

# Hydrogen Delivery Analysis



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*National Renewable  
Energy Laboratory*

2011 Hydrogen Program  
Annual  
Merit Review

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Project ID # PD015

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NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC.

## Timeline

- Start date: FY 2004
- End date: October 2011  
(Project continuation and direction determined annually by DOE)

## Barriers

- Lack of hydrogen/carrier and infrastructure option analysis (3.2 A)
- Gaseous hydrogen storage and tube trailer delivery costs (3.2 F)

## Budget

- Funding: 100% DOE Funded
- FY10: \$150K
  - FY11: \$250K

## Partners

- Argonne National Lab
- Pacific Northwest National Lab
- Nexant, Inc.
- TIAX
- GTI
- Chevron
- Air Liquide
- Linde
- DTI
- Power and Energy Inc.
- Lummus Technology, a CB&I Company
- H2Pump LLC

## Project Objectives

- Hydrogen delivery cost analysis
- Update and maintenance of the H2A Delivery Components Model
- Design of new delivery components
- New delivery scenarios development
- Support of the other models with delivery data



## MYPP

Analysis: Comprehensive cost and environmental analyses for all delivery options as function of demand, MYPP, 2007, p. 3.2-9



Activities: Development of the H2A Delivery Components and Scenario Models, MYPP, 2007, p. 3.2-9



Outputs: D3. Output to System Analysis and System Integration: Hydrogen delivery infrastructure analysis results, MYPP, 2007, p. 3.2-29

**Since 2004 – the project introduction – we have followed the general H2A approach and guidelines:**

- ✓ Collaborating closely with industry to get and update costs and tech specs in the models
- ✓ Keeping consistency of the cost inputs across all H2A models
- ✓ Employing H2A standard assumptions \*
- ✓ Maintaining models as publicly available

\* [http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a\\_analysis.html#h2a\\_project](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a_analysis.html#h2a_project)

# Approach: Barriers Addressed

## Barriers

### Barrier 3.2 A: Lack of Hydrogen/Carrier and Infrastructure Option Analysis

“Additional analysis is needed to better understand the advantages and disadvantages of the various possible approaches.” (p. 3.2-18)

### Barrier 3.2 F: Gaseous Hydrogen Storage and Tube Trailer Delivery Costs

“Approaches include increasing the storage pressure, utilizing cold hydrogen gas, and/or utilizing a solid carrier material in the storage vessel. The same technology approaches could be utilized for gaseous tube trailers making them much more attractive for hydrogen transport and distribution.” (p. 3.2-20)

### Milestone 12

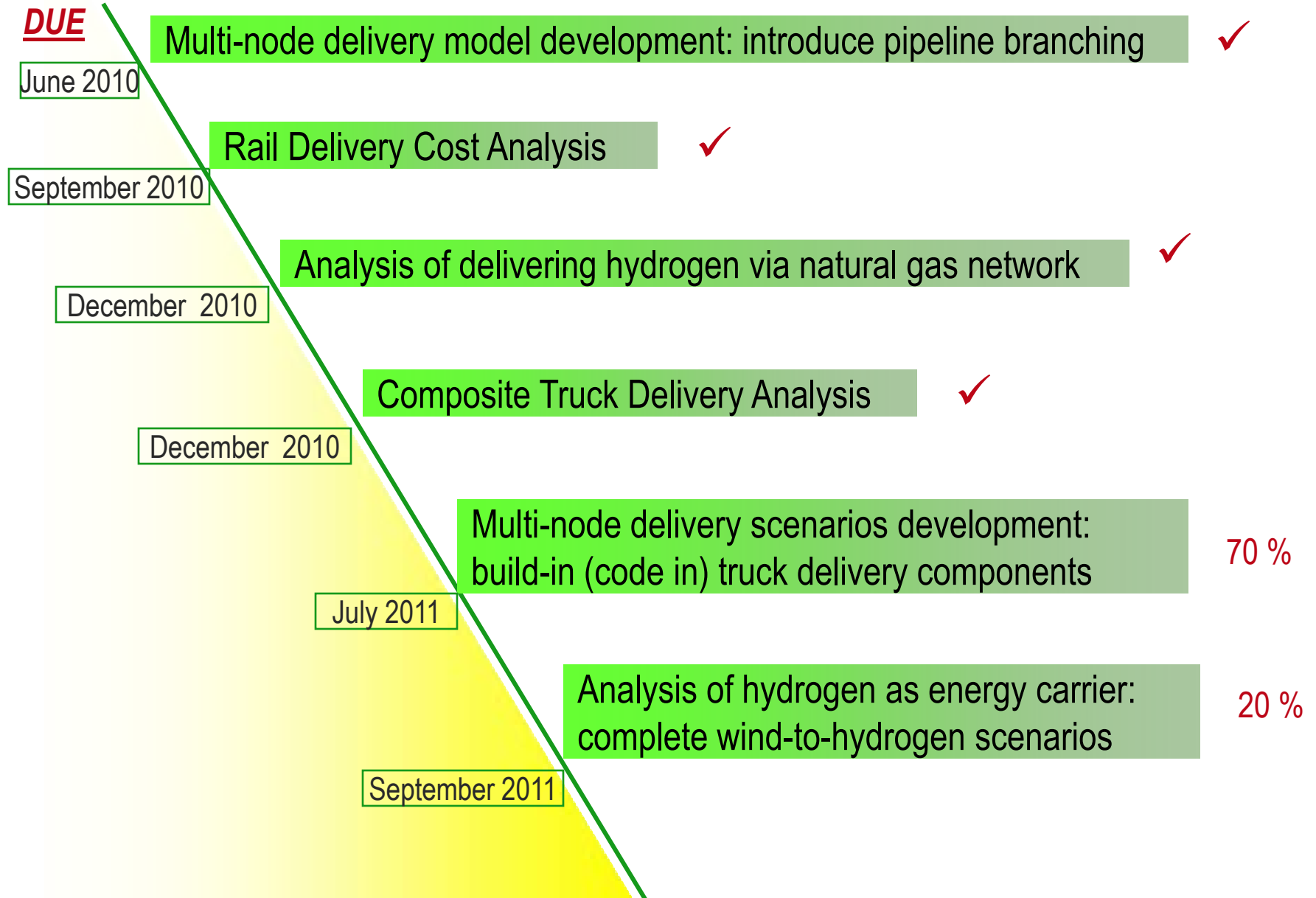
“By 2017, reduce the cost of hydrogen delivery from the point of production to the point of use at refueling sites to < \$1/gge” (p. 3.2-26)



## Multi-Directional Approach

- ✓ **Future big-volume delivery:** analysis of hydrogen delivery by rail
- ✓ **No hydrogen-dedicated infrastructure build-up option:** analysis of H2 delivery via existing NG infrastructure
- ✓ **Hydrogen as energy carrier:** analysis of the wind energy delivery via producing, liquefying and delivering hydrogen to a major energy demand center
- ✓ **New flexible delivery option:** multi-node delivery scenarios development
- ✓ **Truck Delivery:** review of the federal and local highway regulations for truck delivery
- ✓ **Truck Delivery-new materials:** composite truck trailer delivery analysis

# Approach: Milestones



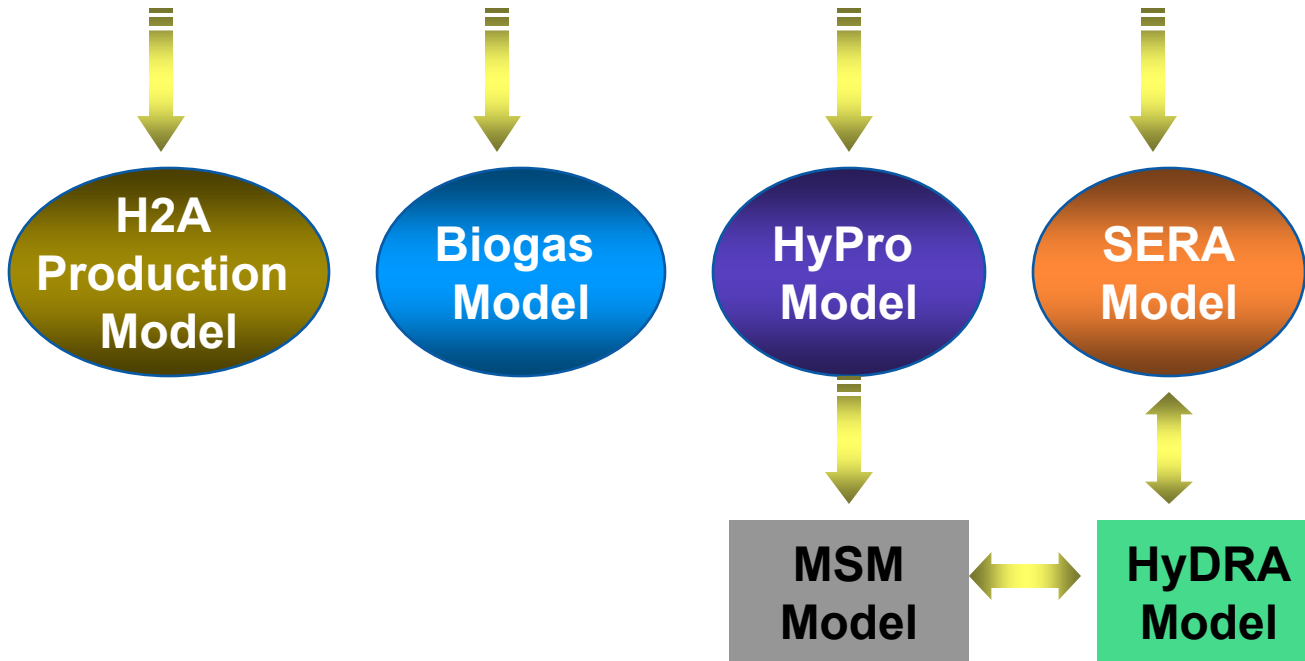
- At NREL, for hydrogen delivery analysis, we use multiple models.
- One of them is the H2A Delivery Components Model
  - we update and maintain it (it's one of the tasks of this project)
  - we use it for various types of analysis
  - data from it are used in various hydrogen models

Let's take a quick look at it...

# H2A Delivery Components Model Overview

- Model is used in several other hydrogen models  
(as delivery cost data source)

## H2A Delivery Components Model



### Properties

- Calculates **hydrogen delivery cost**
- Flexible (cost for separate components or the entire pathway)
- Transparent (no password protection)

Also, at NREL, we use the H2A Delivery Components Model in various types of hydrogen delivery analysis



### Outline

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- Rail delivery cost analysis (comparison with other delivery pathways)
- Hydrogen as a carrier for the wind energy: analysis
- Multi-node delivery scenarios development: progress
- Composite truck delivery analysis
- Hydrogen delivery via natural gas pipelines analysis

## TASK 1

### Rail Delivery Cost Analysis In Comparison with Other Delivery Pathways

**OUTPUTS:** Progress Report to DOE (July 2010),  
Milestone Presentation to DOE (September 2010)

# For what hydrogen market rail is the best delivery option?

We significantly increased demand range for the current analysis, covering hydrogen needs for the early as well as for the mature market

