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### **Renewable electricity to hydrogen – California**

California Energy Commission – Pre-Solicitation Workshop on Implementation Strategies for Production of Renewable Hydrogen in California | January 30, 2017



Has changed name to Nel Hydrogen

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#### Large scale hydrogen electrolysers since 1927

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Delivered the world's largest electrolyser in 1950s on 135 MW / 30,000 Nm3/h

### 50MW electrolyser can fuel all California's FCEVs

A Standardized 50MW electrolyser plant from Nel Hydrogen can support more than 40.000 FCEVs on annual basis. This corresponds to 100% renewable hydrogen supply to all FCEVs in California by 2022 as projected by the ARB. Additional electrolyser capacity can easily be added and more plants build as hydrogen demand increases.





24 x NEL A-485 electrolysers – 50MW



### Renewables to make hydrogen competitive with gasoline

Hydrogen pump price of \$6.7/kg matches gasoline on a fuel cost per driven mile basis. Renewable electricity at <\$50/MWh and hydrogen infrastructure at scale can achieve this.



#### One 50MW electrolyser for 100% RE H2 for all 40,000 FCEVs in California by 2022 can achieve competitiveness with gasoline.

# Several factors will however delay achieving of scale and result in a price gap to gasoline:

- Renewable hydrogen share is likely to be lower than 100% (only 33% required).
- Market demand will be addressed by multiple electrolyser plants (competition).
- Sufficient demand for one plant will require substantially more than 40,000 FCEVs.

#### Public contributions could address gasoline price gap until sufficient scale is achieved:

- CAPEX support (e.g. competitive grants).
- OPEX support (e.g. LCFS or waived grid fees).



### "Bankability" of LCFS and compensating lost REC's

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- Bankability of a fluctuating LCFS credit value is challenging for the business case on renewable hydrogen production.
- Compensating the renewable power generator for lost REC's is also likely to outbalance the LCFS value created.
- LCFS credit multiplier for hydrogen similar to ZEV credit multiplier A variable LCFS credit multiplier for hydrogen could secure a stable credit value (\$/kg) and cover the cost for compensating lost REC's.



LCFS hydrogen		<b>REC compensation</b>
value generated		affordable
[\$/H2 kg]		[\$/MWh]
\$0.5	<b>→</b>	\$8
\$1.0	→	\$16
\$1.5	→	\$24
\$2.0	→	\$32

Example: an LFCS value of \$0.5 per kg hydrogen can compensate \$8 per MWh in lost REC value.



### Hydrogen production should not pay for helping the grid

#### Hydrogen production connected to renewables can reduce risk of curtailment and enable a higher renewable share in the grid.

- **Day time:** Electrolyser utilizes solar power or grid power and reduces risk of curtailment stemming from higher RE shares.
- **Night time:** Electrolyser draws power from the grid or wind and reduces production during high demand periods.
- Drawing power from both grid and renewables enables a more steady and less costly hydrogen production (more operation hours).

Despite hydrogen production would help the grid – various grid fees still apply when hydrogen production draws from the grid. Waiving of grid fees for hydrogen production e.g. under the Net Energy Metering (NEM 2.0) could help reduce hydrogen costs.



### Input – public contribution to renewable hydrogen

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Public contributions could advance renewable hydrogen and address the price gap to gasoline earlier than the market alone.

#### **CAPEX** support for renewable hydrogen production plants

- Support could address the price gap stemming from higher CAPEX on e.g. Medium Scale electrolyser plants (>10MW).
- A lower initial capacity (e.g. >2.5MW) but with the ability to scale as market demand grows could limit the support need.
- Support could also include investments in high capacity gaseous distribution to further drive scale and cost reduction.
- Selection of projects e.g. via a competitive Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO) potentially with synergy to DOE H2@Scale.

#### LCFS credit multiplier for renewable hydrogen

- Addition of a variable credit multiplier that would stabilize the credit value and cover costs for compensation of lost REC's.
- Could e.g. be implemented as part of the current ARB considerations on adjustments to "Hydrogen in the LCFS".

#### Incentivize use of hydrogen production for grid balancing and integration of renewables

- Renewable hydrogen production that helps to integrate more renewables and reduces risk of curtailment should be incentivized.
- E.g. waiving of applicable grid fees for hydrogen production under the Net Energy Metering NEM 2.0.

End of presentation

## Thank you for your attention

**Questions?** 

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