

Green Finance Framework

Wiener Stadtwerke GmbH's framework for green financing March 2023



Convenience Translation



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1. Wiener Stadtwerke

Business model

The **Wiener Stadtwerke Group** is a modern infrastructure service provider, and the largest energy supplier and service provider, in Vienna and the surrounding area. It is also one of Austria's largest conglomerates and employers, giving it a high economic significance. Its economic activities include the areas of energy, networks, transport, funerals and cemeteries, and garages. The energy and network divisions involve the production, distribution, and network operation sectors, ensuring a reliable supply of electricity, gas, heating, and cooling. Wiener Stadtwerke's services also include the public transport sector: local public transport (Wiener Linien and Wiener Lokal-bahnen), funeral and cemetery services, and garages (Wipark). These reliable services contribute significantly to Vienna's high quality of life, which is attested by numerous studies. The companies of the Wiener Stadtwerke Group must compete in an environment that is mostly liberalized, but is also regulated. For example, while the sales markets of Wien Energie GmbH and its subsidiary Wien Energie Vertrieb GmbH & Co KG are fully subject to market competition, the tariffs for the electricity and gas networks of Wiener Netze are set by the state regulator Energie-Control Austria (ECA).

Energy

Wien Energie GmbH is Austria's largest regional energy provider, supplying electricity, natural gas, heat, district cooling, and innovative energy services to more than two million people, around 230,000 commercial facilities, industrial plants, and public buildings, and around 4,500 farms in Vienna, Lower Austria, and Burgenland. Wien Energie produces electricity and heat from thermal waste treatment, highly efficient combined heat and power (CHP) plants, and renewable energy sources. Wien Energie also operates in the telecommunications sector and provides other energy and infrastructure services. Wien Energie is the essential implementer to make the energy supply for Vienna and the surrounding area climate neutral by 2040.

Networks

Wiener Netze GmbH is Austria's largest combined network operator. It operates the distribution network for electricity, gas, district heating, and telecommunications and ensures the secure transportation of energy – 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. With 99.99% supply reliability, the company is one of the most secure in the world. Thanks to Wiener Netze and its 2,400 employees, 2.1 million customers in Vienna and the surrounding area can use energy around the clock. Wiener Netze's most important duties include securely supplying energy to households and companies. The company is responsible for network strategy and network planning, as well as for organizing the conversion to smart metering in Vienna and the surrounding area. With sustainable measures and innovative ideas, Wiener Netze GmbH will continue to expand its leading role in energy supply in the future, in particular its role as a decisive supporter of the energy transition.

Transport

Wiener Linien GmbH & Co KG is the leading mobility service provider in Vienna and acts as a direct contact for the City of Vienna in matters relating to local public transport. Wiener Linien makes a strong contribution to environmental protection in the City of Vienna. In addition to operating subway, streetcar, and bus lines, it performs all traffic management tasks, such as operating time and interval planning, line and stop planning for all modes of transport, marketing and sales, and operational control. The WienMobil stations of Wiener Linien incorporate a wide range of services and sharing offers into the concept of public transport, such as: bike sharing, scooter sharing, moped sharing, car sharing, bicycle service stations, e-charging stations, and cargo bikes. **Wiener Lokalbahnen GmbH** is the operator of the Badner Bahn, a fully electric rail-road line connecting the city centers of Vienna and Baden. The Badner Bahn is integrated into a



regional transport association (Verkehrsverbund Ost-Region (VOR)) and operates one of the most important commuter connections in the southern region of Vienna. Wiener Lokalbahnen Cargo GmbH (WLC), a subsidiary of Wiener Lokalbahnen, organizes block train services in combined freight transport across Europe.

Funeral and cemeteries

Founded in 1907, **Bestattung Wien GmbH** is the largest provider of funeral services in Austria and is one of the largest in Europe. **Friedhöfe Wien GmbH** manages more than 550,000 graves in 46 Vienna cemeteries. In addition, Friedhöfe Wien GmbH maintains roads and paths, green spaces and trees, funeral halls and churches, memorials and cemetery crosses, and historic buildings and cultural monuments.

