

# OPERATION OF A FUELCELL-HYBRID SWITCH LOCOMOTIVE IN THE LOS ANGELES BASIN



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# *HYBRID-FUELCELL SWITCH LOCOMOTIVE*



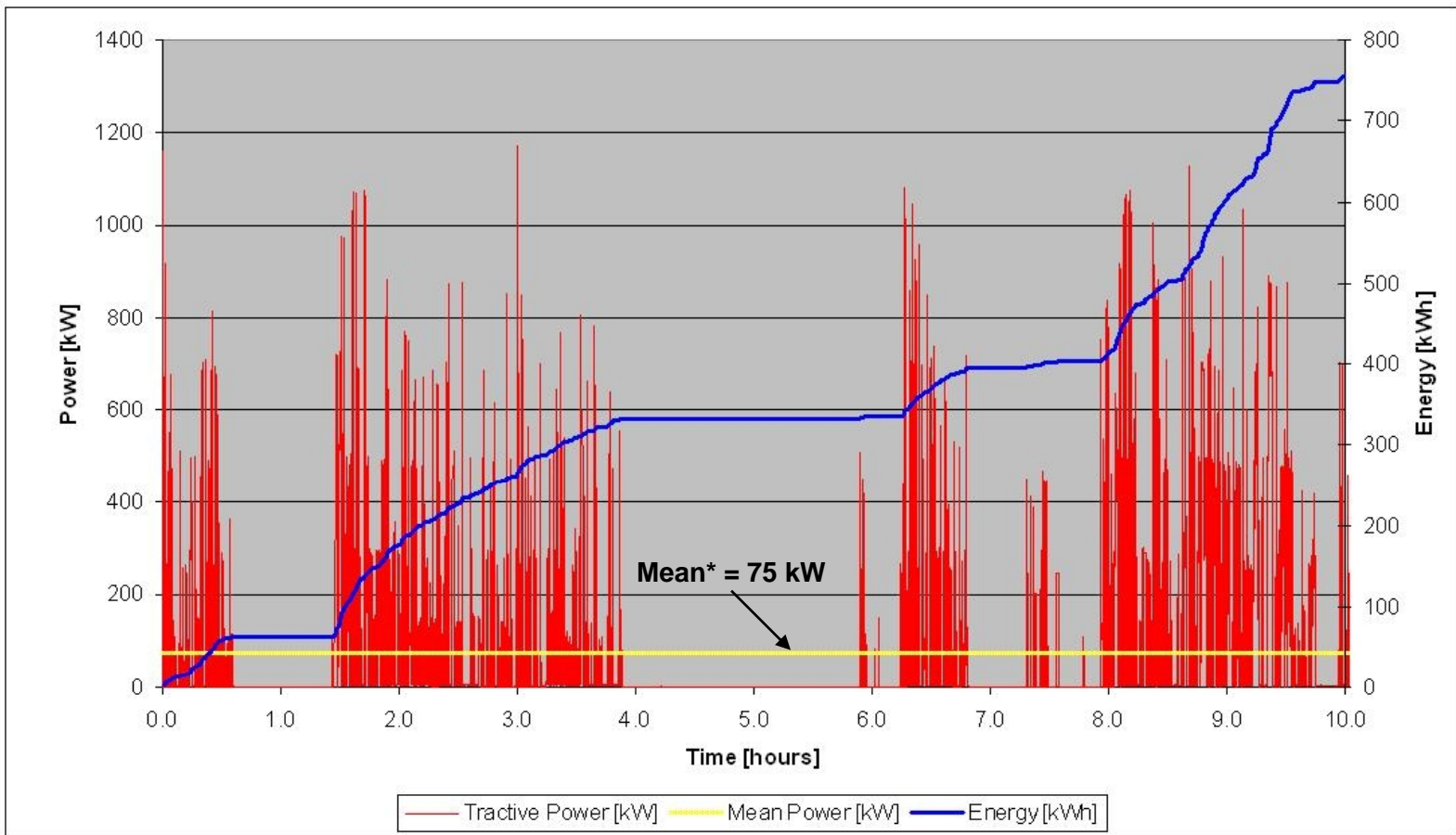
**Completed locomotive at unveiling to press on 29 June 2009**