**Analysis Tool:**  
H2A Delivery Components Model

**Analysis Ranges:**

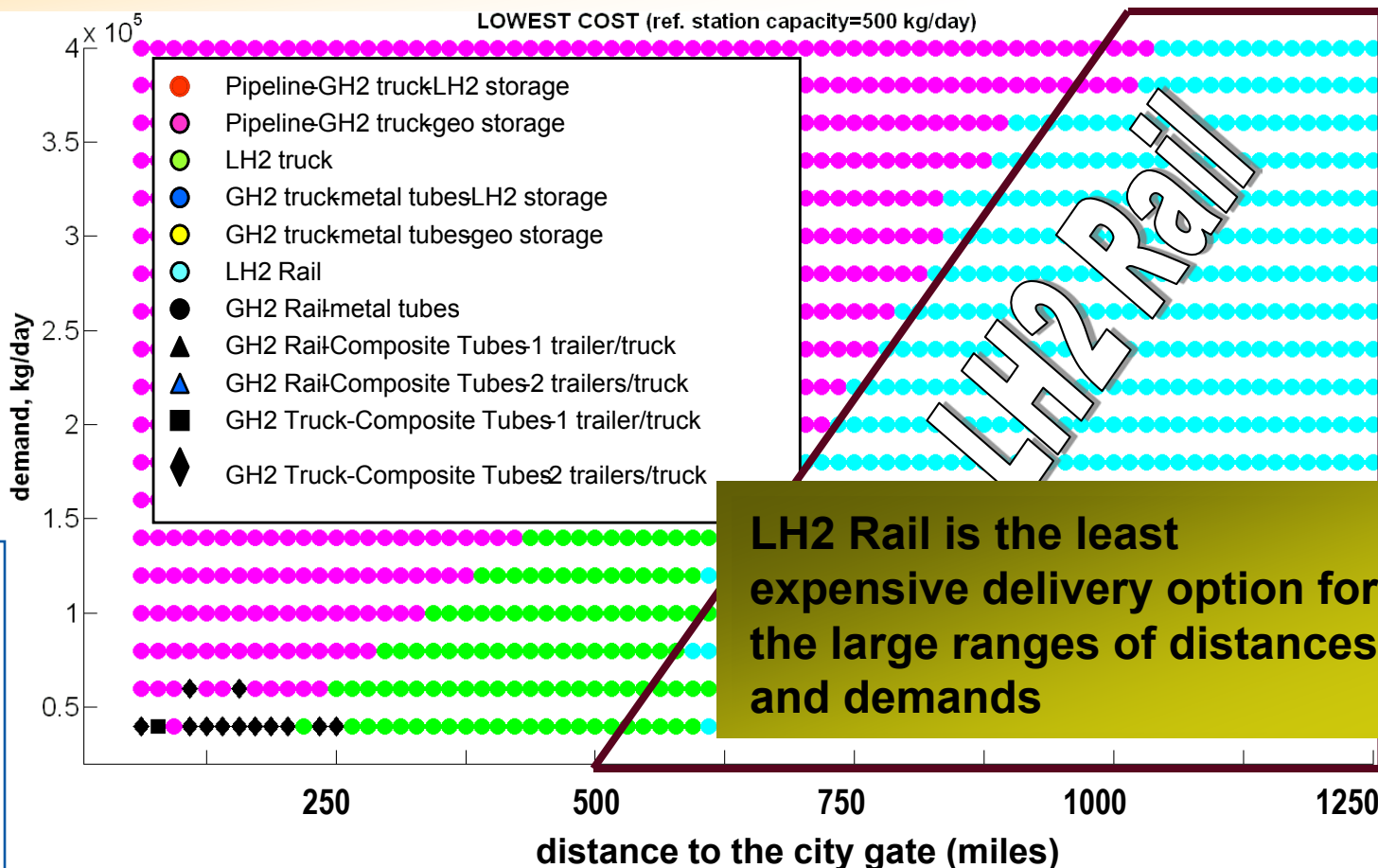
**City Demand**

40-2600 tonnes/day\*

**Distance To The City:**

60-2200 miles

The upper limit may correspond to the 50% Market Penetration in the Los Angeles or New-York City Metropolitan areas



**LH2 Rail is the least expensive delivery option for the large ranges of distances and demands**

\* For better resolution, only fractions of demands and distances are shown here. For the full ranges, see supplemental slides.

## Why would we need to deliver hydrogen over long distances?

Generally, renewable hydrogen sources are far away from the demand centers

Long-distance delivery



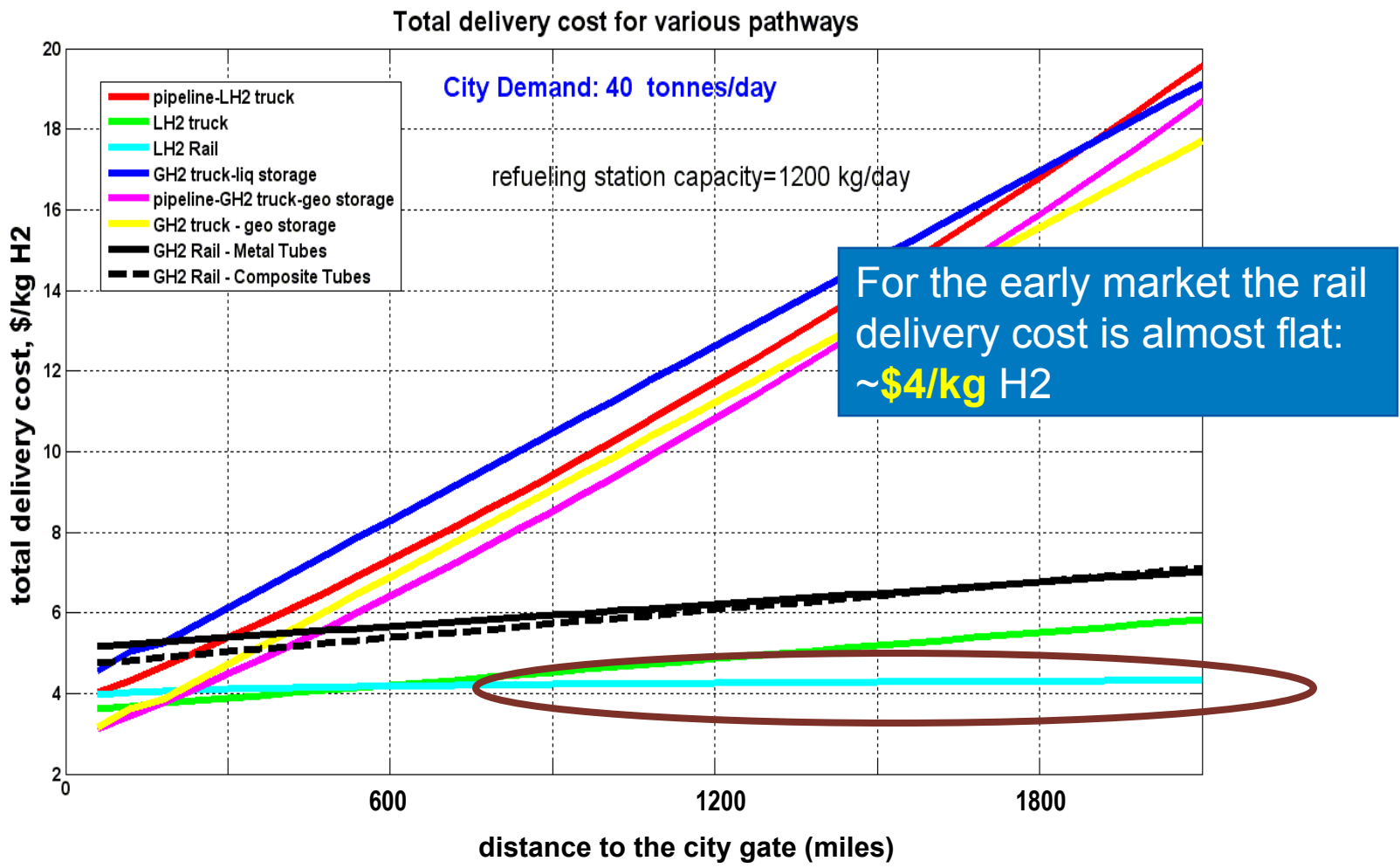
Renewable hydrogen

Let's look at the markets closer....

# Delivery Cost: Early rollout – 40 tonnes/day

LH2 Rail is the most economic delivery option for renewable hydrogen at early rollout

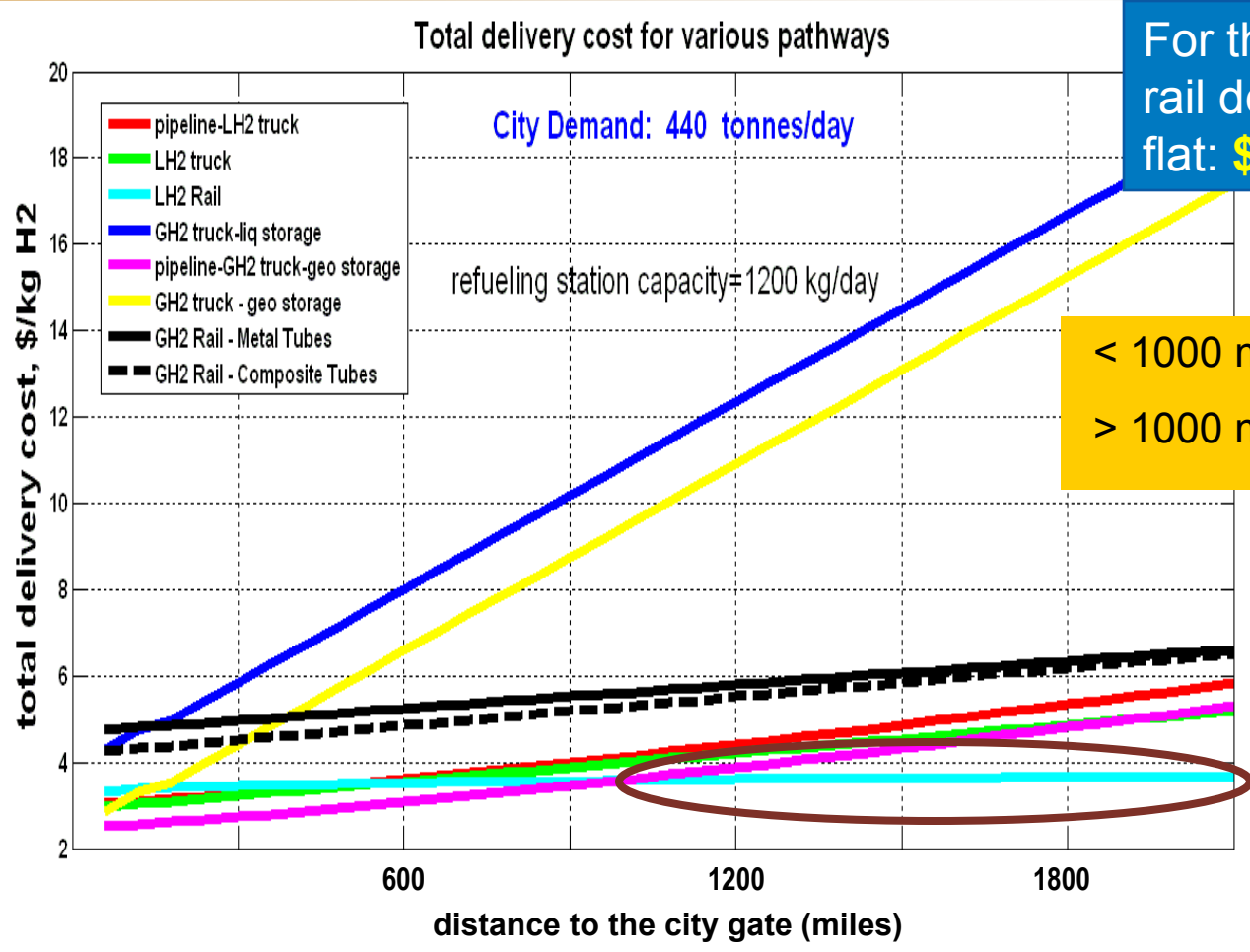
Analysis Tool:  
H2A Delivery  
Components Model



