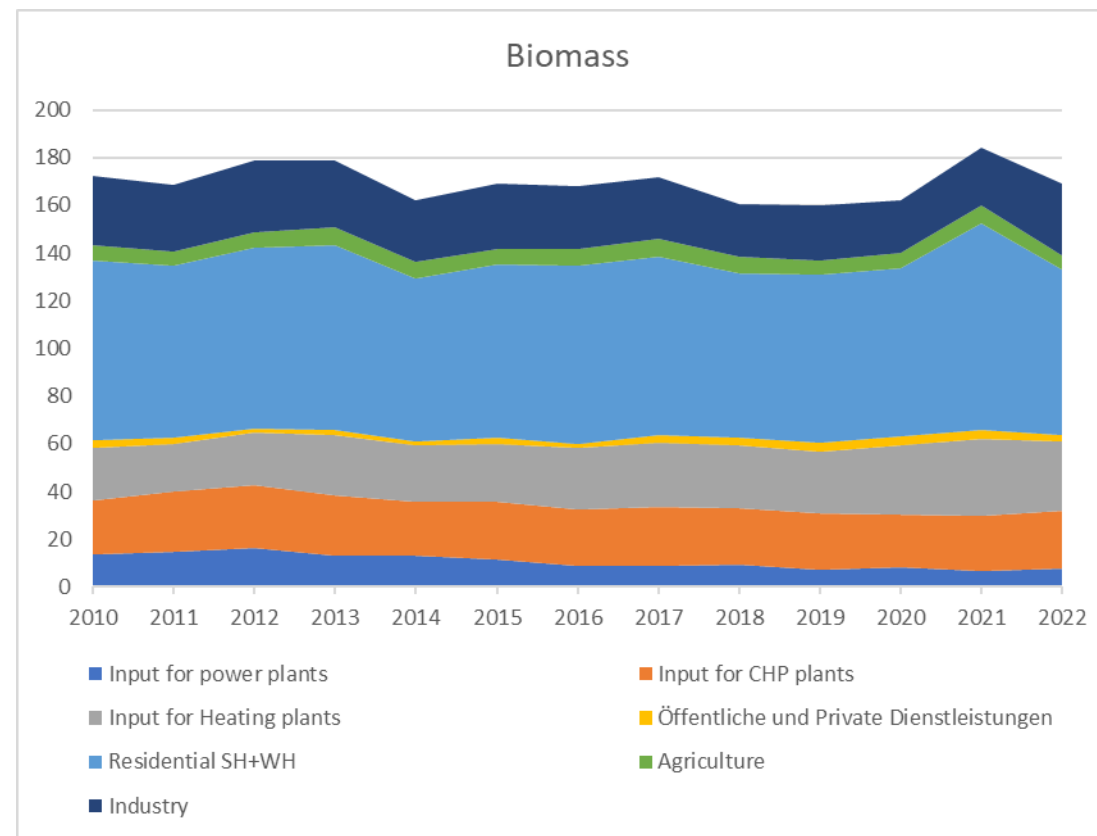
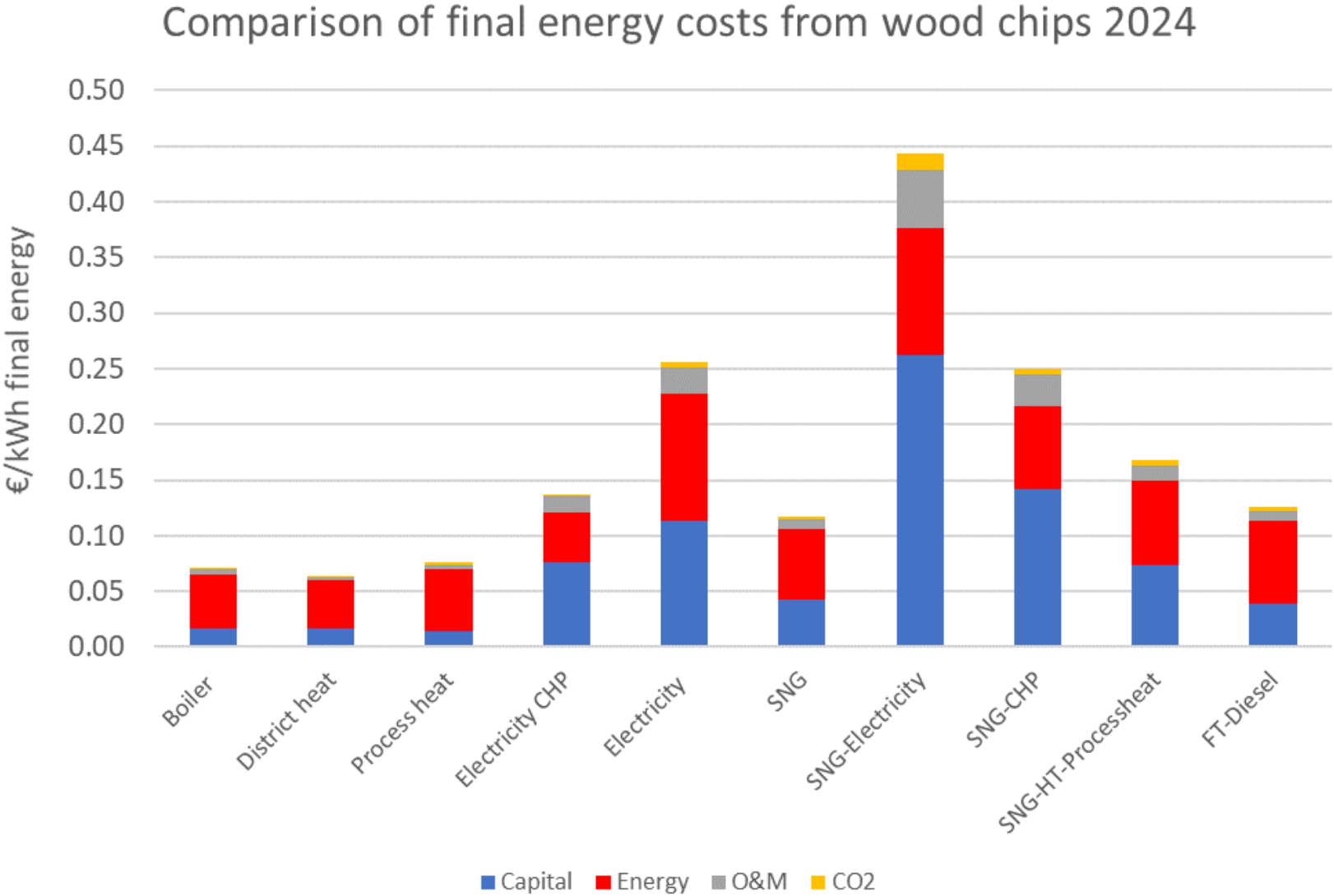


