

How does a gas storage facility work?

When gas arrives at a storage facility via a pipeline network it first enters a metering station where it is filtered, and the quantity and quality are measured. Injection to and withdrawal from the reservoir take place via a number of wells. Where necessary, compressors bring the incoming gas (working gas) up to the right injection pressure. Since compression raises the temperature, the gas must then be cooled before being conveyed to the wellhead and injected into the natural

rock formations. Care must be taken not to exceed the original reservoir pressure. Working gas is injected and withdrawn as required. This cuts operating costs and helps maintain high environmental standards. Whenever the gas is withdrawn it must be reprocessed. It must be dried as it will have absorbed moisture in the reservoir. Once it is on-specification it enters the grid and is transported to the consumer.

01	Public grid	07	Porous sandstone reservoir
02	Metering station	80	Working/cushion gas
03	Compressor station	09	Preheater
04	Cooling unit	10	Pressure reduction station
05	Wellhead	11	Drying units
06	Well	12	Control room and stores

Conserving resources and the environment

Husbanding natural resources and good environmental stewardship play a vital role in gas storage, and all the processes at storage facilities operated by RAG are carefully designed for maximum environmental soundness. Minimising energy use and emissions, utilising waste prevention technology, and employing new technology to monitor and test the plant and pipelines are particularly vital. This is ensured by internal controls and an energy management system certified according to the ÖNORM EN ISO 50001:2018 standard.