



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

# Hydrogen Education Overview

**Christy Cooper**

2006 DOE Hydrogen Program  
Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting

May 17, 2006

# Program Scope

Target Audience	Priority	Notes/Rationale
Safety Officials	Near-Term	Must understand how to handle potential incidents; also facilitate local project approval
Code Officials	Near-Term	Must be familiar with hydrogen to facilitate permit process and local project approval
Local Communities	Near-Term	Community residents with a basic understanding of the concept of a hydrogen economy are more likely to welcome the opportunity for local demonstration projects and embrace the concept of a hydrogen economy
State and Local Government Representatives	Near-Term	Must understand near-term realities of hydrogen technology to make decisions on current opportunities and lay foundation for long-term change
University Faculty and Students	Near-Term	Current interest is high; graduates are needed for research in government, industry, and academia
Other Teachers and Students	Long-Term	Current interest is high; teachers are looking for technically accurate information and assistance with classroom lesson plans and activities

# Budget Background

- FY 2004 Budget = \$ 2.4M

- FY 2005 Budget = \$ 0

  - Congressional language stated, *“No funds are provided for the proposed effort on hydrogen education as these efforts are premature”*

- FY 2006 Budget = \$ 495K \*

- FY 2007 Request = \$ 1.9M \*

## **Lessons Learned from FY05:**

DOE hydrogen education and training activities must visibly demonstrate a near-term effect on the transition to the hydrogen economy –

→ priority target audiences include emergency responders and code officials, communities where demonstrations are located, state and local government officials

\* Note – FY 2007 request is consistent with FY 2006 request (\$1.8M); FY 2006 budget was affected by DOE Hydrogen Program appropriations shortfall and congressionally directed activities

# Program Strategy

- Complement the DOE Hydrogen Learning Demonstration and the DOE Hydrogen Safety Program
- Support emerging state and regional hydrogen initiatives by providing a consistent message and common set of educational materials
- Focus education and training activities on raising H2IQ
  - All education activities must tie to the survey
  - Messages and information conveyed in education resources are designed to increase H2IQ

# FY06 Activities: Emergency Responder Training

## Hydrogen Safety Awareness-Level Training and Education

### ● Purpose

- Introduce hydrogen, its properties and behavior, and how it differs from other fuels used today
- Introduce hydrogen technologies, applications, and infrastructure
- Provide basic information about incident recognition, initial emergency response, and protective actions

### ● Intent

- Create a stand-alone training module; web-based for wide distribution
- Develop a body of knowledge/information set specific to hydrogen that organizations with emergency responder training programs can “drop in” to their existing or planned curricula



# FY06 Activities: Local Community Education

## “Raising H2IQ” – Community/Media Information Program

- Purpose – Use various forms of media to do the following:
  - “Seed the clouds,” introduce the concept of a hydrogen economy and hydrogen technologies
  - Drive people to “information toolbox” on *hydrogen.energy.gov* for more information
- Efforts focused on locations where hydrogen demonstration projects are located
- Messages conveyed in program components and through the information toolbox tie to the technical knowledge questions of the survey

# Planned FY06 (but unfunded) Activities:

## ● State and Local Government Officials:

- Continue with next round of “Hydrogen 101” training workshops
- Pilot new series of “Hydrogen Energy Institutes”

*Baseline Survey Statistic – State and Local Government Officials: 86% said “Hydrogen 101” training would be helpful*

## ● Middle School and High School Educational Materials and Teacher Professional Development:

- Lawrence Hall of Science
- National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project

### *Baseline Survey Statistics – Students (ages 12-17):*

- *Students answered only 32% of the knowledge questions correctly*
- *Almost 50% of students said hydrogen is too dangerous for everyday public use*

## ● Universities:

- Undergraduate and graduate courses
- Develop and implement short courses for local community

### Hydrogen Technology Learning Centers

#### VA-MD H2 Education Center

▪ Virginia Tech ▪ UMD ▪

#### Regional H2 Technology Education Consortium

▪ NC A&T ▪ USC ▪ UGA ▪ UF ▪

#### H2USA

▪ UCF ▪ RIT ▪ UC-Davis ▪ San Diego-Miramar ▪

# For More Information – DOE Education Resources

[hydrogen.energy.gov](http://hydrogen.energy.gov)

New intro fact sheets – and the Baseline Survey Report – now available in the web site library!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the DOE Hydrogen Program website. At the top, it says "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY" and "hydrogen.energy.gov". There is a search bar and navigation tabs for Home, DOE Program, Offices/Programs, International, Library, and News/Events. A red arrow points to the "Library" tab. On the left, there is a vertical menu with categories like Hydrogen Production, Delivery, Storage, Manufacturing, Conversion/Fuel Cells, Applications/Technology Validation, Safety, Codes & Standards, Education, Basic Research, Systems Analysis, and Systems Integration. The main content area features several news items, including "DOE Releases New Analysis Tools for Hydrogen Delivery Technologies" (April 26, 2006), "DOE Seeks Public Comment on Draft Paper on the Potential Roles of Ammonia in a Hydrogen Economy" (April 25, 2006), and "New Resource Offers Analytical Data and Tools" (March 31, 2006). There are also links to "President's Hydrogen Fuel Initiative" and "Hydrogen Safety".



All hard copy documents, fact sheets, CDs, etc. can be ordered from the DOE Information Center and shipped free-of-charge  
**877-EERE-INF(O) or 877-337-3463**  
Mon – Fri, 9am – 6pm EST