

Rijswijk Centre for Sustainable Geo-energy



Ministerie van Economische Zaken
en Klimaat



provincie HOLLAND
ZUID

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Rijswijk

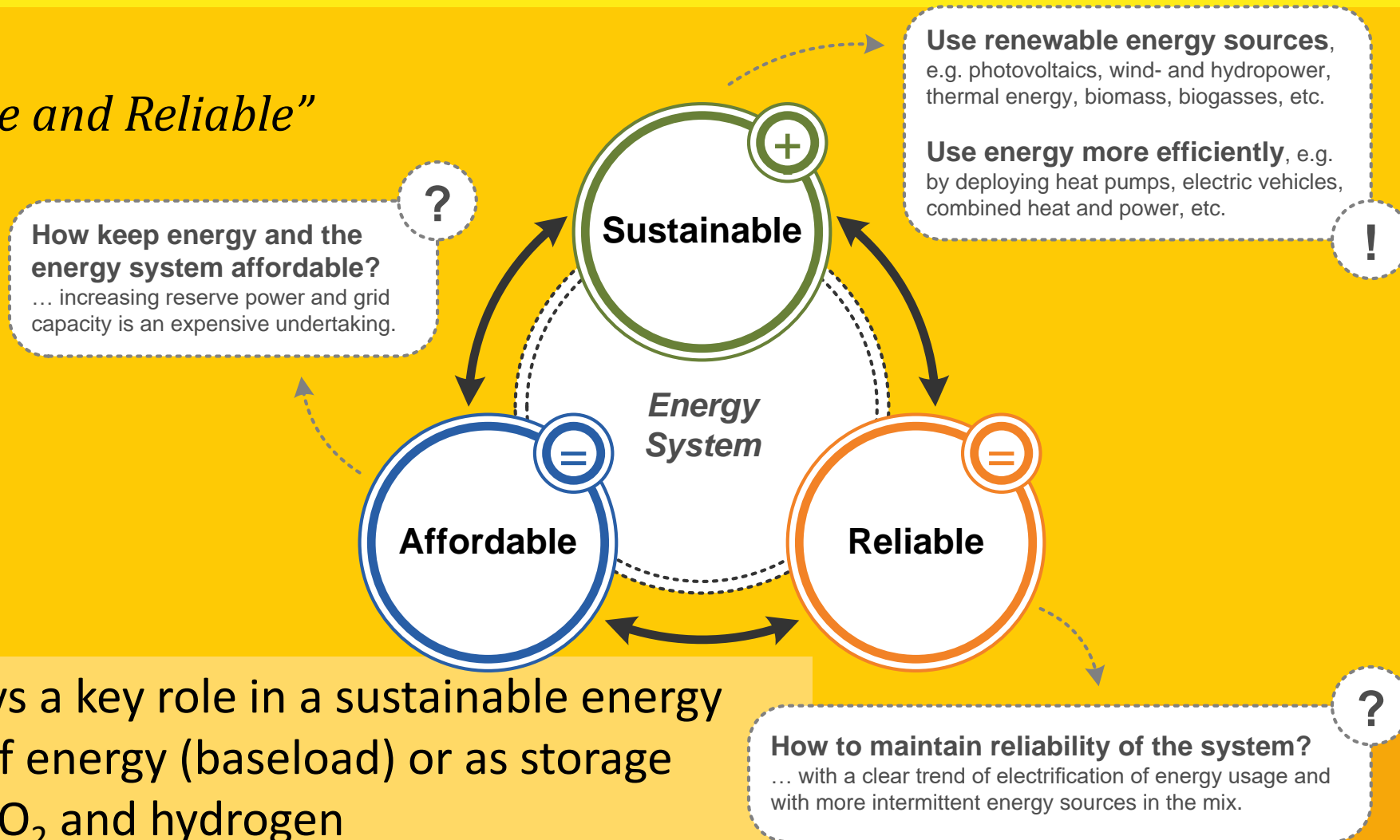
TNO innovation
for life

- RCSG is a high-end well technology laboratory with unique combination of world-class facilities for full-scale experimental research
- Open innovation centre enabling the energy transition by investigating geothermal energy, abandoning of existing wells, and subsurface storage of energy(carriers) or CO₂:
 - new drilling techniques
 - cementing end plugging of wells
 - flow and transport of cuttings and fines
 - etc.
- Delivering innovations for safe, reliable and cost-effective well operations



