

Job Description

Name of organisation unit: Technology Assessment Group (4501)

Line Manager: Peter Burgherr

Thesis advisor: Prof. Dr Russell McKenna, ETHZ

Supervisor: Christopher Mutel

Function: PhD Student

Position holder: Michael Weinold (1995)

Main tasks:

- PhD thesis in research projects "Web of Interoperable Digital Services for Knowledge on Decarbonisation Pathways" (WISER) and "Sustainability at the heart of a resilient Swiss energy system" (SURE)
- Develop a toolbox of innovative methods to process novel data sources, perform automated quality assurance, harmonize nomenclatures and ontologies, and conduct innovative temporal- and site-dependent prospective life cycle assessment
- Analysis of their future role within the Swiss (and European) energy system and economy in the context of "net-zero" carbon dioxide emissions
- Case studies on Swiss cities and international firms, and Swiss energy and household consumption pathways
- Support teaching activities generally at the institution of the thesis advisor and/or perform specific maintenance tasks, decided on a case-by-case basis

Individual related tasks:

 Development of the Brightway life cycle assessment framework and associated libraries to support novel open sustainability assessment

Education/skills:

- Master degree in natural science, computer science, or engineering
- Good knowledge of English
- Experience in open software development
- Basic knowledge of Python
- Intrinsic motivation to improve state of open sustainability assessment
- Communication skills to work well in a small team.

Specifics/special working conditions:

Ability to work in a diverse and flexible academic environment

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