Garages

Wipark Garagen GmbH is both the oldest and the largest garage operator in Vienna. It builds underground garages, parking garages, and open-air parking lots, and currently operates 80 locations with approx. 24,000 parking spaces.

Wien IT

WienIT was founded in 2003 as a 100% subsidiary of Wiener Stadtwerke GmbH. As a central IT & Business Partner, it supports the Wiener Stadtwerke Group in all group-wide matters: from IT projects to (technical) personnel processes to print jobs.



2. Sustainability Strategy

The Wiener Stadtwerke Group is a key economic player in the Vienna metropolitan region. The company makes a significant contribution to Vienna's economic development and secures the area's globally recognized high quality of life.



Sustainability Management of the Wiener Stadtwerke Group

As a diversified group of companies, Wiener Stadtwerke sometimes faces very demanding legal and economic conditions. For this reason, Wiener Stadtwerke GmbH manages the Group companies by using individually coordinated requirements and key figures. To meet these requirements, the strategy of the Wiener Stadtwerke Group includes sustainably securing a stable financial basis and the support of the City of Vienna on its way to becoming a Smart City as central objectives. This is intended both to create the basis for necessary future investments in its energy, network, mobility, IT, garaging, and funeral and cemetery sectors, and to make a significant contribution to making the high quality of life in Vienna even better. Sustainability management has been functionally and organizationally anchored in the Group since 2004. In 2017, Wiener Stadtwerke also merged sustainability management with innovation management at the Group management level and within many Group companies. In organizational terms, Group-wide strategic innovation and sustainability management is assigned to the department of the General Director. At the Group level, the Innovation Management department acts as a coordinating body, source of impetus, and hub for the smooth exchange of information on smart city, innovation, sustainability, trend scouting, and idea management. The Group companies are responsible for concretely designing measures to achieve Group-wide



sustainability targets. To this end, sustainability managers with operational responsibility have been installed in the individual companies, who in turn work closely with the Group management. Specifically, Wiener Stadtwerke is implementing numerous measures for infrastructure development, climate protection, and more innovation in furtherance of the City of Vienna's Smart City strategy. The companies of Wiener Stadtwerke work together to try to be the best overall provider of infrastructure services in Vienna. This role as a central point of contact is being expanded by increasing cooperation and synergy within the Group, optimizing internal processes and efficiency, and anchoring performance goals as part of the corporate and management culture. To limit the rise in average global temperature to 1.5°C by 2100, fundamental emission reductions are needed across all economic sectors, from transport and agriculture to facilities, waste, and energy. Wiener Stadtwerke is part of the solution and is taking appropriate action. The goal is to be climate-neutral by 2040.

The research, innovation, and sustainability projects of the Wiener Stadtwerke Group have specific Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets. They focus on sustainable design and improving people's quality of life from a social and ecological perspective. They include "Industry, innovation and infrastructure" (SDG 9), "Sustainable cities and communities" (SDG 11), and "Affordable and clean energy" (SDG 7). Around one third of all brainstorming, research, innovation, and sustainability projects of the Wiener Stadtwerke Group are specifically dedicated to the topics of sustainability and decarbonisation, demonstrating the role of Wiener Stadtwerke as a driving force in the fight against climate change. This also applies to Wiener Stadtwerke's Climate Fund, which supports initiatives for environmental and climate protection.

Which SDGs are being served?

Ongoing research, innovation and sustainability projetcts, Group-wide



Wiener Stadtwerke has also been a member of the United Nations Global Compact since 2008 and is committed to its ten principles relating to labour standards, human rights, environmental protection, and anti-corruption. Compliance with the UN Global Compact is an important and integral part of the sustainability program.

WIENER TADTWERKE

3. Climate Investment



Wiener Stadtwerke is responding to the challenges of climate change with the largest investment program in its history. By 2026, Wiener Stadtwerke will invest a total of €6.2 billion in the areas of mobility and energy. Ninety-one percent of these investments, or €5.7 billion, will flow directly into projects for climate protection. In the area of mobility, all our investments in facilities and equipment will have a positive impact on the climate, and in the case of Wien Energie, this proportion will be 90% of future investments. In this way, our investments contribute to the attractiveness of our area and to a climate-neutral Vienna in 2040.