The transition from fossil fuels towards sustainable energy sources needs to be accelerated - Paris Agreement & EU Green Deal

“Keeping it Affordable and Reliable”



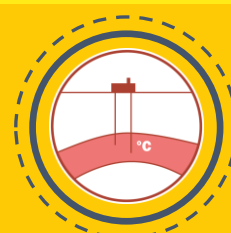
The subsurface plays a key role in a sustainable energy system, as source of energy (baseload) or as storage medium for heat, CO₂ and hydrogen

Leading in Lowland Geology, applied 3D-modelling, Fluid dynamics, and Data management



GEO-RISKS

Seismic hazard and risk assessment
Abandonment and long-term effects
Risk toolbox



ENERGY TRANSITION

CO₂ transport & storage
Geothermal energy
Energy storage assessments
System integration
Environmental footprint of hydrocarbon production



GROUNDWATER

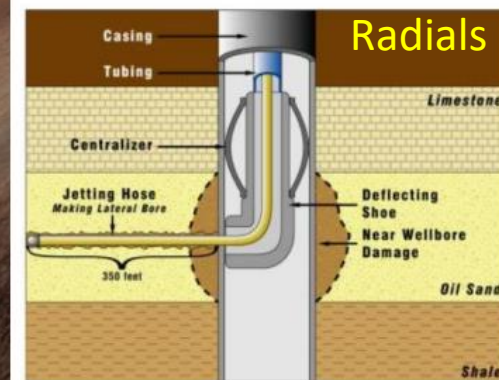
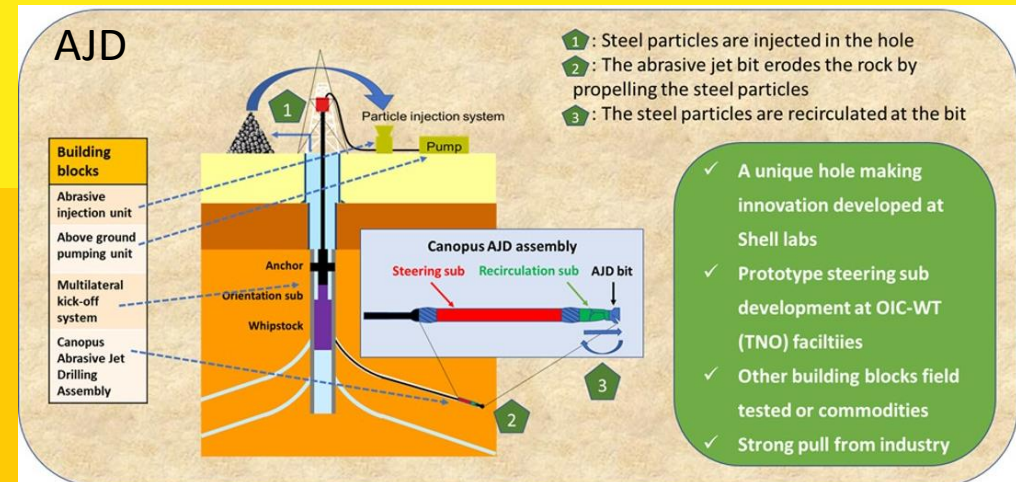
Hydrogeological modelling
Groundwater quantity trends
Groundwater quality & emerging pollutants



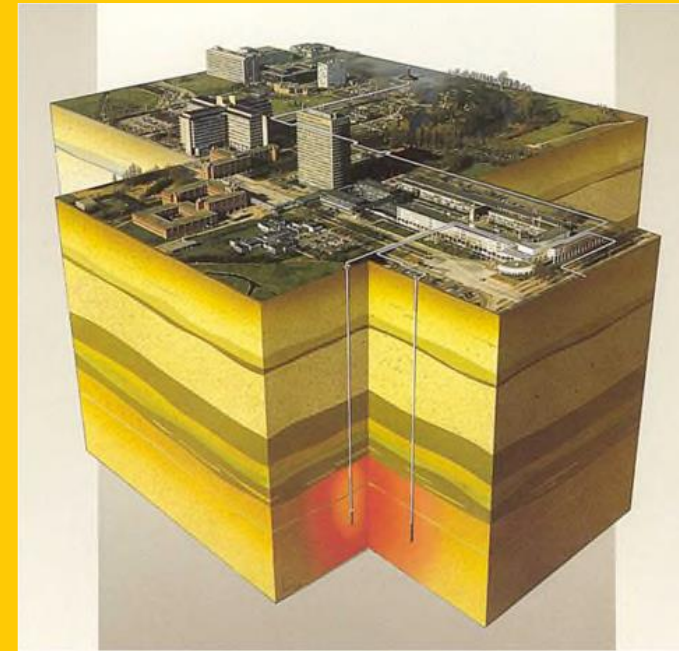
RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY

Demonstration and development of new drilling technologies

- Horizontal drilling considered key to increase power for geothermal sites: limiting surface impact of operations
- Several technologies are currently investigated
 - Horizontals through abrasive jet drilling
 - Multilaterals through ECI-RSS
 - Radial Drilling
- Several experimental set-ups used
 - Rig & test well
 - Cutting flow loop
 - 50T drilling unit



- Storage of thermal energy in the subsurface is an economically competitive option compared to other storage options
 - inject hot water (70-90°C, and up to 125°C) into aquifers during summer, produce hot water from aquifers in winter.
- Similar concept for WKO proven and fully mature in the Netherlands
 - Some projects with storage > 40°C have been executed in the Netherlands, e.g. in De Uithof (Utrecht Science Park)
- However, the number and scale of possible projects is rapidly increasing, driven by the energy transition targets (for 2030 and 2050), with involvement of major players and stakeholders
- More knowledge development and demonstrations needed for safe, reliable, cost-effective and robust application on a large scale within an appropriate legal context



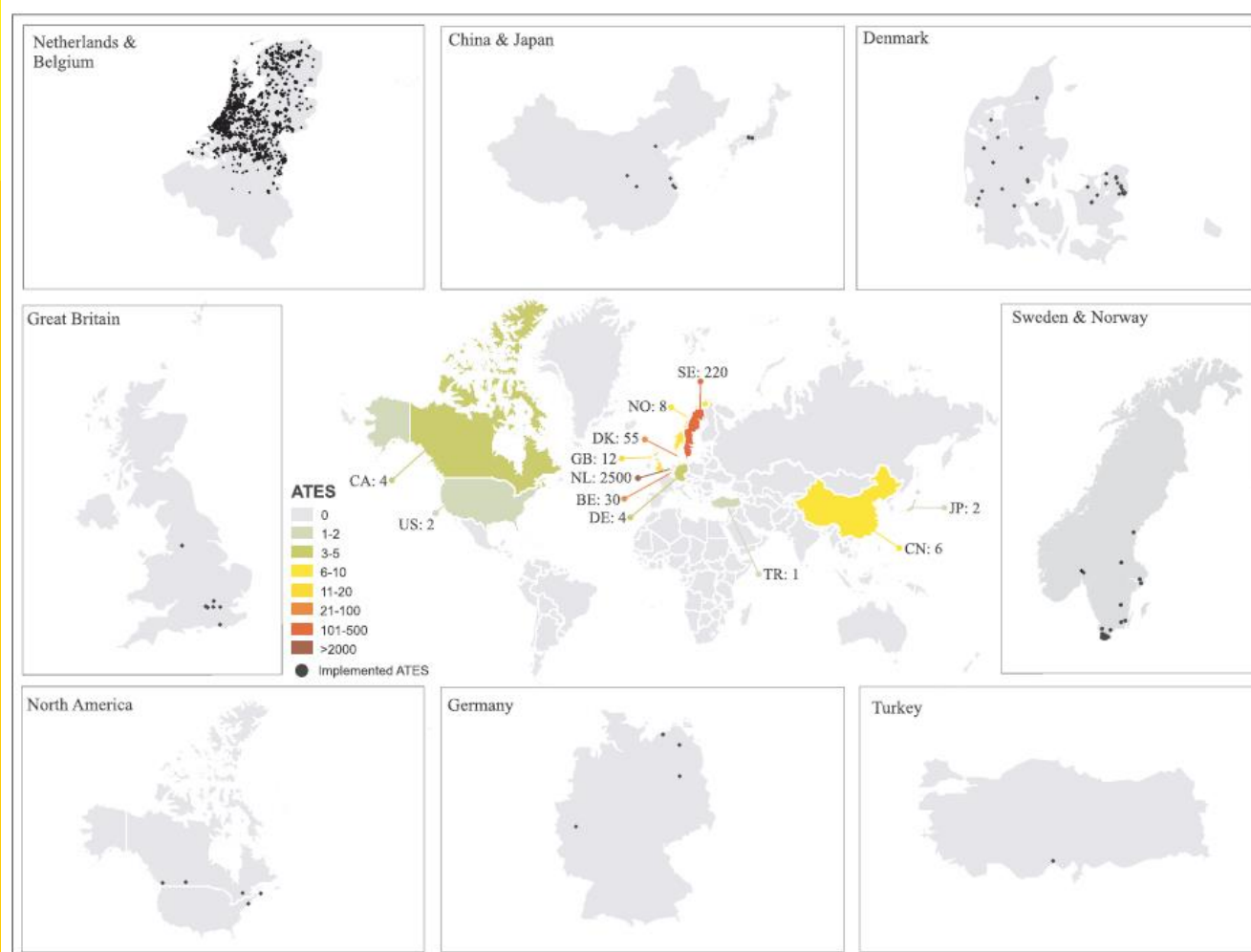


Fig. 5. Global spatial distribution of ATEs.

Fleuchaus et al. (2018)