Table CO2-factors

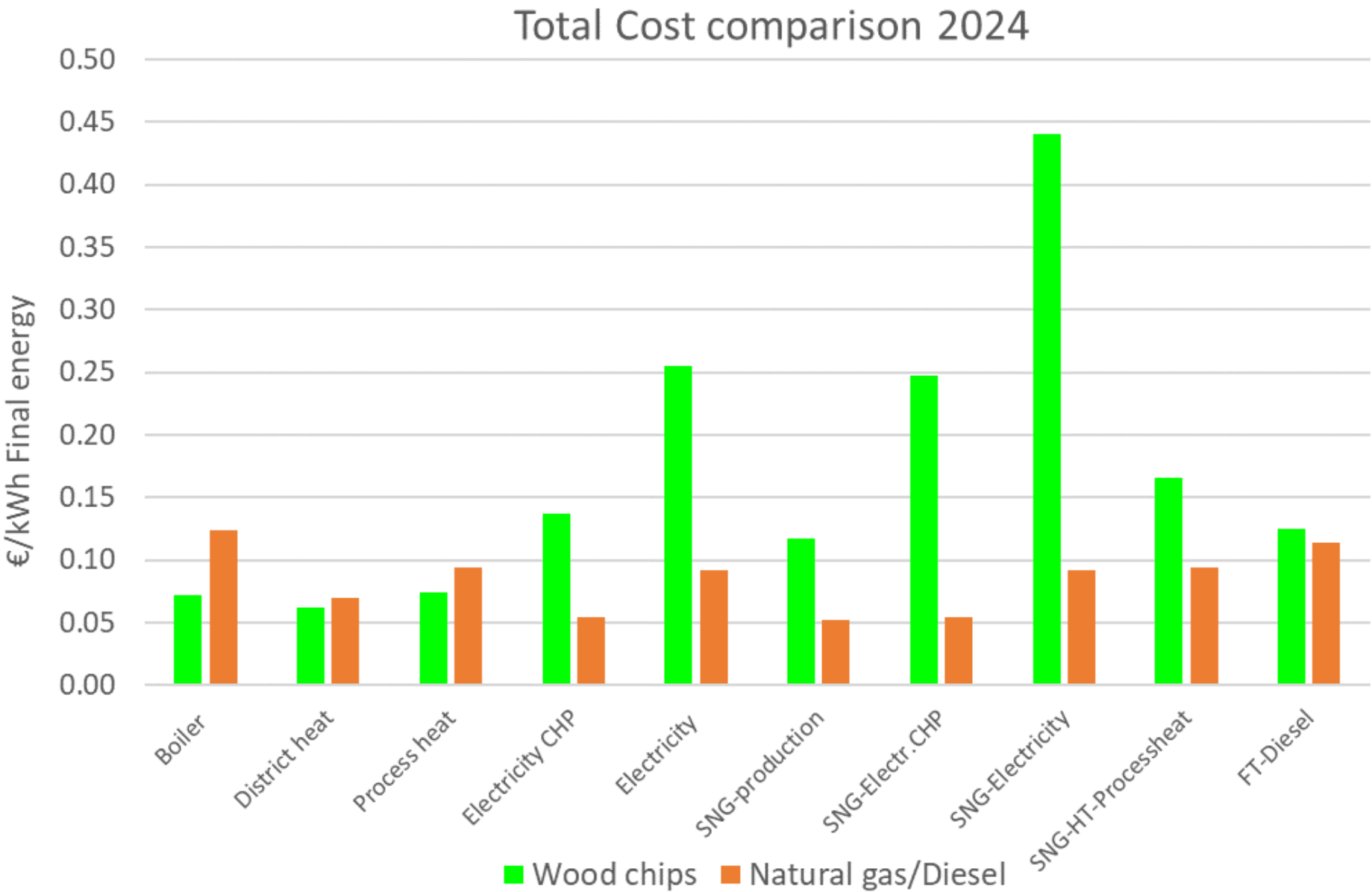
kg CO2-eq/kWh													
	SNG												
	Hochtemperatur					SNG					Biomethan -		
	Prozesswärme (aus					SNG Strom +					Strom +		
	Strom	Strom + Wärme	Fernwärme	Produktgas)	Raumwärme	SNG	SNG Strom	Wärme	Prozesswärme	FT Produkt	Biogas Strom	Biogas Biomethan	Biomethan - Strom + Wärme
Brennholz					0.0201								
Waldhackgut	0.0650	0.0223	0.0246	0.0634	0.0381	0.0631	0.1881	0.0823	0.0796	0.0718			
SNP	0.0415	0.0135	0.0158	0.0407		0.0474	0.1422	0.0622	0.0611				
Rinde	0.0344	0.0109	0.0132	0.0368		0.0442	0.1343	0.0587	0.0579	0.0496			
Pellets	0.0784	0.0273	0.0296		0.0581								
Hackgut KUP	0.0690	0.0238	0.0261	0.0673		0.0659	0.1961	0.0858	0.0895				
Miscanthus	0.0749	0.0260		0.0736									
Wirtschaftsdünger											0.1892	0.0616	0.1839
Bioabfälle											0.1640	0.0540	0.1622
Altholz	0.0420	0.0137	0.0160	0.0424		0.0482	0.1457	0.0637	0.0628	0.0543			0.0804

