

# **Reformer-Electrolyzer-Purifier (REP)** for Production of Hydrogen [CO2 Pump]

2016 AMR (Annual Merit Review), Washington DC

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# Ultra-Clean, Efficient, Reliable Power

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# Timeline

- Start: October 2014
- End: September 2016

## Budget

- Total Budget: \$1,250,509
  - Total Recipient Share: \$254,215
  - Total Federal Share: \$996,294
- Expended to Date\*: \$1,147,000
  - Total Recipient Share: \$233,000
  - Total Federal Share: \$914,000

## Barriers

#### **Barriers to hydrogen infrastructure:**

- High cost
  - Transportation costs high
  - Limited areas of production
- Emissions limit potential sites
- Scalability of production to local demand

## **Funded Partners**

• UC Irvine National Fuel Cell Center

\*as of 4/30/16 + committed funds





## **Impact of REP Technology**

- 1. Lower cost hydrogen
  - Can meet DOE Targets Long term H2 less than 2 \$/kg
- 2. Low carbon emissions
  - Can meet DOE Targets CO2 emissions less than 5,000 g/gge (< 50% typ SMR)</li>
  - System utilizes waste heat
  - 100% conversion of CH4 with recycle
  - Low power high temperature electrolysis removes CO2
  - 100% H2 recovery with recycle
- 3. <u>~Zero NOx, CO, SOx emissions when integrated with DFC® fuel cell</u>
- 4. System fully scalable
  - Number of cells determines capacity
  - Home fueler (2kg/d) to large scale 16,000 kg/d
- 5. Manufacturing facilities already in place and operating
  - Will use same components currently being manufactured for DFC<sup>®</sup> fuel cells

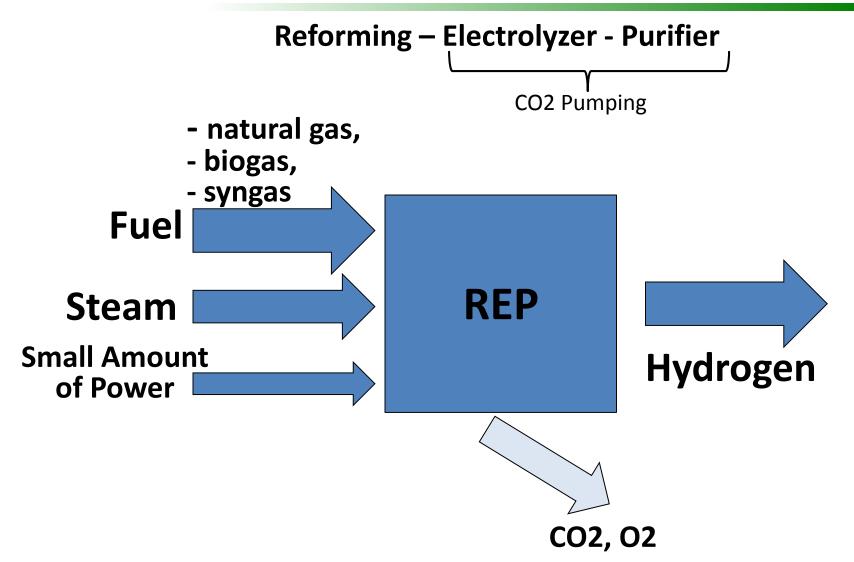




- Use existing FuelCell Energy MCFC (molten carbonate fuel cell) components
- Operate MCFC in electrolyzer mode as CO2 pump
  - Phase 1 single cell testing and model development
     Long term testing / life determination
  - Phase 2 Multi cell stack testing and thermal management
  - Optimization of configuration options using H2A model (UCI support) and commercialization plan
- Integrate input from potential users and stakeholders
  - Integration with DFC<sup>®</sup> operating fuel cell
  - Other sources of waste heat
  - H2 users, low and high pressure
  - CO2 capture potential, Power storage