Gross investments (SAV + IAV) & climate-friendly investments 2022 – 2026 in EUR billions



• Wien Energie • Wien Linien • Wiener Netze • Wiener Lokalbahnen • WienIT • Übrige

91 % (

• WiPark • B&F



As Austria's largest regional energy service provider, Wien Energie has a special role to play in the climate turnaround. Wien Energie is providing significant support for the decarbonisation of Vienna by 2040 and is investing 1.3 billion euros in the transformation of the energy system by 2026 - a "climate billion" for Vienna. More than 300 million euros are reserved for the expansion of renewable electricity production. Among other things, Wien Energie is steadily expanding its position as Austria's largest solar power operator. As of 2022, the company has been operating over 300 solar power plants with a total capacity of over 80 megawatts. By 2030, Wien Energie aims to generate solar power with a capacity of 600 megawatts. This will be enough to supply the equivalent of 250,000 households with environmentally friendly solar energy. In addition, Wien Energie has been relying on wind power for renewable electricity generation for many years. In 2022, almost 15% of households will already be supplied with green electricity from wind turbines in Austria. In order to further drive the energy transition, Wien Energie is pushing ahead with the expansion of wind power and will double the number of its operating wind power plants in the coming years. District heating also plays a key role in decarbonizing the city. In 2040, 56% of Vienna's heating needs are to be met by district heating. In this context, Wien Energie is pursuing the clear goal of generating only 100% climate-neutral district heating by 2040. In less than ten years, the company aims to cover more than half of its heat generation from renewable sources. Wien Energie is investing around 600 million euros in the heating transition by 2026. Another 90 million euros will go into environmentally friendly cooling supply, 160 million euros into digitization, electromobility, and telecommunications, and 90 million euros into supply security. Overall, Wien Energie is pursuing an ambitious investment program for more climate protection in the city. The "climate billion by 2026" is intended to set key milestones for a CO2-neutral Vienna in 2040.

Wien Energie | Sustainability strategy sets clear priorities ...



An analysis was conducted to identify issues that are essential for Wien Energie.



Fundamentals

The 16 most important topics were assigned to three groups.





Future-oriented products and services Wien Energie uses the opportunities of sustainability to inspire customers with new future-oriented products and solutions (e.g. decentralized heating solutions,





Climate innovation and research Wien Energie sets new standards in climate innovation (e.g. Climate Lab) and research (e.g. Waste2Value) to realize a

electromobility, district cooling) and to be

economically successful.

decarbonized city.

8



... and ambitious climate targets



Greenhouse emissions per scope (in million metric tons CO₂)

Core objectives of the sustainability strategy

- The greenhouse balances for 2019 and 2020 provide a comprehensive picture of Wien Energie emissions along the entire value chain (Scopes 1–3).
- Reduction paths were drawn up and targets defined on the basis of the greenhouse gas balance.
- Wien Energie achieves net zero emissions in 2040 and defines an ambitious interim target in 2030 of 33% compared to 2019.

Austria has set the goal of covering its electricity consumption from renewable energies (solar, wind, and hydropower) by 2030. Wiener Netze is making this energy transition possible in Vienna and the surrounding area: To ensure that the high supply security of 99.99% is also guaranteed in the future, the electricity grid is being digitized. Important investments in the power grid of the future include investments in intelligent transformer stations, speed cameras on overhead lines, and smart meters. The efforts of the City of Vienna to reduce net CO2 emissions in Vienna to zero by 2040 and the increased electrification of the energy system associated with decarbonisation are significantly increasing the demands on the power grid. Because a lot more electricity will be used in the future (e.g., for heat pumps and electromobility), investments in the power grid and switchgear in particular are crucial and an indispensable prerequisite for the energy transition. Smart meters can provide customers with incentives to save electricity by transmitting their electricity consumption digitally in real time, thus protecting the climate. Smart meters are also a prerequisite for the design of ecological electricity tariffs (e.g., incentives for the use of nighttime electricity) and for the formation or billing of energy communities (e.g., joint benefits for the use of PV systems). In order to meet the growing demand for electricity, the line network is being modernized and reinforced where necessary. The Simmering substation is being renewed and expanded. A new substation is being built near the Albern harbour, and in 2022 ground was broken for the revitalization of the West substation. Wiener Netze is also investing 300 million euros a year in the electricity, gas, district heating, and telecommunications networks of the future. By 2026, a total of 1.5 billion euros will have been invested in all vital infrastructure arteries in the city.

