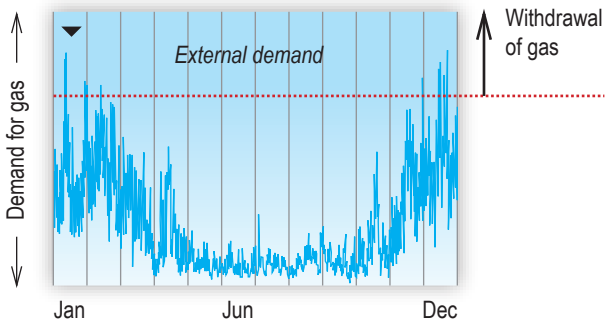
Zuidwending natural gas buffer

One of the characteristics of the gas market is that there is an imbalance between supply and demand. To be able to respond adequately to an increase in gas demand, flexible gas storage is necessary. Gas is being stored in caverns in salt layers.

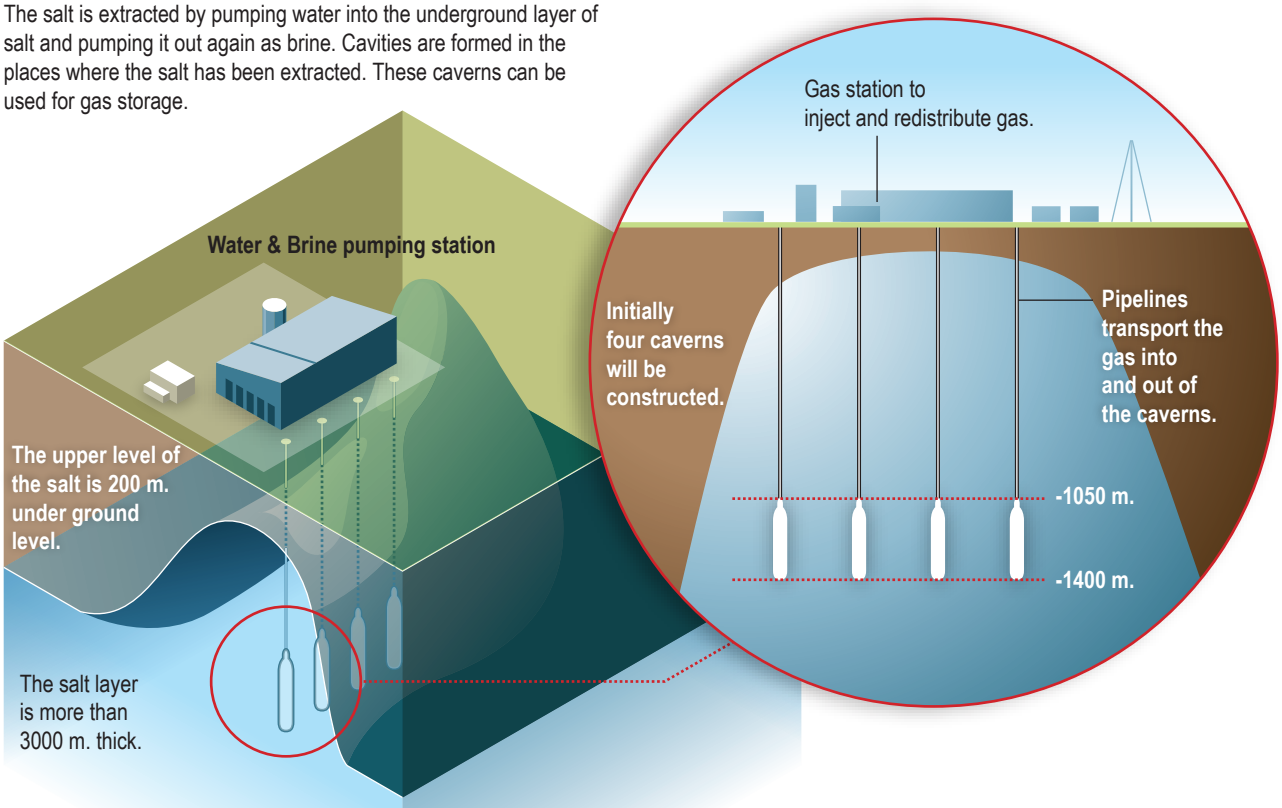
Demand for gas increases in winter.



Preparation of caverns

The salt is extracted by pumping water into the underground layer of salt and pumping it out again as brine. Cavities are formed in the places where the salt has been extracted. These caverns can be used for gas storage.

Use of the gas storage



Process of injecting the gas into the caverns and redistributing it

Injection

Gas is compressed to 180 bar and injected into the cavern.

Compressing the natural gas produces heat, so fans are used to cool it.

Redistribution

Gas withdrawn from the buffer is humid from residual brine and is processed up to the standard specifications in the natural gas grid.