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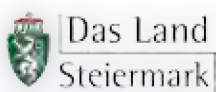
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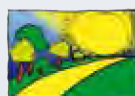
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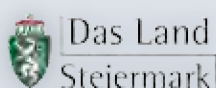
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Innovative technique to monitor the removal of siloxane with sorbent materials: biochar and activated carbons

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For the future energy prospective, renewable fuels exploitation coupled to highly reliable and efficient local generator systems appear as a promising solution. SOFC energy generator couples the highly efficiency with the renewable fuel exploitation with residential power sizes, well distributed in a local territory. These generators are based on nickel anode structure with solid oxide materials. Nickel suffers the trace compounds poisoning derived especially from the sulphur, silica and chlorine compounds. These trace compounds are detectable in renewable fuels such as biogas produced from the anaerobic digestion of organic waste or from waste water sludge. Siloxanes due to their strong and irreversible behavior on SOFC performance, already at ppbv level, requires to be deeply removed. Siloxanes at ppbv level and in the anode environment can produce silica oxides that strongly limit the energy performance blocking the three phase boundary. In this work the sorbent removal performance of commercial activated carbons and wastes of gasification and pyrogasification processes are investigated. PTR-ToF-MS was adopted as innovative and reliable technique to monitor the removal performance of sorbent materials. D4 was adopted as model compound for siloxanes. To best simulate the removal performance in an industrial SOFC energy site, two different GHSV levels were considered in order to investigate the effect of the gas velocity on the sorbent removal performance. Two different materials were selected: a commercial activated carbon and a biochar. Interesting results were achieved to feed a SOFC generator continuously.