As a pioneer for a climate-friendly future, Wiener Linien is constantly working to further improve public transport: In the period from 2018 to 2022, the group company invested 2 billion euros in maintaining and expanding the public transport infrastructure, in new subway construction and state-of-the-art vehicles. The U2xU5 public transport expansion is Vienna's biggest climate protection project of this decade. In addition, the largest modernization in the history of the Vienna subway will be realized under the name "NEU4" by 2024. Wiener Linien is also pushing ahead with future projects such as the introduction of hydrogen buses in regular service or the planned commissioning of the fully automatic U5 in 2026. The currently applicable form of financing is based on the public transport contract in force since January 1, 2017, which was executed between the City of Vienna and Wiener Linien GmbH & Co KG. For this reason, Wiener Linien's investments are not part of the financing described in Section 4. Wiener Lokalbahnen is purchasing up to 34 new, modern, and more energy-efficient vehicles for the fully electrified Badner Bahn line with the TW500. Of these, 30 vehicles have already been ordered and will probably be delivered by summer 2024. On the one hand, these will replace old railcars that are already over 40 years old. On the other hand, the trains are necessary for cycle extensions along the Badner Bahn. Furthermore, modern infrastructure capacities will be created in the area of the Badner Bahn in the next few years. This will be achieved by a new, larger depot in Leesdorf (the old depot dates back in part to 1894) and by modernizing and expanding the workshop in Inzersdorf.



4. Green Financing

In view of the investments required to implement the climate strategy, Wiener Stadtwerke has decided to establish a Green Finance Framework for use-of-proceeds Green Financing. The focus here is on Wien Energie's investments in photovoltaic and wind power plants, which will significantly advance the decarbonisation of Vienna by 2040 through the expansion of renewable and emission-free power generation capacities. In addition, Green Ffinancing under this framework will finance investments in the transmission and distribution grid, switchgear, and smart metering systems of Wiener Netze, whose infrastructure is a key enabler for the energy transition in Vienna and the surrounding area. Last but not least, expenditures and investments to operate and expand CO2-emission-free passenger and freight transport will be financed.

This framework is aligned with the International Capital Market Association's (ICMA) Green Bond Principles (GBP) 2021 and the Loan Market Association's (LMA) Green Loan Principles (GLP) 2021. The GBP and GLP are voluntary guidelines to promote the integrity of the green finance market and encourage transparency and disclosure by issuers and borrowers. Green financing for the purposes of this framework may include bonds, promissory notes, loans, or similar forms of financing.

Wiener Stadtwerke's Green Finance Framework addresses the four core components of these voluntary guidelines:

1. use of proceeds

- 2. process of project evaluation and selection
- 3. management of proceeds
- 4. reporting

Furthermore, Wiener Stadtwerke intends to follow the GBP key recommendations for increased transparency regarding (i) green bond frameworks and (ii) external reviews.

In light of regulatory developments, this framework takes into account Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 establishing a framework to facilitate sustainable investment and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/20 and the Delegated Regulation of 4 June 2021 supplementing that Regulation¹ ("EU Taxonomy"), and aligns the use of proceeds with the Technical Screening Criteria for a Substantial Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation.

4.1 Use of proceeds

Wiener Stadtwerke commits to use the funds raised through Green Financing as defined in this framework exclusively for the partial or full financing or refinancing of expenditures or investments that generate a clear environmental benefit. In the case of refinancing, only expenditures and investments made no more than two years prior to the execution of the respective financing will be considered. Eligible Green Projects under this Framework fall into the following project categories and meet the following eligibility criteria:

¹ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) supplementing Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing the technical screening criteria for determining the conditions under which an economic activity qualifies as contributing substantially to climate change mitigation or climate change adaptation and for determining whether that economic activity causes no significant harm to any of the other environmental objectives.