E.g. SNG production 0.044 - 0.066 kg CO2/kWh

Natural gas: 0.249 kg CO2/kWh

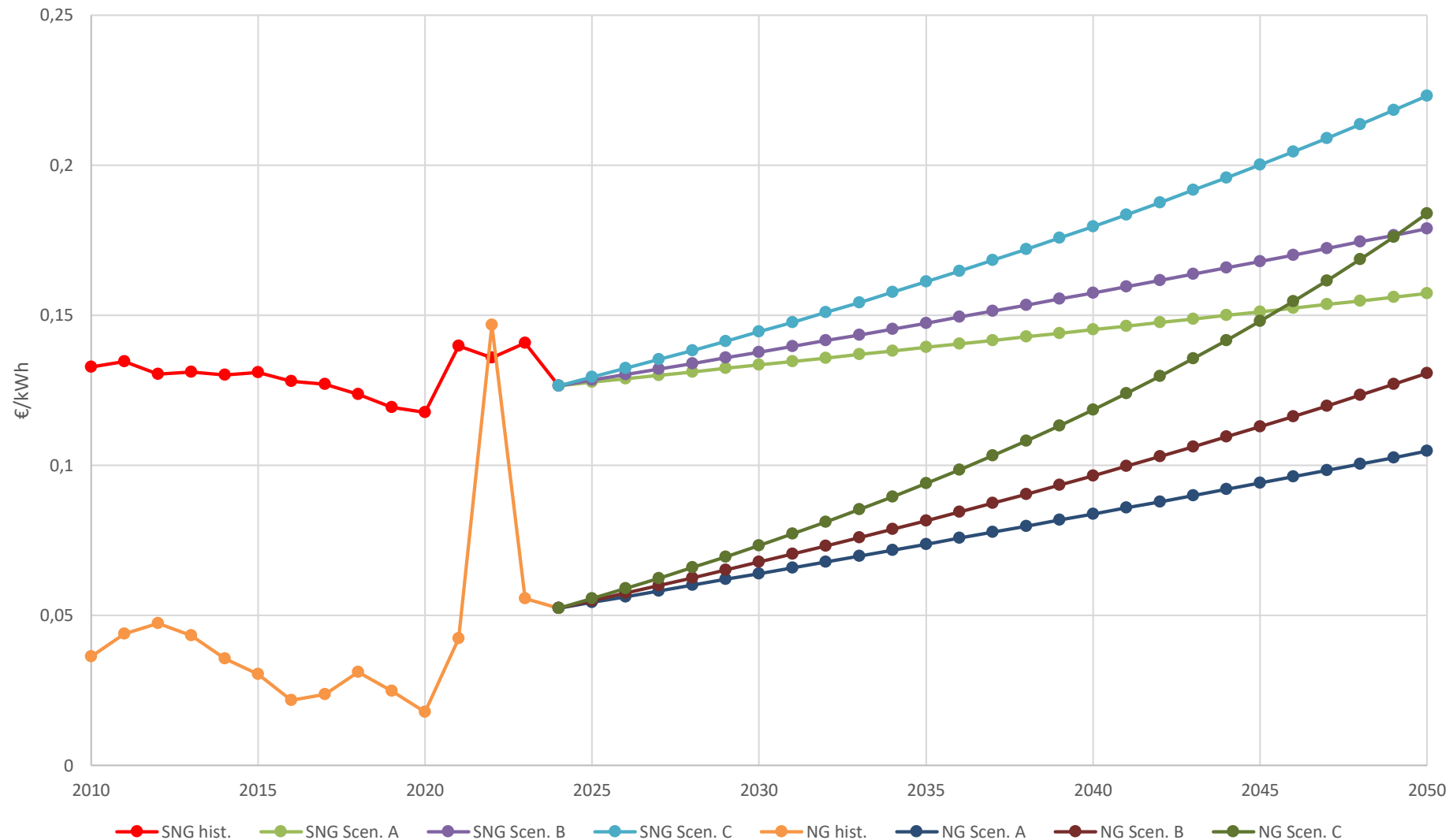


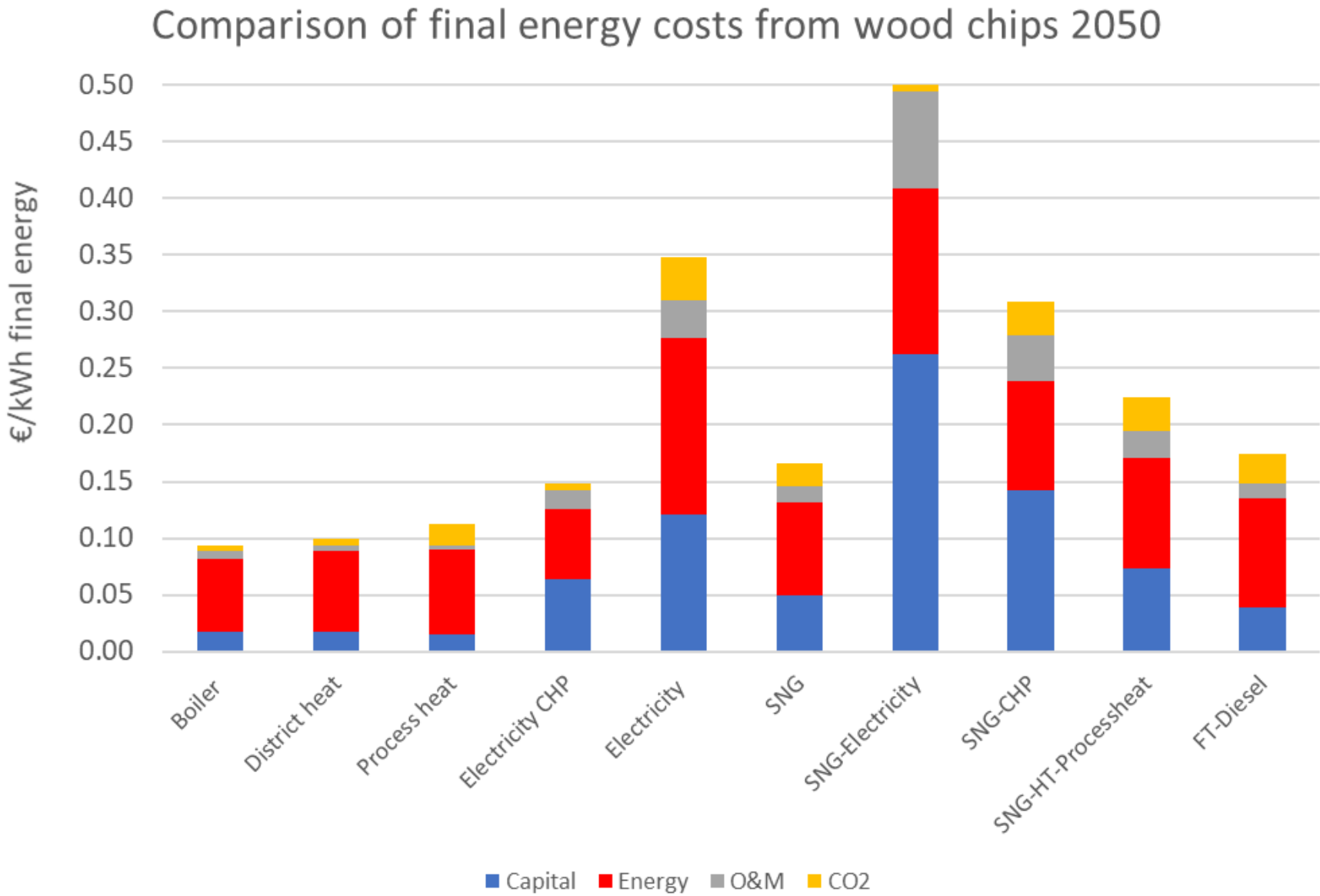
Comparison of total costs from wood chips vs natural gas/diesel 2024