Worldwide, there are currently more than 2800 ATEs (aquifer thermal energy storage) systems in operation, abstracting more than 2.5 TWh of heating and cooling per year.

99% are low-temperature systems (LT-ATES) with storage temperatures of < 25 °C.

85% of all systems are located in the Netherlands, and a further 10% are found in Sweden, Denmark, and Belgium.

➤ Example project: experimentally validated numerical studies



A study on the hydraulic aperture of microannuli at the casing-cement interface using a large-scale laboratory setup

Al Moghadam*, Koen Castelein, Jan ter Heege, Bogdan Orlic
TNO Energy Transition, The Netherlands

Experimental 

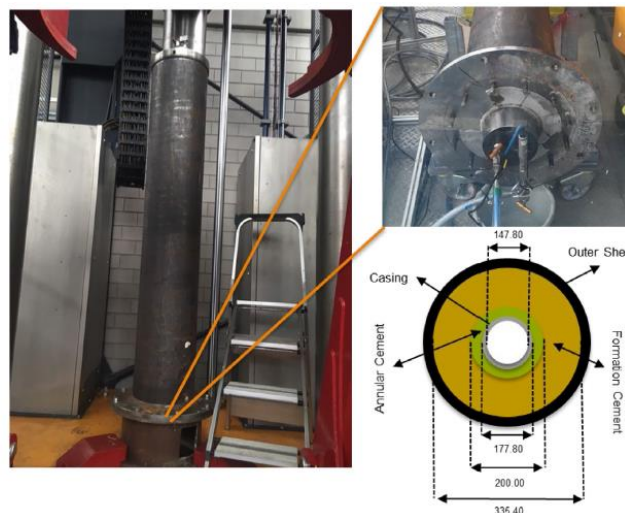


Fig. 1. A schematic of the samples in this study next to pictures of an actual sample. Green represents annular cement, and yellow indicates the formation analogue. The dimensions in the figure are in mm. The picture on the left shows the outer shell but presents the full length of the sample. The picture on the right shows the bottom face of the sample including the casing, annular cement, formation cement, and the outer shell.

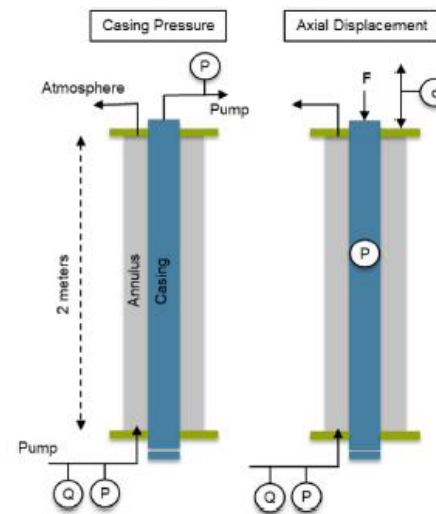


Fig. 2. A schematic of tests conducted in this work. "P" indicates pressure measurement, "Q" indicates flow rate, "F" indicates force, and "d" indicates displacement.

