Pathway and Resource Overview

Delivering Renewable Hydrogen Workshop – A Focus on Near-Term Applications

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Hydrogen pathway analysis is analysis of the total levelized cost (including return on investment), well-to-wheels (WTW) energy use, and WTW emissions for hydrogen production, delivery, and distribution pathways.

This presentation focuses on

- Pathway analyses using the Macro-System Model (MSM)
- Resource and pathway analysis using the Hydrogen Demand and Resource Analysis Tool (HyDRA)
- Status of water-electrolysis technology
MSM: Hydrogen Macro-System Model

Modeling tool that supports DOE Hydrogen Program and stakeholder decision-making by performing rapid cross-cutting analysis while providing consistency, data assurance, and an easy-to-use tool for sensitivity analysis

- Consistency provided by utilizing and linking other models
  - Current version performs pathway analyses
  - It links H2A Production, the Hydrogen Delivery Scenario Analysis Model (HDSAM), and ANL’s Greenhouse Gas, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use for Transportation (GREET) model
  - Models estimate “nth plant” costs so the assumption is that the extra expenses for process integration, permitting, and process guarantees for first-of-a-kind plants have been eliminated.

- Data assurance provided by documentation of data in each of the foundational models and data validation with industrial partners
  - Pathway report at http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy10osti/46612.pdf presents results of the current status for seven hydrogen pathways and shows many sensitivities around those results.

- Ease-of-use provided by web-based graphical user interface (GUI)
  - Available at http://h2- msm.ca.sandia.gov/
GUI Allows All Users To Perform Pathway Analyses

Initial input
- Technology
  • Production
  • Delivery
- City size
- Fuel Economy

Defaults
- Model defaults
- National averages
- Users can modify as desired

GUI Results – Central Electrolysis / Wind Power

Single-value results for central hydrogen production via electrolysis from wind-electricity and delivered via pipeline are shown. Many other results are available but not shown by the GUI.
Comparative Fuel Cost and GHG Emissions

The figure shows results based on current technology status scaled to full utilization of production capacity as represented in H2A and HDSAM. Parameter values referenced at http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy10osti/46612.pdf. Stochastic analysis can be run to estimate variability of each result.

* Gasoline and diesel prices are from AEO 2007 high projections for 2009 and do not include fuel taxes.
Purchasing electricity is the largest driver of hydrogen cost so reducing electricity purchase price and increasing electrolysis efficiency have the greatest potential for reducing cost.

Generating electricity for hydrogen production generates 96% of the WTW greenhouse gases (GHG) based on the US average grid mix. Electrolysis efficiency and grid mix have the greatest potential for reducing GHGs.

Basis: 1500 kg/day design capacity, production electricity use of 53.44 kWh/kg H₂ (62% efficiency – LHV basis), electricity cost of $0.055/kWh, electrolyzer system capital cost of $675/kW, total capital investment of $2,730,000, and 2005 US$
Cost Sensitivities

Improved system efficiency and reduced capital cost have the potential to reduce the levelized cost.

Electricity price has the greatest effect on levelized cost of hydrogen but it is driven by location and policies.

Basis: 1500 kg/day design capacity, production electricity use of 53.44 kWh/kg H₂ (62% efficiency – LHV basis), electricity cost of $0.055/kWh, electrolyzer system capital cost of $675/kW, and 2005 US$
HyDRA: Hydrogen Demand and Resource Analysis Tool

Web-based geographic information system (GIS) tool that allows analysts, decision-makers, and general users to view, download, and analyze hydrogen demand, resource, and infrastructure data spatially and dynamically.

It is a repository for spatial data inputs and results and is designed to display and aggregate that data.

HyDRA can be accessed at http://rpm.nrel.gov. The user must request a login ID and password.
Grid mix and electricity cost vary
- HyDRA provides layers with residential, commercial, and industrial electricity cost from EPA
Industrial electricity price by county was entered into the MSM to generate levelized costs of hydrogen by distributed electrolysis.
Distributed Electrolysis GHG Emissions

HyDRA also has grid mix by state. Grid mix was entered into the MSM to estimate WTW GHG emissions. HyDRA now has county-level data and that data will be used to generate a new layer.
Overlaying levelized cost and GHG emissions indicates opportunities for distributed electrolysis. The MSM and HyDRA are being linked to allow users to vary electrolysis capital cost and efficiency.
Electrolysis Independent Review

- NREL commissions independent reviews at DOE’s request
- Recently, a review of central and distributed electrolysis status was completed.
- Four independent experts reviewed information provided by electrolysis system providers, interviews, public data, and their own knowledge to estimate the current status of central and distributed production.
- They concluded that “significant technology advancements in reducing capital costs and improving efficiency have led to substantially improved electrolysis production costs.”
- Their results and rationale are presented in a report available at [http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/peer_reviews.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/peer_reviews.html)

### Panel’s Conclusions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>H2A Levelized Cost</th>
<th>Panel’s Cost Range</th>
<th>Panel’s Base-Case Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distributed Electrolysis (1500 kg/day)</td>
<td>$6.05 / kg</td>
<td>$4.90 - $5.70 / kg</td>
<td>$5.20 / kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Electrolysis (50,000 kg/day)</td>
<td>$4.50 / kg</td>
<td>$2.70 - $3.50 / kg</td>
<td>$3.00 / kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Improvements Panel Identified for Dist. Electrolysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>H2A</th>
<th>Vendor Range</th>
<th>Panel Base Case Value</th>
<th>Effect on levelized cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electrolyzer System Capital Cost</strong></td>
<td>$675 / kW</td>
<td>$170 - $420 / kW</td>
<td>$360 / kW</td>
<td>-$0.61 / kg H₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electrolyzer System Electricity Use (kWh / kg)</strong></td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>48 – 59</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-$0.19 / kg H₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electrolyzer System Efficiency (LHV)</strong></td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>57% - 70%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance, replacement, CSD, and water requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-$0.05 / kg H₂</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basis: 1500 kg/day design capacity, electricity cost of $0.055/kWh, and 2005 US$
Conclusions

- MSM performs pathway analysis and gives users the ability to vary many input parameters.
- HyDRA provides spatial resource data and some spatial pathway results.
- MSM and HyDRA are being linked to allow users to run pathway analyses and sensitivities with spatial results.
- An independent review panel has identified improvements made since the H2A cases were developed that make electrolysis more attractive.
- The MSM and HyDRA will be demonstrated this evening.
Acknowledgements

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The author would like to thank Johanna Levene from NREL for the description of HyDRA and for interactions necessary to produce the HyDRA example.
Questions
Comparative Petroleum Use and GHG Emissions

Most hydrogen technologies use less petroleum and are likely to produce fewer GHG emissions than other fuels.
Stochastic Analysis

MSM allows stochastic analysis to present results in ranges – necessary to quantify the results’ variability

Example Scenario:
- Advanced distributed SMR production technology case with a fuel economy of 50-70 mile/kg H₂

Varied inputs:
- Total capital investment; Operating and maintenance costs; Capacity factor; Production efficiency; Natural gas cost; Vehicle fuel economy

Input Distribution

Result Distribution

Result Scatter Plot