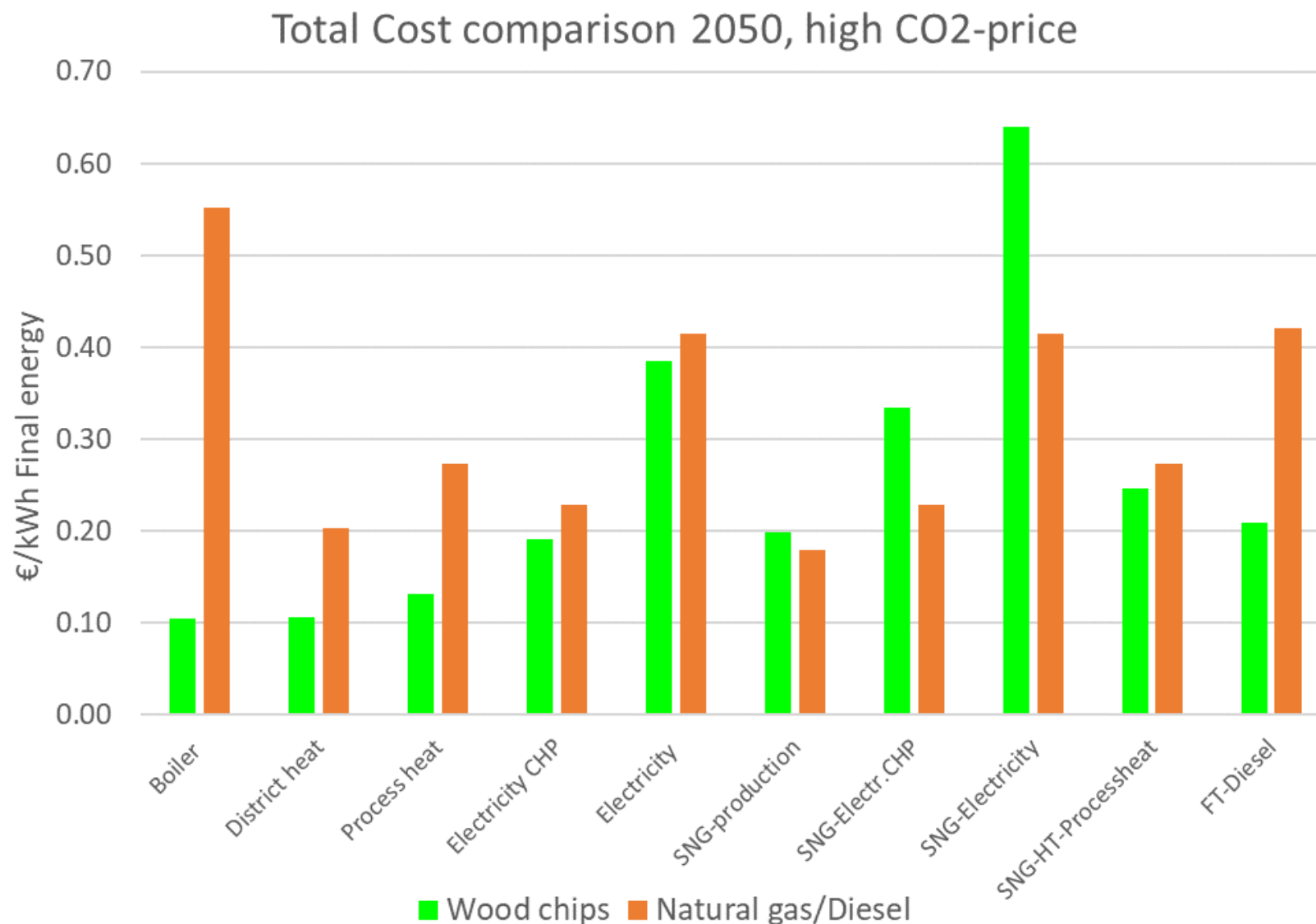
Scenario SNG from forest wood chips vs natural gas

