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BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

)	
2020 Integrated Energy)	Docket No. 20-IEPR-02
Policy Report Update)	REMOTE ACCESS WORKSHOP
(2020 IEPR Update))
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IEPR COMMISSIONER WORKSHOP

HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLE MARKET STATUS

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

SESSION 1: HYDROGEN SUPPLY AND INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020

9:30 A.M.

Reported by: Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

CEC COMMISSIONERS (AND COMMISSIONER ADVISORS) PRESENT:

Patty Monahan, 2020 IEPR Update Lead Commissioner
 J. Andrew McAllister, Commissioner
 Rhetta DeMesa, Advisor to Vice Chair Janea A. Scott
 Karen Douglas, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Heather Raitt, Assistant Executive Director, Policy
 Development
 Jonathan Bobadilla, Associate Energy Specialist,
 Transportation Policy & Analysis Office
 Jane Berner
 RoseMary Avalos, Public Advisor's Office

PRESENTER:

Dr. Xiaoting Wang, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

PANELISTS:

Jacob Teter, International Energy Agency
 Wayne Leighty, Shell
 Shane Stephens, FirstElement Fuel, Inc.
 Dave Edwards, Air Liquide and Hydrogen Council

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bernard Berrier, Biomass Biochar Cooperative
 Ray Pingle, Sierra Club California
 David Uselton
 Tim Sasseen, Ballard Power Systems
 Diana Haines, SoCalGas
 William (Bill) Zobel, California Hydrogen Business Council
 David Park, California Fuel Cell Partnership
 Andrew Martinez, CARB
 Travis Adren, D3 Designs
 Robert Perry
 Robert DuBois, NuFuels
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 JULY 2, 2020

9:30 A.M.

3 MS. RAITT: So we'll go ahead and get started. I'm
4 Heather Raitt, the Program Manager for the Integrated Energy
5 Policy Report, or IEPR for short. Welcome to today's
6 Workshop on Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Market
7 Status. This workshop is part of the 2020 IEPR Update
8 Proceeding.

9 So I'll quickly go over some housekeeping items.
10 Today's workshop is being held remotely, consistent with
11 Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and the recommendations
12 of the California Department of Public Health to encourage
13 physical distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19.

14 Instructions for attending or participating in the
15 meeting were provided in the notice and include both Internet
16 and call-in options. Notice is available on the Energy
17 Commission's webpage.

18 This meeting is being recorded. We'll post a
19 recording and written transcript on our website. Also,
20 today's presentations have been posted on our website.

21 We're holding this workshop in two sessions today.
22 This morning we have a presentation to provide a market
23 overview of hydrogen and the fuel cell market. Followed by a
24 panel discussion of hydrogen supply and fueling
25 infrastructure. We'll break about noon and come back at 1:30

1 for Session 2, which is -- will be panel discussions on
2 heavy-duty and light-duty fuel cell electric vehicles.

3 And just to let people know, we -- we just posted a
4 slightly revised meeting schedule for this afternoon. Just a
5 correction to the moderator names. Please note there will be
6 a separate login for this afternoon's session.

7 We're working on making the IEPR workshops more
8 engaging in this remote environment and we'll be using the
9 Q&A function in Zoom with a capability to vote on questions
10 posed by others. So attendees, you may type questions for
11 panelists by clicking on the Q&A icon at the bottom of your
12 screen. Before typing a question, please go ahead and check
13 and see if someone else has already posed a similar question.
14 If so, you can just click the thumbs up to vote on it and
15 that will move it up in the queue. And questions with the
16 most thumbs up or clicks are voted to the top of the list.
17 So we'll do our best -- our best to respond to questions but
18 are unlikely to elevate all due to time restrictions.

19 So now I'll go over how to provide comments for the
20 material on today's workshop. There will be an opportunity
21 for public comments at the end of both sessions today. In
22 Zoom, you can click the raise hand icon at the bottom of the
23 screen to let us know you'd like to make a comment. And you
24 can click it again if you change your mind and want to put
25 your hand down. For those not -- oh, excuse me, for those on

1 the phone not using Zoom, press star 9 to raise your hand and
2 we'll open your line during the public comment period.

3 Alternately, written comments after the workshop are
4 welcome and they are due on July 23rd. Again, the meeting
5 notice provides all the detailed instructions for providing
6 written comments.

7 And with that, I'll turn it over to Commissioner
8 Monahan for opening remarks.

9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thanks, Heather.

11 Good morning, everybody. I've said this at previous
12 workshops, but I want to reiterate that hydrogen fuel cells
13 are the other electric vehicle. I think there's, we have de
14 facto been assuming that when we talk about electric
15 vehicles, we're only talking about battery electric vehicles.
16 And so I just want to emphasize that really this is, you
17 know, hydrogen fuel cells are another form of electric
18 vehicle.

19 And California I think has really been leading the
20 way globally towards commercialization of fuel cell vehicles
21 and hydrogen infrastructure, as well as setting a course for
22 reducing the carbon intensity of hydrogen. So there have
23 been a lot of very interesting announcements in recent times
24 about more investment in fuel cell, in hydrogen in
25 particular. And this panel is really going to be discussing,

1 you know, where we are in terms of developing hydrogen and
2 building out the infrastructure.

3 One of the issues I've been particularly interested
4 in is how do we -- how do we seed the California leadership
5 to other parts of the globe? I mean, the way we are going to
6 be able to commercialize fuel cells and hydrogen is by global
7 investment. And California has been a leader on this for a
8 long time. For a long time we were the leader on -- leaders
9 on battery electric vehicles too. And then we saw global
10 investment, others following California's lead. That -- that
11 really built scale, drove down prices, and helped to lead to
12 a pathway to commercialization. And that is the same
13 trajectory that we want to encourage in the hydrogen and fuel
14 cell world.

15 So excited for this day of workshops on hydrogen and
16 fuel cells and looking forward to hearing what the panelists
17 have to say, and learning.

18 So I turn to other members of the dais. I think
19 right now we just have Commissioner Douglas on the dais.
20 Commissioner Douglas, would you like to make any comments?

21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: You know, just very briefly.
22 I've been watching the hydrogen vehicle and infrastructure
23 development over many years as well as, of course, battery
24 electric vehicles. And I'm really interested to learn more
25 about where things are today and where we really reasonably

1 can see this going. So very interested in this topic and
2 look forward to the workshop.

3 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: We also have a representative
4 from Commissioner Scott's office.

5 Rhetta, do you want to say anything?

6 MS. DEMESA: Yeah. Sure. Happy to.

7 First of all, thank you both for allowing me to join
8 you on the virtual dais this morning. For those of you who
9 don't know, my name is Rhetta DeMesa. I'm an advisor to Vice
10 Chair Janea Scott. Today's topic is of importance to the
11 vice chair and she was really hoping to be able to be here
12 today. Unfortunately, we weren't able to make it work with
13 her calendar, so she asked that I pass along her apologies.

14 For those of you who don't know, Vice Chair Scott is
15 lead commissioner overseeing R&D efforts here at the
16 Commission. And prior to that, she was lead commissioner on
17 transportation. So our office is very familiar with the
18 opportunities and challenges of the hydrogen market,
19 particularly here in California. We know that to meet our
20 energy goals, including getting to a 100 percent in zero
21 carbon resources we're going to need a mix of fuels and
22 technologies, and we very much think that hydrogen is going
23 to be a part of that.

24 Hydrogen is an interesting energy source in that it
25 has the potential to cut across multiple sectors, including

1 both transportation and electricity while providing multiple
2 benefits. So it can play a role in not only in decarbonizing
3 transportation, which we're going to talk about today, but
4 also integrating renewable resources, providing energy
5 storage, and adding resilience to the grid.

6 We recognize that there's a lot of work to be done in
7 the hydrogen space, but we see a lot of opportunity for
8 innovation to help drive the market forward. So some of the
9 things that we're kind of looking at in the R&D Division,
10 research opportunities that can reduce the cost of renewable
11 hydrogen production, supporting the development and
12 demonstration of expanded use of fuel cells in mobile
13 applications that are harder to electrify like locomotives
14 and harbor craft. We're looking at technologies for hydrogen
15 and building decarb, and also the role of hydrogen in long-
16 term storage.

17 So we certainly recognize that hydrogen can serve as
18 an important pathway in helping us get to a clean energy
19 future and I'm just really interested and looking forward to
20 hearing the conversation today. Listening and learning.

21 So thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Heather, are there any other
23 members of the dais or can we move on?

24 MS. RAITT: I don't see any others available right
25 now. So I think we can go ahead and move on.

1 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Okay. Great.

2 Well, let me introduce our first speaker,
3 Dr. Xiaoting Wang from Bloomberg New Energy Finance, who's
4 going to provide an overview of the hydrogen and fuel cell
5 market to kick off the day's workshops.

6 DR. WANG: Thank you for the introduction,
7 Commissioner Monahan.

8 Good morning, everyone. It is my honor to have the
9 opportunity of sharing the recent findings from Bloomberg NEF
10 with the great audience here. So the scope of my
11 presentation today will cover the economics of different
12 segments along the value chain for the emerging hydrogen
13 industry.

14 Let's move to the next slide.

15 Okay. I will like to start with a very general
16 context about the demand of hydrogen. So in 2018,
17 electricity made up 19 percent of final energy consumption,
18 while the remaining 81 percent was consumed in the form of
19 molecule-based fuels like coal, oil, gas, and biomass. All
20 provided directly at peak. If the world continues along its
21 present path, the global economy is to consume 54 percent
22 more energy by mid-century as population and economies expand
23 with electricity taking a 25 percent share.

24 Intergovernmental panel on climate change offered a
25 perspective of what it might take to achieve an emission for

1 battery that limits global temperature rise to 1.5 degree.
2 The whole package includes four solutions. Radical
3 improvements of energy efficiency, or electricity from zero,
4 or low carbon sources. Massive electrification that pushes
5 up the share of electricity in total energy consumption to 53
6 percent. And finally, the other 47 percent energy consumed
7 in form of molecule-based fuel would need to have very low
8 emissions in capacity. So this is actually the potential
9 market for a clean molecule like hydrogen or bioenergy and
10 for continued use of fossil fuel with CCS.

11 Next slide please.

12 So today some cultures have policies to encourage
13 adoption of hydrogen in road transport. While there is a
14 wider spectrum of potential application for the molecule,
15 manufacturing, power, and the supply, although they heat,
16 could be significant sources of demand for hydrogen as well.

17 Next one.

18 In 2018, about 120 million metric tons of hydrogen
19 was produced with 41 percent generated as a byproduct from
20 various industry. For the remaining 69 million tons made
21 deliberately, most came from gas, coal, oil-based reaction.
22 And only 4 percent was yielded through water electrolysis,
23 which does not release carbon dioxide in the final process,
24 but does utilize electricity from the grid, which generally
25 make it even more carbon intensive.

1 So in terms of consumption, almost all hydrogen is
2 used as feedstock in the manufacturing of chemicals and basic
3 materials. And hydrogen produced by water electrolysis have
4 mostly supplied more and a distributed application, such as
5 food and glass processing, (indiscernible) purification, et
6 cetera. And the use of electrolysis in this application.
7 Actually, it's not generally motivated by reducing carbon
8 emissions, but because electrolyzers provide better economics
9 when the required hydrogen purity is relatively high, the
10 volume is more as the demand site is far away from the
11 centralized production factory.

12 Next one.

13 So with this context, it's not surprising to see a
14 very small shipment volume of electrolyzers nowadays. And
15 China is so far the biggest market where manufacturing
16 industry, in general, is still rising. In China, the more
17 commercially mature alkaline electrolyzer is a single
18 dominant for that type.

19 Next.

20 The production cost of gray hydrogen depends on the
21 spot price of fossil fuels. And here we define the benchmark
22 and 1 to 1.8 dollar per kilogram for countries with access to
23 relatively cheap gas or coal.

24 The cost of making green hydrogen varies for
25 different electrolyzer technologies and power prices. Here

1 we only consider alkaline and proton-exchange membrane, or
2 PEM, electrolyzer that are commercially ready. So for the
3 2019 benchmark, we assumed electrolyzers are to source
4 electricity from wind power plants. In general, green
5 hydrogen production cost is two to five times that of gray
6 hydrogen nowadays. But as the market of scale goes up, we
7 expect electrolysis based to green hydrogen production to
8 achieve cost comparable with gray hydrogen in ten years. And
9 the former is likely to be 20 to 45 percent cheaper by 2050.

10 Next one.

11 So that prediction is based on our forecast of
12 electrolyzer price and also LCOE of renewable electricity.
13 Both will experience significant reduction in the following
14 decades.

15 Next one.

16 During the past five years, the most mature two
17 electrolyzer technologies, alkaline and PEM, had realized 40
18 to 50 percent cut as system capex based on data reported in
19 Europe and North America.

20 Next slide, please.

21 And more dramatic contrast occurs between alkaline
22 product installed in China and in Western countries. The
23 number in China provides a better benchmark in terms of what
24 is achievable. And we deal with the forecast for
25 electrolyzer cost after scaling, based on this value.

1 Next one, please.

2 So PEM is less mature compared with alkaline
3 electrolyzer, but it holds great potential in cost reduction.
4 As suggested by the 20 percent learning rate observed in PEM
5 fuel cells which are based on singular product structure and
6 working principle at PEM Electrolyzer except that
7 (indiscernible) chemical reactions are all the opposite
8 direction.

9 Next one.

10 So by 2030, we expect regional capex to converge.
11 Just as demonstrated by the history of EV industry. And
12 alkaline electrolyzer capex will fall by 30 to 40 percent,
13 even compared with the value observed say in China. And
14 another 30 percent cut is likely by 2050. PEM will be more,
15 still more expensive than alkaline electrolyzer by 2030. And
16 it will be more suitable for small scale applications with an
17 advantage of more compact physical design. But it is likely
18 to achieve cost comparable with alkaline by 2050.

19 Next.

20 So the other side of the story is that renewable
21 electricity is also becoming more affordable. We expect the
22 LCOE of both EV and winds will fall to \$30 per megawatt hour
23 by 2030 in the regions with relatively descent natural
24 resource. And to further drop to \$20 per megawatt hour by
25 2050.

1 Next one.

2 Note these values do not include the impact of
3 emerging hydrogen industry to the market the size of PV or
4 wind and is therefore free to connect to the utility
5 projects. The electricity cost will be even lower if we
6 revise the two assumptions.

7 So first, by applying the PV and wind LCOE learning
8 rates, which are 22 percent and 15 percent, respectfully, to
9 the potential market boost introduced by hydrogen demand, we
10 can derive the LCOE reduction.

11 Next one.

12 So the additional demand for PV can be 200 gigawatt,
13 or 2 terawatts by 2050 for the conservative and optimistic
14 hydrogen market scenarios which will result as one or 8
15 percent PV LCOE reduction compared with the scenario without
16 demand of green hydrogen.