Project category	Eligibility criteria (comply with the EU Taxonomy Technical Screening Criteria for a Substantial Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation)	EU Taxonomy activity	UN SDGs
Photovoltaics	The activity generates electricity using solar PV technology.	4.1. Electricity generation using solar photovoltaic technology	7 Electron and a second
Wind power (onshore) ²	The activity generates electricity from wind power.	4.3. Electricity generation from wind power	7 ELEVENT
Network infrastructure (line network, switchgear and smart metering)	 The system is the interconnected European system, i.e. the interconnected control areas of Member States, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, and its subordinated systems Infrastructure dedicated to creating a direct connection or expanding an existing direct connection between a substation or network and a power production plant that is more greenhouse gas intensive than 100 g CO₂ e/kWh measured on a life cycle basis is not compliant. Installation of metering infrastructure that does not meet the requirements of smart metering systems of Article 20 of Directive (EU) 2019/944 is not compliant. "System" means the power control area of the transmission or distribution network where the infrastructure or equipment is installed. 	4.9. Transmission and distribution of electricity	7 streams on Basiliant 13 statis
Clean Transportation	The activity provides urban or suburban passenger transport and its direct (tailpipe) $\rm CO_2$ emissions are zero	6.3. Urban and suburban transport, road passenger transport	7 cristentice Construction 13 cm/s

4.2 Project evaluation and selection process

The project evaluation and selection process ensures that proceeds from Green Financing are allocated exclusively to projects that are consistent with the use of proceeds as described in Section 4.1.

Wiener Stadtwerke has defined the following criteria for project evaluation:

Sustainability criteria:

- Expenditures and investments can be assigned to one of the project categories listed in Section 4.1 and meet the EU Taxonomy Technical Screening Criteria for a Substantial Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation relevant to this activity. The selection of expenditures and investments will be based on the provisions of the EU Taxonomy in force at the time this Framework is prepared.
- To prevent negative environmental impacts, best efforts will be made to ensure that expenditures and investments comply with the relevant Technical Screening Criteria for 'Do No Significant Harm' ("DNSH"), but strict taxonomy alignment cannot be guaranteed.³ In the network infrastructure project category, expenditures and investments in overground high voltage

² Expenditures and investments for offshore wind are excluded.

³ Wiener Stadtwerke is currently in the process of preparing for the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, which will not be mandatory until the 2025 reporting year and will require the disclosure of the amount of investments in line with the taxonomy.



lines will not be eligible until it has been confirmed that the activities follow the IFC General Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines as required by the EU Taxonomy.

- The ten fundamental environmental, social, and societal principles of the United Nations Global Compact are taken into account and complied with in the selection and evaluation of expenditures and investments.
- Expenditures and investments are in line with Wiener Stadtwerke's sustainability strategy and are made for projects within Austria.
- The projects financed contribute to at least one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Economic criteria:

- The cash outflow can be quantified and clearly allocated to the individual projects.
- The expenditures are of an investment nature, i.e. they result in new assets, or expand and improve existing assets, or increase their useful life.
- Double counting is not permitted. Eligible Green Projects can only be allocated to one Green Financing. Any third-party funds used for financing (whether partial or total) (e.g. government allocations or subsidized loans) must be deducted from the total expenditure.

Wiener Stadtwerke has defined the following **selection process** for Eligible Green Projects:

- Potential Eligible Green Projects are identified at the level of Wiener Stadtwerke GmbH, Wien Energie GmbH, Wiener Netze GmbH, Wiener Lokalbahnen GmbH, or other operating companies of the Group.
- Potential Eligible Green Projects are proposed to a Green Finance Committee, which evaluates
 these projects based on the aforementioned criteria and decides on the allocation of funds
 from Green Financing to Eligible Green Projects. The Green Finance Committee is composed
 of the representatives of the Financing Committee of Wiener Stadtwerke. The chairmanship
 of the financing committee is held by the commercial management of the group management. The other permanent members are delegated in any case from the Treasury and Asset
 Management, Group Finance, Legal Department/Legal Compliance, and Procurement Affairs
 departments. The core function of the Financing Committee is to comprehensively address and
 discuss all aspects of long-term financing relevant to the Group (including economic, financial,
 legal, accounting, operational, etc. aspects) through representatives from the relevant Group
 companies, divisions, and/or departments.
- If a Eligible Project, to which Green Financing funds have been allocated, is divested or otherwise ceases to be usable for the purposes of this framework, the Green Finance Committee is responsible for replacing it with another Eligible Green Project. This also applies if a Eligible Green Project no longer meets the requirements of this framework.

