

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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**Request for Information
Information Needed by Hydrogen Suppliers
October 4, 2018**

Purpose of Request:

This request for information (RFI) solicits input from entities that either supply or plan to research the supply chain to support a business case for supplying hydrogen to refueling stations funded by the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (ARFVTP) for light-duty fuel cell electric vehicle fueling in California.

Background:

The ARFVTP was created by Assembly Bill 118 (Núñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007), which authorized the California Energy Commission “to develop and deploy technology and alternative and renewable fuels in the marketplace, without adopting any one preferred fuel or technology.” The ARFVTP has an annual budget of about \$100 million for projects that:

- Reduce California’s use and dependence on petroleum transportation fuels and increase the use of alternative and renewable fuels and advanced vehicle technologies.
- Produce sustainable alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels in California.
- Expand alternative fueling infrastructure and fueling stations.
- Improve the efficiency, performance, and market viability of alternative light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicle technologies.
- Retrofit medium- and heavy-duty on-road and nonroad vehicle fleets to alternative technologies or fuel use.
- Expand the alternative fueling infrastructure available to existing fleets, public transit, and transportation corridors.
- Establish workforce training programs and conduct public outreach on the benefits of alternative transportation fuels and vehicle technologies.

Further, Assembly Bill 8 (Perea, Chapter 401, Statutes of 2013) directs the Energy Commission to allocate \$20 million annually, not to exceed 20 percent of the money appropriated by the Legislature, from the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Fund for developing hydrogen refueling stations until there are at least 100 publicly available stations in California.

Over the past 10 years, ARFVTP funding was used to develop and deploy hydrogen refueling stations in California through numerous funding mechanisms towards the existing goal of reaching 100 stations. The mechanisms include grants for hydrogen refueling stations and for station operation and maintenance; contracts for hydrogen

refueling station upgrades; cofunding station testing equipment, and most recently, a grant for a renewable hydrogen production and distribution system.

Requested Information:

The Energy Commission is accepting public comments under this RFI to help identify hydrogen market needs and opportunities, and to guide future information sharing that will support the development and expansion of available hydrogen resources in California. As the hydrogen refueling network in California grows, the supply of hydrogen as a fuel also needs to grow.

In particular, the Energy Commission would like to understand what information needs private stakeholders have that the state may be able to meet, for the purposes of the Commission's future and accelerated investments in hydrogen fueling infrastructure for light-duty fuel cell electric vehicles. Respondents are encouraged to consider and convey needs for information that:

- Supports business case development for the hydrogen supply.
- Requires clarification or recharacterization to be useful.
- Should be shared more frequently.
- Includes new analyses or reporting.
- Conveys how state regulation and policy is critical to and ensures achievement of zero-emission vehicle and other environmental protection goals.

This RFI also seeks detailed feedback and comments for questions such as:

- What is attractive about the California hydrogen market? Which facets of the market should the state expect private investment to dominate in the near, middle, and long term? Which facets require state investment to catalyze the market?
- What factors preclude investment in the California hydrogen market? What will it take to overcome those factors?
- How can California's resources that are compatible with hydrogen production, such as renewable electricity, renewable natural gas, other biofuels projects funded by ARFVTP, or other hydrogen-rich energy carriers help the California hydrogen market?

Confidential information will not be accepted in response to this RFI.

Respondents to this request for information should not include any proprietary, sensitive, or confidential information. This request for information will not consider the merits of individual projects or any requests for funding.

How to Comment: Comments may be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2018. Please submit comments to the Energy Commission using the e-commenting feature by accessing

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=18-HYD-03>.

A full name, e-mail address, comment title, and either a comment or an attached document (.doc, .docx, or .pdf format) is mandatory. After a challenge-response test is used by the system to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the “Agree & Submit Your Comment” button to submit the comment to the Energy Commission’s Docket Unit.

Please note that written comments, attachments, and associated contact information included within the documents and attachments (e.g., your address, phone number, email address, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo and any other search engines.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to use the electronic filing system described above to submit comments. If you are unable to submit electronically, a paper copy of your comments may be sent to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 18-HYD-03
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Or e-mailing them to: DOCKET@energy.ca.gov with the subject line stating “RFI Information Needed by Hydrogen Suppliers.”

For questions, please contact Miki Crowell at Miki.Crowell@energy.ca.gov or 916-653-0363.