# Delivery Cost: Midterm market – 440 tonnes/day

Analysis Tool:  
H2A Delivery  
Components Model

**LH2 Rail is the most economic delivery option for renewable hydrogen at the *midterm***



For the midterm market the rail delivery cost is almost flat: **\$3.5/kg H2**

< 1000 miles: Pipeline  
> 1000 miles: LH2 Rail

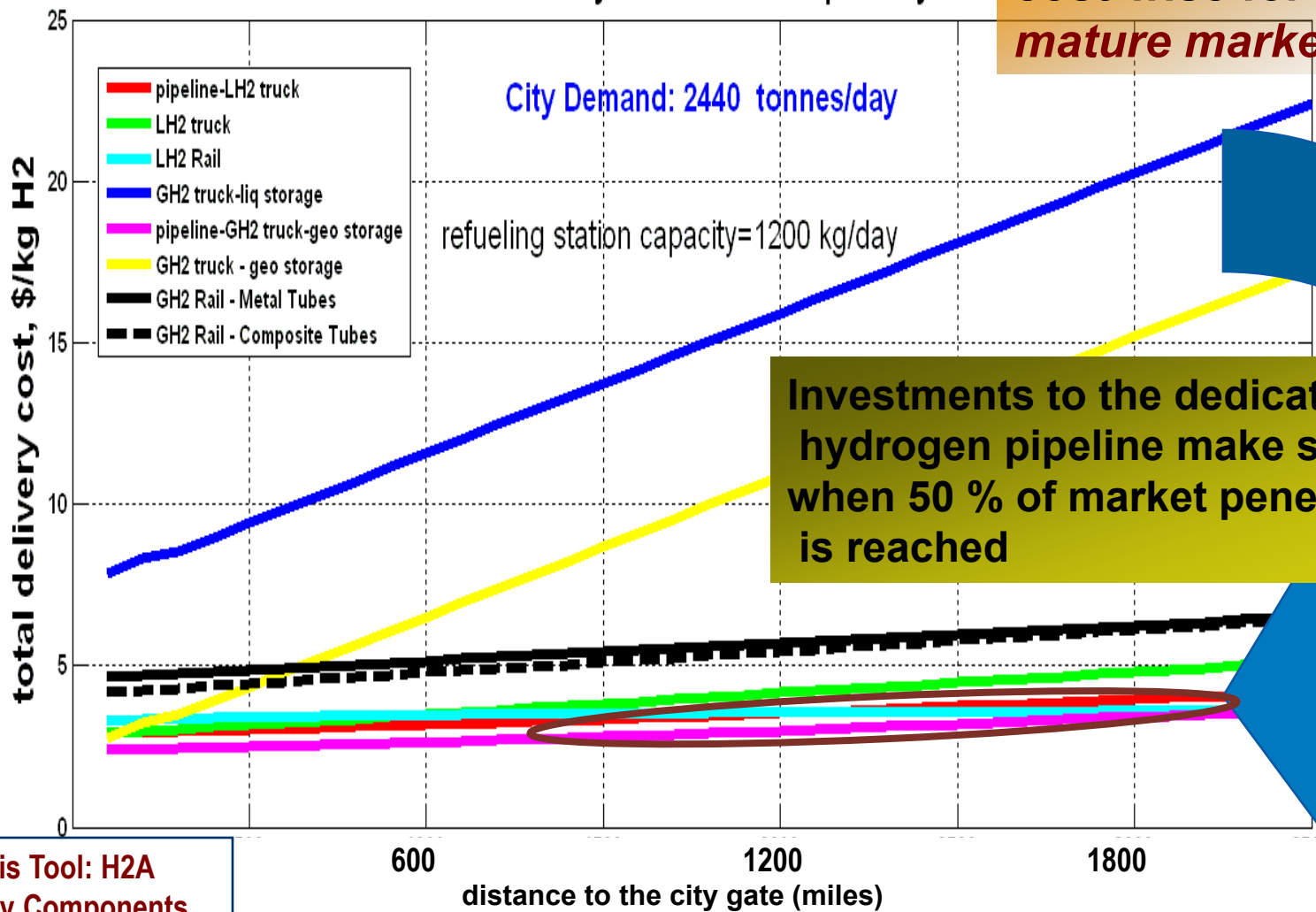
What about pipeline?  
It can be competitive  
(up to 1000 miles)  
if we find the way for  
**geologic storage** to work

# Delivery Cost: **Mature market** – 2440 tonnes/day

## 50 % of market penetration

LH2 Rail and Pipeline are comparable options cost-wise for the *mature market*

Total delivery cost for various pathways



Investments to the dedicated hydrogen pipeline make sense when 50 % of market penetration is reached

Analysis Tool: H2A  
Delivery Components  
Model

## US Railroads Congestion Review

**If rail is a player cost-wise, is it really viable capacity-wise?**

To answer this question, we reviewed the Association of American Railroads study “National Rail Freight Infrastructure Capacity and Investment Study” \*

\* “National Rail Freight Infrastructure Capacity and Investment Study,” *prepared for Association of American Railroads by Cambridge Systematics, Inc. (2007)*

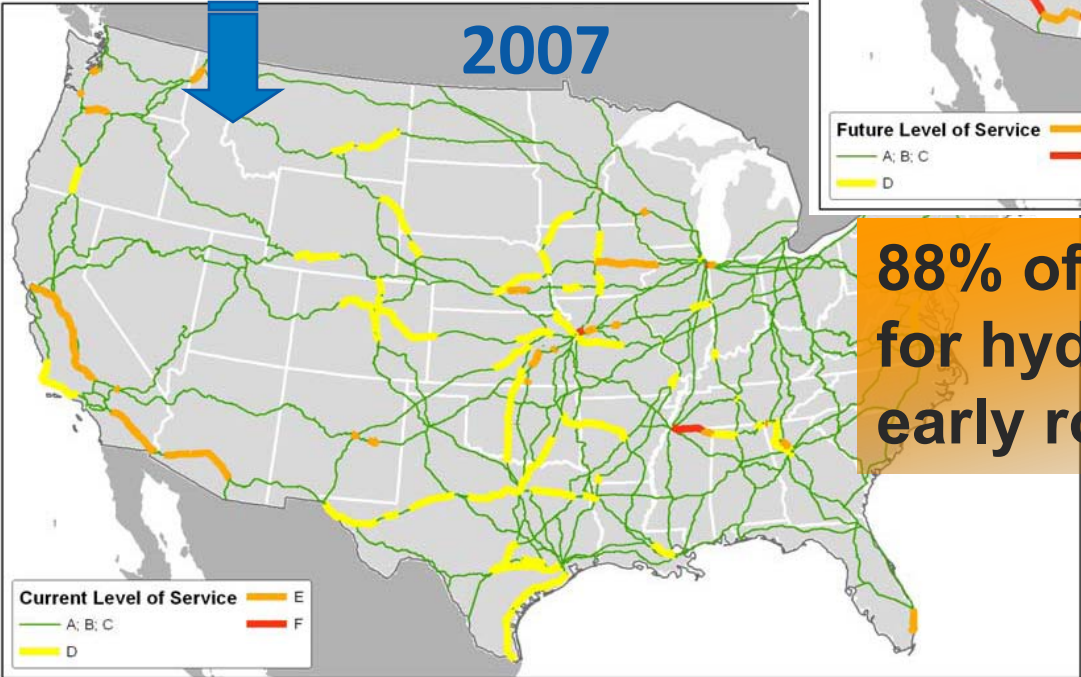
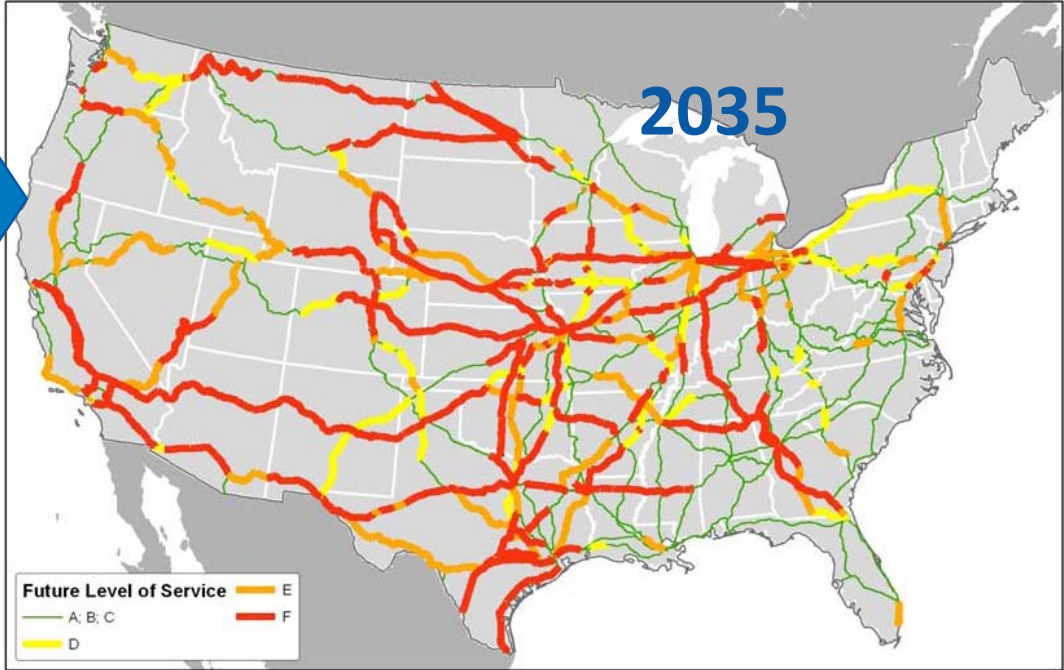


# US Railroads Congestion Review

## Train Volumes Compared To Current Capacity

45% - below capacity  
 25% - near or at capacity  
 30% - above capacity

88% - below capacity  
 12% - near or at capacity  
 1% - above capacity



**88% of railroads can be used for hydrogen delivery at the early rollout**

LOS Grade	Description	Volume/Capacity ratio
A	Below Capacity	0.0 to 0.2
B		0.2 to 0.4
C		0.4 to 0.7
D	Near Capacity	0.7 to 0.8
E	At Capacity	0.8 to 1.0
F	Above Capacity	>1.0

Source: Association of American Railroads, *National Rail Infrastructure Capacity and Investment Study* prepared by Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

# US Railroads Congestion Review

AAR determined the areas of railroad improvements by 2035

97% - below capacity  
2% - near or at capacity  
<1% - above capacity

## Line expansion:

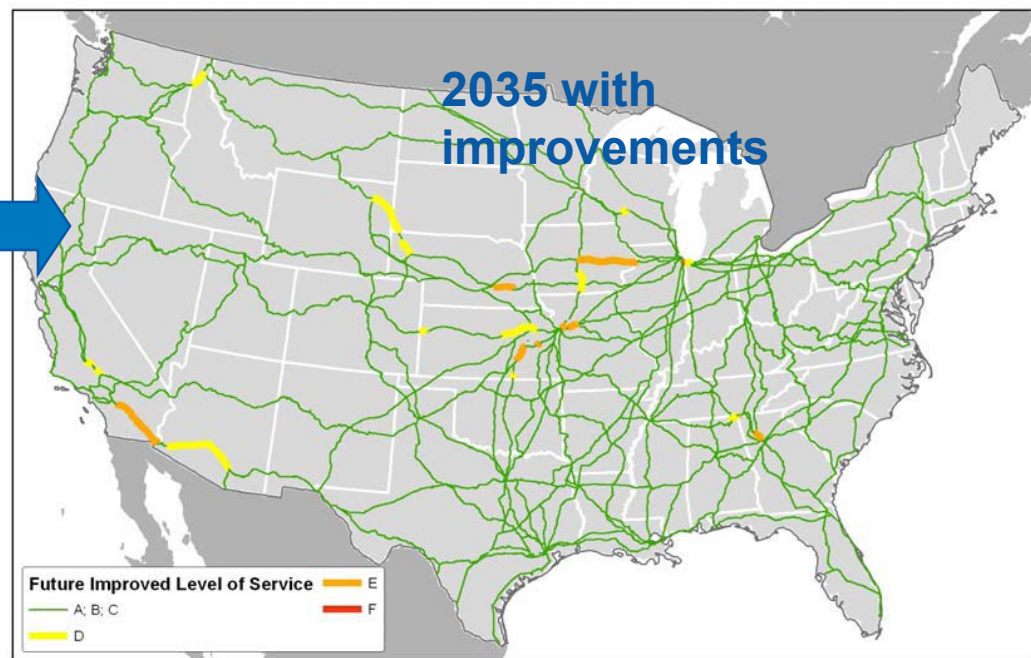
- Upgrades to mainline tracks and signal control systems
- Improvements to significant rail bridges and tunnels
- Upgrades to Class I railroad secondary mainlines and branch lines to accommodate 286,000-pound freight cars
- Upgrades to short line and regional railroad tracks and bridges to accommodate 286,000-pound freight cars