The Green Finance Committee will meet regularly (at least once a year) to carry out its duties. The documentation and reporting of the allocation of funds from Green Financing to Eligible Green Projects is in the responsibility of the Treasury and Asset Management department (Debt Investor Relations). The relevant information for the allocation and impact report will be obtained from various departments and from the operating units (Wien Energie, Wiener Netze, Wiener Lokalbahnen, etc.).



4.3 Management of proceeds

The net proceeds of a Green Financing, or an equivalent amount, will be fully allocated to Eligible Green Projects. Wiener Stadtwerke will establish internal systems that enable clear and traceable tracking of the use of proceeds from Green Financing per each financing (bond-by-bond approach). Through a formal internal process, Wiener Stadtwerke will ensure that Green Financing, and the Eligible Green Projects financed through it, are clearly allocated to each other on a reciprocal basis. The intention is to allocate the net proceeds from Green Financing in full to Eligible Green Projects within a period of three years.

Proceeds not yet allocated are managed as a temporary investment in cash or short-term financial assets at the discretion of the Asset Management and Treasury department and are tracked appropriately (earmarking approach). In doing so, the Asset Management and Treasury department identifies and manages ESG risks and avoids investments that are contrary to the spirit of this Framework. Cash management and short-term financial investments are carried out within the framework of the Credit Risk Policy. An ESG rating is collected from MSCI or The Value Group GmbH for each of the banks on the list of approved banks with which a business relationship can be entered into, or which are about to be included on the list of approved banks. In this way, the best rated financial companies can be taken into account when selecting banking partners. If a bank that is on the list of approved banks does not achieve the minimum rating defined by the Asset Management and Treasury department, no business relationship will be established with that bank. Changes in ESG scores will also be analysed.

4.4 Reporting

Wiener Stadtwerke will publish a Green Finance Report that provides information on the use of proceeds and the sustainability impact of the financed expenditures and investments or the financed projects (Impact Report). The Green Finance Report will be prepared and published annually from the year following the funding until the proceeds have been fully allocated. If several green financings are issued under this framework, Wiener Stadtwerke will provide information about them collectively in one report. The Green Finance Reports will be publicly available on the Wiener Stadtwerke website (www.wienerstadtwerke.at).

The **Allocation Report** provides details about the allocation of proceeds to Eligible Green Projects and includes the following information:

- Amount outstanding from Green Financing
- Amount of Green Financing allocated
- Breakdown of the allocated amounts according to the project categories described in 4.1.
- Breakdown of allocated amounts into financing of new projects and refinancing of projects already implemented
- Information on proceeds that have not yet been allocated

The **Impact Report** will include relevant impact metrics on an aggregate basis per project category and will comply with the requirements of ICMA's Harmonised Framework for Impact Reporting (June 2021) on a best effort basis. Possible metrics include:

- Photovoltaics and wind power
 - Newly built or rehabilitated power generation capacity in MW
 - Annual electricity generation in MWh/GWh
 - Annual avoided greenhouse gas emissions in metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (compared to power generation based on fossil fuels)
- Network Infrastructure
 - Newly connected power generation capacity from renewables in MW
 - Number of newly installed smart meter systems



- Clean traffic
 - Passengers transported, measured in number of passengers
 - Seat kilometres travelled (i.e., number of passenger seats on buses and/or trains multiplied by the distance they cover)
 - Type and number of vehicles that do not directly release CO₂ emissions

5. External Verification

Wiener Stadtwerke commissioned ISS ESG to review the sustainable character of this Framework and to assess compliance with the Green Bond Principles 2021, the Green Loan Principles 2021, and the EU Taxonomy Technical Screening Criteria for a Substantial Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation. The results were documented in a Second Party Opinion and are publicly available at https://www.wienerstadtwerke.at/

Wiener Stadtwerke also intends to have the Green Finance Report verified by a suitable and independent institution in the future and to publish this verification together with the report on the Wiener Stadtwerke website.



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