17 Next one.

18 And the potential cost of wind LCOE is two or 12
19 percent.

20 Next one.

21 Another assumption change for bringing hydrogen
22 production cost is that instead of sourcing power from a
23 remote PV or wind project, an electrolyzer can get
24 electricity from a captive PV or wind power plant which can
25 save spending on long distance cable transformer and a grid

1 connection fee. And more specifically, the electricity
2 generated by PV and the power directly consumed by an
3 electrolyzer are both of DC type. So for a captive PV plan
4 for electrolyzer or the DC to AC or AC to DC conversion
5 components can be removed. So here I show a singular story
6 for PV coupled with battery which also directly charge or
7 discharge DC electricity.

8 Next one.

9 So in the DC coupled solution for PV plus storage,
10 some hardware can be removed and the overall conversion
11 efficiency is higher.

12 Next one.

13 Overall, the power price of electrolyzers can be
14 lower than our LCOE forecast or stand-alone PVs or wind
15 system. So by 2030, the values will be in the range of 24 to
16 28 dollar per megawatt hour. And before 2050, power cost
17 will further drop to 15 to 17 dollar per megawatt hour.

18 Next one.

19 So the production sector ends with a conclusion that
20 the green hydrogen could cost less than \$1.4 per kilogram by
21 2030 and \$0.8 per kilogram by 2050.

22 Next one.

23 So the next story on the supply side is storage.
24 Among many options including compressing, liquifying, and
25 combining with other molecules, the most popular method being

1 used today is pressurize the container which is good for
2 small volume and short duration.

3 Next one.

4 But if hydrogen can come to an influential scale and
5 replace natural gas as most the roads it is playing today.
6 The required storage volume will be comparable for the to --
7 to type all gases. So the average fall rate for natural gas
8 in major market is about 10 percent of any demand.

9 Next one.

10 For large volume and the long duration, salt cavern
11 is the best option. But salt deposits are necessary for the
12 setup. Not many countries have the preferred geological
13 conditions, especially those in China, while U.S. is lucky on
14 that.

15 Next one.

16 So the next best option is rock cavern, although at a
17 cost about three times more than salt cavern.

18 Next one.

19 But the good thing is that if the scale goes up, the
20 storage in rock cavern in the future can achieve the same
21 cost as the salt cavern for today.

22 Next one.

23 So the last section on the supply side is hydrogen
24 transport. The most often observed approach today is by
25 truck for small volume and short distance. When the volume

1 comes to the level of several tens of tons per day,
2 developing pipeline can be justified and it will offer the
3 lowest cost until the distance increases to 5,000 kilometer
4 beyond which ships are probably cheaper.

5 Next one.

6 So similar to the previous two sectors, there is
7 great potential for further cost reduction for storage,
8 although the magnitude is different for various options.

9 Next one.

10 So depending on the assumptions, the final price of
11 green hydrogen can fall to 2 to 3 dollar per kilogram by 2030
12 and 1 to 2 dollar by 2050. Of course much higher prices are
13 likely if the condition are far away from the assumptions we
14 used here, including monthly storage in salt or rock caverns
15 and 100 kilometer of transport by our distribution pipeline.

16 Next one.

17 Fuel cell vehicles garner a lot of attention today
18 thanks to the initiative of several large vehicle
19 manufacturers, incentives from low-carbon fuel standards and
20 some other common subsidies. There are much fewer projects,
21 however, that demonstrate the use of hydrogen in other
22 downstream applications like fuel production or shipping.

23 Most of the factors feature a small project pipeline
24 with only ten or fewer sites proposed. And weak economics
25 for hydrogen, relative to traditional fuel, is one reason for

1 the low number of projects. And another challenge is
2 technical immaturity. So the equipment to use hydrogen in
3 some factors has a low technical readiness level indicating
4 it is further away from the commercialization.

5 Next one.

6 Despite the technical unreadiness at this moment,
7 there is no fundamental hurdle that prohibits successful
8 development of commercial products in the future that will
9 allow adoption of hydrogen for multiple applications. So we
10 conducted a series of bottom-up sector by sector analysis to
11 evaluate the economics of using hydrogen in the future
12 compared with the current solution. At about delivered price
13 of \$1 per kilogram in 2050, which was mentioned at the
14 conclusion for the supply session analysis.

15 Hydrogen could enable emission reduction across many
16 of the hardest to abate sectors at reasonably low carbon
17 prices. So the chart here shows the greenhouse gas emission
18 at oil factors where hydrogen could be used for and the
19 carbon price that would be required for hydrogen at \$1 per
20 kilogram to compete with the cheapest fossil fuel in each use
21 case.

22 And for road transport application, here we assume
23 the final price of hydrogen as the fueling station is \$4 per
24 kilogram, based on which no subsidies would be required to
25 compete with fossil fuels.

1 And in 2018, carbon dioxide emission from oil factors
2 where hydrogen could be used amounted to 12.3 gigatons or
3 34 percent of global greenhouse gas emission from fossil
4 fuels and industry. So this analysis suggests that up to 7.4
5 gigatons, or 20 percent of emission in 2018, could be
6 decarbonized with the use of hydrogen for carbon price of
7 less than \$100 per ton for carbon dioxide.

8 Next one.

9 So theoretically, the long-term demand of hydrogen
10 can be as high as 1.4 billion metric tons which is 20 times
11 of the delivery production of hydrogen in 2018. Considering
12 that not all potential users will fully replace existing
13 solution with hydrogen from the economic consideration, we
14 applied different penetration levels in each factor and
15 expect about 700 million tons of annual hydrogen demand in
16 2050, assuming a strong policy support globally. And this
17 would account for 24 percent of the global final energy
18 consumption in 2050 in global warming of 1.5 degrees narrow
19 that is described at the beginning of this presentation. And
20 in this case, transport factors would consume 43 percent of
21 all hydrogen.

22 So this is my last slide for today. And we will have
23 some time for Q&A.

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thank you, Dr. Wang. That was
25 really interesting and exciting.

1 I'm wondering, you know, California has a target of a
2 carbon neutral economy by 2045. And, you know, so the -- the
3 presumption is that, you know, we're going to zero. At least
4 from an economy-wide perspective. And am I correct that the
5 analysis that you've shown today isn't based on a how do we
6 reach deep emission reductions by 2050, but for what are the
7 economics of hydrogen, you know, separate from that long-term
8 decarbonization target. Is that -- is that correct?

9 DR. WANG: Yeah. So those comprehensive charts are
10 based on assumptions as a 1.5-degree temperature control can
11 be realized and also to prevent more neutral position
12 analysis. For every factor, we provide a conservative and
13 optimistic scenario analysis. So the optimistic is based on
14 assumptions that every country, or most all of the
15 influential countries will set a strategy or policy to lower
16 the carbon emission.

17 Yeah, but definitely we -- it means that the tempo,
18 or timing for each country will be quite different.

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, and I was also curious
20 about the slides that you showed about the different ways you
21 can make hydrogen more efficiently. And, you know, one of
22 the critiques of hydrogen, vis-a-vis batteries, is that it
23 takes about three times more energy from an electricity
24 standpoint to electrolyze than it does to just use grid power
25 for batteries. And I'm wondering, with the charts that you

1 show, are there ways that the production of hydrogen, the
2 efficiency could be increased so that that three times number
3 could get reduced?

4 DR. WANG: Yeah. Sorry for the confusion. So that
5 chart actually is not about hydrogen production, it shows a
6 similar story in terms that the DC to AC or AC to DC
7 conversion components can be removed for both PV powered
8 electrolyzer, and a PV plus storage.

9 So because there is no commercial product to show the
10 concept for the PV powered electrolyzer, I justified an
11 example in the PV plus storage device. So they follow the
12 same principle. So in that design, we estimate that capex
13 can be like reduced by about like 10 to 15 percent. And the
14 energy conversion efficiency can be boost by like about
15 2 percent. So we can expect like similar, in fact, in PV
16 powered electrolyzer system design.

17 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And has Bloomberg Energy
18 Finance done in the equilibrium models where you're
19 evaluating, you know, well from our perspective, what's --
20 what is that deep decarbonization pathway look like and
21 what's the relative reliance that we should have on different
22 fuels? What's the optimal place to put those fuels where we
23 don't have a ready solution? I mean, you identified some of
24 the sectors that are harder to decarbonize and, but they're
25 more expensive to decarbonize.

1 I mean, transport is hard to decarbonize. I don't
2 want to, that is -- that's definitely the case. But has --
3 have you at all done any analysis about sort of what's the
4 optimal pathway for decarbonization across different fuels?

5 DR. WANG: So we don't have a very comprehensive like
6 single seconds conclusion on that so what we have right now
7 is to look into individual sectors and compare the relative
8 economics. Like in terms of like level wise to cost and see
9 how more expensive hydrogen would be compared with the
10 current or traditional solutions based on fossil fuels.

11 So with that, we know from economic side like how far
12 it is for like to convince a certain industry to adopt
13 hydrogen. But in terms like the optimum, I think that's
14 really depends a lot of factors. For example, some
15 industries have less priorities on the carbon reduction
16 because it needs to secure international capability on
17 competition. So for those sectors it's more challenging to
18 convince the industry to adopt like green hydrogen or low-
19 carbon solutions.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I mean, I'm curious and then
21 I'll turn it over to Commissioner Douglas. I don't want to
22 take all the air in the room on the dais.

23 So I've, you know, I've read about Japan investing in
24 brown hydrogen in Australia, basically using coal to produce
25 hydrogen and then assuming that CCS is going to work. And

1 it's those kind of projects that make me nervous. Where I
2 think wow, that is really the pathway we want? And I mean
3 your analysis is quite bullish on the we can make these zero
4 carbon, in fact we can do it pretty quickly. And yet the
5 investment, some of the investment that's happening globally
6 is, I think, less than optimal, shall we say from a carbon
7 perspective.

8 DR. WANG: Actually, we did also conduct an analysis
9 about the CCS and the quick conclusion is from the economic
10 side. So it's called blue hydrogen. So we still use fossil
11 fuel to generate hydrogen and coupled with CCS. So the blue
12 hydrogen will introduce, like the best case is 0.5 to 1.1
13 dollar per kilogram after cost on top of the production cost
14 by 2030. And 0.1 to 0.3 dollar per kilogram reduction could
15 happen by 2050.

16 Actually, a more fair comparison between the blue
17 hydrogen and green hydrogen is green hydrogen coupled with
18 storage. Because one advantage of blue hydrogen is you can
19 get a steady supply of hydrogen because you can control the
20 fitting of fossil fuels. But even that, considering the
21 storage cost is only about 0.1 to 0.2 dollar per kilogram.
22 So from the economic side, green hydrogen still wins over
23 blue hydrogen, based on CCS.

24 But I guess that is a case by case study if you have
25 the perfect geological conditions to store the carbon and you

1 can do it immediately. Because that very low cost, promise
2 to buy green hydrogen is based on large scale. And it's not
3 going to happen immediately. So I guess before the green
4 hydrogen becomes super cheap, it still makes sense to use CCS
5 if you have the right geological condition.

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yes, it (indiscernible) CCS
7 work anywhere. I mean, I hope it works. We need it and yet
8 there's not a lot of optimism around CCS. When it really
9 comes down to which projects have been successful, we don't
10 have a track record.

11 DR. WANG: Yeah. Yeah. So far there are only four
12 large-scale CCS projects in North America, including the U.S.
13 and Canada. And three of them are not for like low-carbon
14 application. It's designed to capture carbon dioxide to use
15 in their in-house oil, like recovery.

16 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Commissioner Douglas, do you
17 have some questions?

18 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I just have one question.

19 And, you know, I don't -- it's not directly related
20 to your presentation, actually, Dr. Wang. So but my
21 understanding is that there is an increased effort to export
22 renewable hydrogen, produced by offshore wind out of the UK.
23 And Australia is moving, as I understand it, reasonably
24 aggressively into exporting renewable hydrogen.

25 And I was just curious if you could help me

1 understand just the market dynamics around that. You know,
2 what are the price points? What are the markets? Where is
3 this going? Do you see this growing? Do you see this as
4 something that California with our abundant sunshine and
5 other renewable resources should be thinking more about?

6 DR. WANG: So okay. Those projects are deployed as a
7 demo type and it's very hard to define a clear timeline.
8 Because when we look at (indiscernible) announcement for
9 renewable hydrogen production, in total more than 3 gigawatt
10 projects have been accumulated by the middle of 2019 already.
11 And I know the pipeline is still going on.

12 But if you look at them, most of them are at the
13 early stage called feasibility study. It's definitely for
14 the, like the huge ones at several hundred megawatts. But
15 there is a clear reason why the electrolyzer should be
16 coupled with optional wind projects if you have the natural
17 resource. It's because the capacity factor also by offshore
18 wind pumps is much higher than other renewable projects,
19 especially compared with PV.

20 It matters because if we are designing electrolyzers
21 to be powered by the renewable projects the levelized
22 equipment cost will be much lower, if the capacity factor all
23 of the power plant is higher because that suggests a high
24 utilization grid, all of the utilize -- all of the
25 electrolyzer facility. This is a very important because --

1 moment. Most of all of the electrolyzer offered with, like
2 western brands are very expensive.

3 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So just as a quick follow-up
4 question. One of the best, really the best region in
5 California for offshore wind is a region that is very much
6 cut off from the rest of the state's electricity grid. And
7 so it's been a challenge to think about how offshore wind
8 could scale up in kind of far Northern California. But
9 obviously, if you were doing an offshore wind project that
10 included -- designed around an electrolyzer and with a
11 fundamental purpose of producing hydrogen, you could use that
12 resource. And I would imagine transport the hydrogen out of
13 the region.

14 I mean, could you help me understand, you know,
15 what -- what that might entail. You know, are you shipping
16 the hydrogen? Are you, what's -- is there a ready market for
17 such a thing? Is the technology close to there?

18 DR. WANG: Yeah. I would say the final system image
19 will be quite different depending on the final application.
20 As you mentioned, if the offshore wind resource is far away
21 from, like the central like parts of a certain city. It's
22 not an issue if the final application is having chemical
23 production. For example ammonium production. You can just
24 build your electrolyzer close to the wind resource. And also
25 you can build the ammonium production site close to the

1 electrolyzer site. It's not a problem.

2 But if the final application is, let's say road
3 transport, which means the final application will be very
4 distributed so that could be a problem. It's likely that,
5 although the electricity is cheaper or the final hour edge or
6 levelized because the hydrogen could be cheaper if you put
7 that facility close to the offshore. If you make sense to
8 use distributed PV as a power source, considering it can save
9 the transport cost. So there is no like consensus about the
10 system because at the moment, it really depends on the final
11 application.