## WHY FUELCELL RAIL?

- **Marries best features of conventional locos (electric and diesel) but avoids their disadvantages**
  - Zero chemical and low acoustic emissions at the vehicle (like electric loco)
  - Relatively low infrastructure cost (*linear* and like diesel infrastructure)
  - Zero total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions if primary energy is renewable or nuclear
  - More efficient overall than diesel or electric
- **Current issues**
  - Relative high cost of fuelcells
  - Entrenched competing technologies and fuels
  - Hydrogen storage

# WHY HYBRID? DUTY CYCLE OF SWITCH LOCO



\*Mean power computed over 20-h interval



## *SWITCH LOCOMOTIVE PROJECT OBJECTIVES*

**An industry-government partnership has developed a prototype fuelcell-hybrid switch locomotive that will:**

- Reduce air and noise pollution in urban rail applications, including seaports. (To be demonstrated in the Los Angeles Basin)
- Serve as a mobile backup power source (“power-to-grid”) for military bases and civilian disaster relief efforts.



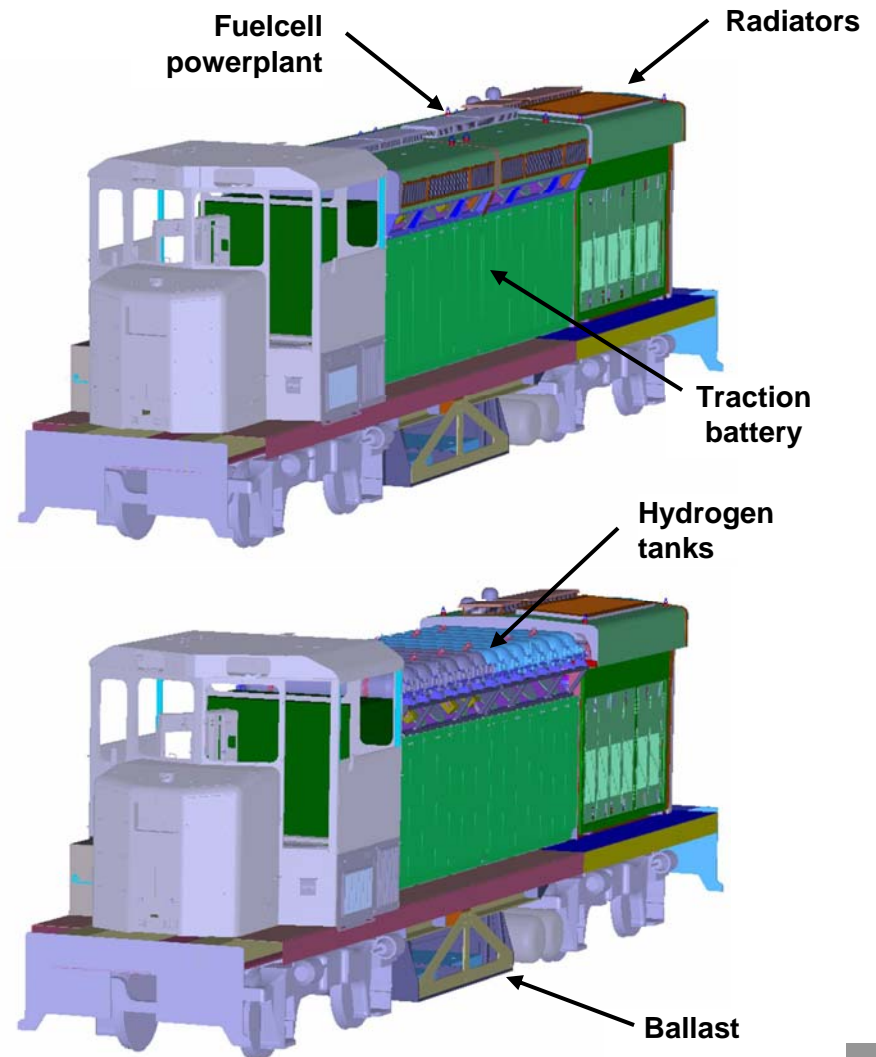
*FUELCELL LOCOMOTIVE UNDER CONSTRUCTION*



