



## The producers value of Water in a Hydrogen Economy



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#### **Timeline**

- Start: Sept 07
- End: Oct 08
- Percent Complete: 75%

### **Budget**

- Total project funding
  - DOE \$440K
- Funding received in FY07
  - \$200K
- Funding for FY08
  - \$240K

#### **Barriers**

- Future Market Behavior (A) Market Transformation
- Inconsistent data, assumptions and guidelines (C)
- Unplanned Studies (E) Resource Requirements and Availability

### **Partners/Collaborators**

- UC Davis ITS (Model Parameterization)
- LBNL (L.Dale)
- Sandia (M. Hightower)
- NREL(M. Ruth)



## **Project Objectives**

- Characterize the water requirements for hydrogen production
  - Asses the water requirements inside the H2 plant
    - Water intensity
    - Water quality
    - Impact of water on H2 costs
  - Asses external water requirements in support of H2 Production
    - Embedded water of input resources
    - Source reliability (quantity and quality)
    - Regional water influences
- Develop framework for assessing the impact of water in hydrogen production
- Comparative analysis with water use for other fuel options
- Evaluate regional conditions that may impact adoption hydrogen production for a particular region





## Approach: Background

Frame problem of water requirements as a decision opportunity for a hydrogen producer

- Balance Energy Water tradeoffs
  - Design plant assuming water "may" be a critical resource
  - Regional dependent problem
- Broaden scope of planning problem to infrastructure not typically included
  - Similar to a Wheel-To-Wheels(WTW) approach with the added complexity of water reuse.
  - Assess water withdrawal, consumption and reuse vs. return
- Decision variables :
  - Production method
  - Electric source
  - Cooling technology
  - Water reuse





- tions
- Hydrogen production at scale requires development of supporting infrastructure (e.g. electricity generation, water pre and posttreatment, water conveyance and acquisition) that is not required small scale
- Electricity can be produced by a variety of methods
- Water value and cost and may be different in different regions of the country and might influence the choice of technologies



### **Approach: H2-Water-Balance**



H2W - Hydrogen - Water Nexus Model

 $\lambda$  = End - Use Efficienc y

### H2-W The Hydrogen-Electricity-Water Pathway



•Significant quantity of electricity is needed for input to electrolysis process

•Cooling water in electricity generation can be large

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•Hydrogen producers have choice of electricity source

•Opportunity for water savings utilizing newer technology



## H2 Pathways Examined:

Fuel Production Intensities

| Technology                    | Process<br>Water | Process Electricity | Process Fuel $F_p$ | Process<br>Cooling |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                               | $Q_P$ (gal/kg)   | $E_P$ (kWh/kg)      | (MMBTU/kg)         | $Q_{CW}$ (gal/kg)  |
| SMR Forecourt<br>Air Cooled   | 1.1 - 1.3        | 3.7                 | 0.17               | n/a                |
| SMR Forecourt<br>Water Cooled | 1.1 - 1.3        | 3.2                 | 0.19               | 123                |
| SMR Central                   | 1.0 – 1.3        | 0.55 - 0.8          | 0.15               |                    |
| Electrolysis<br>Forecourt     | 2.4 - 2.7        | 55 - 81             | n/a                |                    |
| Gasoline                      | 1 - 2.5          |                     |                    |                    |

Sources: NREL 2002 Hydrogen Supply: Costs Estimate for Hydrogen Pathways - Scoping Analysis: H2Gen Manufacture Specification: H2A Forecourt Electrolysis : Energy Demands on Water Resources: Report to Congress on Interdependency of Energy and Water 2006:

| Source<br>Water           | Water Treatment<br>Technology | Coefficient $t_s$ |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Treatment<br>Efficiencies | Reverse Osmosis<br>Brackish   | 1-1.5             |
|                           | Reverse Osmosis<br>Saline     | 2 - 9             |
|                           | Ion Exchange                  | 1:1               |

| Power Plant<br>Cooling | Cooling<br>Type | Requirement $Q_{CW}(E)$ (gal/kWh) | Coefficient $lpha_{\scriptscriptstyle CW}$ |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Parameters             | Once<br>Through | 0.1 - 0.5                         | 60 - 200                                   |
|                        | Wet             | 0.18 -1.4                         | 1 - 1.5                                    |
|                        | Dry             | 0                                 | 1  |

Source: Energy Demands on Water Resources: Report to Congress on Interdependency of Energy and Water 2006:

Sources: GE Manufacture Specification: Personal communication

#### H2-W Water Intensity Preliminary Results:



DOE Hydrogen Program

#### H2-W Water Intensity Preliminary Results:







### Hydrogen Water Economics Preliminary Results:

Water Intensity of electricity can be reduced with minimal impact on H2 price \$12

•Changing a 500 MW NGCC from Wet cooling to Dry cooling plant has annualized change in producers cost of electricity of +3% \$/kWh

•Change in retail electric price would be more due to mark-ups

•Change in cost of hydrogen production

- 2% for Electrolysis
- >1% for SMR



Sources: NREL Hydrogen Supply: Cost Estimates for Hydrogen Pathways –Scoping Analysis 2002 . Cost and Value of Water Use at Combined-Cycle Power Plants, California Energy Commission, 2006.



## The Value Of Water (VOW) for a hydrogen producer

Cost of Water Supply

- Regionally/source
  dependent cost
- \$0.2 \$8 per 1000 gal minimum requirement

Equivalent Cost of Water (I.e. cost of recycling)

- \$3.3 \$6.1 per 1000 gal in CEC study
- Regionally and climatically dependent
- Compare technologies with this method



**Residual Imputation** 

- VOW = Revenue Non-water costs
- Requires assumption about hydrogen demand
- Under development

Improved estimates of the value of water will improve decisions regarding water dependent technology investment



## Regional geography influences how water can be utilized in fuel production

Assume ..







Tasks:

- 1) Develop analysis of water requirements Literature Search, Systems models development
- 2) Determine engineering parameters and commercial constraints Asses data quality and inconsistencies across previous studies
- 3) Determine preliminary economics Assess value of alternative technologies, sensitivity analysis
- 4) Assess key regional scenarios and solutions Regional analysis water supply cost curves
- 5) Assess and identify climate change concerns.





## **Proposed Future Work**

#### Tasks:

- 1) Develop analysis of water requirements
- 2) Determine engineering parameters and commercial constraints
- 3) Determine preliminary economics
- 4) Assess key regional scenarios and solutions
- 5) Assess and identify climate change related concerns
- X) Integration with MSM
- Y) Data collection through coordinated metering
- Z) Regional Geographic Hydrogen-Water Benchmarking Scorecard







- The H2-W framework extends the bounds of water impacts in the hydrogen production life cycle
- Electricity can be the biggest water user in the hydrogen production life cycle
- Hydrogen-water intensity can be kept low with new technology at small cost relative to cost of hydrogen
- Price, Value, and Availability of water to a producer will be dependent on the geographic location
- Water can be recycled more easily than other resources like gasoline, or C02