## Facility expansion:

- Expansion of carload terminals, intermodal yards, and international gateway facilities owned by railroads
- Expansion of Class I railroad service and support facilities such as fueling stations and maintenance facilities

**Total Cost of Improvements was estimated as \$147.5 Billions of 2007 Dollars**

Future Train Volumes Compared To Future Capacity\*



**Midterm hydrogen rail delivery is viable upon recommended improvements**

\*2035 train volumes were projected using economic growth and commodity forecasts from the U.S. DOT's Freight Analysis Framework (FAF Version 2.2)

## TASK 2

**Hydrogen as a carrier for the wind energy: analysis**

**OUTPUT:** Publication with ANL (in review)

# Hydrogen as Energy Carrier: Wind-to-Hydrogen Scenarios

In FY10 NREL assessed 2 short-term scenarios:

- grid-independent with seasonal geo storage
- grid-connected

**Analysis Tools:**

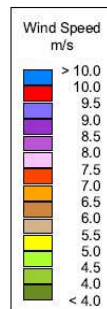
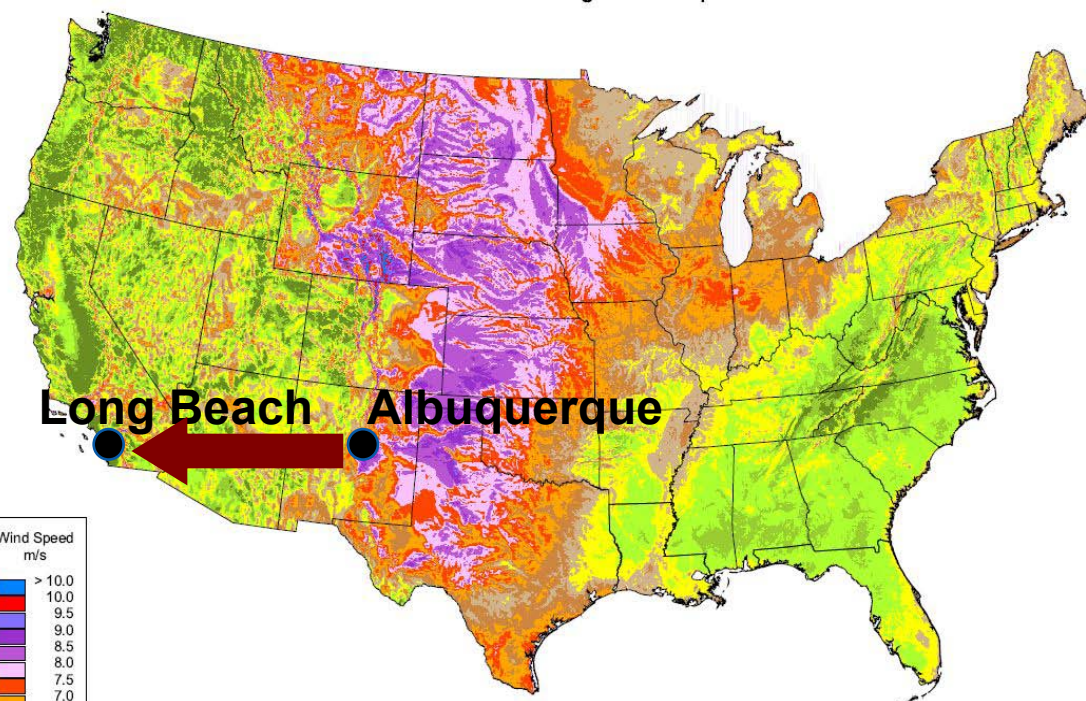
Modified NREL Fuel Cell Power Model

H2A Hydrogen Delivery Components Model

**More scenarios will be assessed in FY11**

**FY10 Scenarios Goal:**

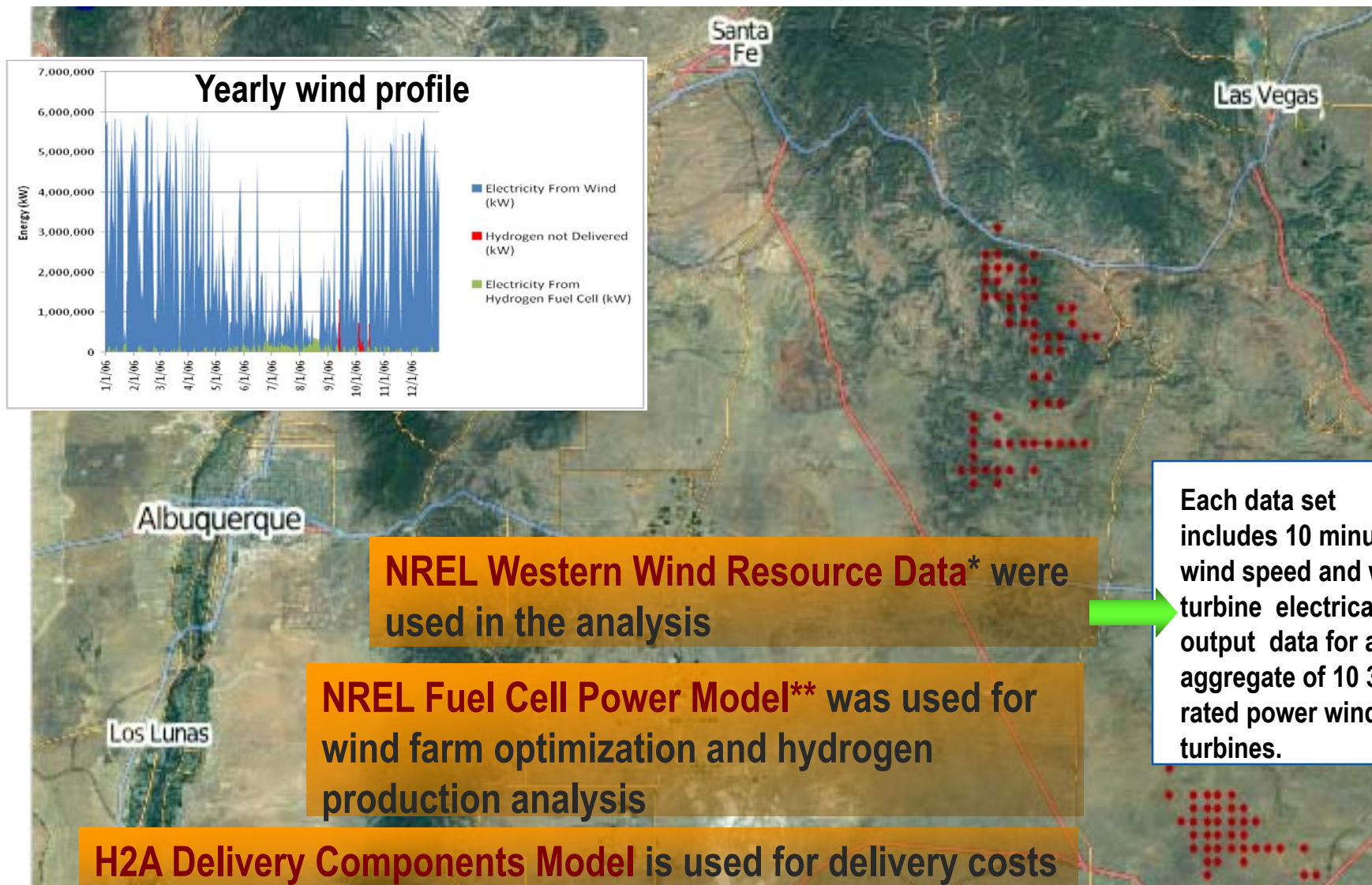
- 40,000 kg/day of H<sub>2</sub>
- wind farm near Albuquerque
- liquefy
- deliver to the Los Angeles area



Source: Wind resource estimates developed by AWS Truewind, LLC for windNavigator®. Web: <http://navigator.awstruewind.com> | [www.awstruewind.com](http://www.awstruewind.com). Spatial resolution of wind resource data: 2.5 km. Projection: Albers Equal Area WGS84.



# Hydrogen as Energy Carrier: Wind-to-Hydrogen Scenarios

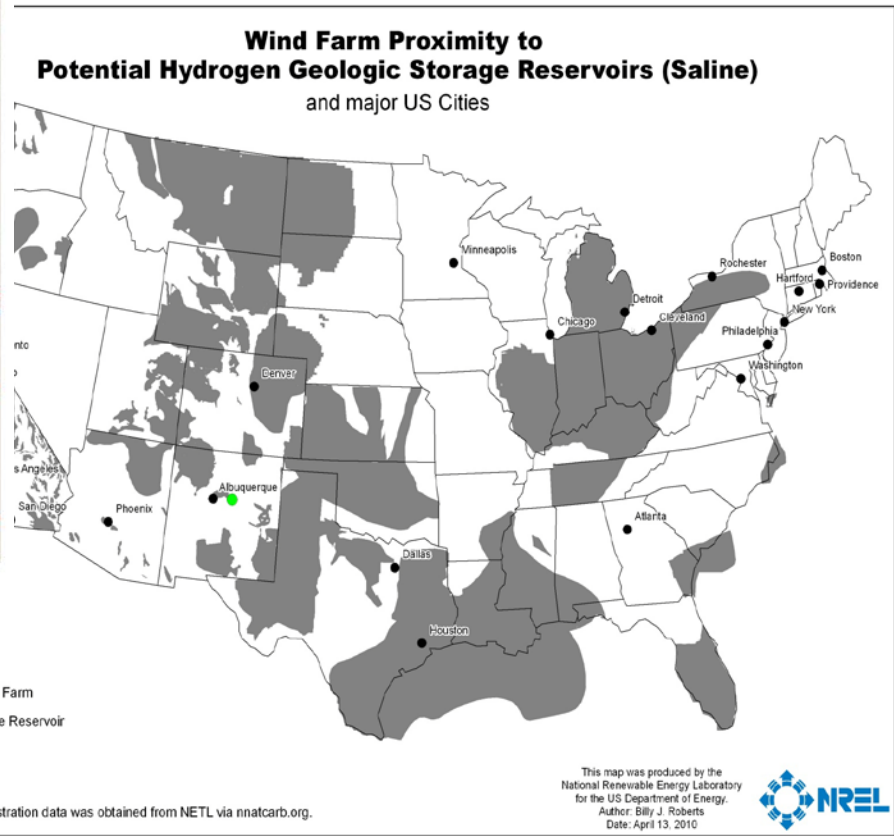
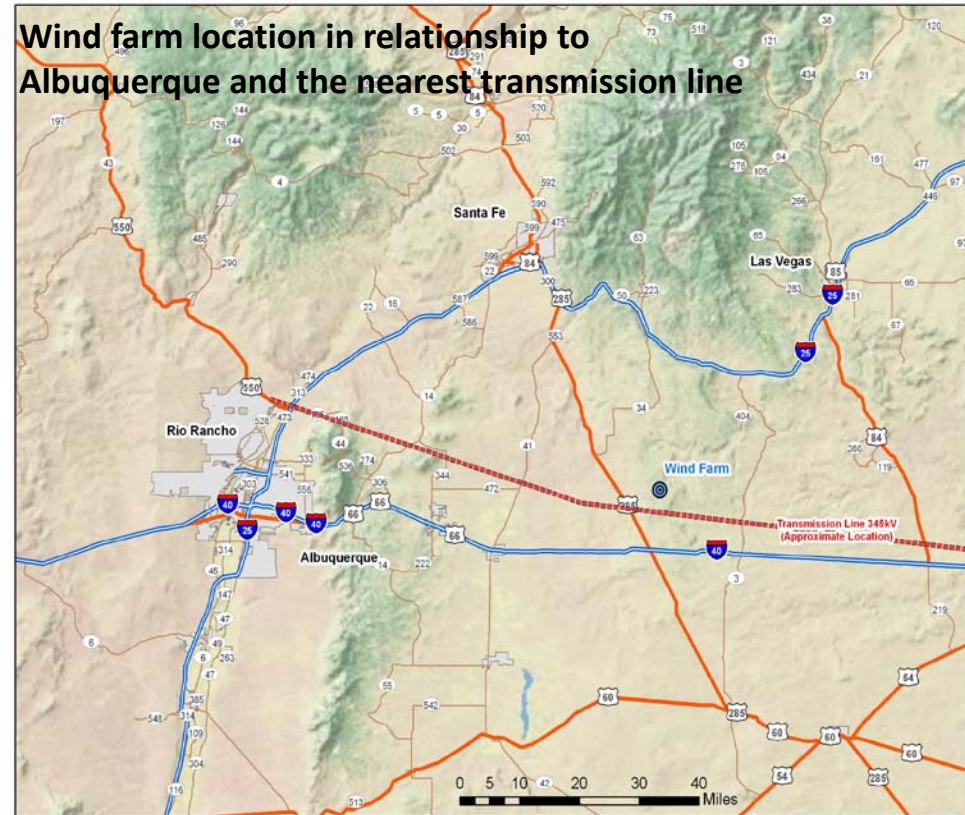