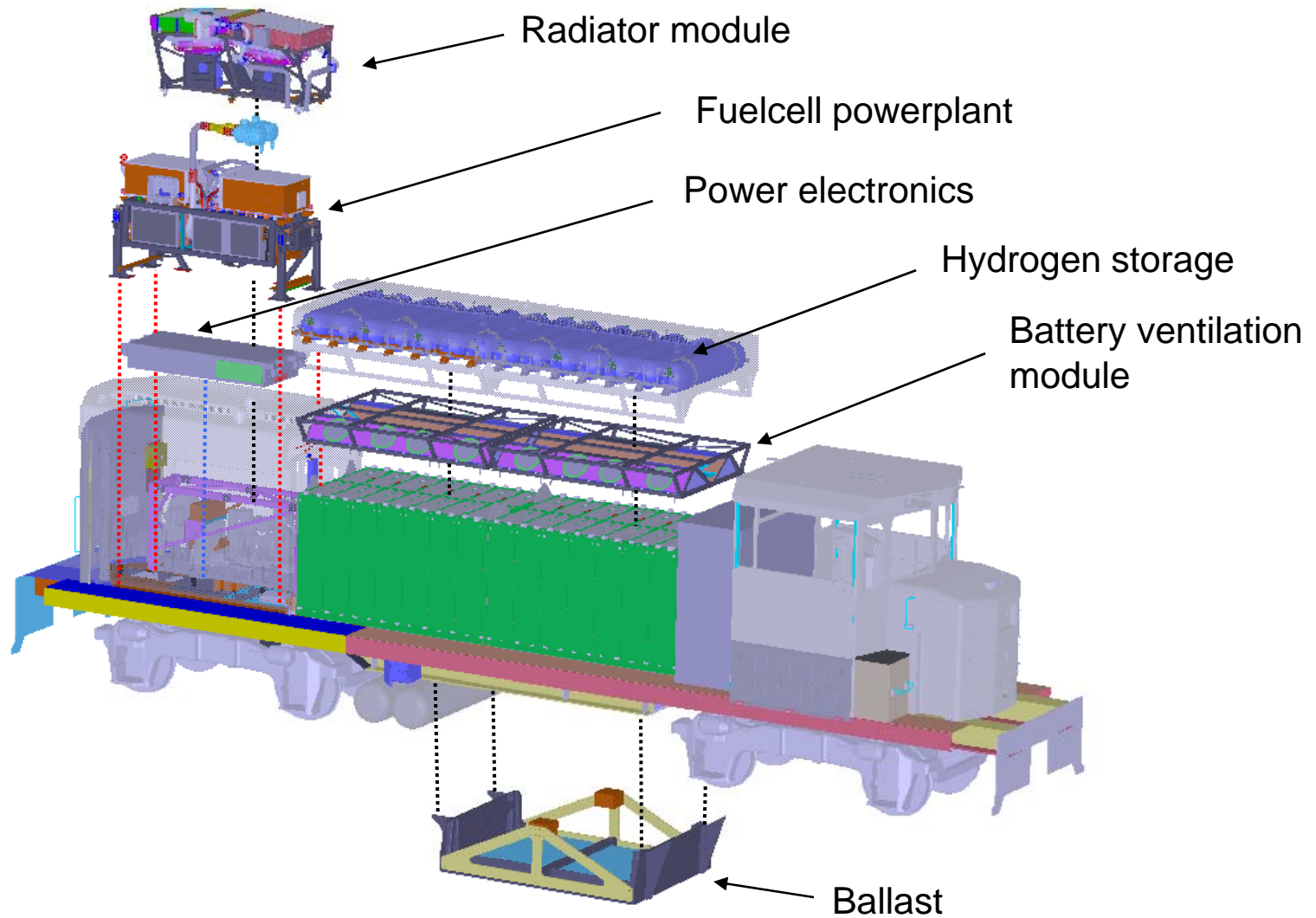
**31 July 2008, BNSF Topeka System Maintenance Terminal**

# CAD MODEL OF FUELCELL-HYBRID SWITCHER

- 240 kW cont. net fuelcell prime mover
- 70 kg hydrogen at 350 bar at roofline
- Traction battery allows transients above 1 MW
- 9 thousand kg extra ballast to bring to 130 tonne



