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The Case for Investment in Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure

I on occasion drive a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle and would like to bring forward a case for further investment in statewide hydrogen infrastructure. The concept (and practical application) of hydrogen vehicles offer serious tangible benefits compared to both ICE and EV cars on the road. Internal combustion engines are inherently contributory to greenhouse emissions and require significant investment in fossil fuels. Electric cars also have the negative requirement of large scale mining relating to battery production and offer serious difficulties in adapting the states energy grid to an ever increasing electrical demand. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles can, with sufficient infrastructure investment from the state, offer a viable alternative. Fuel cell vehicles unlike ICE cars have zero green house emissions and do not require any fossil fuels in their use. Compared to a standard EV a Hydrogen Fuel Cell car requires significantly smaller batteries to achieve a similar or often superior range. The Toyota Mirai I drive has a battery that is roughly 80-100x smaller than a comparable full size sedan such as a Tesla Model S. This smaller battery could dramatically reduce production and disposal waste. Furthermore the refueling does not require massive investments into ever increasing energy distribution throughout cities and county's. Instead the production of Hydrogen is done in centralized facilities that can (and should) through a variety of means be brought to a carbon neutral standard. Whether that is achieved by providing power to the facilities through a combination of solar, hydroelectric, and wind, or an even more viable long term solution such as further investments into state nuclear facilities, hydrogen production offers an alternative to both the ICE and EV that have become common place. Support for future passenger refueling stations is a solid first step towards a stronger more resilient Hydrogen eco system that can only flourish if the state provides incentives and supports the flagging system. I would strongly urge that investment into Hydrogen, whether it be refueling stations or hydrogen production to bring overall prices down, would be in California's and its citizens best interest. Thank you for your time.