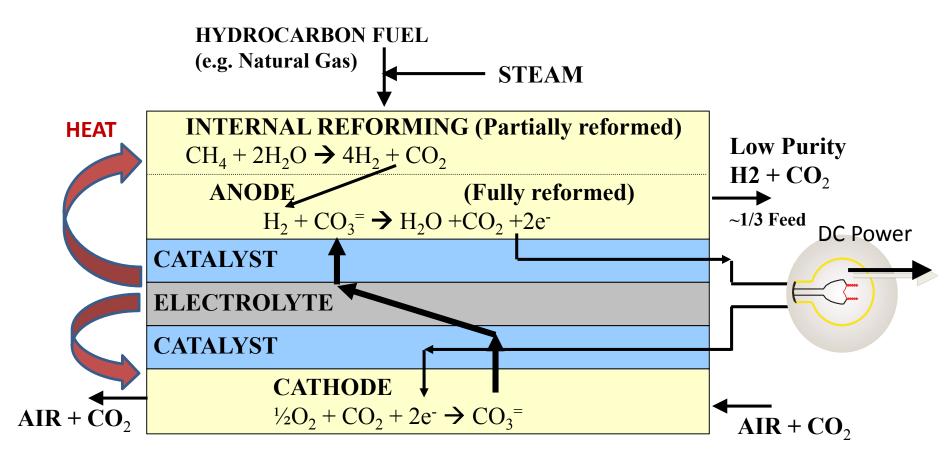






Potential Solution for California Hydrogen Infrastructure

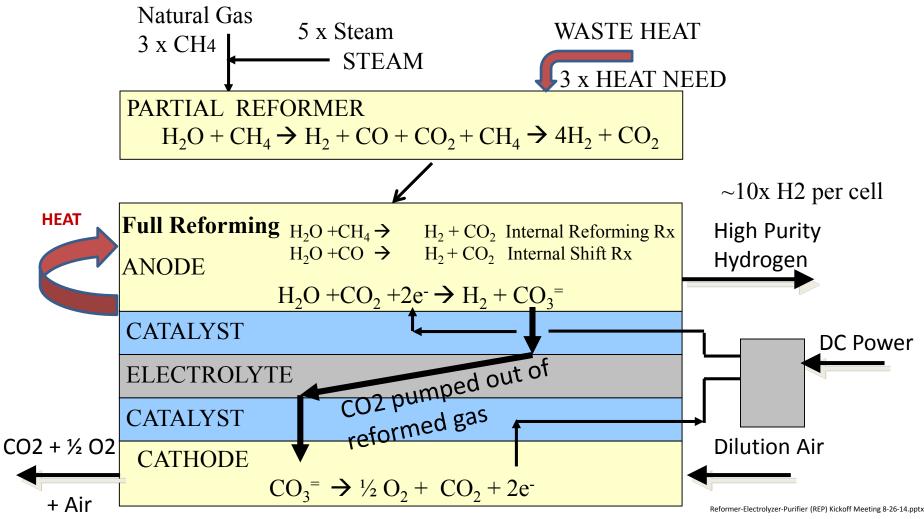












#### 10 x H2 per cell generated, external heat source is needed



**Challenges Faced** 

- 1. First of kind system
  - a) Control of system
  - b) Safe operation
  - c) Test facility limitations
- 2. Change in operating conditions compared to DFC<sup>®</sup>
  - a) 3 x more feed
  - b) 5 x more steam
  - c) Pre-reforming of feed gas
- 3. Safe venting of product H2
- 4. High ampere power supply





### **1. Single Cell Performance**

- a) Performance matched expectations
- b) Detailed model developed based on data