# EXPANDED VIEW OF VEHICLE





# *IMPACT TESTING AT DOT PROVING GROUNDS*



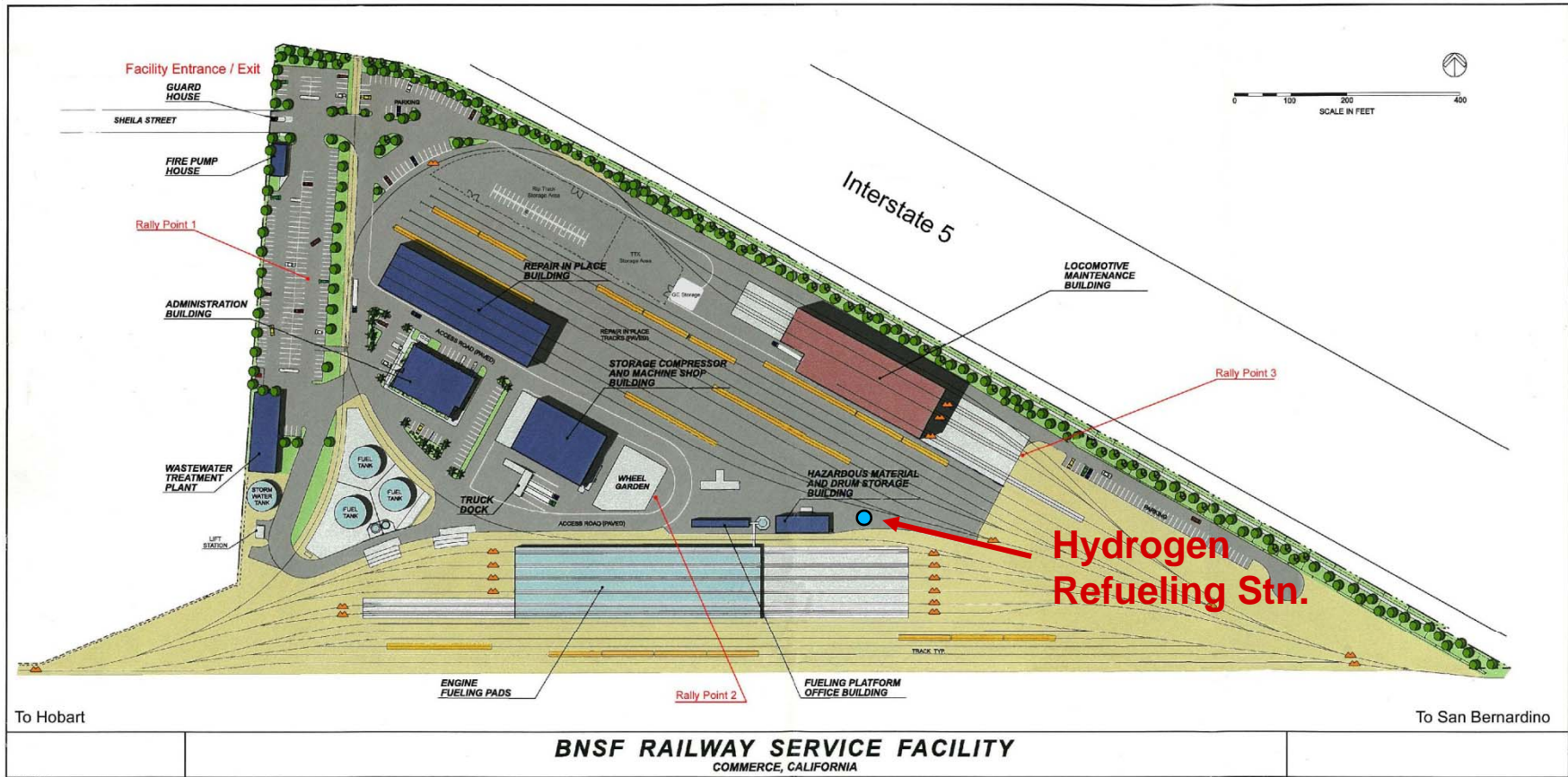
Play video of 3.8 mph impacts

# *HYDROGEN REFUELING STATION*

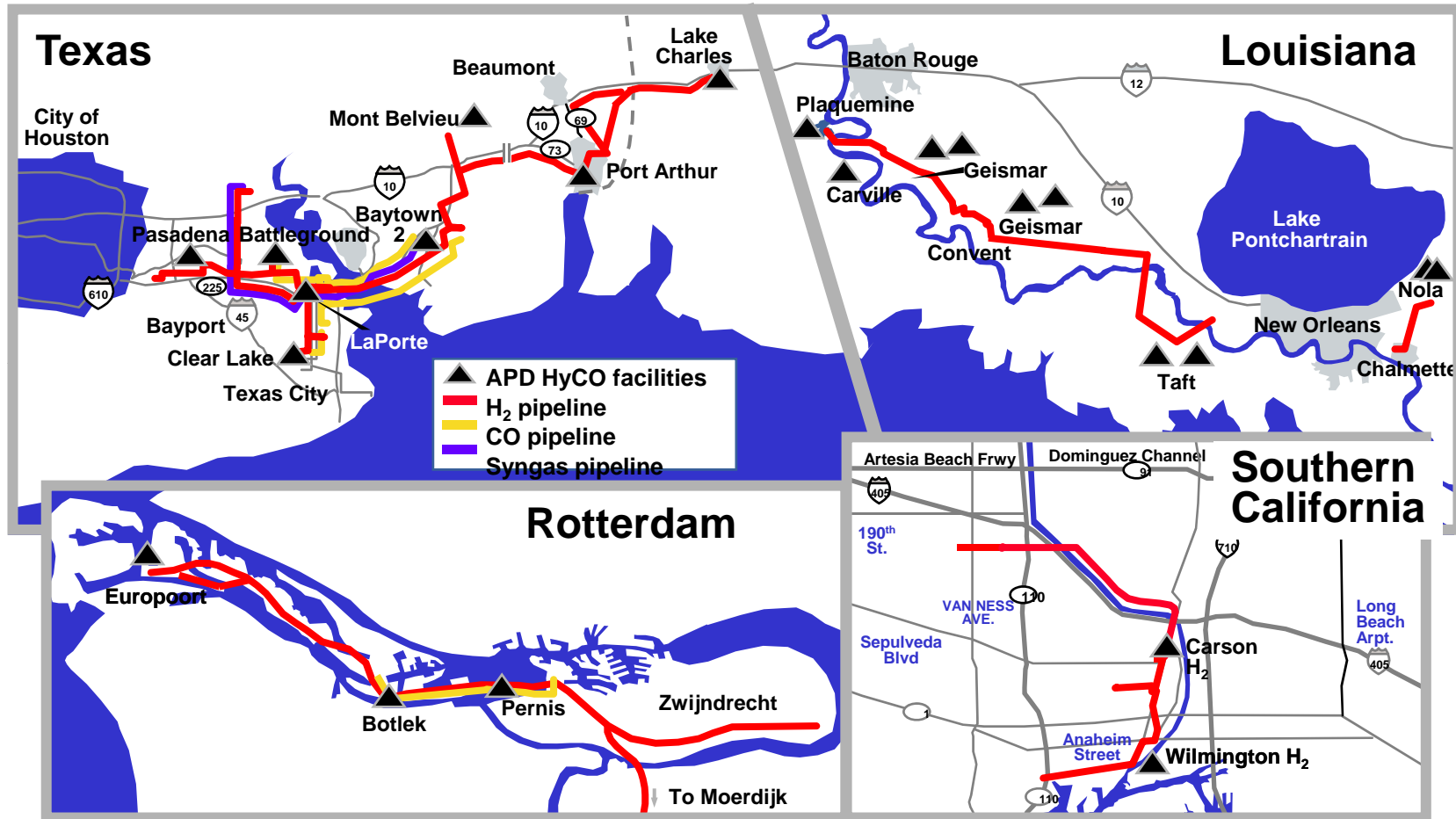




# DEMONSTRATION AT BNSF COMMERCE YARD



# AIR PRODUCTS' HYDROGEN PIPELINES



- Serves 7 refineries in LA
- 400 thousand kg/day at 55 bar
- 26 km length; 6-10 in. diameter





## *RESULTS*



- **Locomotive is complete and has approx. 30 hours operating time**
- **Operating interface is identical to conventional locomotive**
- **Silent in cab; allows unstrained conversation beside power compartment**
- **Locomotive will arrive in Los Angeles in early October 2009**
- **With hydrogen from LA pipeline, energy cost would be lower than diesel: < \$2/gal equivalent**