Scenarios SNG vs. natural gas: low CO2-price

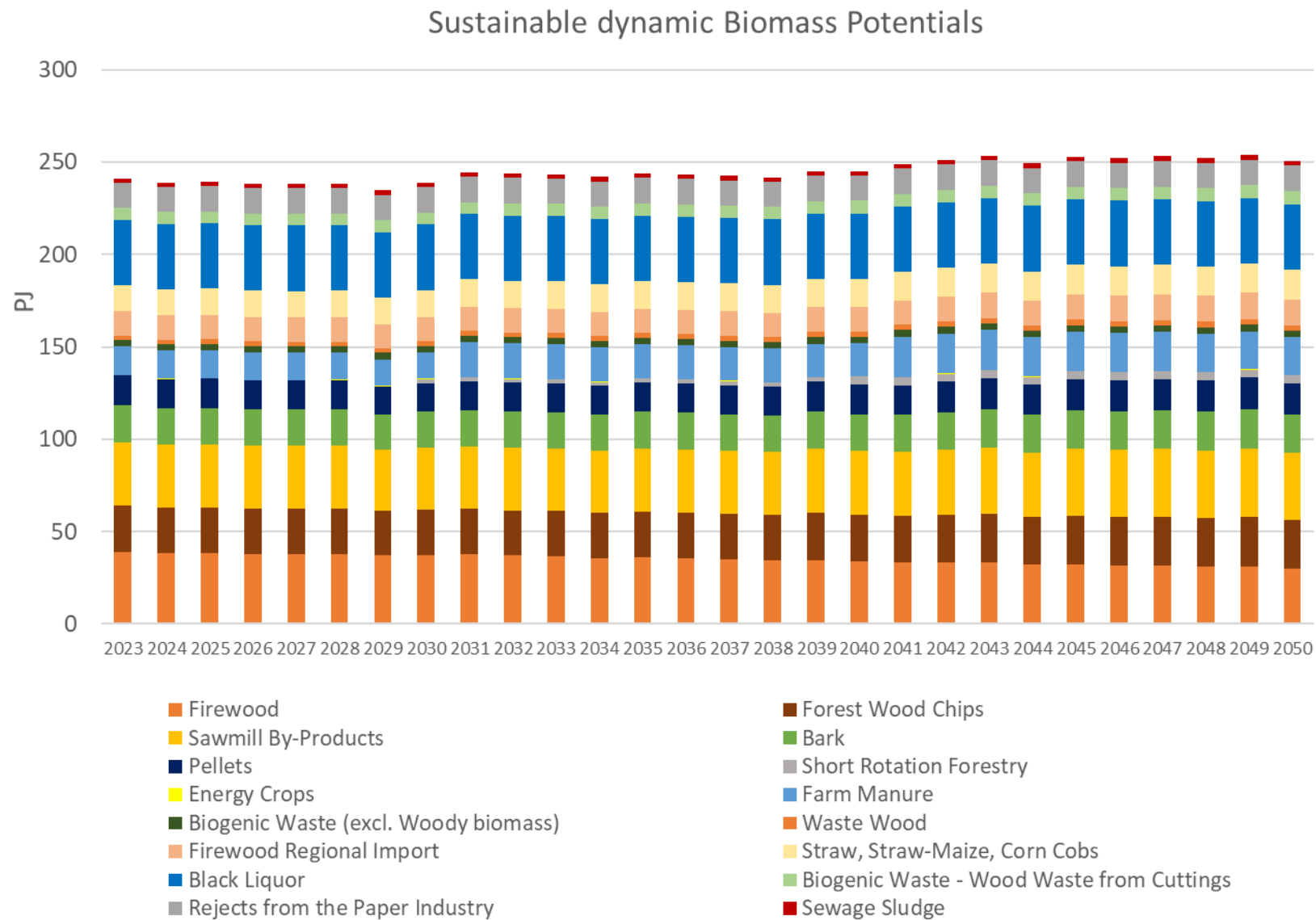




Comparison of total costs from wood chips vs natural gas/diesel 2050



Sustainable dynamic biomass potentials

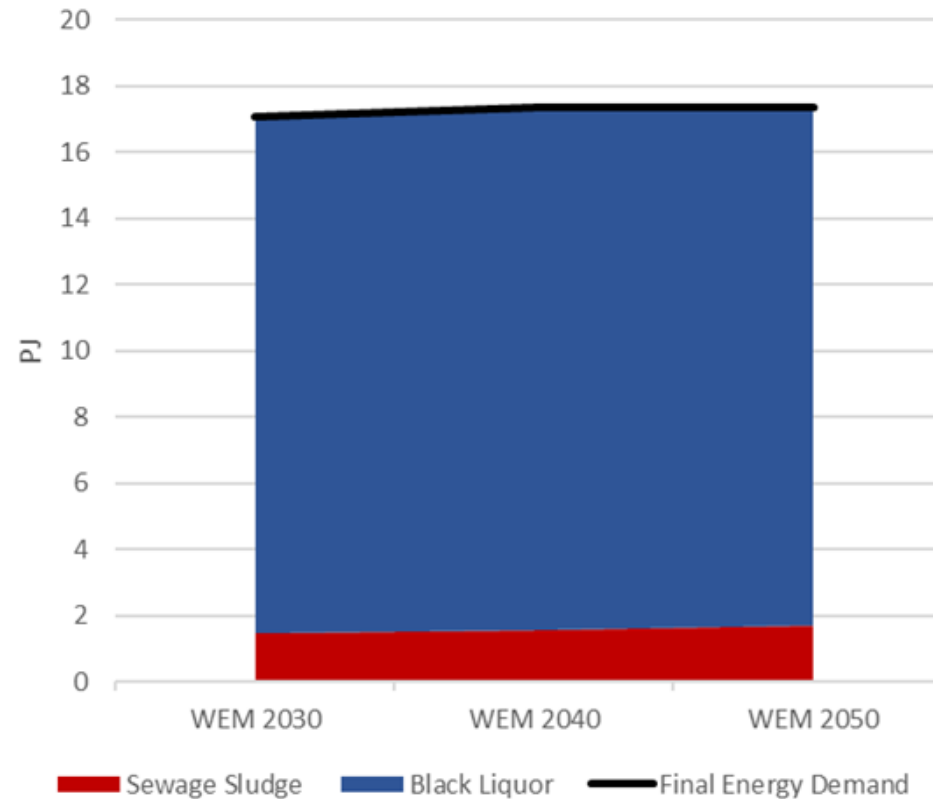