\*NREL Western Wind Resource Data: <http://www.nrel.gov/wind/integrationdatasets/western/methodology.html>

\*\*NREL Fuel Cell and Power Model: [http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/fc\\_power\\_analysis.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/fc_power_analysis.html)

# Hydrogen as Energy Carrier: Wind-to-Hydrogen Scenarios

NREL GIS team data were used for geologic storage and transmission lines locations



# Hydrogen as Energy Carrier: Wind-to-Hydrogen Scenarios

## Wind-to-LH2 Scenarios Results

➤ **Grid-independent: \$11.3/kg** of dispensed H2  
 - production: \$6.7/kg  
 - liquefaction, storage and delivery: \$4.6/kg  
 (rail, 1200 kg/day ref. station)

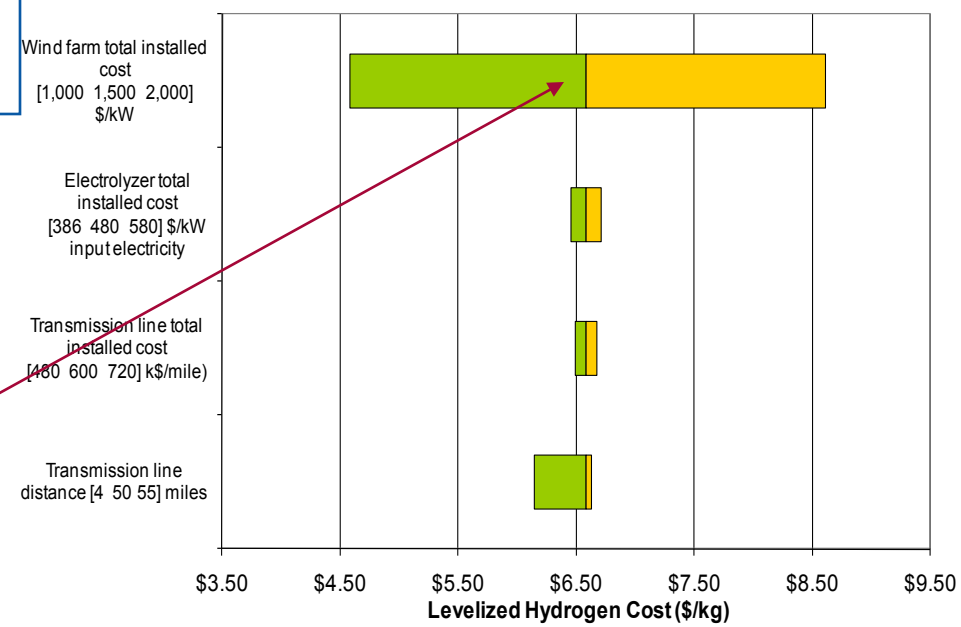
➤ **Grid-connected: \$10.6/kg** of dispensed H2  
 - production, storage: \$6.6/kg  
 - liquefaction and delivery: \$4.0/kg  
 (rail, 1200 kg/day ref. station)

Issues:  
 90 days of seasonal storage is needed. **Geologic hydrogen storage is not that feasible and requires further research and analysis.**



Cost Reduction Possibility:  
**Production cost is highly dependent on wind turbine capital cost** (which has high market volatility). Sensitivity analysis shows that H2 cost **can be reduced by \$2/kg** in the case of market lower turbine cost (30% less than average).

Sensitivity Analysis



Details can be found at: "Liquid Hydrogen Production and Delivery from a Dedicated Wind Power Plant", October 2010 Report to DOE (currently in review)

## TASK 3

### Multi-node delivery scenarios development: progress

**OUTPUTS:** Progress Report to DOE (May 2010),  
Milestone Presentation to DOE (June 2010)



# Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

## Multi-Node Delivery

*from*

*to*

multiple plants  
multiple plants  
single plant

single city  
multiple cities  
multiple cities

## Benefits

- Delivery Flexibility (ex: storage, pipeline, or plant sharing)
- Geographic resolution

## Tools Used:

SERA Model

H2A Hydrogen Delivery Components Model

## Approach

Use SERA model

Considering that SERA is not ready yet for this type of scenarios,

Enhance SERA delivery block:

- add pipeline branching
- substitute cost curves by delivery components coded directly into SERA



## Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

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SERA is a very powerful tool.

At NREL, we use it for various types of analysis.

Here, we will consider the development of multi-node delivery scenarios with the help of SERA only.

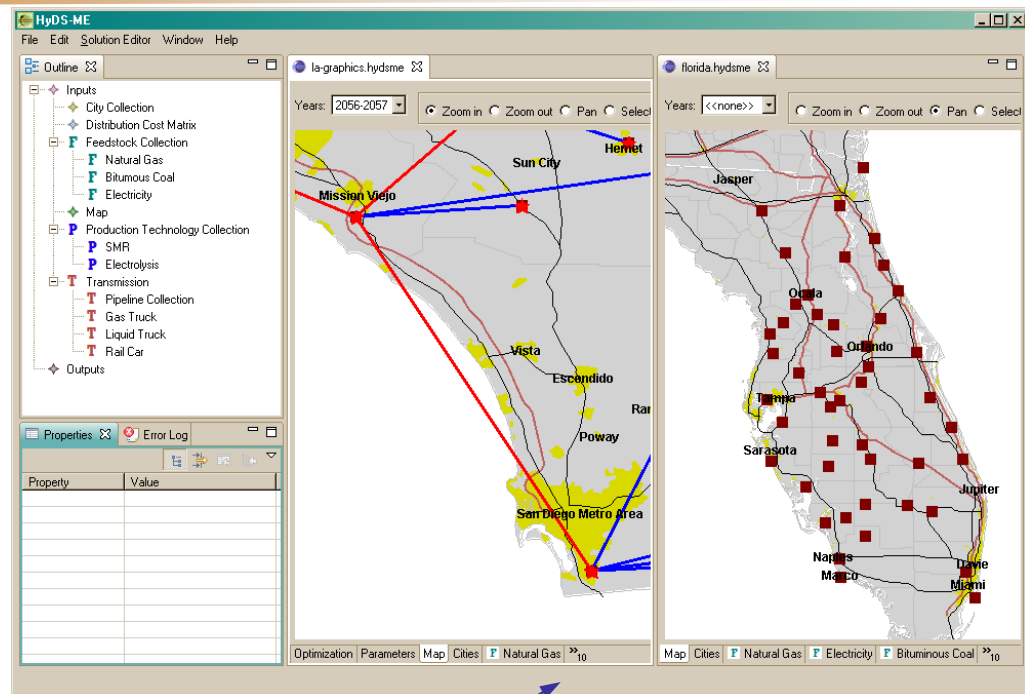
# Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

## SERA User Interface Snapshot

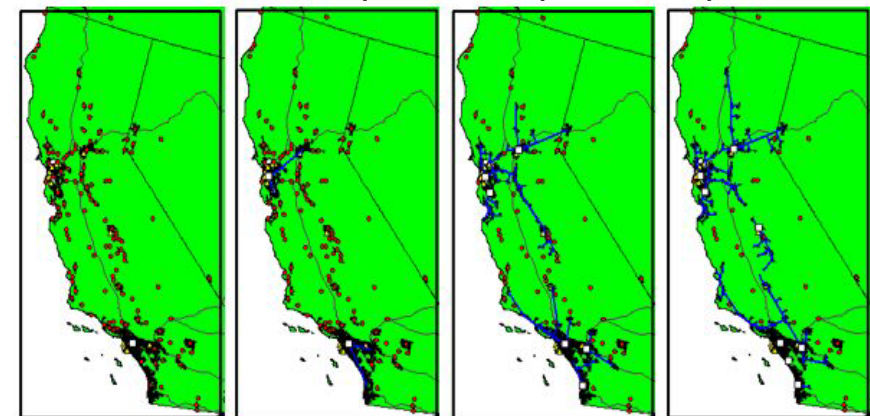
### What is SERA Model?

#### NREL DYNAMIC optimization model:

- GIS-based
- Java-coded software
- Determines the optimal production and delivery infrastructure build-outs
- Traces infrastructure evolution

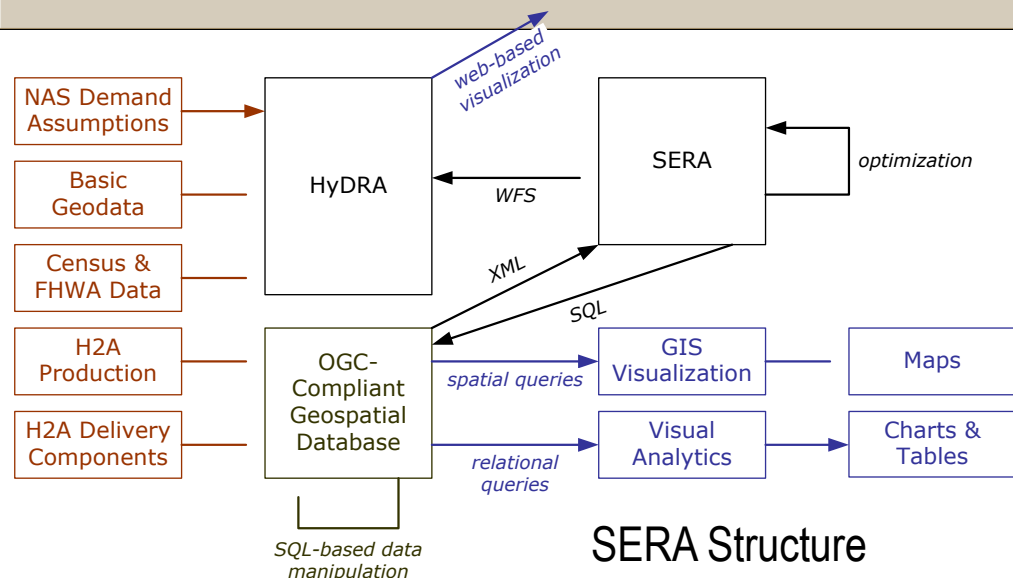


### SERA Graphical Output Example



a. 5%      b. 10%      c. 50%      d. 100%

Hydrogen infrastructure at various demand levels



SERA Structure

# Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

## This Year Subtasks Toward Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios Development:

- Enhance SERA pipeline buildup algorithm: introduce branching
- Use H2A Delivery Components (Excel-based) to code them directly into SERA delivery block (Java-based)

