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Renewable hydrogen infrastructure may need to methanize to reach markets

Comments on Docket 17-HYD-01

Renewable hydrogen infrastructure may need to methanize to reach markets or infrastructure investments may be delayed several years.

The Hydrogen Roadmap Project Goals should encourage a leapfrog to fuel cell electric vehicles, but at scale, the infrastructure to produce hydrogen may be accelerated by methanization to renewable natural gas for transportation, delivered through public pipelines under longer term, better credit, buyer agreements while still decarbonizing transportation.

If the treasure map to hydrogen infrastructure points you to landfill power plant microgrids with a biogenic CO₂ source, a low cost public pipeline gas injection point (funded by the landfill's renewable gas injection investments), dozens of acres for onsite solar renewable electricity (power to gas cannot afford to pay for or hedge utility transportation costs), and where excess heat and electricity from methanation catalysts and solar production can be utilized on-site, why would landfills be exempt from this program? As organic diversion policies reduce biogas flow from a landfill, power to renewable gas facilities will make up for lost biogas resources, extending the useful life of our landfill gas to energy infrastructure investments as batteries during periods of excess production, and as renewable electricity production during peak periods of demand.

Power to gas enables sector coupling where gas, electricity, heat and mobility infrastructure are technically connected.

As we seek the point of highest leverage for RD&D, let's please also consider the point of highest leverage for development so infrastructure actually gets developed.

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