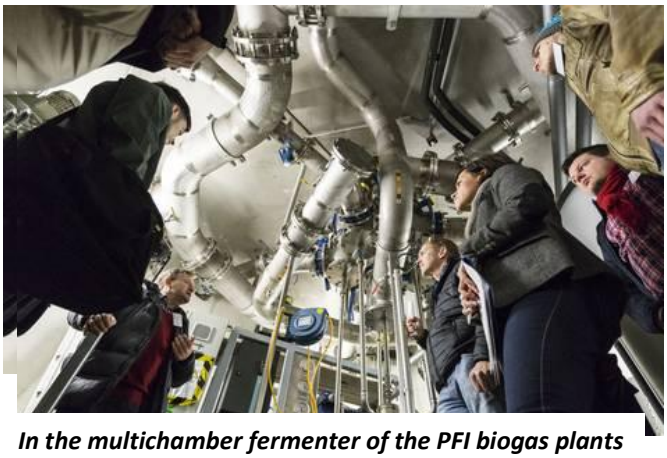
Spotlight on Power-to-Gas

Development of innovative concepts for the sustainable production of biobased materials of value and for the generation and storage of bioenergy are key research topics at PFI Biotechnology. In this work, the main interest of the scientists and engineers at PFI is constantly focussed on the transferability of research results from the laboratory into everyday practice. A prime example is PFI's Power-to-Gas (P2G) demonstration plant at Pirmasens-Winzeln Energy Park. The successful set-up of Germany's largest unit for biological methanation is attracting ever more attention on the part of the specialist press and experts from science, politics, and business.

The 01/2017 issue of Biogas Journal featured an extensive article about technological developments at PFI Biotechnology. Both the research activities at PFI's engineering laboratories and the commissioning of the demonstration plant at Winzeln are described at length. Biogas Journal, published by the German Biogas Association (Fachverband Biogas), is the leading professional magazine for the bioenergy sector in the German-speaking world.

ENTSORGA-Magazin has also addressed this topic and reported on developments at PFI in its 04/2017 issue. ENTSORGA-Magazin is a specialist journal for the entire field of municipal and industrial environmental protection. This article testifies to the increasing interest in Power-to-Gas technology among persons active in the areas of waste management and waste water treatment.

On 23 March, during the Smart-Grids-Woche 2017 organised by the Rhineland-Palatinate Energy Agency (Energieagentur Rheinland-Pfalz), experts from business and science had an opportunity to visit PFI to gather information for themselves about the state of developments. There Dr. Stefan Dröge, Head of the Biotechnology and Microbiology Department, explained the underlying science of P2G technology and reported on current research.



In the multichamber fermenter of the PFI biogas plants
Photo: Energieagentur / Sonja Schwarz

Benjamin Pacan, Head of the Research Plant Department at PFI, then conducted the interested specialists on a tour through Pirmasens-Winzeln Energy Park and explained the technical concept and the mode of operation of the high-performance reactors for the biosynthesis of methane.
PFI Biotechnology sees the enormous interest of experts in developments at PFI in the field of P2G and biological methanation as both confirmation and motivation to drive developments forward and soon to offer market-ready solutions for this important component of the energy turnaround.

Further information

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