12 So that's why we think like PV industry and wind
13 industry is so easy compared with hydrogen. Because hydrogen
14 is about, like a whole system. It's not only about upstream.
15 Like for PV or wind, it's just is the upstream from the
16 electricity system. This is about like or infrastructure for
17 StarRay Transport and or so the final application.

18 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: That makes sense. Thank you.
19 That's helpful.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Heather, do we have time for a
21 few of the Q&As from the audience, or do we need to move on?

22 MS. RAITT: We can just take a question or two, I
23 think.

24 Jonathan Bobadilla from the Energy Commission is
25 moderating the Q&A. If you could go ahead, Jonathan.

1 MR. BOBADILLA: Yeah, we have a question from Sarah
2 Kurtz.

3 Dr. Wang, do you have a projection of the
4 efficiencies of the hydrogen generation by PEM and alkaline
5 electrolyzers? What round trip efficiency do you expect for
6 electricity to hydrogen to electricity?

7 MS. WANG: Okay. So it really depends. The
8 definition of efficiency. And if we use high heating value
9 as the, like the standards, the efficiency as a system level
10 is about 75 percent for a megawatt scale electrolyzer. Of
11 course efficiency would be lower if we go to smaller scale
12 projects. And the round trip efficiency, it depends what
13 technology is being used as the final end.

14 If we are using fuel cell, so the round trip
15 efficiency would be around 40 percent at this moment. But if
16 as a final end we are going to use hydrogen gas turbine, by
17 the way, that product is not commercial rate mature yet.
18 Although the, like the equipment manufactured can make a
19 turbine that is compatible with 30 percent hydrogen, plus 70
20 natural gas. So for the gas turbine solution, right now the
21 round trip efficiency is about 30 percent.

22 MR. BOBADILLA: All right. Thank you, Doctor. And
23 I'll recommend that the rest of the questions be saved for
24 public comment. Thank you.

25 MS. RAITT: Thank you.

1 MS. RAITT: Thank you so much, Dr. Wang. And thank
2 you, Jonathon.

3 So now we will, this is Heather Raitt. We'll go
4 ahead and move on to the panel discussion of hydrogen supply
5 and fueling infrastructure. It is moderated by Jane Berner
6 from the Energy Commission.

7 And so, Jane, if you could go ahead and take it away.
8 Thank you.

9 MS. BERNER: Sure. Thanks, Heather.

10 Good morning, everyone. I'm Jane Berner, a member of
11 Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure Unit within the Fuels and
12 Transportation Division of the California Energy Commission.
13 I am part of the team that administers clean transportation
14 program funding that supports the building of hydrogen
15 refueling infrastructure for fuel cell electric vehicles.

16 In this role, I have been privileged to work with
17 many of today's panelists and it's my pleasure to moderate
18 this morning's discussion on the status of Hydrogen Supply
19 and Refueling Infrastructure.

20 The panelists joining me in this discussion are Jacob
21 Teter from the International Energy Agency. Wayne Leighty
22 from Shell. Shane Stephens from FirstElement Fuel. And Dave
23 Edwards from Air Liquide, who will also be speaking about the
24 hydrogen council.

25 So first let me explain a little bit about the format

1 of this morning's panel. Each panelist has prepared a short
2 presentation. So I will introduce each panelist one at a
3 time and they will each have a turn at the mic. After all
4 the panelists have made their presentations, we will take
5 questions and comments from the virtual dais. So from our
6 commissioners and commissioner's representative. And then
7 following that, I will guide the panel through some
8 additional discussion. And we will close the panel by taking
9 some questions from the audience.

10 So without further ado, let's get started with our
11 first panelist. And that is Jacob Teter who is an energy
12 analyst at the International Energy Agency. He joined IEA as
13 a transport energy modeler and policy analyst in 2015. And
14 now leads the team of transport analysts in the Energy
15 Technology and Policy Division.

16 In this role, he aims to contribute to the global
17 dialog on policies to promote transport technologies and
18 services that improve quality of life while minimizing
19 pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions and other
20 environmental and natural resource impacts. So Jacob brings
21 a unique perspective to us because he knows California. He
22 earned his PhD in Transportation Technology and Policy at the
23 University of California, Davis. But he's also a man of the
24 world. He can give us an international context. And today
25 he's joining us live from Paris.

1 So Jacob, thanks for spending your evening with us,
2 and I will turn it over to you to kick us off.

3 MR. TETER: Thanks a lot, Jane.

4 So thank you, everyone, for the invitation to present
5 and discuss these issues today. It is quite an honor and
6 kind of a virtual homecoming to have the opportunity to
7 discuss in this form. I think, actually, the next speaker
8 was a -- was a colleague of mine at UC Davis so we are
9 stacked a bit heavily.

10 I learned quite a bit watching that presentation
11 already from Dr. Xiaoting and I am assisted in pulling
12 together this presentation that I'll show quickly today by my
13 colleague Jose Miguel Menendez Bermudez who is the IEA's kind
14 of point man on the role that hydrogen can play in the clean
15 energy transition. And especially for questions focusing on
16 production and storage, kind of supply-type questions, I will
17 have to resort to his help. And there may be bit of pause in
18 giving detailed answers because I focus more specifically on
19 the transport side of things. So system level questions I
20 would be happy to do my best to answer, but I'll also be in
21 contact with him.

22 Next slide please.

23 So as national and regional policymakers are
24 beginning to coalesce on the fact that hydrogen will be an
25 essential part of the energy transition and countries

1 recognize that decarbonizing, especially the hard to abate
2 sectors will require a role for hydrogen, investments have
3 also followed. What we see here is the growth of early stage
4 investments in storage, hydrogen, and fuel cells. And that's
5 in the light purple. These investments in start-ups with new
6 technologies have grown, you know, global Seed A and B
7 investments have grown even as investments in low-carbon
8 transport, shown here in the light blue, primarily in
9 batteries, cell in 2019.

10 Among the deals for hydrogen technologies, most were
11 for firms with novel hydrogen production devices such as
12 pressurized or photocatalytic electrolyzers. Other
13 indications of growing interest in the investment community
14 in hydrogen come from higher levels of growth equity, despite
15 lower follow-on deals that investors are making in storage
16 and hydrogen -- and hydrogen in general. Venture Capital has
17 also flowed increasingly into hydrogen. As for instance,
18 with Totiles investments in Sunfire.

19

1 Next slide please.

2 So the momentum has been diversifying quite a bit to
3 the countries where policy support is the strongest and in
4 terms of deployment of fuel cell electric vehicles and
5 hydrogen refueling stations, things have evolved rapidly even
6 since 2018.

7 So in 2017 when the U.S. and basically California
8 accounted for about half of the fuel cell electric vehicles
9 on the road, the picture has evolved quite a bit. In Japan,
10 the sales of FCEVs have continued to grow steadily and Korea
11 has gone from about a hundred fuel cell cars on the road in
12 2017 to more than 5,000 in 2019. Sales in Germany, France,
13 and the UK as well as other European countries
14 have -- have risen as well.

15 But I think the most interesting story is the rise of
16 fuel cell vehicles in China. And this has incurred --
17 occurred almost entirely since 2018. And what stands out
18 there in China in contrast to all the other market leaders in
19 FCEVs is the disproportionate focus on light-duty trucks and
20 buses. That is on commercial vehicles.

21 Indeed this strategy that China seems to be pursuing
22 in first adopting fuel cells and hydrogen, in these
23 applications is very much in line with one of the niches
24 where the IEA finds, IEA analysis finds hydrogen in road
25 transport applications to make the most sense in terms of

1 competitive total cost of ownership. When comparing the
2 total cost of ownership across various road modes, various
3 applications of road vehicles it may come as no surprise that
4 the best near-term value proposition seems to be in heavy-
5 duty vehicles with high energy and power needs, operating on
6 fixed, ideally hub and spoke routes. Fueling at a single
7 large hydrogen refueling station.

8 Also, China by going the route of commercial vehicles
9 that operate intensely has very quickly paid back the initial
10 high capital costs that come with fuel cells. At a time
11 when, you know, learning hasn't yet resulted in rapid
12 decreases of the cost of those fuel cells. China's also
13 taken advantage of byproduct hydrogen coming from chemical
14 industries like chlor-alkali production. So in short, China
15 has found this niche where in road vehicle applications where
16 hydrogen seems to make the most competitive sense.

17 Next slide, please.

18 So where do we find ourselves, then, in terms of what
19 many countries are hoping is the initial stage in a ramp up
20 of fuel cell electric vehicles that will mirror in many ways
21 the rapid market adoption of battery and plug-in hybrids. In
22 terms of vehicle stock, we went from just under 1300 fuel
23 cell electric vehicles on the road in 2018 to more than
24 25,000 in 2019. So almost a doubling. Sales more than
25 doubled over those same two years. From a bit more than

1 5,700 in 2018 to over 12,000 in 2019.

2 If we compare this, of course, to the 7.2 million
3 electric cars, battery and plug-in electric cars on the road,
4 and to the 2 million EV car sales in 2019 then, you know, the
5 lag of a little less than a decade is quite evident. And
6 this means that about actually less than one percent of zero-
7 emission vehicle sales globally were fuel cell electric
8 vehicles in 2019.

9 Next slide, please.

10 But the countries backing the scale up of fuel cell
11 electric vehicles have bold targets. Starting with Japan who
12 target sales figures of 200,000 in 2025 and more than 800,000
13 in 2030. Korea, as shown here, 81,000 fuel cell electric
14 vehicles targeted by 2022. Netherlands, France. Our
15 estimates are that achieving these targets would mean that
16 the FCEV stock of road vehicles in 2030 would be around 10
17 million vehicles. And this kind of speed of the scale up
18 would indeed be something similar to what we've seen since
19 around 2012 in electric vehicles. And replicating that for
20 fuel cell electric cars over the coming decade.

21 But I would argue that the challenge is even greater
22 than -- than what we saw and what for most was unexpected in
23 terms of the scale up and adoption of electric vehicles just
24 because a parallel infrastructure is needed in the case of
25 FCEVs and because China isn't listed among these countries on

1 this slide with government targets. There is, of course, a
2 roadmap in China just as there is in the California hydrogen
3 and fuel cell partnership.

4 Next slide, please.

5 So, you know, there are economies of scale that come
6 from the fact that the two largest cost components of
7 building a hydrogen station are the compressor and the
8 storage tanks. But there are risks about scaling up hydrogen
9 stations because there's an uncertainty about the
10 utilization. And so there's a tension between scaling up the
11 refueling station size and the certainty on the demand side.
12 And of course, just as in the case of electrolyzers, by
13 getting higher utilization, you can amortize the capital
14 costs.

15 So it is exactly this uncertainty that, you know,
16 just taking one piece of the overall systems level puzzle
17 leads to a lot of the -- the difficulty and complexity, even
18 just within road transport of analyzing the potential for
19 hydrogen.

20 Next slide, please.

21 So we can see here global public RD&D investment
22 totals that are indeed lower than they were in 2008, which
23 was the peak of interest in hydrogen, but have started to
24 grow. In contrast to the last time around, though, there
25 seems to be a growing engagement in the potential ways in

1 which hydrogen really will be needed to help reduce
2 emissions, starting in heavy industry, steel making,
3 chemicals, fertilizer production, refineries, and in
4 transport. Likely in road freight, but certainly also, I
5 would argue as a -- as a feedstock for making ammonia or even
6 for synfuels for aviation. More concretely, governments are
7 taking heart in the recent successes, as Xiaoting showed. In
8 RD&D funding as -- as catalyzing the tremendous cost
9 reductions we've seen already in PV and wind, and in
10 lithium-ion batteries.

11 Linking hydrogen production to these variable
12 renewables, as was shown in the previous presentation,
13 together with the cost reduction potential in electrolyzers
14 has the potential to make this production pathway competitive
15 in various applications with incumbent and mostly fossil
16 fuel-based technologies.

17 Similar economies of scale also have great prospects
18 to bring down the cost of fuel cells. But in transport, the
19 question of where hydrogen makes the most sense and where it
20 will be indispensable, where it can complement batteries and
21 where it can serve as a hedge to hurdles, and further battery
22 development I think is still a question up for debate and I
23 hope that we can engage a bit on these questions as well
24 today.

25 Thanks a lot.

1 MS. BERNER: Great. Thank you, Jacob.

2 So we'll turn next to our next panelist. Wayne
3 Leighty is the Business Development Manager for North America
4 for Shell hydrogen. Shell has received clean transportation
5 program funding for eight hydrogen refueling stations in
6 California. And I know I always like to hear Wayne speak
7 because I think you'll see he has a deep technical knowledge
8 about hydrogen, energy, and transportation. But he also has
9 the business acumen to use that technical knowledge to
10 evaluate opportunities and risks in the hydrogen market. And
11 I guess this makes sense as Wayne has earned both an MBA and
12 a PhD in Transportation, Technology and Policy from UC Davis.

13 From my perspective, Wayne has been integral in
14 getting the hydrogen community to focus on how to scale up
15 the hydrogen market such that there's a strong business case
16 for hydrogen as a solution for decarbonizing the transport
17 and energy sectors and achieving the emissions reductions
18 that we need.

19 And I'd just like to personally say his involvement
20 in our staff workshops have been a great value as we have
21 discussed how to use our transportation funding dollars, put
22 a hydrogen infrastructure as efficiently as possible.

23 And so with that, I'll turn it over to Wayne.

24 MR. LEIGHTY: Thank you, Jane. A very kind
25 introduction.

1 Can I just confirm you can hear and see me?

2 MS. BERNER: Yes.

3 MR. LEIGHTY: Perfect. Thanks.

4 So it's a great pleasure to be with you. I'm Wayne
5 Leighty, as mentioned, Hydrogen Business Development Manager
6 for Shell since 2017. And indeed continuing the theme of UC
7 Davis alums. Did my graduate work there over a decade ago
8 with professors Joan Ogden and Dan Sterling and others. And
9 my dissertation was on these transition paths to our emission
10 reduction goals that we are now all working to achieve. So
11 what a great privilege to -- to be working along with you on
12 those paths. So I really look forward to our discussion so
13 will try to just offer some comment on topics that may be of
14 interest.

15 If you go two slides ahead, the next one is just our
16 normal caveats. Thank you.

17 We created our New Energies Organization in Shell
18 several years ago from the observation in our Strategy and
19 Scenarios Teams of the underpinnings of the energy
20 transitions. Changing fundamentals and the economics
21 combined with the policy signals. And so Shell now, like
22 you, is navigating and in and toward a multi-fuel future and
23 decarbonized future. We're working across this full range of
24 new fuels which gives us perspective on how the alternatives
25 compare and compete and in fact complement each other in

1 transportation and energy systems. And it also creates some
2 unique insight for us on the progress needed with each one to
3 unlock the opportunity.