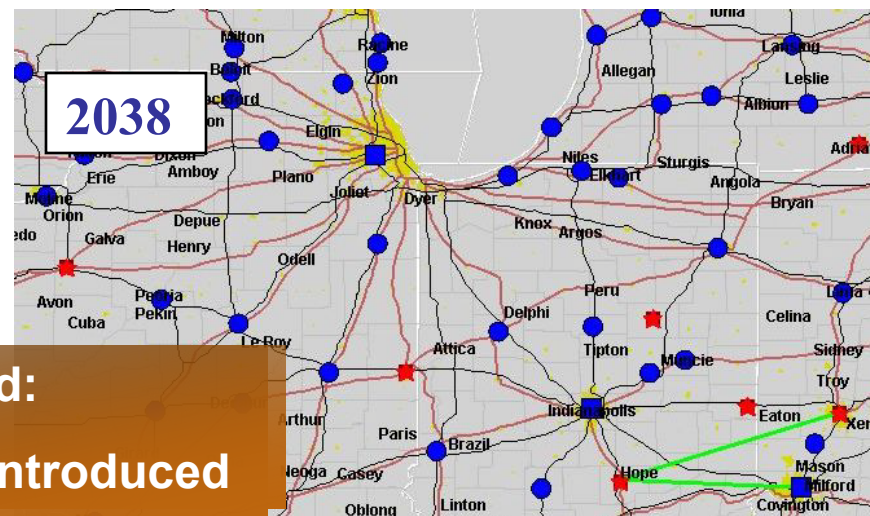
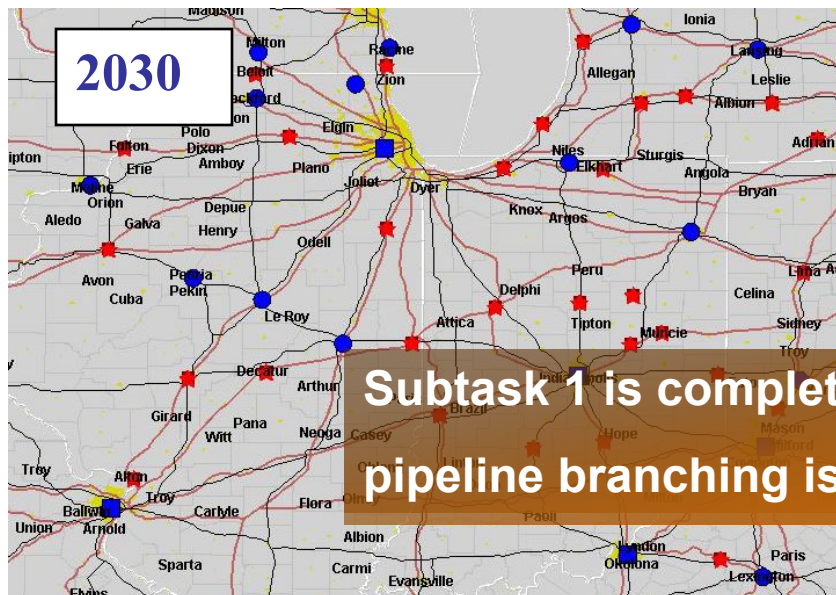
**Tools Used:**

**SERA Model**

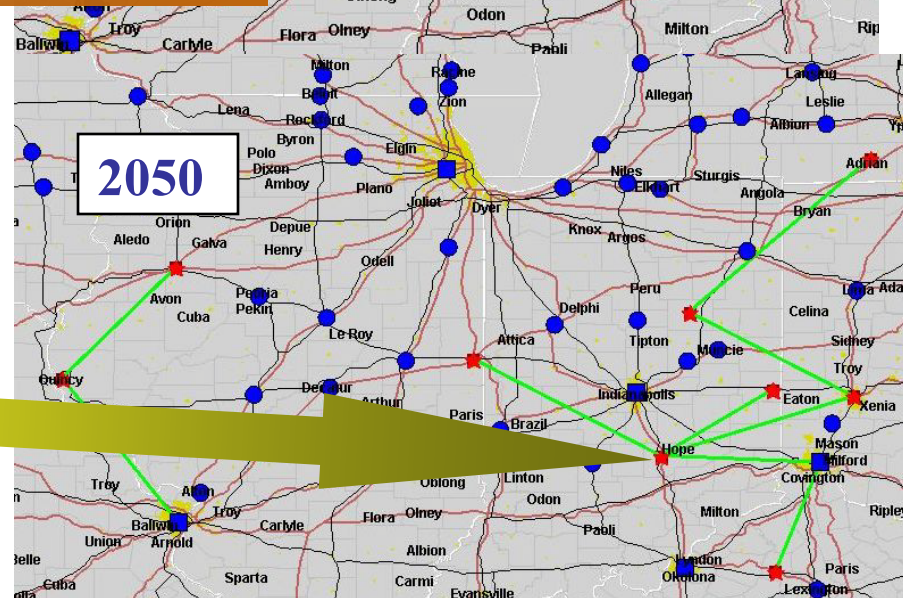
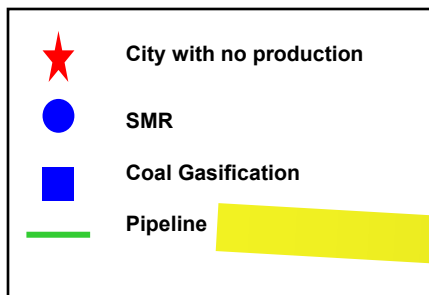
**H2A Hydrogen Delivery Components Model**

# Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

Demonstration of the pipeline network evolution at the Midwestern region. Years 2030-2050.



Subtask 1 is completed:  
pipeline branching is introduced



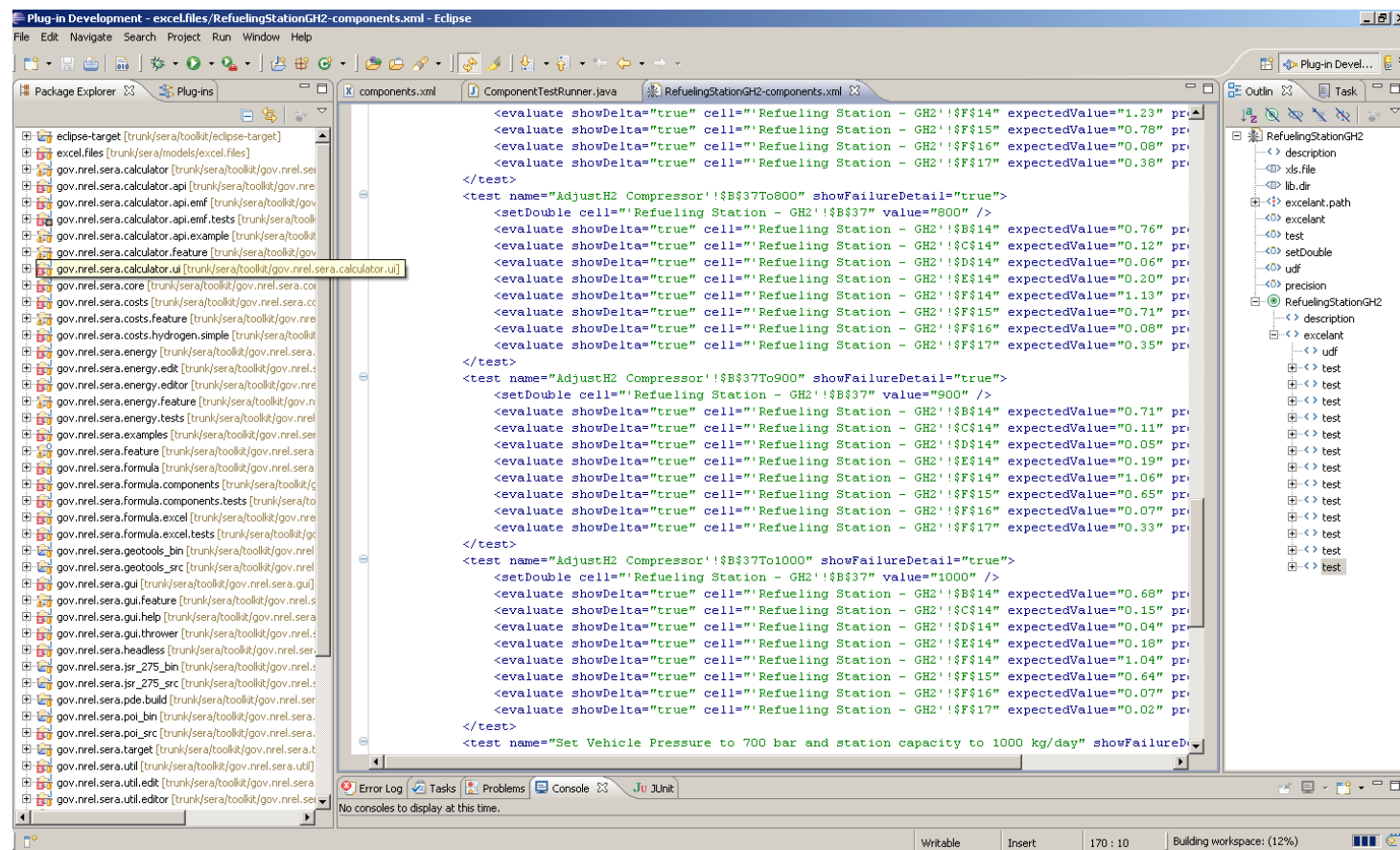
Remarks: only SMR and coal gasification are chosen as hydrogen production technologies for this demonstration to save on CPU time. Normally, SERA considers all H2 production technologies available in H2A.

# Building Multi-Node Delivery Scenarios

**Progress on the Subtask 2:  
14 H2A Delivery Components were coded into SERA**

**Testing Process:**  
10 of 14  
components  
are tested  
as of March 11,  
2011

**Tools Used:**  
SERA Model  
H2A Hydrogen Delivery  
Components Model



SERA Development Interface Snapshot  
(components testing XML codes)

## TASK 4

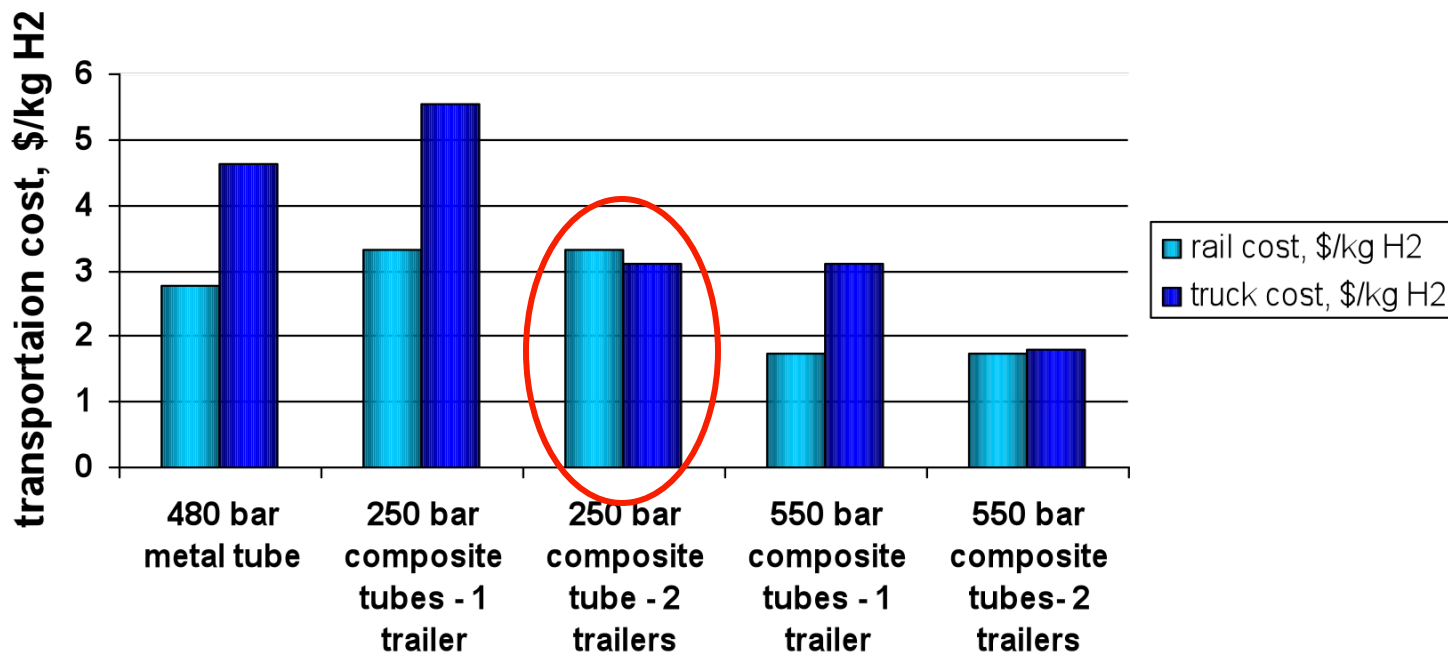
### Composite Truck Delivery Analysis

**OUTPUTS:** Draft Report to DOE (December 2010),  
Milestone presentation to DOE (December (2010))

# Composite Truck Delivery Analysis

Is composite truck currently competitive for renewable H2 delivery?