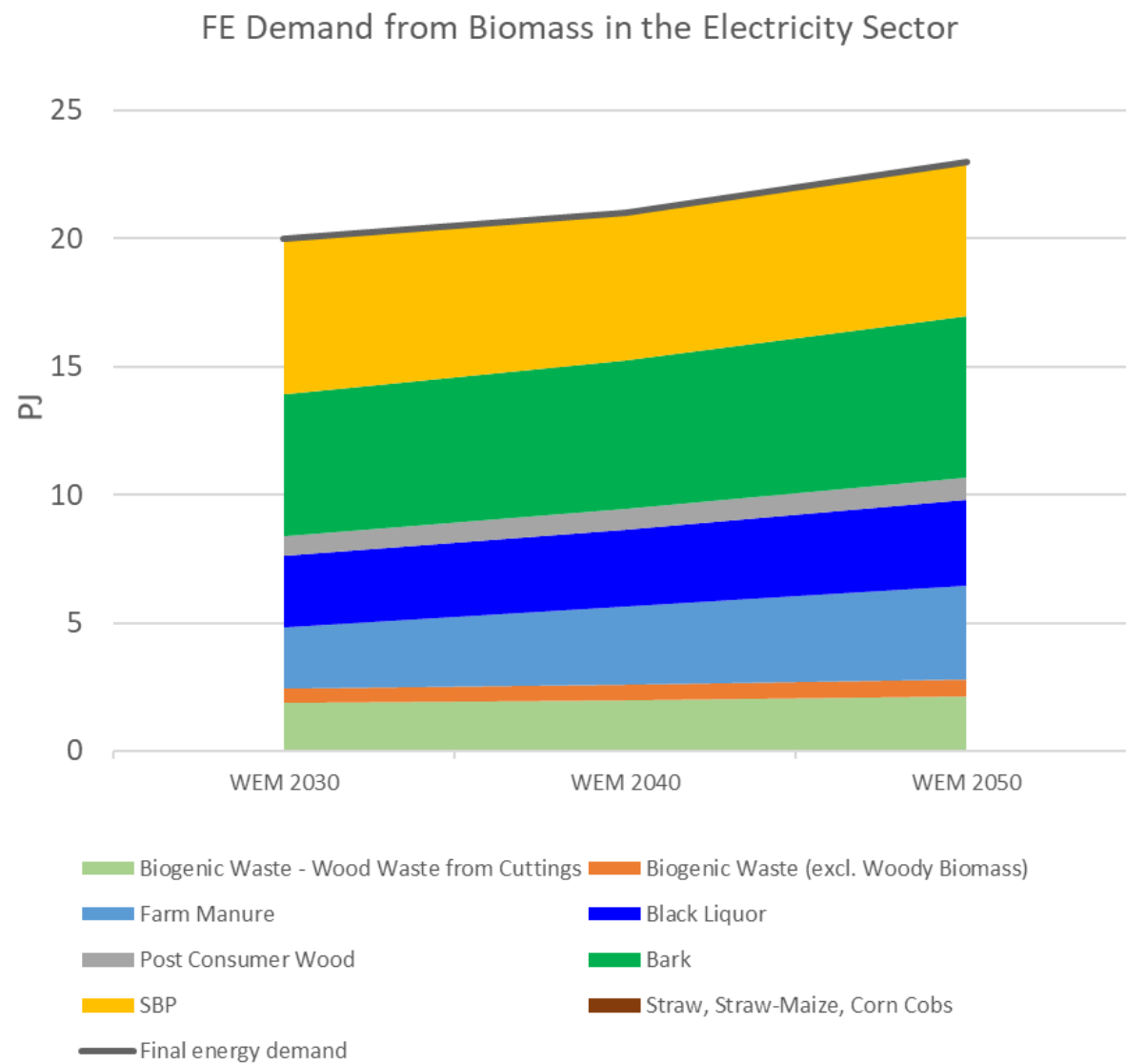
- Setting a prioritization order for the sectors
 - 1. Industry HT (28% of whole Industry sector)
 - 2. Electricity (CHP)
 - 3. District Heat
 - 4. Industry LT (remaining 72%)
 - Buildings
 - 6. Transport