### 2. Life of fuel cell (based on single cell)

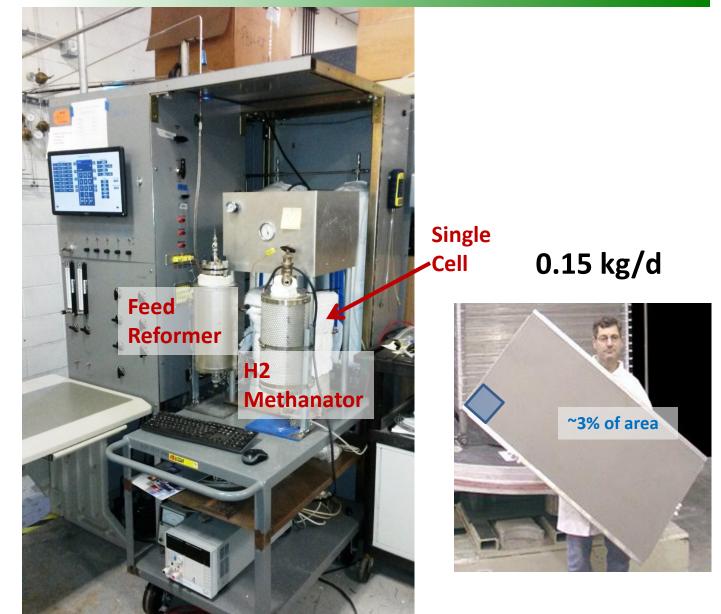
- a) Over 4,000 hours of operation
- b) Test halted due to power and feed interruptions
- c) Degradation rate target achieved
- d) 2 5 yr stack projected life

## 3. Full Scale Cells Stack Test

- a) 30 Cell stack built and tested
- b) Testing produced 97-98% H2 @100 kg/d, matched model
- c) Good thermal profile generated
- 4. Analyzed system options (continuing)

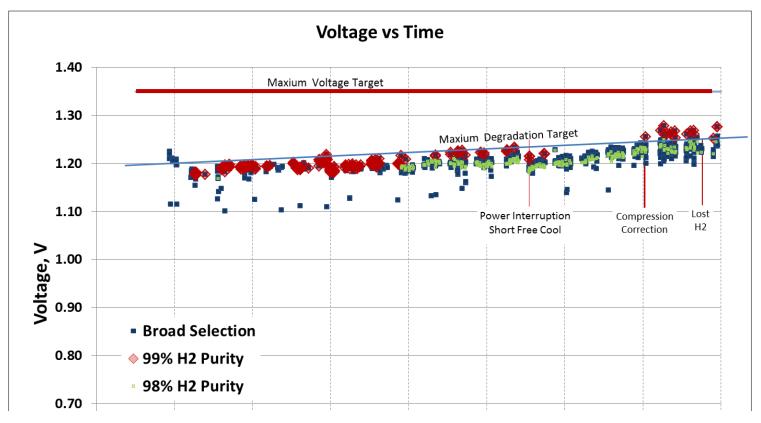


### **REP Single Cell Test Facility**

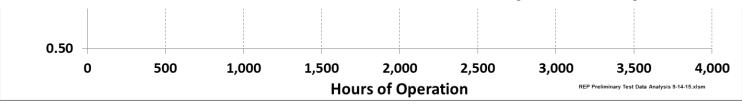




# Stable Operation over Long Term



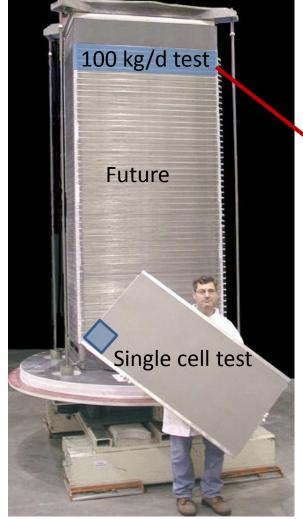
#### Based on these accelerated test results, expect 2-5 year stack life.