4 I think the benefits of hydrogen in transportation
5 are becoming well known and don't need to be belabored. It's
6 fast refueling of a zero-emission vehicle with a high energy
7 density by mass, and economies of scale that are unlocked.
8 All the benefits of an electric drive train in the torque and
9 the quiet and effortless experience without compromise in the
10 refueling, in the cost, the convenience, the capability of
11 that vehicle whether you're a private owner or commercial
12 fleet, and the freedom to move.

13 So the salient question is how to realize that
14 potential in a commercially viable offering. A compelling
15 better product in the vehicle performance in zero emissions
16 that achieves cost parity or better. I think California
17 policy calls for acceleration and scale. Nothing short of
18 tipping points in majority adoption of these zero-emission
19 vehicles. So a few observations if I may.

20 There are practical constraints. Customer choice is
21 essential for this widespread adoption and wires and pipes
22 are needed in California energy systems. An orderly
23 transition is key to avoid imposing dead weight loss on
24 Californians. The transition path matters. The area under
25 the curve of emissions mitigates climate change and improves

1 human health. Success really requires new entrance in
2 vehicle makes and models and expanding infrastructure. And
3 at the end of the day, customers choose. So focus on
4 customer segments and value propositions more than vehicle
5 classes and use cases. So I think our focus is the same.
6 Customer value proposition for the adoption of these vehicles
7 and the business case for investments in California.

8 Next slide.

9 I think it's important to recognize that hydrogen is
10 a flexible, molecular energy carrier. So let's expand our
11 viewpoint to sector coupling. It is essential for the
12 reliable, resilient, and affordable energy system in
13 California. It is essential for this hard to abate sector in
14 transportation where the LCFS trades at about ten times the
15 cap and trade. But there are also other hard to abate
16 sectors where this molecule will -- will serve well.

17 And the diversity of these pathways for how to make
18 hydrogen is a strength for making use of in state resources
19 and solving environmental challenges with closed loops.
20 These are the win-win opportunities for environmental
21 improvement and economic development in California. So I
22 think California policy has the right approach, focus on
23 carbon intensity and renewable content for zero emissions,
24 while leaving open what pathways are used. This is an
25 important area, clearly for continued policy work. To

1 activate and enable scale, to couple sectors, to harmonize
2 across policies. It's not easy. Neither is what we're doing
3 on the industry side. So we're happy to work with you.

4 And I would say the opportunity is bigger than
5 achieving the emission reduction goals. Already a tremendous
6 challenge, it's also about infrastructure, stimulus, reliable
7 and affordable energy systems, and continuation of the
8 California energy industry. The ARB's analysis of
9 self-sufficiency shows about 6 percent public funding
10 leveraging 94 percent private sector investment.

11 Next slide.

12 I just want to touch on the pace of progress in
13 hydrogen. This is our next refueling station. It's large.
14 It's rapid. The number of vehicles in quantity and diversity
15 is growing. The station infrastructure is starting to move
16 from single stations to programs. In Germany, a new station
17 opens every two weeks or so. Here in California, the cost of
18 refueling stations has nearly halved, while doubling in
19 capacity about every three years. One more halving and
20 doubling would put hydrogen station on cost parity with
21 gasoline. Hydrogen is now priced in California at parity
22 with fast charging, while offering about ten times the level
23 of service in the rate of charge. Shell is selling today in
24 California 100 percent renewable hydrogen.

25 The public funding for ZEV infrastructure has been

1 approximately equal across the zero-emission vehicles on a
2 per vehicle basis. And I think this will be decreasing in
3 hydrogen. Pay attention to the CFO 19602 applications when
4 they become public. And we're developing heavy-duty
5 refueling stations for dredge, trucks, in the ports of LA and
6 Long Beach.

7 Last slide to close, then.

8 Your policy signals are so very important.
9 California is investable because the policy is stable.
10 Otherwise it's often a very difficult place to do business.
11 So please don't lose that. At Shell, our business planning
12 is under way for this year and the signals like the multi-
13 year approach to funding, the HRI pathway in low-carbon fuel
14 standard. The ACT and ICT regulations. They work. They
15 influence our thinking and our business planning.

16 We are asking hydrogen to be cost competitive with
17 gasoline and diesel at a very small scale. Something like
18 1/1000 the scale of gasoline. And longevity, something like
19 1/100, and yet we start to see that it's possible.

20 That's -- that's it for me. Thank you.

21 MS. BERNER: Great. Thanks, Wayne.

22 So next we're going to turn to Shane Stephens. He is
23 one of the founders of FirstElement Fuel and serves with the
24 company's chief development officer. FirstElement Fuel
25 operates the world's largest network of retail hydrogen

1 stations under his True Zero brand. And Shane oversees the
2 company's station development program, business development
3 efforts, and government relation activities. Shane has a PhD
4 in Engineering from UC Irvine, and previously worked at UC
5 Irvine's Advanced Power and Energy Program.

6 So from my count, FirstElement has been awarded Clean
7 Transportation Program Funding for 31 stations, 20 of which
8 are open today. And I think it's hard to overestimate the
9 importance of the contribution that Shane and FirstElement
10 Fuel have made to the development of hydrogen refueling
11 stations in California. Their work has enabled automakers to
12 release fuel cell electric vehicles in California and allow
13 Californians to experience the fuel cell technology.

14 And from what I've seen and all of Shane's
15 responsibilities, he's always moving from one meeting to the
16 next. I always find it strange to see him sitting in one
17 place for a few hours. So I want to say thank you, Shane,
18 for -- for joining us and for these -- these next hours and
19 for sharing your perspective. So I'll turn it over to you.

20 MR. STEPHENS: Thanks very much for that kind
21 introduction, Jane. And let me also just do a confirmation
22 that folks can see and hear me okay.

23 MS. BERNER: Yes.

24 MR. STEPHENS: Excellent. Well I appreciate your
25 kind words, but let me say that I and the team at

1 FirstElement are so grateful for the opportunities that
2 California has given us. Our company would not exist if it
3 weren't for the visionary policies that have been implemented
4 at the state. Everything from the ZEV program to the LCSF
5 program, and of course for our little company, most
6 importantly, the CEC's Clean Transportation Funding Program
7 has been, you know, the enabler for what we've accomplished
8 so far.

9 And -- and I will also say that we've just had a
10 fantastic experience working with previously Commissioner
11 Scott and now with Commissioner Monahan and with the staff.
12 The staff of the hydrogen program is just outstanding. So --
13 so thanks very much.

14 If we can go forward to the next slide, please.

15 What I wanted to do today was just briefly touch on
16 some of what we've accomplished so far and then just quickly
17 go through a few lessons learned that I think address some of
18 the topics that this panel is trying to -- trying to achieve,
19 get to.

20 So first, what FirstElement Fuel has done, Jane stole
21 my thunder a little bit. So we -- we have put CEC grant
22 dollars to work. We've built what is today, from our count,
23 the most heavily used network of hydrogen refueling stations
24 in the world. We have 20 stations open with 19 more in
25 various stages of development. And our network also from our

1 count has the highest availability in the world. That means
2 that, you know, we have a better uptime record and more hours
3 open. You know, a lot of 24/7 open stations, making it the
4 most accessible and available network of hydrogen stations in
5 the world. We've completed over 550,000 fills. We've
6 replaced over 113 million gasoline miles with zero-emission
7 vehicle miles of fuel cell cars. And we've avoided over 71
8 million pounds of CO₂.

9 These statistics are important to us because part of
10 our mission statement is to address the economics of driving,
11 but also to reduce the impacts of driving on the environment.
12 So for the layperson, 71 million pounds of CO₂ avoided, that's
13 the equivalent of planting a forest about three-quarters the
14 size of the city of San Francisco. So, you know, that feels
15 good that we're at an early stage of this and already being
16 able to make that kind of accomplishments.

17 We've raised over 90 million dollars in private
18 financing and so that actually now greatly exceeds the amount
19 of public investment that's been put into us, primarily by
20 the California Energy Commission. So that's exciting for us
21 because, you know, I'm a believer and our company's a
22 believer that for clean energy solutions to be successful,
23 they do have to make business and economic sense. And we've
24 created hundreds of California jobs in the process.

25 Looking more broadly at the CEC's Hydrogen Refueling

1 Infrastructure Program, the program has enabled the launch of
2 fuel cell electric vehicles in California. As Jane said,
3 customers can now drive these cars seamlessly throughout the
4 State. A customer buying a fuel cell car in San Diego on day
5 one can drive to Lake Tahoe to go skiing on the network with
6 just swiping a credit card and doing four-minute fills along
7 the way.

8 Private sector companies are learning how to achieve
9 scale. Wayne alluded to this. I think this is very
10 exciting. To achieve scale in the performance of hydrogen
11 stations. And what this is doing is now driving interest
12 from others sectors, like transit, commercial, and heavy
13 duty. So, you know, thanks to the success and the learnings
14 of what we're seeing in the light-duty market, other sectors
15 are starting to embrace, yes, hydrogen is getting ready for
16 primetime and the scale is getting there to where we can
17 deploy these other vehicles.

18 Market initiation in this sector has a lot larger
19 private investment. So I talked about just the private
20 investment for FirstElement, but many more private
21 investments beyond that taking place as well. And the key
22 policies that we have in California are achieving greater
23 renewable content driving aggressive carbon reduction in this
24 sector.

25 Next slide, please.

1 So first learning I'll briefly talk about, getting to
2 scale in higher capacity is critical to success. So the top
3 portion of this slide you see several of FirstElement
4 stations that we deployed in the first generation. And we
5 early on learned that these stations were going to struggle
6 to keep pace with demand when the automobiles started hitting
7 the road. So you see three stations here with lines of cars
8 waiting to refuel. This is not an encouraging customer
9 experience, right, for people that want to get into a fuel
10 cell car or for the automakers that are trying to bring the
11 car to market. You know, I show three stations here. We
12 actually have about 10 to 12 stations, I would say,
13 that experience lines on a regular basis. So if you're the
14 fourth or fifth car in line here, you're waiting, you know,
15 fifteen, twenty minutes to fuel. That's not acceptable from
16 our point of view.

17 We did identify this issue early on and we've worked
18 to develop higher capacity fueling stations. Of course that
19 investment and that development takes some time. So we're
20 finally seeing the benefit of those stations hitting the
21 road, kind of last year and this year. But multiple fueling
22 positions are now possible and we're also seeing that there's
23 a significant reduction in cost to the -- to the consumer.
24 So we've already, at our higher capacity fueling stations,
25 aggressively began to reduce the cost at the pump.

1 So just to give you an idea, that small footprint
2 that you see there on the left, that's two hydrogen
3 dispensers, four fueling positions. That can do about 300
4 hundred cars in a day. So think about that real estate and
5 what you're achieving in terms of zero-emission fueling with
6 that small footprint. It just shows the potential for
7 hydrogen to achieve scale.

8 Next slide, please.

9 And I know I'm a little over time here, so I'll try
10 to go quickly.

11 The second learning that I wanted to share is the
12 hydrogen fuel supply chain needs to be dedicated and more
13 robust. So I don't think it's any secret to anybody that one
14 of our early challenges and stumbling blocks has been the
15 availability and consistency of hydrogen supply. I think we
16 relied on kind of traditional industries and byproduct
17 hydrogen to -- to serve our stations. Again, this was an
18 issue that FirstElement identified early on, but
19 it's -- it's taken time for the investments to materialize
20 into infrastructure assets.

21 Excitingly, one of things that we did is we worked
22 with Air Liquide to come up with a strategy for a dedicated
23 renewable supply. Air Liquide has invested \$150 million to
24 build this new liquid hydrogen production facility that is
25 dedicated to the mobility sector. And there's just some

1 photos here of the earthwork that's being done. I think that
2 photo was actually taken a few months ago, so it's a little
3 further along now. And the -- the plans for what the plant
4 will look like. And excitingly, this is also a 100 percent
5 renewable hydrogen facility.

6 Next slide, please.

7 That's a good transition, I think, for learning
8 number three, which is that the policies in California are
9 achieving aggressive renewable content in carbon reduction in
10 the hydrogen for the transportation sector. So what I show
11 here is some comparisons with electricity, and I do that for
12 two reasons. One, although hydrogen in its use is like a
13 molecule, right, we can store it, we can refuel quickly with
14 it, it's energy dense. In terms of how it's produced, it's
15 actually more akin to electricity, right? There are multiple
16 sources in ways to produce hydrogen. It has the advantage of
17 being able to be produced locally. And it can be done in,
18 you know, cleaner or less clean ways, depending on how policy
19 structures and incentives are set up.

20 I also wanted to use this because, you know, we look
21 at California as a model for success in terms of renewable
22 penetration for electricity. And you can see how compared to
23 the rest of the United States, California has a 30 percent
24 renewable content, much higher than the rest of the U.S.
25 electricity grid.

1 But excitingly, the policies in California have
2 incentivized us to number one, we are required to meet a
3 33 percent renewable hydrogen standard, so already higher
4 than the 30 percent electricity in California. We are
5 heavily incentivized by the LCFS program to hit a 40 percent
6 renewable hydrogen content. And actually, it makes it -- the
7 way the policy is structured, it makes it feasible to even go
8 to a much higher renewable hydrogen content. So today, our
9 hydrogen feedstock is actually 100 percent renewable for all
10 the hydrogen that FirstElement is distributing.

11 You can see in our graph here that we do have some
12 percentage of fossil fuels and that actually comes from two
13 things, one is the transport of hydrogen. So we do have a
14 small amount of petroleum which accounts for moving hydrogen
15 around and delivering it to our stations. And then the rest
16 of that accounts for processes where we have to depend on
17 electricity like compression and refrigeration. So we do
18 have some fossil fuels in our Well-to-Wheels supply from some
19 of the process energy that we use.

20 So I think -- I want to stress that there is a real
21 opportunity here, you know, with the policy mechanism done
22 correctly to keep the renewable content very high. I also
23 want to just take one extra moment before I conclude to say
24 that with the production and distribution system that
25 FirstElement is implementing, I would really excited to look

1 at the potential for using remote wind energy like offshore
2 wind in California and being able to move that into the urban
3 areas. So I would be very interested to work the Energy
4 Commission on looking at that potential.

5 So I'll conclude with that and look forward to the
6 Q&A.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. BERNER: Great. Thanks, Shane.

9 And now we'll move on to our last panelist who is
10 Dave Edwards.

11 He is a director and advocate for hydrogen energy for
12 Air Liquide in the United States. Dave is responsible for
13 establishing and maintaining internal and external
14 partnerships with industry academia and government entities
15 to advance the technology, business opportunities, and
16 hydrogen energy.

17 Dave has been with Air Liquide for more than 20 years
18 in a wide range of energy-related roles. And I also want to
19 mention that Air Liquide has developed and operates three
20 hydrogen refueling stations in California.

