

VII.9 H₂ Educate (New Project)

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Subcontractors:

Sentech, Inc., Bethesda, MD

Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM

National Association of State Energy Officials, Alexandria, VA

National Hydrogen Association, Washington, DC

U.S. Fuel Cell Council, Washington, DC

Objectives

- Build an understanding among students of the concept of a hydrogen economy
- Foster the development of a hydrogen economy workforce

Technical Barriers

This project addresses the following technical barriers from the Education section of the Hydrogen, Fuel Cells and Infrastructure Technologies Program Multi-Year Research, Development and Demonstration Plan:

- A. Lack of Awareness
- C. Institutional Barriers and Access to Audiences
- D. Regional Differences

Approach

The proposed project will develop, deploy and evaluate a comprehensive hydrogen education program for middle school students. Bringing together the NEED Project's proven energy education strategies with in-depth technical content from a range of partners, the project plans to, in its first year, develop and field test comprehensive curricula for middle school students and, in years two through five, deploy the curricula in classrooms nationwide via a network of teachers who have come to rely on NEED for quality energy education materials. The project objectives of building an understanding among students of the concept of a hydrogen economy and fostering the development of a hydrogen economy workforce will be accomplished by making hydrogen education easy to teach, fun to learn, clearly correlated to state and federal education standards, and enriched by extra-curricular resources that bring hydrogen out of the classroom.

(Note: Subject to congressional appropriations, work on this project is anticipated to begin in FY 2005.)