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Erthos Comments - Large-Scale Centralized Hydrogen Solicitation Concept

1. Based on CEQA, NEPA, and land-use permitting timelines, a project period of five years (instead of four) is recommended, including the 12-month demonstration.
2. The TRL of 8 at the "start of project" is vague. To encourage developing technologies to participate, a TRL of 4 at the time of application is recommended, with a TRL of 8 targeted for the start of construction.
3. Solar-powered hydrogen generation capacity is variable, seasonal, and degrades over time. Recommend using the 5 MT/day as an annualized average in year 1, not a daily minimum.
4. To build a competitive hydrogen plant producing 5MT/day costs, at a minimum, \$50m. This does not include land lease, extraordinary permitting, and finance costs. To encourage a healthy number of applicants and awardees, we recommend increasing the funding pool from \$30m to \$100m, with 50% cost share.
5. Regarding CEQA requirements, please elaborate or clarify that section,