PE Demand Coverage
in the HT Industry
Sector in 2023



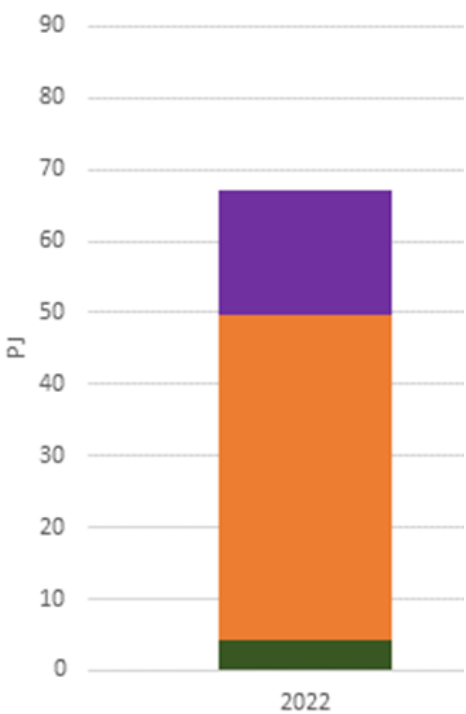
FE Demand Coverage in the HT Industry
Sector





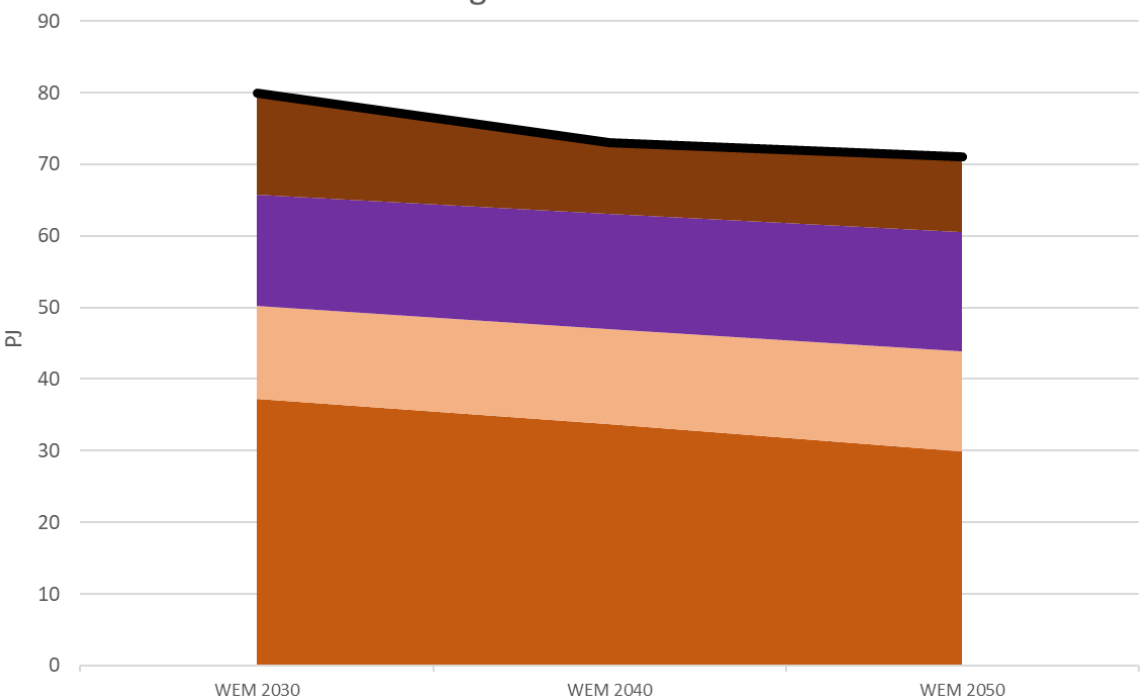
Residential heat biomass energy scenarios