#### 2000 kg/d

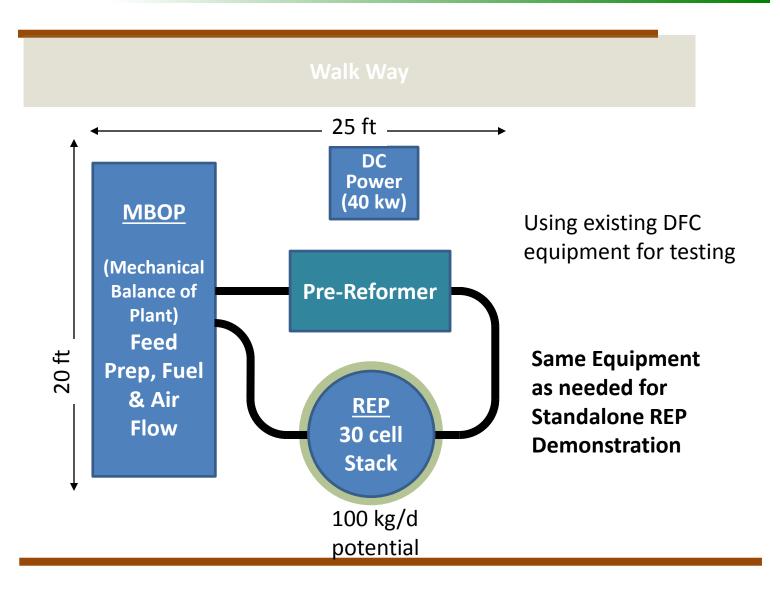


### 100 kg/d





# **Preparing for Full Load Test**





## In Large Scale Test Facilities Stack Test





|            | Target | Design | Test<br>Results                                                 |
|------------|--------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amps       |        | 1040   | 950                                                             |
| Volts/cell | <1.35  | 1.21   | 1.22 Meets Target                                               |
| H2 Purity  | >95%   | 97.4   | 97.5 Meets Target                                               |
| Kwh/kg     | <8     | 7.4    | 7.6 Meets Target                                                |
| Kg/day     | ~100   | 123    | 110 Meets Target                                                |
| CO2,g/gge  | ~5,500 | 4,900  | <b>4,700</b><br>REP 30 Cell 400kw HMB MixedGases 3-31-16ad Jubr |

REP 30 Cell 400kw HMB MixedGases 3-31-16ad.xlsm REP 30 Cell 400kw 950A 20H2 N2 HMB MixedGases 4-29-16.xlsm

Large Scale REP stack proven to be capable of 97%+ pure H2 production with low power input



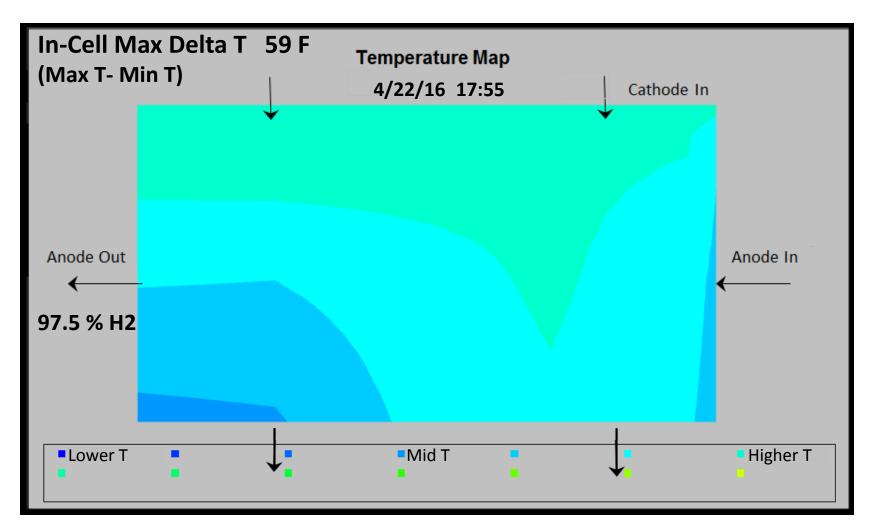
|            | Target | Design | Test<br>Results |
|------------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| Amps       |        | 1040   | 1025            |
| Volts/cell | <1.35  | 1.24   | 1.19            |
| H2 Purity  | >95%   | 97.7   | 98.3            |
| Kwh/kg     |        | 28.1   | 27.4            |
| Kg/day     |        | 33     | 32              |

#### CO2 Free\* H2 production Unit performs as expected with major feed variation

\*Only CO2 emitted is CO2 from power production



- Excellent temperature profile at full load
- Currently using to confirm modeling