21 So today Dave's going to speak not only about Air
22 Liquide but also about the Hydrogen Council of which Air
23 Liquide is the founder and co-chair. Launched during the
24 2017 World Economic Forum, the Hydrogen Council is a global
25 initiative of more than 80 leading energy, transport, and

1 industry companies with the united vision and long-term
2 ambition for hydrogen to foster the energy transition.

3 And I just want to say a few more words about Dave.
4 Even though he resides on the East Coast, he has become a
5 fixture at our CEC workshops and Air Resources Board
6 workshops and really any meeting in California related to
7 hydrogen. He has become an expert in many of our programs
8 and policies. And I really appreciated the insight and the
9 meaningful feedback he's provided in our staff workshops that
10 have helped us understand issues related to hydrogen supplies
11 which have enabled us to improve how we structure our funding
12 opportunities.

13 So thanks for joining us, Dave, and I'll turn it over
14 to you.

15 MR. EDWARDS: Thank you, Jane. Just to confirm that
16 you can hear me.

17 MS. BERNER: Yes.

18 MR. EDWARDS: Excellent. So one of the advantages of
19 going last is that most of my messages have already been
20 presented by somebody. I think that Dr. Wang did a great job
21 of giving the overall economic picture from a global
22 perspective. I'm going to look a little bit more on the U.S.
23 side.

24 And then my, you know, colleagues from Shell and from
25 FirstElement really, you know, hit the ground running with

1 where things stand today and where they can go.

2 So if you go to my first slide.

3 The first thing I'm going to do is give people a
4 homework assignment. And that is that there's some
5 additional information out there, the Bloomberg report is a
6 fantastic reference. This is another reference, one that was
7 put together about six months ago by U.S. Industrial
8 Partners. Most of us being members of the Hydrogen Council,
9 but to give a U.S. specific roadmap, this is very much around
10 the economics of the roadmap. I am not going to go through
11 the details of this. I think the most telling takeaway from
12 the entire report is actually the inside front cover that
13 lists the companies that participated in developing the
14 information in the report.

15 I think that just a few years ago, had we put this
16 roadmap together, the participants would have been the
17 hydrogen producers, a subset of the auto manufacturers, and
18 maybe one or two energy companies. But what we saw last year
19 when we wanted to put this roadmap together was that there
20 was huge interest from a much more diverse cross-section of
21 industries.

22 So you start to see players like Exelon and Southern
23 Company who are concerned about the grid. You start to see
24 SoCalGas participating because they're interested in natural
25 gas. And you see a lot of the bigger energy companies

1 starting to participate.

2 So when people think about the industries impacted by
3 hydrogen, it now is a much broader specter of participants.

4 If you go to the next slide.

5 This is a cartoon picture of where hydrogen fits into
6 the energy structures that we've been talking about. We talk
7 a lot about the use of the electric grid to produce hydrogen
8 from electrolysis going from red to blue at the top. We
9 talked about natural gas and other fossil-based feedstocks
10 going through reforming and gasification processes into
11 hydrogen at the bottom. We've also talked about how
12 renewables, wind and solar and also renewable natural gas can
13 feed into both of those networks and produce renewable
14 hydrogen along these pathways.

15 The important thing about hydrogen and I think Wayne
16 hit this point earlier is its flexibility in how it is
17 produced and how it is used. We tend to focus on the
18 application space. And I think for the context of today, we
19 kind of focus around transportation fuel. So we look at that
20 little circle on the top right and we say this is the area
21 where we are going to implement hydrogen and this is what
22 we're going to focus on.

23 We tend to lose the bigger picture and that is that
24 hydrogen is then interconnected to these other sectors. And
25 as hydrogen grows as an energy vector, we enable a lot of

1 these other options to happen.

2 And one thing that's really important and I think the
3 question that maybe Commissioner Monahan opened the session
4 with and that is how do we -- how do we seed leadership to
5 other regions of the globe? One thing to keep in mind is
6 that the hydrogen solution is very regional. The way we
7 solve problems with hydrogen in California versus the way we
8 might solve them in Texas versus the way we might solve them
9 in the northeast United States, let alone Europe or China can
10 be very different because those feedstocks might be very
11 different, those application spaces might be very different,
12 and the needs to solve specific problems along those
13 different pathways can be very different.

14 You can go to the next slide.

15 So this is my last slide. And this is simply to
16 answer the question that we get very often and that is, but
17 is it real? We only see 8,000 cars in California. We see
18 limited penetration. Yet you talk about all of this
19 potential for hydrogen. From an industry perspective and now
20 I'm speaking on behalf of Air Liquide specifically, we back
21 that up with our investments.

22 So Shane already pointed out the slab of earth where
23 we're putting our new liquefier and hydrogen production
24 facility, a \$150 million investment, expected to come online
25 the year after next, for example. Enough to fuel 40,000 fuel

1 cell electric vehicles in the West Coast market.

2 And what's really critical for us is that while this
3 on the outside may look like our traditional method of doing
4 industrial production of hydrogen, it's not. It's dedicated
5 specifically to these mobility markets. So the investments
6 that we're making, the contracts that we're assigning, the
7 supply chains that we're aligning are all aimed toward this
8 new mobility market. And that is a huge change for how the
9 businesses manage and what the outcomes will be.

10 The second investment you may be a little less
11 familiar with because it's not California, is that we've also
12 got a project in Quebec and that's for a 20-megawatt
13 electrolyzer unit using hydropower from Hydro-Quebec and
14 that's to provide renewable hydrogen into our northeast
15 markets. We already have a liquefier there, this
16 electrolyzer unit will then provide about 8 to 10 tons per
17 day of renewable liquid hydrogen into our northeast markets
18 which our next area of penetration. We have a number of
19 stations, a number of opportunities in the northeastern parts
20 of the United States as well.

21 I'm going to end it with that because I know that the
22 discussion is probably the most important part of the day
23 today. And thank you very much for the opportunity to
24 present.

25 MS. BERNER: Thanks, Dave.

1 So now I'm going to turn it over to our virtual dais
2 and to Commissioner Monahan for any questions and comments.

3 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: So thank you. This is really
4 fascinating. And I encourage Commissioner Douglas to join
5 and Rhetta if she's still on to join as well.

6 I do have a number of questions. And I'm sorry, my
7 dog is barking in the background.

8 I, you know, I keep coming back to this
9 international -- how does California stimulate international
10 investments in hydrogen and fuel cells? And how do we make
11 sure that we're creating a global ecosystem that is investing
12 in the zero-emission technologies and fuel?

13 And I'm wondering -- this might be a question for
14 Jacob. With the target setting that the countries are making
15 on hydrogen and specifically on fuel cells, do you have a
16 sense of which countries are furthest along? I mean, one
17 would guess Japan and Korea are the two leads. But I'm just
18 curious from your perspective, who would you put in that
19 leadership role together with California?

20 MR. TETER: I mean, I think some of the policy
21 support mechanisms that California has already put in place
22 have been inspirational to a wide range of regions and
23 countries beyond California.

24 And from my perspective, those kind of more
25 technology neutral mechanisms like the LCSF and supported by

1 other more technology forcing, I mean, a portfolio of
2 policies like the LCFS plus the ZEV mandates are things that
3 have not only been adopted by other states but also, you
4 know, considered increasingly by China, adopted by various
5 provinces in Canada. And I think have been always a point of
6 discussion here at the International Energy Agency and the
7 source of inspiration.

8 I think that those kind of mechanisms are flexible to
9 kind of the uncertainties and technology development that I
10 think are somewhat inevitable and really help businesses that
11 have a clear picture of their particular technology and the
12 potential applications that go along with that technology to
13 stimulate the investments that can then translate into
14 missions, market missions that make sense.

15 And I think, you know, climate policy will
16 necessarily need to be a part. We saw that the marginal cost
17 of abatement curves that were shown by Xiaoting and I think
18 that, you know, lots of the places where I see a clear need
19 for hydrogen and for, you know, green production of hydrogen,
20 coupling, you know, with a variable renewables and
21 electrolysis, lots of those clearest applications where I
22 don't see any other potential technology to substitute.

23 Things like either hydrogen fuel cells eventually or
24 initially ICE combustion and ships, eventually fuel cells,
25 perhaps ammonia fuel cell and ships, synthetic fuels --

1 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Jacob, I think my question is
2 different, though. I'm not questioning the need for a
3 diverse set of zero-emissions fuels and technologies. I'm
4 asking which countries are going to be our allies in
5 accelerating deployment of zero-emission fuel cell vehicles.

6 MR. TETER: Yeah. I think --

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And I say that because, you
8 know, I -- like, I look at Japan and I think Japan should be
9 our allies, Japan should be doing this. And they are, but
10 they have three times the vehicle population of California
11 and one-third the number of fuel cell vehicles. Or at least
12 they did when I last checked.

13 And we need Japan as a big partner in this. Toyota
14 is arguably the number one manufacturer invested in fuel
15 cell. So we have to build this global ecosystem and that is
16 something actually went to China right before the coronavirus
17 as the coronavirus was hitting to China, develop a
18 partnership with Guangzhou, their lead city on renewable
19 hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles.

20 And Peter, you showed a chart where China had targets
21 and deployment of fuel cell vehicles, arguably because their
22 buses. They're using a lot more energy than our light-duty
23 vehicles are. They may be, I'm not sure, you tell me, the
24 number one hydrogen for vehicles -- hydrogen used vehicles in
25 the world because of the number of buses that they're

1 fueling.

2 So China seems to me like a clear potential partner.
3 They really drove down the prices. Battery electric, battery
4 electric vehicles could they do the same on fuel cell
5 electric vehicles is I think a question that weighs on my
6 mind. And I'm just curious, what other countries should we
7 look to to partner? Who are the countries that we really
8 need to activate in addition to China and Japan? To be
9 partners with us here in California to build the fuel cell
10 market.

11 MR. TETER: Wayne has --

12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Looks like Wayne has a
13 response.

14 MR. TETER: I think --

15 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Wayne is raising his hand over
16 there.

17 MR. TETER: I think mentioned also Germany and
18 France. And indeed Air Liquide just built a -- or just
19 announced that they're going to start building a station here
20 in France. Probably using nuclear but it's a bit unclear
21 with electrolysis for trucks, for long-haul trucks. Fuel
22 long-haul trucks which I think is a discussion point.

23 But I'll let Wayne also give his opinion on the
24 question.

25 MR. LEIGHTY: Commissioner, thanks, it's a good

1 question. And I think from the industry side of things, we
2 certainly are already doing that. I suppose Dave at
3 AirLiquide as well was developing hydrogen in core markets
4 around the world. Those core markets are because they are
5 good places to get started. And as we do that, we create the
6 transferable benefits. So some of what we accomplish in
7 California can transfer to other markets. Some of what we're
8 doing in Germany and China can transfer back over here.

9 I would observe, then, if your question is about
10 policy partners and kind of moving forward on -- on that
11 front, there are other countries that are now going bigger
12 than California. Bigger in scale and scope. And I would say
13 those are Japan, Korea, China, Germany, and the EU. They're
14 moving forward with larger steps and with kind of the
15 coupling of sectors' broader scope.

16 I see other places following the very good structures
17 that California has put in place. It's largely Canada the
18 ZEV states, but the structures of low-carbon fuel standard
19 and other things that California has pioneered are now from a
20 policy perspective transferring to markets where we can then
21 go invest.

22 The last thing I'd say is I think there are aspects
23 that are transferrable. A lot of the progress in equipment
24 and products cost at performance efficiencies are
25 transferrable across markets as long as we do our job on

1 standardizing the codes and et cetera.

2 Some things are market specific and Dave talked about
3 this. The infrastructure is specific to the market, develops
4 in California somewhat differently than other places and
5 needs to develop kind of that pace.

6 Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, Dave.

8 MR. EDWARDS: This is Dave. So I think I would break
9 it down into a couple of different categories. There is the
10 development required for new technologies and new solutions
11 that come out of things like the National Labs and at the,
12 you know, the fundamental research levels, and I think that's
13 going to continue to be a global phenomena. We see that
14 almost everywhere in all the countries that we've mentioned
15 so far that there is technology development occurring.

16 The thing that's really interesting from the industry
17 perspective is where are the projects, then, being deployed?
18 And we find that that tends to be very regionally specific.
19 We find that Denmark is very much focused on offshore wind to
20 electrolysis to hydrogen for fuel. We find that Japan is
21 very much structured around the societal integration of
22 hydrogen into hydrogen communities, including resiliency and
23 power. And they're also looking with Australia to do this
24 large-scale long distance transport. China, very focused on
25 large vehicles especially around buses.

1 And the U.S. focused around a number of different
2 things in different regions. In California, it's very much
3 around transportation. In the northeast of the United
4 States, the discussion is much more around grid resiliency.
5 The outcomes from Superstorm Sandy and how do you address
6 that with hydrogen in your ecosystem?

7 A place like Texas which has all this vested
8 infrastructure and fossil, how do they make a conversion to a
9 renewable future and is there a role for hydrogen to allow
10 them to make that transition? Even within the U.S., very,
11 very different regional structures. But California can learn
12 from all those big projects that are happening in other
13 places and of course everybody's learning from California as
14 we do the big projects here as well.

15 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Great. Thank you.

16 Rhetta or Commissioner Douglas, do you have
17 questions?

18 All right, Jane, why don't we turn it over to you for
19 facilitating the discussion.

20 Thanks, everybody.

21 MS. BERNER: Great. Thank you. So I thought maybe
22 we would pick up with where I think sort of where Dave just
23 left off about how in California, we've been largely focused
24 on hydrogen for transportation. But then in other places
25 like in the northeast, more for grid resiliency.

1 We do know we have the debt curve issue in
2 California. Do you see -- what are the opportunities you see
3 for California to focus more on the grid resiliency issue?

4 And maybe I'll start with you, Dave, since you were
5 sort of talking about it and then we'll go to anyone else.

6 MR. EDWARDS: Excellent. So grid resiliency and
7 hydrogen storage means two things. It means you need to have
8 electrolysis at scale and you have to have that integrated
9 with either wind or solar in a way that makes sense.

10 I think Dr. Wang did a good job of outlining, you
11 know, why wind might be better because you get higher
12 utilization and therefore capital utilization and costs are
13 better, for example. But it's not exclusive to wind, for
14 example.

15 The second thing that you need is large-scale storage
16 and/or an outlet for that hydrogen. And the outlet could be
17 any of those applications. Basically talked about in
18 California, the obvious outlet is transportation fuels today
19 but it could be any of those other industrial sectors, for
20 example, in the future.

21 But storage becomes an issue and storage in hydrogen
22 generally means a couple of things. It means things like
23 pipelines. There aren't a lot of pipelines in California
24 today. Are we envisioning a future where we have a hydrogen
25 pipeline system that enables large-scale storage? Probably

1 some decades away from that level of infrastructure, but it's
2 the kind of things we should be planning toward.