Numerical

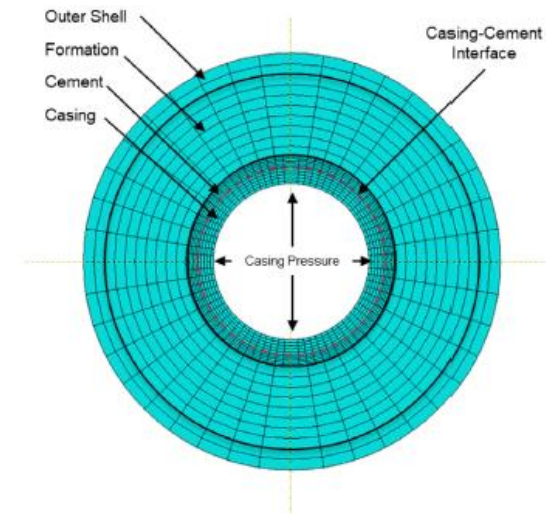
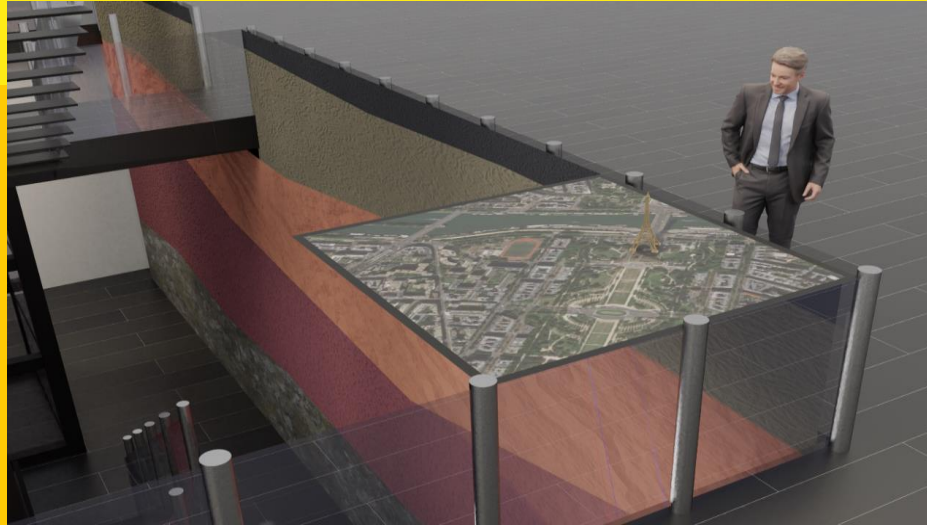


Fig. 3. The geometry of the finite element model.

Education centre



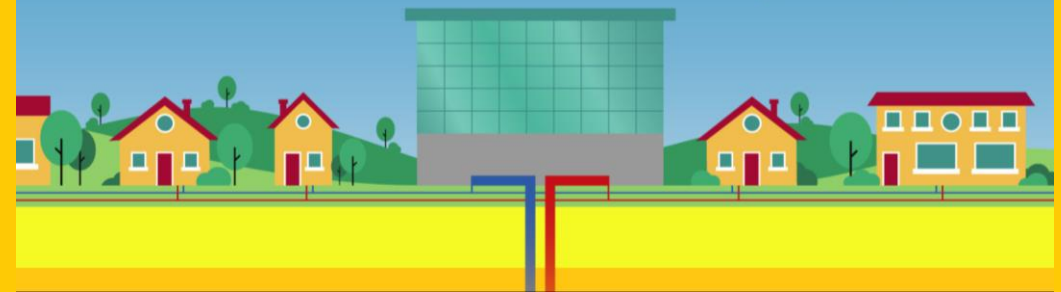
Scale models, technology, interactive exhibits



Official website: rcsg.nl

Well technology for a sustainable world

The Rijswijk Centre for Sustainable Geo-energy (RCSG) is a unique open innovation lab for improving geo-energy technologies to accelerate the energy transition. There is a particular focus on geothermal energy, an increasingly important renewable energy source, and subsurface storage of heat, hydrogen and CO₂. The facilities are available for full-scale testing and demonstration of new drilling techniques, flow, and materials under high pressure and temperature.



Our core qualities and expertise



Knowledge

RCSG is operated by TNO, the largest independent R&D organization of the Netherlands. A dedicated and experienced well technology team is in charge of setting-up and execution the experiments.



Facilities

RCSG has a unique collection of state-of-the-art facilities for various well technology tests at full-scale and at downhole conditions.



Innovation

RCSG cooperates with multiple partners from industry and academia to develop and mature well technology innovations before application in the field.



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› **THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME**

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