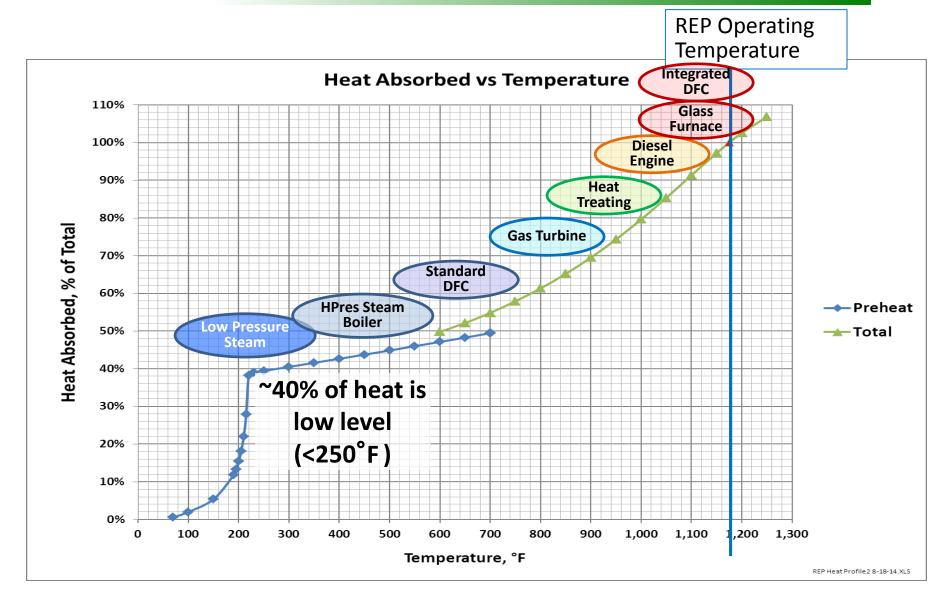




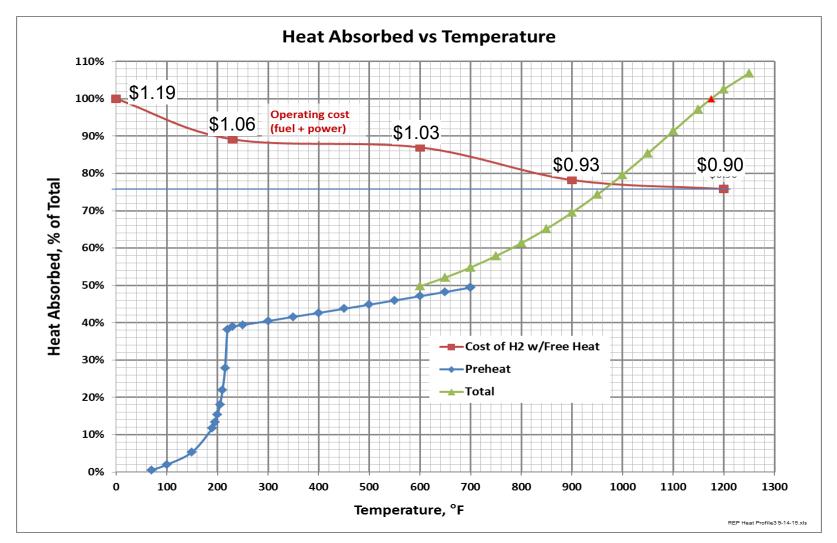
|                                    |                                                                                                                                         |        | REP    |           |                  | Operating            |                         |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-----------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
|                                    | mmbtu                                                                                                                                   | Kw NG  | Power, | H2        | Water,           | Costs,               | CO2,                    |
| Case                               | NG /kg                                                                                                                                  | /Kw H2 | kwh/kg | Purity, % | kg/kg            | \$/kg <sup>(1)</sup> | g/gge <sup>(2)</sup>    |
| 1. Base Case - Integrated with DFC | 0.069                                                                                                                                   | 0.62   | 7.915  | 97%       | 9.3              | 0.925                | 4,529                   |
| 2. Standalone - Grid Powered       | 0.114                                                                                                                                   | 1.02   | 7.216  | 98%       | 9.3              | 1.188                | 6,619                   |
| 3. Standalone - Ext LP Steam       | 0.095                                                                                                                                   | 0.84   | 7.211  | 97%       | 9.3              | 1.058                | 5,590                   |
| 4. Standalone - Self Powered       | 0.138                                                                                                                                   | 1.23   | 0.000  | 97%       | 9.3              | 0.488                | 8,082                   |
| 5. Standalone - Syngas Grid        | 0.066                                                                                                                                   | 0.59   | 12.181 | 98%       | 8.7              | 1.529                | <b>0</b> <sup>(6)</sup> |
| 6. Int with DFC - AE Pwr Storage   | 0.010                                                                                                                                   | 0.09   | 29.518 | 98%       | 9.2              | 1.886                | 0 <sup>(4)</sup>        |
| 7. Int with SOFC - AE Pwr Storage  | 0.000                                                                                                                                   | 0.00   | 23.768 | 97%       | 0 <sup>(3)</sup> | 1.529                | 0 <sup>(4,5)</sup>      |
| 8. Standalone - ADG Feed           | 0.104                                                                                                                                   | 0.93   | 10.277 | 98%       | 9.3              | 1.296                | 0 <sup>(6)</sup>        |
|                                    | <ul> <li>(1) Assumes \$6.77/mmbtu NG (LHV), \$0.057/kwh power.</li> <li>(2) Does not include CO2 associated with power used.</li> </ul> |        |        |           |                  |                      |                         |
|                                    | <sup>(3)</sup> All water needed is already in SOFC anode exhaust                                                                        |        |        |           |                  |                      |                         |
|                                    | <sup>(4)</sup> No additional CO2 emitted other than CO2 from power production                                                           |        |        |           |                  |                      |                         |
|                                    | <sup>(5)</sup> Potential CO2 capture for zero CO2 power from NG as well as H2                                                           |        |        |           |                  |                      |                         |
|                                    | <sup>(6)</sup> Renewable Hydrocarbon Feed                                                                                               |        |        |           |                  |                      |                         |