3 And the other kind of storage or the ones that came
4 up earlier in things like geologic storage. So can you have
5 caverns? Can you have EOR applications or other places where
6 hydrogen storage can potentially both from a storage of
7 hydrogen perspective but also the storage from the CO₂
8 perspective I think -- or for the CO₂ capture side of hydrogen
9 production, for example, become intertwined.

10 And I think those are aspects that need to be
11 addressed in order to think about large-scale solar. All
12 things that have been demonstrated other places in the world,
13 pieces need to be put together and the economics need to make
14 sense to do it.

15 MR. BERNER: Wayne.

16 MR. LEIGHTY: Yeah, if it's okay, Jane, just add at a
17 general level, the future hydrogen society and energy system
18 is I think fairly evident and has been analyzed a lot.
19 Oftentimes the question is what's the next step? How do we
20 start moving in that direction?

21 My reflection is that the archetypes for electrolysis
22 in California are starting to become evident so that's one
23 conversation. Is that what policy would like to have built
24 because it's starting to becoming evident.

25 The other is we sure are glad that we got started on

1 renewable power generation with a renewable portfolio
2 standard and then an investment tax credit. So in some ways,
3 don't worry about getting it exactly right, get started. We
4 sure will be glad a decade from now that we got started with
5 some blending into -- of hydrogen into natural gas and from
6 investment tax credit to start scaling up hydrogen as well.

7 MS. BERNER: Great. I thought maybe I'd turn to
8 Shane now. You talked about a lot of the private investment
9 that you've attracted to FirstElement Fuel. But I was
10 wondering what the state can do to track more private
11 investment to hydrogen station development and operation from
12 your perspective.

13 MR. STEPHENS: It's a great question. I think, you
14 know, the -- one quick answer is keep doing what you're
15 doing. Right? Consistent policy signals are really
16 important. I think we have a framework in California of
17 policy that's working. And the private companies are seeing
18 that, right? And they're seeing it as a good ecosystem for
19 investment.

20 I think one thing that goes actually back to
21 Commissioner Monahan's question, too, is that, you know,
22 right now if you look at globally, different places have
23 their strengths, right? I would say in California, we're
24 probably further along on the real retail hydrogen
25 experience. Right? Having stations open 24/7 with a simple

1 credit card swipe. The ZEV policy drives a lot of activity
2 at those stations because we do have, you know, a good
3 initial deployment of fuel cell cars here.

4 You know, the EU for example, is doing I think energy
5 storage through electrolysis more aggressively than we are
6 here. Right? So we have that to learn from them. So I
7 think if we are in a leadership position on that thing or
8 other things, it will unlock more private investment.

9 The most recent capital raise that we completed was
10 from two Japanese institutions. One is Mitsui and the other
11 one is the Japan Bank for International Cooperation. What's
12 exciting about that is that these are both financial
13 institutions. Right? So you're seeing rather than strategic
14 players, you're seeing financial institutions now coming in
15 and investing in hydrogen.

16 The other thing that's exciting about that is it's a
17 foreign player putting money here because they want to see
18 the market continue to grow and continue to get learnings
19 from the things that we are doing well here. Right? So I
20 would say, you know, on the one hand, yes, we want, you know,
21 other partners in the world to be shouldering the burden. On
22 the other hand, there are big benefits to being in a
23 leadership position because you're going to see that
24 international investment and those international dollars
25 coming to California and being put to work here to create

1 jobs, to create an infrastructure to create an industry.

2 So I think, you know, where there are those other
3 areas that hydrogen infrastructure is expanding, look for
4 policies that can be implemented that are more market-based
5 that encourage the private investment and then, you know, be
6 consistent in terms of the commitment.

7 MS. BERNER: Great. Thanks.

8 So I think I wanted to try to ask a sort of bigger
9 question that I think you probably all have thoughts on.

10 And that is so I think I can safely say you all see
11 hydrogen as being essential to reducing, to decarbonizing the
12 transportation sector and meeting our overall climate change
13 goals. But I think, you know, like we talked about already,
14 there's a lot of different ways to think about the raw
15 hydrogen -- like what's the best role that hydrogen can play?
16 How can it best serve this role?

17 And if we focus just in transportation that puts a
18 hydrogenous sector and I think, like for instance, Wayne, you
19 talked a little bit about thinking about kind of the use
20 rather than like the duty of the vehicle. But I thought
21 maybe you could expand more on that, how you all think kind
22 of ideally where hydrogen be used more sufficiently in the
23 transportation sector. And then on top of that, how do you
24 plan our infrastructure possess most effectively?

25 MR. LEIGHTY: Wow, that's a big question. Maybe I

1 should --

2 MS. BERNER: And then we're -- everything's solved to
3 then.

4 MR. LEIGHTY: Well, if we solve that question, then
5 everything is clear. So let's do it. Maybe I'd take the
6 first bit and leave the and then how do we develop toward
7 that as a second topic.

8 The first bit from our perspective we are a fuel
9 retailer, we think about serving the customer with the best
10 kind of product we can. So the value proposition is strong.
11 I think it's important that we translate from what is often a
12 use case that's articulated in a vehicle class into a
13 customer segment.

14 So when we talk -- and we heard earlier today, when
15 the natural place for hydrogen is understood is heavy duty.
16 Well, really what I think we're saying is a high output, high
17 utilization vehicle. A place where fast refueling is
18 important. So the strongest demand for fuel cell vehicles at
19 present is in fact in forklifts, material handling. Where
20 it's inside a warehouse so it needs to be zero-emission. And
21 the up time of that asset is so important for that fleet,
22 that business operation. And the total cost of ownership
23 then becomes clear and hydrogen forklifts are expanding
24 greatly.

25 So then indeed it was said earlier we can think about

1 the kinds of places on -- in on-road transport where that
2 high output, high utilization exists and it might be in
3 taxicabs and shared mobility in a light-duty vehicle and it
4 might be in Class A trucks hauling beer from one point to
5 another. So, again, it might exist all the way across those
6 vehicle classes.

7 The last thing to realize, I think, is that there is
8 a customer preference involved as well. There are large and
9 growing customer segments who want that capability. SUVs and
10 pickup trucks are growing segments. A person who's commuting
11 in a pickup truck may not be using that capability but they
12 wanted to purchase it. So we -- as we develop charging and
13 we develop hydrogen, we think about market segments, we think
14 about customers who want a particular level of service. We
15 find that there are people for whom charging works very well
16 and in fact is an improvement to be able to charge instead of
17 refuel. And we find segments for whom charging will not work
18 very well and in fact is a significant difficulty and
19 negative in their utility function and they would love to
20 refuel.

21 So I think that's our perspective thinking that
22 hydrogen and charging are complementary from a customer and
23 value perspective. Of course there are complementary aspects
24 onboard the vehicle. We don't have OEMs with us right now
25 but, you know, the shared components in electric drive chain,

1 et cetera. So we see these as very much complementary and
2 therefore develop hydrogen for those customer segments for
3 whom, you know, perform very well.

4 MS. BERNER: And does anyone else want to add to that
5 or? I think not.

6 I'll move on, then. I just want to -- let's see, I
7 think next I want to go to Shane to talk a bit about the --
8 well, we've already talked about it a bit so far is that it's
9 hard to match where the hydrogen is produced with where it's
10 needed for various purposes but including getting it to the
11 refueling stations.

12 And, you know, we've known, actually that in
13 California we have had some issues with getting supplies and
14 stations and that some stations have been out of fuel at
15 times. So I know at FirstElement you made a big transition
16 from liquid hydrogen as I think a solution, at least one
17 element, one reason is that the solutions help with that
18 issue.

19 Maybe talk about that and also where you think what
20 else needs to be done in the liquid hydrogen space to enable
21 to do some transportation.

22 MR. STEPHENS: Yeah. Happy to do so.

23 So the transition of liquid hydrogen I think we saw,
24 you know, multiple benefits to it. One is you say is to be
25 able to a little more successfully and economically transport

1 hydrogen from what might be a somewhat stranded, you know,
2 region and get it into urban areas.

3 Another one is scale. Right? You can move around
4 and store liquid hydrogen at much higher densities. And, you
5 know, today we're doing hydrogen stations with four fueling
6 positions and we're seeing a business case take shape.

7 Right? Well, four fueling positions is tiny for a gasoline
8 station. Right? I mean, you almost never see a gas station
9 that small.

10 So, you know, once we're able to scale to, you know,
11 doing the kind of volume that a gasoline station does and,
12 you know, we can do that with liquid hydrogen. The economic
13 outlook in the business case and the ability to get price
14 competition with gasoline is even better. Right? So it just
15 looks better over time as we go to bigger volumes.

16 So I do want to stress, though, that, you know, it's
17 I guess a blessing and a curse. Right? I mean, on the one
18 hand, yeah, you don't want to move hydrogen huge distances.
19 It can be done. You know, there are examples globally of
20 people looking at shipping liquid hydrogen, you know, across
21 the Pacific Ocean. But, you know, we should be I think
22 taking advantage of one of the benefits of hydrogen which is
23 that you can develop more local and regional resources to
24 produce your hydrogen. Right?

25 So in California one of the big things that we have

1 is a lot of ag waste and food waste, right, for example. And
2 I would say, maybe this is arguable, but I would say that
3 using hydrogen in transportation is probably the most
4 effective way to put that ag waste and food waste into work
5 for energy, right, and to reduce carbon. So that's
6 absolutely an opportunity that we should be looking at and
7 taking.

8 But, you know, as I mentioned, Commissioner Douglas
9 brought up in Northern California, you know, potentially
10 offshore wind. With liquid hydrogen production and
11 distribution, I think that's something that we can tap into
12 and actually utilize and do that economically and make it
13 work. So that shift I think was, you know, for several
14 reasons, but it does unlock that possibility, I think, to tap
15 into resources that might be a little bit more remote, a
16 little bit more stranded and get them into Southern
17 California.

18 I know, you know, it's not the only model that people
19 are using to scale. You know, so there's still different
20 approaches being taken but this is the direction that fuel
21 cell going in. So.

22 MS. BERNER: And I think I saw that Wayne wanted to
23 add something.

24 MR. LEIGHTY: Thanks. If I could just build on
25 Shane's good comments by saying this is an area of important

1 collaboration between policy and industry, the importance of
2 a roadmap, of an idea of where we are headed. Because your
3 second question, Jane, was and so how do we build the right
4 infrastructure? And that depends on where we're headed.

5 So gaseous and liquid, trucks and pipes, it all kind
6 of depends as we heard from the earlier speakers today on --
7 in what direction are we headed. And we in industry can
8 certainly make our assessments and investments as best we
9 can, sharing that viewpoint with you and hearing your
10 viewpoint on the policy objectives helps us to navigate in
11 the right direction.

12 MS. BERNER: And Dave.

13 MR. EDWARDS: And I'd just like to add to that that
14 as I found out earlier as Wayne has said, flexibility of
15 supply is really important, especially in these earlier
16 stages where there's not a silver bullet that's going to
17 solve every problem for every location at every site or every
18 station, even within the state of California, for example.

19 We are going to see gaseous deliveries, liquid
20 deliveries, and in the relatively near future we might just
21 see some of these other carriers involved in hydrogen
22 movement within California as well. That is inevitably part
23 of our future of how we think about this energy structure.
24 It's a flexibility of how you move it and therefore how and
25 when you make those investments regionally and with the

1 technology base that you've got.

2 MS. BERNER: Great. So we could continue on forever,
3 or at least I could. But I have been told it's our time to
4 move on to questions.

5 Although -- oh, actually, well, let me turn it over
6 to Jacob real quick. I understand you want to ask a question
7 and then we'll turn it over to the audience Q&A.

8 MR. TETER: Great. Yeah, I am struck by the fact
9 that California has been really successful in building out
10 this broad network of stations. And indeed anyone knowing
11 owning a Prius can -- or anyone owning a Mirai can go, you
12 know, anywhere across the state.

13 But I wonder, what would be your plan for trying to
14 build out hydrogen stations beyond California? And what do
15 you see as the challenges in doing so?

16 MR. STEPHENS: Wayne, you first or me?

17 MR. LEIGHTY: Go ahead, Shane. Yeah.

18 MR. STEPHENS: Okay. Great. You know, I think what
19 FirstElement set out to do from the very start was to develop
20 a model that is three things, scalable, right, can create a
21 good business case, and can be exportable to other regions.
22 Right? So I think we're there. I think there does have to
23 be a little bit of a perfect storm of policy incentives to
24 encourage the expansion into other states. I don't think
25 we're that far away from seeing that happen.

1 And so, you know, I think our model is expandable. I
2 think we like, again, the policy mechanisms California to
3 have some capex funding from the Energy Commission on one
4 hand. And then to have something like the LCFS capacity
5 credit program, not every state has an LCFS program, so it
6 may not be possible. But something like that that's more of
7 a market-based mechanism to encourage, you know, the private
8 investment through a successful long-term operation of a
9 station. I think those two are very good elements that would
10 spur a lot of development.

11 The last thing that I'll say is, you know, again, if
12 we can show -- are showing and continue to show success on
13 the light-duty side, I think you will see more and more
14 interest snowball on the heavy-duty and transit sectors.
15 There may be an opportunity to leverage some of that
16 infrastructure to help expand, you know, the retail stations
17 to other states as well.

18 I hesitate a little bit there because I think
19 there -- it's not -- it's the exception rather than the norm
20 for a retail hydrogen station to be coupled with a heavy-duty
21 hydrogen station. Right? I don't think that's viable in
22 most considerations. But if you're looking at more of a
23 connecting network of stations to take you across the region,
24 there may be some opportunities to leverage like a heavy-duty
25 station to put a retail infrastructure there.

1 So I think I'll conclude with that and Wayne can fill
2 in any gaps that I missed.

3 MR. LEIGHTY: Well, again, a good question in a big
4 area.

5 A few additional thoughts. Fundamentally, hydrogen
6 mobility is demand constrained by the number of fuel cell
7 stacks being produced and vehicles coming to market. So what
8 that means is coordination, infrastructure being developed
9 where the vehicles are going. So far that's primarily where
10 the vehicles are pulled by policy, a zero-emission vehicle
11 mandate of some kind like in California or equivalent kind of
12 policies in Asia and Europe.

13 The second thing is that as Shane alluded to earlier,
14 I think we've learned our lesson in that you develop for the
15 success case. Why would you build infrastructure for the
16 failure case, don't even get started. So in building for the
17 success case, a refueling station that fuels vehicles back to
18 back like gasoline and performs, it necessarily has a low
19 initial utilization. That's true whether it's light-duty
20 vehicles or commercial fleets. We need to understand that
21 simply a commercial fleet does not solve that problem and so
22 it means that there's a bridge. And as Shane said, the HRI
23 pathway and the low-carbon fuel centered in California is one
24 of those example pathways.

