Energy challenges for ZE public bus transport in the eastern provinces





CleanMobilEnergy Conference Almere June 5th, 2019 Remco Hoogma, Erik van der Staak Advisors to OV Oost

- 3 Eastern provinces working together as OV Oost
 - 3 concession areas for buses and regional trains
- Aim
 - all public transport vehicles zero emissions (ZE) in 2030/(new purchases ZE from 2025) & on 100% renewable energy
 - while maintaining the current public transport service level

Ongoing procurement for IJssel-Vecht concession

- requirement for ZE buses in towns of Apeldoorn, Zwolle and Lelystad from day 1 (period Dec. 2020-Dec. 2030)/
- supportive measures in the government tender and the award model:
 - reference TCO modelled to validate feasibility of commercial timetable with OC stations and e-buses
 - substantially more award points for additional ZE buses in other towns and on regional lines
 - EUR 11.5 mio grant to speed up realization of energy infrastructure for OC
 - redeployment guarantees for vehicles and charging infrastructure (15 years)
 - Budget for ZE innovations (for the β concession areas)
- Indicative: 250 buses

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Policy for sustainable bus transport

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Energy challenges (1)

Getting enough renewable energy, preferably local

- Netherlands: 5,000 PT e-buses @ 80,000 km/a @ 1.25 kWh/km energy consumption need 500 GWh electricity
- this requires 32 3MW wind turbines that produce 65% of the time, or 333,000 roofs covered with PV panels (10m² each with 150 kWh/ m²/a yield)
- IJssel-Vecht: ~250 buses \rightarrow ~5 MW windpower or 16.650 roofs

No staggering numbers, but how to get it to the chargers?

- usually: purchase Certificates of Origin from somewhere
- ambition: start dedicated local/regional production for ZE buses
- question: how local should it be? Really local is difficult for lack of space and competing demands

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Energy challenges (2)

Getting the right charging facilities ready in time

- who is in charge: bus operator (as was)? Provinces? Third party?
- bus operator can start after contracting, leaving just ±15 months
- provinces can start earlier but (in the Netherlands) this is not their core business; Dutch PTA's are reluctant to develop (transport) themselves
- third parties (infra providers, energy companies, ...) are interested but it is difficult to involve them under PT concession conditions; however a new value chain is developing with possible new roles

Approach taken

- province started preparations for OC (site studies, aligning with grid operators and municipalities, getting quotes, start permitting, etc.)
- operator gets grant for OC realization (site works, chargers, poles), is required to use the facilities that are prepared, and takes over the realization works after contracting
- no support for depot charging as operators can arrange that themselves; hydrogen via JIVE2

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Energy challenges (3)

Dealing with electric grid congestion and lead times

- grid operators warn for grid congestion: (too) many users and/or suppliers on one sub-station (e.g. countryside solar plants)
- usually not actual congestion (electron flows) but administrative congestion (contracted capacities)
- connecting (many) OC or depot chargers in one site is not always possible without grid reinforcements → long lead times for works (a.m. due to shortage of qualified staff) and expensive (with "hidden" societal costs)

PTA and Energy providers both have a societal obligation

so need to work together to improve output and reduce (societal) costs

Need for alternative solutions

combining energy buffering and smart energy management





Pilot Apeldoorn

Status: being prepared for start of IJssel-Vecht as an initiative under the newly formed ZE transport innovation fund Gelderland by local firm Hedgehog Applications and partners



Energy challenges (3b)

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- An alternative bus charging technology that avoids power spikes to the grid is in-motion charging
 - catenaries receive power from substations connected to regular electric grid; power supply is quite evenly distributed
 - Arnhem trolley fleet comprises ±40 articulated buses (18m)
 - next step is battery-trolleybus a.k.a. Trolley 2.0
 - Arnhem retrofitted two trolleybuses with battery packs for testdriving: distances of >25 km can be covered on battery power before recharging "under wire"



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7



Questions?