Long Distance Delivery (600 miles)  
GH2 RAIL vs GH2 Truck



Analysis Tool:  
H2A Delivery  
Components Model

Current  
technology:

550 kg H2/  
truck

Other  
technologies are  
available

(up to 900 kg/  
truck), but they  
are currently  
more expensive

Composite truck can be competitive for  
**renewable hydrogen** delivery (long-distance)  
only in the case of allowing for the second trailer

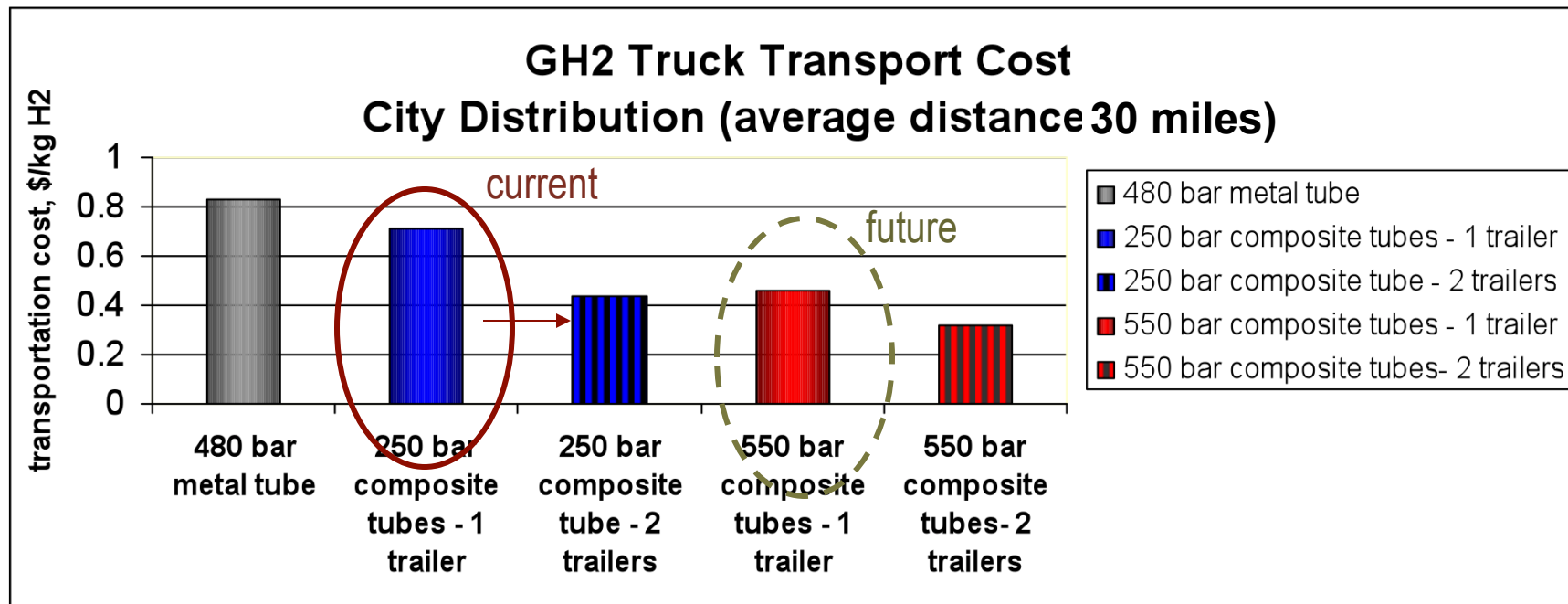


# Composite Truck Delivery Analysis

Analysis Tool:  
H2A Delivery  
Components Model

For intra-city delivery, composite truck stands out

Intra-city transportation cost (hydrogen plant at the city gate)



We can significantly drop the cost of transporting H2 by truck, if

- use 2 trailers per truck (induces larger refueling station footprint), or
- raise tube pressure to 550 bar

For cost decrease, possible technology improvements are suggested

# Composite Truck Delivery Analysis

? Can we even afford 2 bundles (or, 2 trailers) per truck on the US highway system?

➤ To answer this question, we reviewed Federal (**FHWA**) and State (**ISTEA**) highway **regulations** (size and weight limitations per truck)

## CONCLUSIONS IN BRIEF

**In many “renewable” states\* it’s possible to carry 2 bundles (or, 2 trailers) per truck**

\* AK, AR, CO, ID, IN, IA, KS, MO, MT, NV, ND, OH, SD, UT, NM, NY, WY, OR

For reviewers: see details in supplemental slides

Details can be found at: “Analysis of Hydrogen Delivery By Gaseous Composite –Tube -Truck”, NREL Report to DOE , December 2010

## TASK 5

### Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines: Analysis

**OUTPUTS:** Draft Report to DOE (December 2010),  
NREL Published Report (currently in review)

# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

## Scope of Analysis:

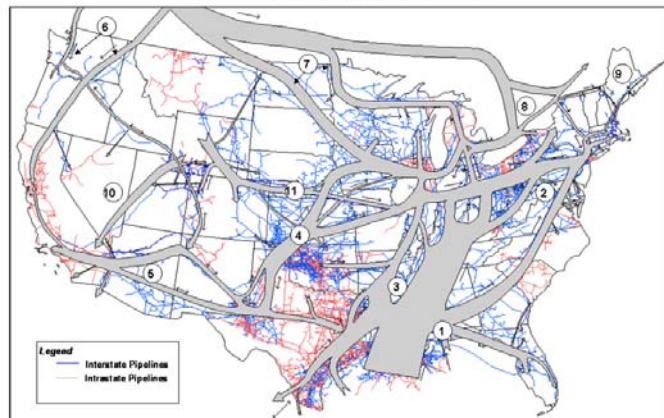
- **Review of NG pipelines system in the US**
- **Review of European (NaturalHy Project) and US studies**
- **Hydrogen extraction technologies overview**
- **Cost assessment of hydrogen extraction**

# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

Scope 1

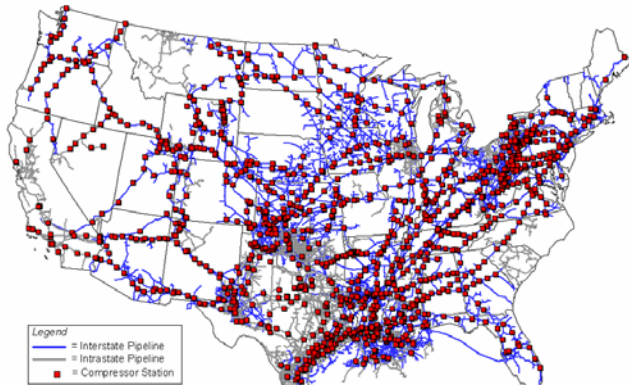
**NREL reviewed the U.S. Natural Gas Pipeline Network**, based on data from the Energy Information Administration, Office of Oil and Gas Division

Major U.S. Natural Gas Transportation Corridors, 2008



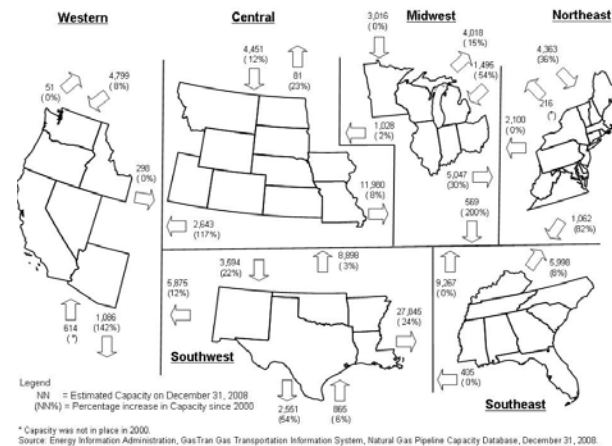
Source: Energy Information Administration, Office of Oil and Gas, Natural Gas Division, GasTran Gas Transportation Information System

U.S. Natural Gas Pipeline Compressor Stations Illustration, 2008



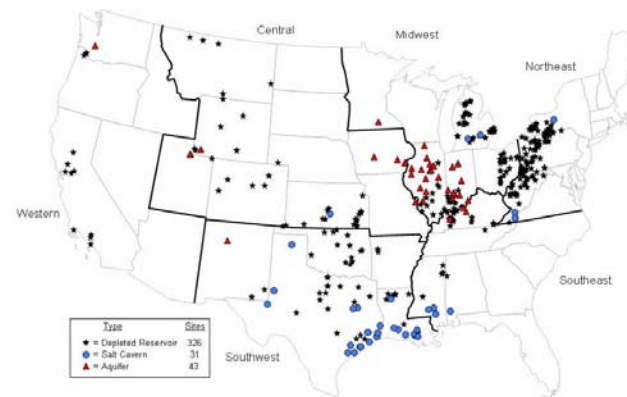
## Scope of US NG Network Review:

- US Major Transportation Corridors
- Interstate Grid
- Intrastate Grid
- Capacity and Utilization
- Underground Storage
- Transmission Pipelines
- Distribution Pipelines



Legend: NN = Estimated Capacity on December 31, 2008 (NN%) = Percentage increase in Capacity since 2000. \* Capacity was not in place in 2000. Source: Energy Information Administration, GasTran Gas Transportation Information System, Natural Gas Pipeline Capacity Database, December 31, 2008.