25 It was called policy magic recently in an ARB hearing

1 because it pulls on two levers at the same time. One is how
2 to get that infrastructure capacity built a little bit ahead
3 of the vehicles. In the chicken and egg question, I think
4 that's been answered that the infrastructure needs to come a
5 bit ahead of the vehicle.

6 And the second is to decarbonize the supply. The
7 low-carbon fuel standard is not so effective just in its base
8 form for hydrogen because we sell so little hydrogen from the
9 beginning. So as was alluded to today, that pathway in
10 California has sent a very strong signal that everyone has
11 responded to to decarbonize hydrogen from the start. So
12 policy magic.

13 MR. STEPHENS: Let me --

14 MS. BERNER: Great. So I think -- oh. Shane, yes.

15 MR. STEPHENS: I just quickly want to build on one
16 point that Wayne made about, you know, the LCSF program
17 encouraging decarbonization of the hydrogen pathways.

18 I just -- I think it's so important to note how
19 successful that program is and also at doing it based on the
20 achievable metric. Right? Ultimately what we're trying to
21 do is reduce carbon. And I think -- I'm going to speak a
22 little bit bluntly here. Right?

23 In the legislature, you get things that are
24 politically more favorable. Right? You get the political
25 flavor of the week. And sometimes that means, you know, the

1 renewable energy flavor of the week. Right? Like, somebody
2 decides that one renewable energy is better than another one
3 because, I don't know, they're being lobbied or whatever.

4 So I think it's the job of the agencies. I think the
5 agencies, both CEC and ARB, have done a great job of this.
6 It's the job of the agencies to take a more, you know, level-
7 headed approach and say, no, we need to look at renewables
8 not based on flavor of the week but rather on the desired
9 outcome. Right? Which ultimately is reduced carbon, reduced
10 criteria pollutant emissions.

11 So the LCFS I think is one great mechanism to do
12 that. CEC has several mechanisms to do that well. And I
13 would just encourage to keep -- keep taking that even-minded
14 approach.

15 So hopefully I said that well without offending any
16 legislators. But.

17 MS. BERNER: All right. Well, on that note, we will
18 turn it over to questions for participants.

19 So Jonathan, I think you're going to post some for
20 us.

21 MR. BOBADILLA: Do we want to go to hands? I know
22 we've got several hands up.

23 MS. RAITT: But Jonathan, if you had a couple of Q&A.

24 MR. BOBADILLA: Yeah, I can get --

25 MS. RAITT: This is Heather.

1 MR. BOBADILLA: Yeah, from Q&A?

2 MS. RAITT: Yeah.

3 MR. BOBADILLA: All right.

4 MS. RAITT: We'll do the hands up for the public
5 comment period.

6 MR. BOBADILLA: Okay.

7 MS. RAITT: Thanks.

8 MR. BOBADILLA: All right. And this question isn't
9 directed towards anyone in particular. But from Glenn
10 Rambach, in what way is California engaging the electrical
11 utilities and CAISO in approach to hydrogen as an electricity
12 storage and transport medium?

13 MS. BERNER: I don't know if any of us is the best
14 person to ask to answer that question. I know there's
15 certainly been a lot of interagency discussions.

16 Did you -- have your hand raised, Wayne, or were you
17 just moving your hand?

18 MR. LEIGHTY: I just wanted to say what a great
19 question, and I imagine it's not easy. Amongst the agencies,
20 you all are very busy and operating within your scope to do
21 harmonization across agencies. I image it's difficult. I
22 just echo the person's question, it's an important area to
23 work on.

24 MR. BOBADILLA: Great. And one question that got
25 touched on but didn't -- it might have been (no audio) stream

1 was about supply disruptions.

2 And let me see -- how do we ensure that there's no --
3 or how -- what is the resiliency of hydrogen on the supply
4 side?

5 MS. BERNER: Go ahead, Wayne.

6 MR. LEIGHTY: It's Wayne. I have a thought on that
7 one very briefly which is we finished the launch. I mean,
8 what we observe right now is we're at a delicate place where
9 the adoption is starting to happen but the supply chain is
10 very thin. It's very difficult to have reliability and
11 resiliency in a thin system of any kind. So it's imperative
12 for all of us to succeed that we move on past this nascent
13 phase into a more system with more depth. So let's finish
14 the launch here.

15 MS. BERNER: And do you want to add to that, Dave?

16 MR. EDWARDS: Yeah, I would add -- amplify exactly
17 what Wayne said and that is in the early days of an energy
18 transition, you know, we're faced both with economic,
19 technical, and operational challenges in making this
20 transition. And, you know, the events of last summer that
21 caused some of the interruptions are really indicative of
22 those early stage developments.

23 But with a stable market that's growing with
24 investments and the investments some of the ones that we
25 announced from Air Liquide and a lot of the ones from other

1 companies as well are directly going to address that.
2 Robustness comes with size but it also comes with planning
3 and investments specific into this market.

4 Keep in mind that most of the hydrogen that goes into
5 a fuel cell vehicle today is relying on infrastructure that
6 was put in place for other applications. It was put in place
7 for industrial supply or for refinery applications. And
8 we're peeling some of that off and generating renewables and
9 putting it into this new market but still relying on that
10 infrastructure that wasn't optimized for it.

11 Going forward, all the investments that we're making
12 now are specific to this mobility market. Meaning, you know,
13 resiliency, the reliability, the redundancy, are now meeting
14 the targets of individual consumers driving cars very
15 different than industrial supply managing a contract, for
16 example.

17 MR. STEPHENS: And, yeah, if I can weigh in a little
18 bit too. You know, one of the slides I think was titled
19 that, you know, the supply of hydrogen has to be dedicated
20 and more robust. Right? So I think Wayne and Dave already
21 hit on some of those points. We're relying on byproduct
22 hydrogen, you know, and a supply chain that was not
23 necessarily robust enough.

24 FirstElement, I think we realized this, you know,
25 back in 2015, right around the time we were opening our very

1 first stations. Right? We saw weaknesses in the supply
2 chain. We saw that demand was going to be bigger. But I
3 think there were two challenges. Right? One is that it took
4 a while to convince people of that because everybody thought
5 oh, it's FirstElement, it's just those idealistic, optimistic
6 guys, you know.

7 And I think the second challenge is that, you know,
8 when you recognize the issue and start making investments in
9 infrastructure, it takes time for infrastructure. Right?
10 It's not, you know, developing a new app, right, or a new
11 smart phone. Infrastructure developments just take more time
12 to materialize.

13 So I think, you know, as Dave says, some of those
14 announcements have been made and are public. I can assure
15 you that there are a lot of other investments being made.
16 So, you know, I think we feel much more comfortable with the
17 outlook than what we knew in the past. Unfortunately, I
18 can't talk very specifically about a lot of the stuff that's
19 happening because it's competitive information, it's stuff
20 that's not been publically announced.

21 But, yeah, I think the challenges of the past were
22 well kind of articulated here and I think, you know, we
23 recognize what the future needs. You know, it's some
24 redundancy and robustness but also just dedicated supply for
25 this marketplace. And those things are happening and

1 investments are being made, and the outlook is much better.

2 MS. BERNER: Great. So I think we have reached the
3 time limit on our panel. I want to thank all of our
4 panelists, it's been a great discussion.

5 And, Heather, I think you might want to introduce the
6 public comment period.

7 MS. RAITT: Right. Thank you, Jane. This is Heather
8 Raitt.

9 Thank you, Jane. And thank you so much to our
10 panelists. Super helpful discussion.

11 So we do need to move on to the public comment
12 period.

13 And RoseMary Avalos will be -- is from our Public
14 Advisor's Office here to help us with that. And I'll just
15 remind folks to go ahead and use the raise hand function if
16 you'd like to make a comment.

17 And for folks on the phone, press star 9 to raise
18 your hand to let us know you'd like to make a comment.

19 And, RoseMary, go ahead, please. Thank you.

20 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Heather.

21 Yes, I'm RoseMary Avalos with the Public Advisor's
22 Office.

23 And I'll first call on attendees using the raised
24 hand feature on Zoom. Please state your name and affiliation
25 for the record. Also spell your first and last name after

1 you are unmuted and before commenting. And do not use the
2 speaker phone feature when talking because we won't be able
3 to hear you clearly.

4 Okay. I'm going to call on Bernard Berrier. Go
5 ahead. You'll need to unmute yourself. There you go.

6 MR. BERRIER: Thank you very much. I'm Bernard
7 Berrier, aka Barney. And I'm with the Biomass Biochar
8 Cooperative. And also helping out NuFuels, a biomass to
9 hydrogen conversion technology using gasification in Fischer-
10 Tropsch.

11 My question is how -- what role do you see?
12 Obviously my interests intersect in reduction of the
13 overburden of biomass both in the forest and in the fields
14 and the production of hydrogen fuel cell.

15 And by the way, my name was stolen, I had a company
16 called First Element Power Systems, hydrogen fuel cell
17 integration company in 2000. But -- so it's a great name and
18 I'm glad that it's being used today for fueling stations.

19 Thank you for your receiving my question. What role
20 do you see?

21 Yes. B-E-R-N-A-R-D, B-E-R-R-I-E-R.

22 MS. AVALOS: Okay. We will move on to the next
23 public comment.

24 Ray Pingle, go ahead, your line is open.

25 MR. PINGLE: Good morning, this is Ray Pingle from

1 Sierra Club California, and this is really just an excellent
2 workshop.

3 You know, clearly, one of the most important
4 objectives we have in doing all this is to have -- use
5 carbon-free fuel. And I would like to make a recommendation
6 to the Energy Commission that's got some excellent reports on
7 its website on tracking progress. And there's a tracking
8 progress report for zero-emission vehicles. And it does have
9 a section where it talks about hydrogen fueling stations but
10 it makes little mention about the renewable content of the
11 hydrogen fuel.

12 And so I would like to recommend that going forward,
13 the CEC specifically maybe have a graph or something that
14 documents what is the percentage renewable content of all the
15 hydrogen fuel utilized in the state by year. And with the
16 goal, obviously, to increasing it to 100 percent. I know
17 right now there's a law requiring 33 percent, it exceeds
18 that. But I think that would be very helpful for us to track
19 that.

20 Having said that, I would just like to ask the
21 question to anybody that has a sense of what percentage of
22 renewable fuel might we have by say 2030? I'm encouraged by
23 the partnership between Air Liquide and FirstElement to build
24 a large 100 percent renewable hydrogen plant in Nevada. But
25 is that a trend within the industry? So I appreciate any

1 comments on that.

2 Thank you very much.

3 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. Pringle.

4 This is RoseMary with the Public Advisor's Office.

5 And I just want to remind those that are going to provide
6 public comment that this is solely for public comment. You
7 can ask questions, but it's not -- you will not be receiving
8 a response. You can ask your questions within the docket
9 system and staff will review. But during this period, it's
10 for public comments only.

11 And also I want to remind you to spell your first and
12 last name and your affiliation.

13 Okay. We'll take on the next public comment.

14 Kate, go ahead. You'll need to unmute yourself,
15 Kate.

16 Okay. We'll go on to David Uselton. We'll go ahead
17 unmute Dave. I think we're having a problem with Kate. Go
18 ahead, Dave.

19 MR. USELTON: Hi. Thank you.

20 My name is David Uselton, I'll spell that last name
21 for you, U-S-E-L-T-O-N. I have no affiliation other than
22 being a fuel cell driver for now our third generation. We
23 started with a Tucson from Hyundai, third one to come in the
24 U.S. Went to a Mirai, now in an Excel.

25 A couple of quick things. One, I'm hoping that maybe

1 we can rethink the way we subsidize the fuel. Over the past
2 seven years my wife and I have seen so many people who seem
3 to be in it for the free fuel. And we're not. We're in it
4 because we believe it's the right future for our children.

5 I'd like to thank all the participants here that are
6 in it for that reason which I believe most of you are.

7 Right? That this is a long-term gain to help our global
8 ecosystem and our children to have a better future.

9 And so maybe there's some ways to rethink the free
10 fuel. Maybe it's a subsidy to standard cost of fossil fuels,
11 maybe it's something else. I get it. Some people say it's a
12 way to offset the cost of the vehicle. But there must be
13 other ways to do that including maybe lifting the restriction
14 on three vehicles in a row getting some subsidy in the cost
15 of the vehicle and then pay for more of the fuel just to get
16 people in it for the right reasons. Right? Otherwise, they
17 just get mad. When they can't fuel, they get mad, they post
18 all over Facebook, they give it a bad reputation and all they
19 were looking for was free fuel.

20 And we got in this when my son was (indiscernible).
21 And we bought him a model from Hammacher Schlemmer and he put
22 it together and said why isn't every car like this, dad? I
23 said, well, do the math of a (no audio). He did. In fact,
24 he got quite a good grade from his teacher for having done
25 the math. And at the time it wasn't viable. And we had the

1 discussion that someday it will be. And this is the right
2 answer.

3 So I urge everybody to take a long hard look at are
4 there other ways to be subsidized in the adoption that
5 doesn't just necessarily give people free fuel. Maybe it's
6 open corridors to more places. Or I hate to say it but
7 people that have a little more wealth that do invest in this
8 because they believe in the green but we don't quite have the
9 transportation corridors to get there like Palm Springs and
10 so forth.

11 But again, that puts it on high wealth people and
12 that's probably not our objectives with tax dollars. But
13 maybe some way to rethink that.

14 I have one minute left. I would just like to A,
15 thank True Zero and Shell, both you two build fantastic
16 stations. Right? And the fact that we're now going to see
17 more adoption to infrastructure by people, we thank you for
18 that commitment as well. I forget the name of the company
19 that does the stuff -- that's building the new plant. All of
20 you guys do great work.

21 I hope someone will go scrutinize Iwatani. They've
22 been an embarrassment at that San Juan station for a year and
23 a half now, or maybe it's just over a year. But I hope
24 someone's in there looking at them real hard and saying hey,
25 if you want any more tax dollars from us, make this station

1 work.

2 That's it. Again, just the last point. Love it. We
3 really support it for the long term and what it does for our
4 families and our futures. And we thank everyone that's
5 putting a great effort into reality.

6 MS. AVALOS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Uselton.

7 The next public comment is from Tim Sasseen.

8 Go ahead, Mr. Sasseen.

9 MR. SASSEEN: Hi, this is Tim Sasseen from Ballard
10 Power Systems. My name's spelled, T-I-M; last name,
11 S-A-S-S-E-E-N.

12 Thank you for this great workshop. Really appreciate
13 the Energy Commission listening to the hydrogen industry and
14 reaching out to get the most up-to-date and informative
15 information. Excellent.