FE Demand Coverage in
the Residential Heat
Sector in 2022



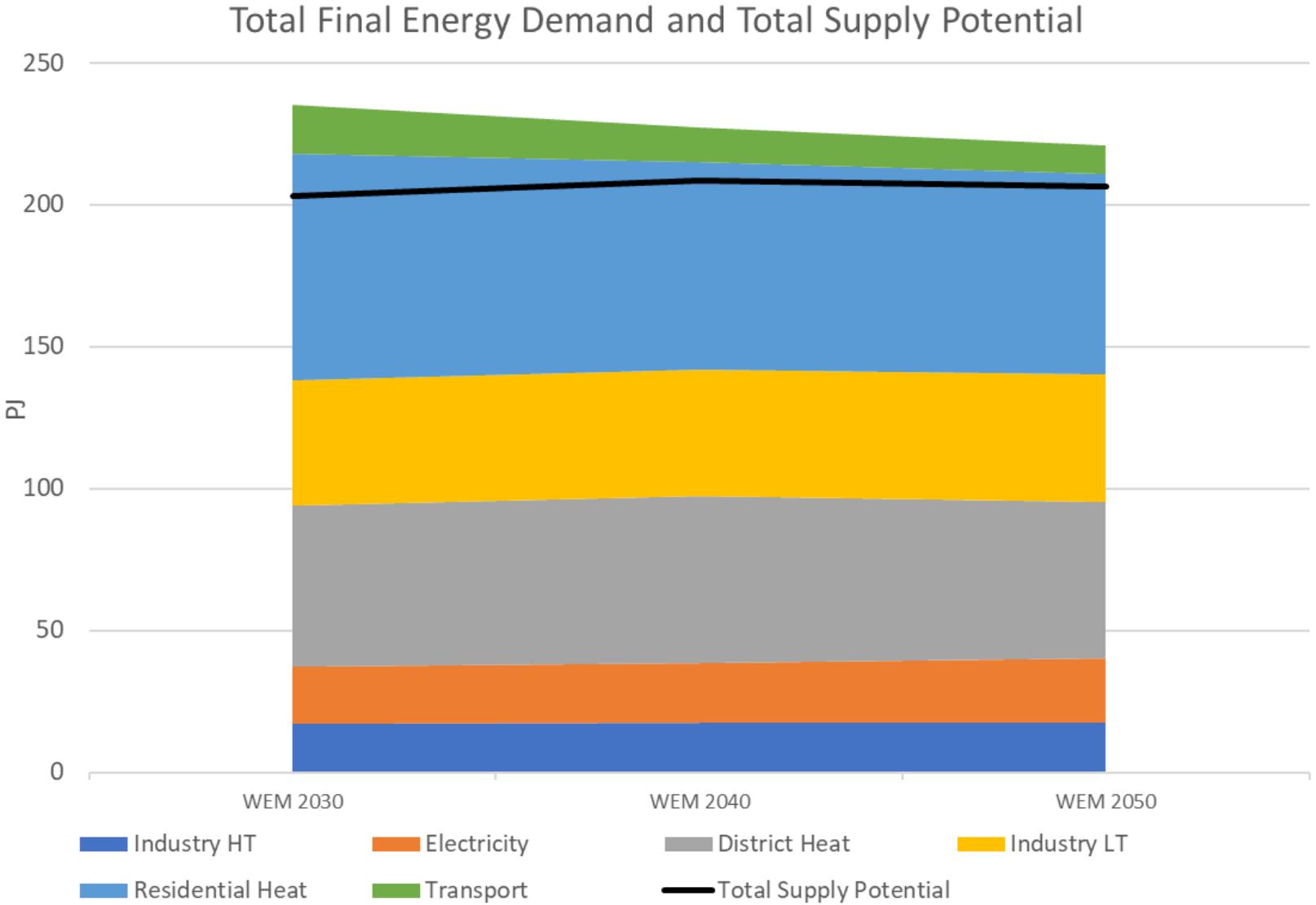
- Pellets (plants <1 MW)
- Firewood
- Briquettes

FE Demand Coverage in the Residential Heat Sector



- Firewood
- Firewood Regional Import
- Pellets
- Forest Wood Chips
- Final Energy Demand

Total biomass energy demand scenarios



Recommendations for **priority use** of biomass :

1. If there is a binding Zero carbon target in Austria then there is a priority set by policy for biomass (mainly based on black liqueur as cheapest) in the high temp industry
2. Next priority is for CHP electricity to cover demand in winter time (mainly from Saw by-products and bark)
3. In the local district heating sector (Nahwärme) biomass will be used mainly as currently (without regulation) from forest wood chips
4. The biomass left will be used in a B-Up approach competitively in the following sectors: new DH, boiler, low temp industry
5. Transport sector: What will change for biofuels? 1st gen biofuels up to 2040 → no need for FT diesel from biomass

Results and Conclusions

1. Heat economic preferable

Cost differences between biomass heat and natural gas will increase in future (in favour of biomass)

2. Electricity generation from wood chips in CHP

Almost competitive, some subsidies necessary

3. Electr generation w/o heat use

Not at all recommended, Only in extreme situations

4. SNG for Electricity generation

Not at all recommended, too expensive and inefficient

5. SNG for industry high-temp heat

Recommended, maybe to be subsidized