#### **Sources of Waste Heat**





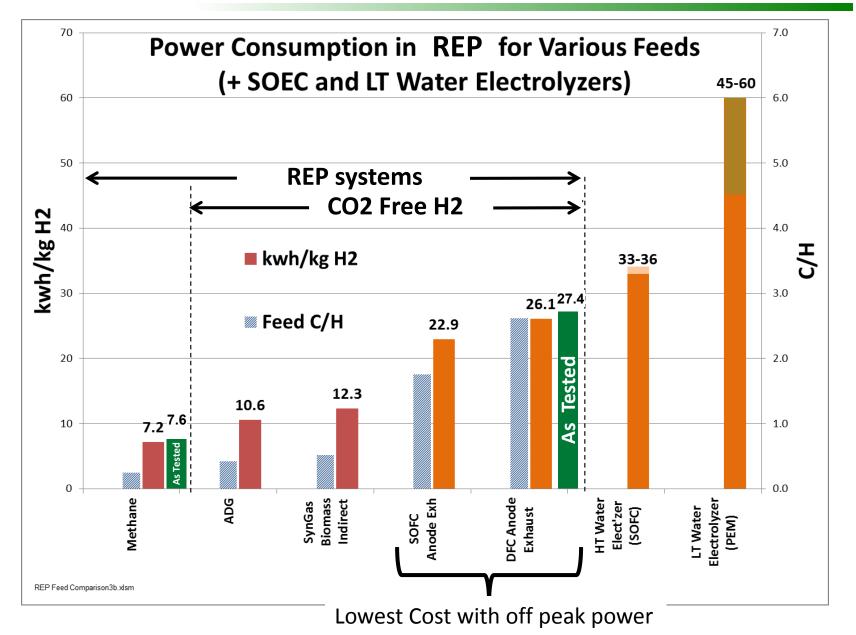




"Free" waste heat reduces cost of H2 \$0.29/kg, low level \$0.13/kg

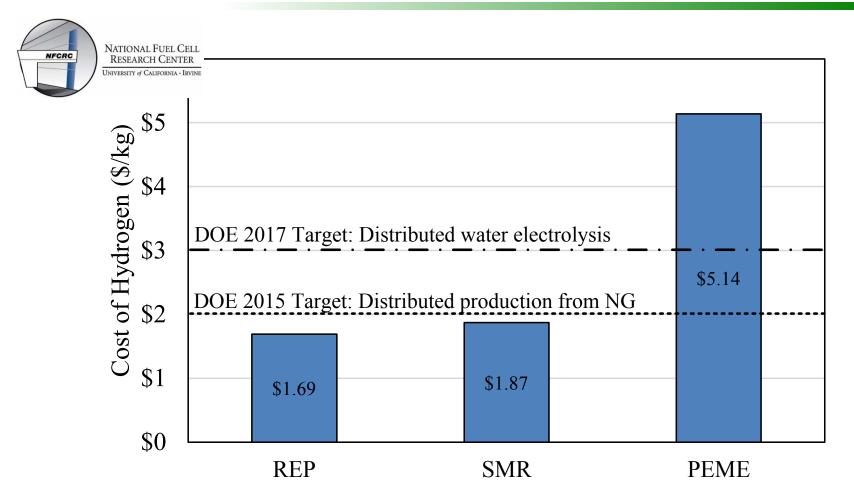


## **Impact of Different Feeds**





# **UCI Economic Analysis using H2A**



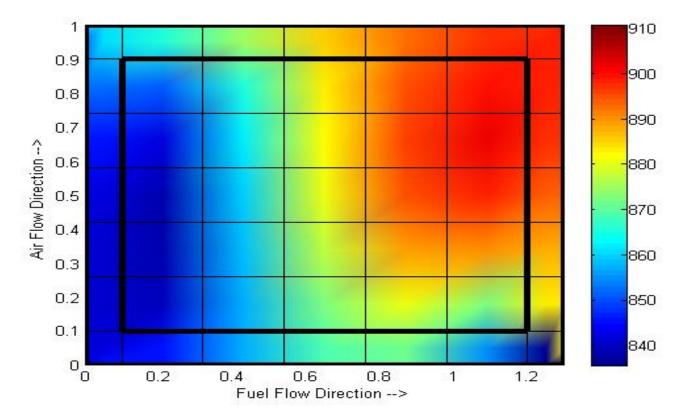
Hydrogen<sup>(1)</sup> production cost in a 1500 kg/day design capacity forecourt station with various production technologies (ECS Trans. 2016 71(1): 179-192)



## **UCI Model Predictions**



Temperature profile generated from a quasi-3D MCFC dynamic model Developing the MCEC model and verify with the experiment measurement



Cross-flow configuration steady-state temperature profile, Uf=65%



- **1. Presentation to DOE/HPTT**
- **2. Presentation at Fuel Cell Seminar**
- 3. Continuing to identify stakeholders from HPTT, California Hydrogen Business Council, UCI and other meetings
- 4. Initiating development of users workshop in California (UCI leading)
- 5. Patent application filed 2014, additional patents filed 2015, continuing as technology develops
- 6. Analyzed home refueler opportunity



- **1. Single Cell Performance and Life results excellent**
- 2. Accurate model REP developed
- 3. Met Go-NoGo decision, proceeded to 100 kg/d test
- 4. Optimizing system shows great potential for low CO2 emissions
  - a) Integrated with DFC and SOFC
  - b) Standalone system / low level heat integration
  - c) Alternate feedstocks (gasifier, ADG, waste gas)
  - d) Potential for zero CO2 production of H2
- 5. Initial performance test of short stack (100 kg/d)
  - a) Excellent at low and full load. Performed as expected
  - **b)** No impact of operation in REP mode seen on stack Same power generation performance before and after REP operation



- **1. Continue single cell testing** 
  - a. Feedstock variation (Including ADG, Anode Exhaust)
  - b. CO2/O2 co-production
- 2. Analyze 100 kg/d test results
- 3. Update H2A model analysis based on stack test data
- 4. Conceptual design of on-site REP system for low cost H2 refueling
- 5. <u>Identify potential funding for continuation of 100 kg/d</u> <u>testing (long term testing)</u>
- 6. Presentation to HPTT stakeholders (in May)
- 7. Final report

Need longer term full scale stack testing to confirm stack life (not part of initial program)