16 Really want to thank Commissioner Monahan in
17 particular and comment on one thing that she raised which is
18 the efficiency question. This is something that's brought up
19 for hydrogen quite often.

20 And on the hydrogen side, you know, we try to be
21 transparent about how our losses are on fuel cells for
22 electrolyzers. On the battery side it's not always as
23 apparent and it's not just the round trip efficiency of a
24 battery, you have to take into account transmission losses on
25 the order of 4 percent, distribution losses than can be about

1 the same. Chargers which can be 10 percent or some of the
2 100 kilowatt-ish chargers, that can go up to 30 percent for
3 some of the DC fast chargers.

4 And then as we talk about capturing renewables for
5 the sake of transportation, you're going to -- if you look at
6 an all battery solution, storing that energy in large battery
7 systems can also be surprisingly inefficient. I worked for a
8 time at (indiscernible) for sustainable energy on the SCHIP
9 program and we had found, see it in recent reports that round
10 trip efficiency for stationary batteries are just somewhere
11 between 20 to 30 percent loss from HVAC systems and for self
12 discharge.

13 So that's in addition to the 5 percent loss in
14 charging, 5 percent loss in discharging. So that doesn't
15 bring parity to fuel cells with battery efficiency but it
16 certainly does change the numbers and it changes the
17 economics. So I would suggest that you look very carefully
18 at that.

19 And beyond that, it really is a question beyond round
20 trip efficiency. You have to look at how the energy carrier
21 performs the job. For intermittent usage, for low-energy
22 density, batteries do a phenomenal job. But when you put
23 them towards high utilization application as Wayne Leighty
24 was talking about, systems get very expensive, very heavy,
25 very cumbersome, and you have to double up, triple the

1 resources in order to the do the job. And that's where
2 hydrogen starts to look very, very effective.

3 So it's more than just round trip efficiency. You
4 know, please do look deeply into those numbers and all the
5 cost components that are required for that effort but also
6 look at the applicability by segment. I think all of this
7 starts to guide California towards a more comprehensive
8 regional if not statewide approach at how the energy system
9 develops and at making big bold moves which can get past a
10 lot of the cost curves that so many countries now are seeing
11 and are really an effective way to get to true carbon --
12 decarbonization through using hydrogen.

13 Thank you again for this excellent panel. Fantastic
14 speakers, you really did do a good job in picking the right
15 people to talk to day.

16 Thank you very much.

17 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. Sasseen.

18 Now we go on to Deanna Haines. And please spell your
19 first and last name and your affiliation.

20 And you're unmuted. Thank you.

21 Deanna Haines.

22 Okay. We'll move on to William Zobel.

23 MS. HAINES: Can you hear me?

24 MS. AVALOS: Just one moment.

25 Okay. We can hear you now, Deanna.

1 MS. HAINES: Sorry about that. Deanna Haines;
2 D-E-A-N-N-A; Haines, H-A-I-N-E-S, with SoCalGas.

3 I just wanted to point out one of things that Wayne
4 had mentioned about the ability to blend hydrogen into the
5 natural gas system. You know, the natural gas system
6 throughout California is a very integrated expansive network
7 with -- in Southern California, over 100,000 miles of pipe
8 alone. And we have, you know, storage facilities that are
9 pretty large and that can store large amounts of gas.

10 And recently the Lawrence Livermore National
11 Laboratory released a study called "Getting to Neutral" that
12 talked about the biomass conversion into hydrogen and having
13 the system, the natural gas system be an offtake for that
14 hydrogen to help build that scale that some of the speakers
15 talked about to bring those costs down.

16 I'd like to just remind folks that that is a really
17 good way of doing it, plus it's a carbon negative solution
18 and that can help bring the cost down overall for hydrogen,
19 decarbonize the gas in the system, and really have synergies
20 with, you know, creating some value out of the, you know, the
21 fuel from agriculture in forest waste, especially with our
22 dead trees. We have I know over 130 million dead trees. So
23 that biomass and the reduction of that fuel source could also
24 be a synergy. So there's a lot of synergies here with an
25 integrated look at this and not just looking at it from a

1 transportation sector.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Ms. Haines.

4 And I'm going to go ahead and make an announcement
5 that we're going to shorten the public comment period because
6 we have more people in the queue and to give everyone an
7 opportunity, we'll have to shorten the time to one minute.

8 So William Zobel, go ahead. And your line is open.

9 William, you will need to unmute yourself on your
10 line.

11 MR. ZOBEL: Oh, there it is. Sorry about that. That
12 popped up a little late.

13 Good morning, my name is Bill Zobel; B-I-L-L;
14 Z-O-B-E-L. Since I have a minute, I'll move quickly. I'm
15 the executive director of the California Hydrogen Business
16 Council.

17 We heard a lot of speakers today, they were all very
18 good, appreciate their comments. In particular, we heard a
19 call for regulatory certainty to facilitate investment. Both
20 Dr. Leighty and Dr. Stephens mentioned the business case for
21 investment. The council recognizes this is absolutely
22 necessary for more private capital to make its way into this
23 market to achieve the scale necessary to unlock the full
24 economic potential of hydrogen that was outlined by Dr. Wang
25 in her remarks.

1 A good example of this supportive policy being played
2 out is being played out in the European Union, EU,
3 specifically Germany where governments and private industry
4 have committed to spending over 9 billion Euros on research
5 on investment in hydrogen. This is a very recent and
6 compelling example where clear and consistent policy signals
7 support the business case and spur investment which allow
8 markets to grow and mature.

9 One example close to home are the HRI credits which
10 have succeeded in allowing for expanded capacity but they
11 don't give the OEMs enough forward looking certainty in our
12 view. The Energy Commission can and should do more to
13 facilitate this with positive signals coming from both new
14 and existing programs. The AB-8 funds do that. CARB
15 recognizes the importance of extending AB-8 beyond the 2023
16 sunset date in the recent SB498 report.

17 This recommendation is in line with holding to the
18 goals at executive order which have been given funding by the
19 legislature. We urge the CEC to join this call for the
20 extension of the AB-8 funds.

21 And quickly, on the production side, we also need
22 clear and consistent policies to increase the supply and
23 encourage producers to invest. Particularly we need policies
24 to accelerate decarbonized hydrogen as Dr. Edwards pointed to
25 the investment his company is making on the production side.

1 But he also pointed to the fact that regulatory certainty is
2 required and will need investment to meet these goals.

3 With that, I think I'm probably close to my time so I
4 will conclude my remarks. And I just thank you for the
5 opportunity to participate.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. Zobel.

8 We'll go onto David Park. Your line is unmuted.

9 David Park.

10 MR. PARK: Hi, this is David Park with the California
11 Fuel Cell Partnership. That's D-A-V-I-D, P-A-R-K.

12 Commissioner Monahan, Commissioner Douglas, Advisor
13 DeMesa, thank you for summon such a holistic and
14 knowledgeable panel today and for all this IEPR proceedings.

15 We at the partnership are grateful for the ZEV
16 neutral spirit of these proceedings and are hopeful that this
17 spirit will be reflected in the policy recommendations that
18 flow out of these hearings.

19 To emphasize Jacob's comments, California is the
20 world's crucible for development of environmental and energy
21 policy which is possibly the greatest export from our state.
22 Whole country has followed California's lead. Our
23 partnership, government industry, and academia are developing
24 a new energy economy that would pay back dividends to
25 California for the next three decades.

1 We emphasize the road to achieve the ZEV tipping
2 point reference by Wayne will be difficult to climb. The
3 state and world would be wise to enable all mechanisms to
4 lower this hurdle across the ZEV platforms.

5 To emphasize the theme of consistent policy signals
6 and perhaps providing a look into today's afternoon sessions,
7 we point to Governor Brown's executive order to achieve 200
8 fueling stations by 2025, and 5 million ZEV by 2030.

9 This -- I'll cut my comment short for this afternoon
10 but we look forward to our continued partnership.

11 Thanks very much.

12 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. Park.

13 The next speaker comment is Andrew Martinez.

14 Go ahead, Andrew, you may speak. Spell your first
15 and last name, please.

16 MR. MARTINEZ: Hi this is Andrew Martinez;
17 A-N-D-R-E-W; M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z. Staff air pollution specialist
18 with California Air Resources Board.

19 Just want to make a couple quick comments just to
20 clarify for members of the public because I've heard some
21 questions that I believe members of the public probably would
22 benefit from being pointed towards some information
23 resources.

24 Obviously, thank you to everybody who is providing
25 comments on what kind of information you'd like to see and

1 where you'd like to see it. I'd just like to point out that
2 both the Energy Commission and the ARB do provide semiannual
3 reports with updates that include a lot of the information
4 I've heard discussed today in terms of the questions that the
5 public is seeking. Just point members of the public to a
6 website arb.ca.gov/hydrogen. And I know that the -- I
7 believe that the reports for -- from the Energy Commission,
8 the joint agency staff reports aren't individual webpages so
9 perhaps that's something that the Energy Commission staff can
10 provide later.

11 And just one really quick clarification, I heard that
12 possibly there's confusion about the fueling payment
13 subsidies and I just want to clarify that that is not state
14 provided, that is provided by the auto manufacturers.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. Martinez.

17 We'll move on to Travis Andren -- Andren, I'm sorry.
18 Go ahead, your line is unmuted.

19 MR. ANDREN: Thank you very much. That's Travis,
20 T-R-A-V-I-S; A-N-D-R-E-N, Andren, representing D3 Designs,
21 Inc., a social benefit corporation.

22 My comment today is twofold. First, I'd like to
23 understand in Dr. Wang's presentation if there is any
24 inclusion of nuclear and hydrogen coproduction as is being
25 researched by the U.S. Department of Energy? Albeit not a

1 renewable source, it is a clean energy source that has the
2 capacity to produce large volumes of hydrogen.

3 Secondary, looking at vehicle to grid resilience
4 having seen the track record from power utilities such as
5 PG&E's outages over the past two years as well as other
6 national electrical grid concerns in cooperation with
7 increasing natural disasters from climate change, is there an
8 interest from the CEC and the hydrogen industry from both the
9 vehicle application of vehicle to grid integration as well as
10 from the Energy Commission's grid integration from a
11 distributed network of electricity producing vehicles?

12 Thank you very much and I appreciate the conference.

13 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Travis.

14 We'll go onto Robert Perry. Your line is unmuted.

15 Go ahead and unmute (indiscernible).

16 MR. PERRY: My name's Perry. Can you hear me?

17 MS. AVALOS: Yes.

18 MR. PERRY: Okay. Yeah, my name's Robert Perry, I'm
19 an independent energy consultant. I just wanted to follow up
20 on the number -- prior comments concerning the incredible
21 opportunities presented by biomass, particularly in the
22 Sierra Nevada mountain range, the 130 million dead trees.
23 And I would direct people to look at what's being done with
24 the Sierra Resource Conservation District. They started a
25 pilot project converting trees into biomass which are now

1 being -- the syngas is being used to run a reciprocating
2 engine. But this is clearly a resource that could be
3 converted to hydrogen. It eliminates an existential climate
4 threat while converting it into a high value storage medium.

5 So I urge everybody to seriously consider that avenue
6 because that is California's climate challenge.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. AVALOS: Thank you. Thank you, Robert.

9 We'll move on to Robert DuBois. Your line is
10 unmuted.

11 Okay. Mr. DuBois.

12 MR. DUBOIS: Yes.

13 MS. AVALOS: Unmute your line. There you go.

14 MR. DUBOIS: Robert DuBois, D-U-B-O-I-S. I'm with
15 NuFuels. And we -- N-U-F-U-E-L-S. We have a conversion
16 system, a non-combustion conversion system, high efficiency
17 conversion system.

18 Just loved -- I've loved to hear in on this meeting.
19 It's -- I love the fact that they're working from a micro and
20 a macro level simultaneously and it's very, very hopeful from
21 where we sit and also the planet sits.

22 My comment is as a baby boomer, I've noticed my
23 children and grandchildren are different culturally than we
24 were. In other words, they view the world quite differently
25 and it particularly affects the private automobile. I'm not

1 saying private automobiles are going anywhere soon, but the
2 emphasis I heard one commentator saying a more efficient use
3 of hydrogen and transportation might be -- in early stages
4 might be directed at mass transit, urban mass transit where
5 there'd be also an environmental effect as well, more of an
6 environmental effect.

7 So that's my comment and thank you very much for
8 letting me make it.

9 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Mr. DuBois.

10 The next commenter is Mike. Go ahead, your line is
11 unmuted. Mike? Hello? You need to --

12 MR. SKVARLA: Hi.

13 MS. AVALOS: There you go.

14 MR. SKVARLA: Yeah. All right. My name is Mikhael
15 Skvarla, not Mike. I'm here on behalf of the California
16 Hydrogen Coalition. And that's Mikhael, M-I-K-H-A-E-L;
17 Skvarla is S-K-V-A-R-L-A.

18 Quickly, we appreciate the opportunity to have a
19 hydrogen focused worked today. With deference to the time,
20 I'll shorten the comments and follow up with written
21 comments.

22 Quickly, we encourage California to continue its
23 leadership on hydrogen and fuel cells. We look forward to
24 seeing how much can be achieved with the awards in the recent
25 CEC GFO and continued support of the LCFS HRI program to

1 build 200 light-duty fueling stations by 2025.

2 We further look forward to working with the state to
3 achieve 1,000 light-duty stations by 2030 which will cover 94
4 percent of California, 97 percent of disadvantaged
5 communities.

6 With regards to the questions about batteries versus
7 fuel cells, I wanted to note that Mr. Sasseen from Ballard
8 did a great job at highlighting some of these issues. I'll
9 further follow-up in our comments with some study from
10 Germany to discuss (indiscernible) coalitions which discuss
11 both energy and vehicle production and the carbon penalties
12 that are associated with some pathways.

13 In closing, hydrogen and fuel cells are poised for a
14 great opportunity for leadership in California in helping to
15 achieve its climate goals while adding to Californians'
16 lives.

17 Thank you.

18 MS. AVALOS: Thank you for your comment.

19 That concludes our public comments. I'll move
20 over -- hand it over to Heather.

21 MS. RAITT: Thank you, RoseMary.

22 Commissioners, did you have any conclusion remarks
23 you'd like to make?

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: No. Just want to thank the
25 panelists and all the folks that have participated remotely,

1 asked questions, provided public comment, really appreciate
2 all the input.

3 MS. RAITT: Great. So I'll just add this is Heather
4 Raitt. This afternoon we have Part 2 of this workshop and it
5 has a separate Zoom webinar ID so please go ahead and join us
6 and use that webinar ID that's listed here.

7 (Thereupon, the Hearing was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.)

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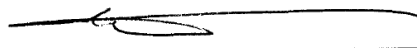
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of September, 2020.



PETER PETTY
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