U.S. Underground Natural Gas Storage Facilities, Close of 2007



Details can be found at: "Hydrogen Delivery in Natural Gas Networks", NREL Publication (currently in review)

# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

Scope 2

Review of NaturalHy Project and GTI US pipelines assessment

## CONCLUSIONS IN BRIEF

### Benefits

Air quality improvements

### Safety

Up to 20% H<sub>2</sub> is safe for both transmission and distribution pipelines

### Leakage

PE distribution mains:  
Volume leakage rate is about 3 times higher for H<sub>2</sub> than for NG

### Durability

Transmission: No major concern on H<sub>2</sub> induced failures

Distribution: no major concern on aging

### Integrity

Transmission:  
modifications are not significant (< 50% H<sub>2</sub>)

Distribution:  
modified integrity management is required

For reviewers: see details in supplemental slides

Details can be found at: "Hydrogen Delivery in Natural Gas Networks", NREL Publication (currently in review)

# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

Scope 3

## NREL Assessment of Separation Technologies

NREL assessed three major separation technologies

- Membranes
- Electrochemical Separation
- Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA)

For reviewers: see details in supplemental slides

## CONCLUSION IN BRIEF

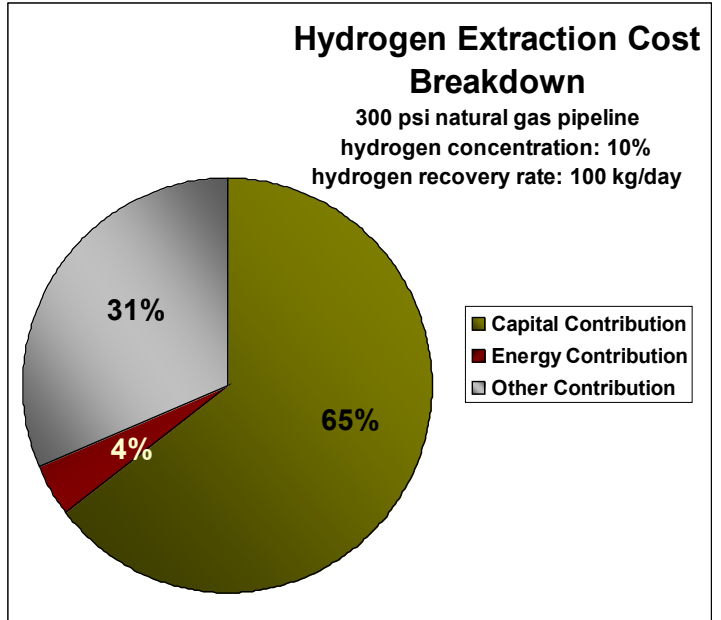
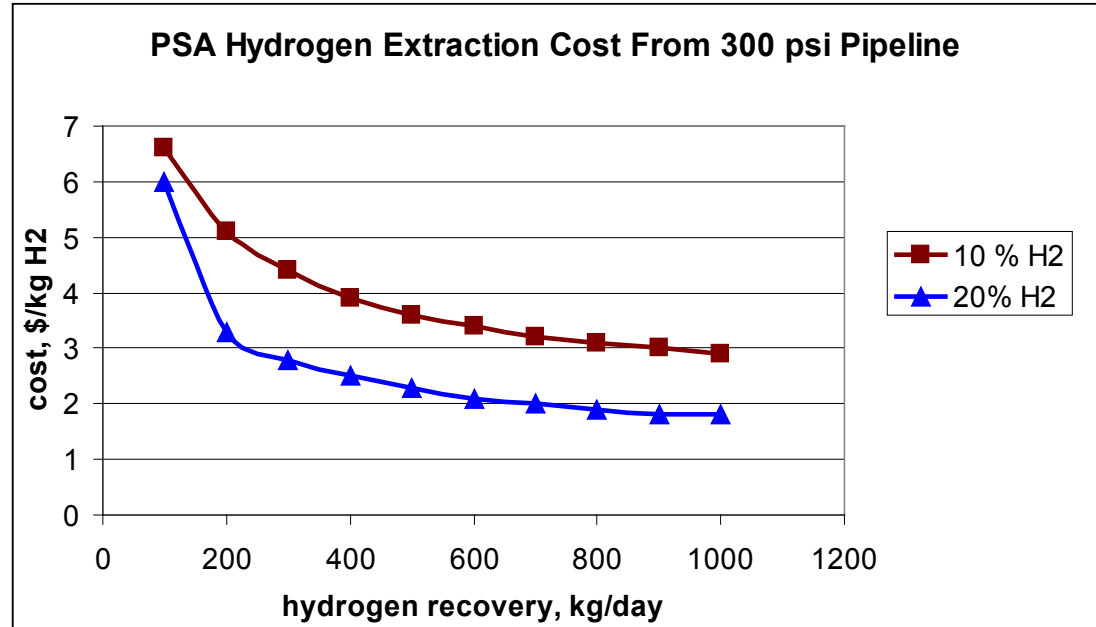
PSA is the most commercially ready technology

Details can be found at: "Hydrogen Delivery in Natural Gas Networks", NREL Publication (currently in review)

# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

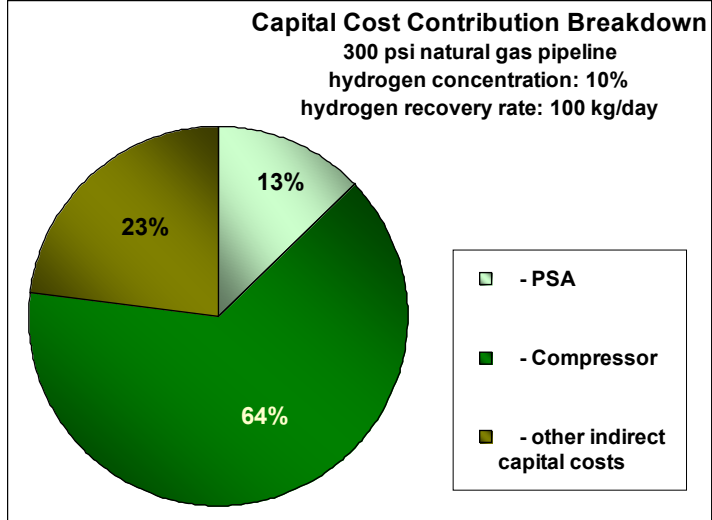
Scope 4

## NREL Assessment of Cost of Hydrogen Extraction by PSA Unit \*



Hydrogen extraction cost is \$2-\$6.5/kg, depending on a recovered volume

**!** Compressor (for NG recompression) capital cost is 64% of the total capital cost of the extraction plant



\* Based on Nth plant assumption (mature technology)



# Hydrogen Delivery Via Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

Scope 4

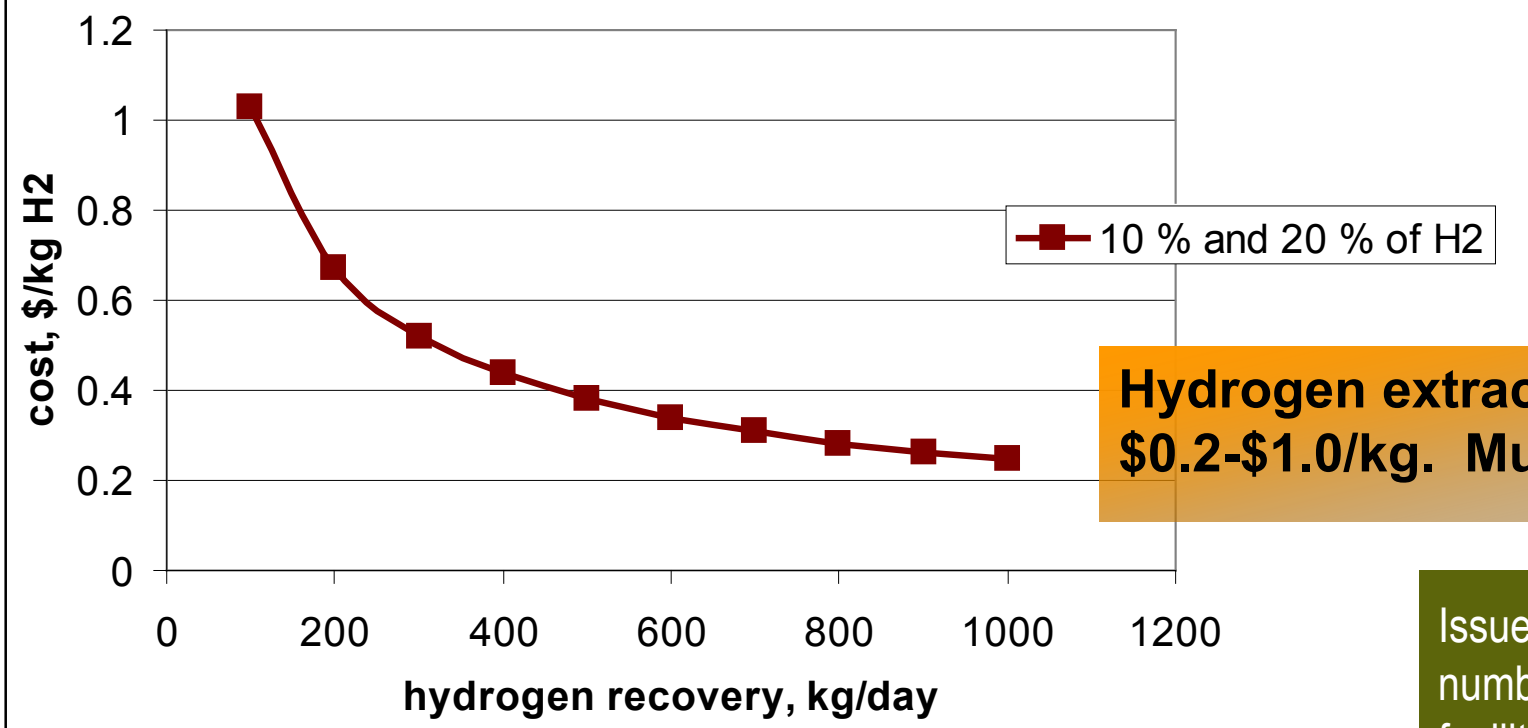
NREL Assessment of Cost of Hydrogen Extraction by PSA Unit \*

## What if we avoid recompression?

### Extract Hydrogen at the Pipeline Pressure Reduction Facility



PSA Hydrogen Extraction Cost At Pressure Reduction Facility (from 300 psi to 30 psi)



Hydrogen extraction cost is \$0.2-\$1.0/kg. Much better!

Issue: number of these facilities is limited

\* Based on Nth plant assumption (mature technology)

# Future Work

➤ Update and maintain H2A Delivery Components Model

- \$2007
- 2010 and 2020 technologies



**Milestone due**

➤ Continue to develop wind-to-hydrogen scenarios

- various storage types
- gaseous delivery
- long-term



**September 2011**

➤ Continue on multi-node scenario model development

- complete delivery components coding and testing
- multi-node pathways constructing



**July 2011**



**FY2012**

➤ Analyze the total pathway cost for delivering hydrogen via NG pipelines

- pumping in, transporting, extracting and dispensing



**FY2012**

# Collaborations

## Industry

- Linde
- Air Products
- GE Rail Leasing
- Lincoln Composites
- Structural Composites Industries (SCI)
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Konecranes Heavy Lifting Company
- Paceco Corporation
- Power and Energy Inc.
- Lummus Technology, a CB&I Company
- H2Pump LLC

*(technical and cost inputs)*

*(data exchange and review)*

## National Labs

- Marianne Mintz - ANL (Delivery Analysis)
- Amgad Elgowainy - ANL (HDSAM)
- Brian Bush - NREL (SERA)
- Daryl Brown - PNNL (Model Review)
- Darlene Steward - NREL (H2A Production Model)
- Mike Penev - NREL (H2A Power Model)

*(data exchange and review)*

## Other Companies

- DTI
- TIAX
- Gas Technology Institute (GTI)

*(data exchange and review)*

*(data exchange and review)*

*(subcontractor)*

# Summary

## Relevance

- Project activities follow the DOE H2 Program targets

## Approach

- Project follows H2A general approach and guidelines

## Accomplishments

- Rail delivery analysis in comparison with other delivery options, US railroad congestion review
- Wind-to-liquid hydrogen scenarios assessment
- Multi-node delivery scenarios development: pipeline branching algorithm and delivery components coding and testing
- Composite truck (550 kg H<sub>2</sub>) cost analysis, and Federal and State highway regulations review
- Analysis of delivering hydrogen in existing NG pipelines

## Collaborations

Linde, Air Products, GE Rail Leasing, Lincoln Composites, Union Pacific Railroad, Structural Composites Industries (SCI), Konecranes Heavy Lifting Company, Paceco Corporation, ANL, PNNL, DTI, TIAX, GTI, Power and Energy Inc., Lummus Technology- CB&I Company, H2Pump LLC

## Future Work

- Update and maintain H2A Delivery Components Model
- Continue on developing multi-node delivery scenarios: pathways development
- Develop more wind-to-hydrogen scenarios with various storage types, and long-term demands
- Analyze the full pathway cost for delivering hydrogen in NG pipelines