

California Hydrogen Business Council May 2005 Report

Summarized in this issue (with links to complete articles):

1. Welcome New Members
2. Your Support Needed Monday, May 9!!
3. Pre-registration Savings End May 10 for May 20 CHBC Meeting
4. California Hydrogen Fuel Senate Bill 250 Passed Unanimously
5. California Hydrogen Highway Blueprint Plan Released
6. Hydrogen Bill Passes Unanimously in Florida House, Senate Vote Pending
7. Hydrogenics And PEI Energy Partner to Develop Wind-Hydrogen
8. Large-scale hydrogen Helps British Columbia Prepare for 2010 Olympics
9. Strategies to Cut Fuel Cell Costs
10. World Environment Day Mayors Conference
11. Proton Energy Systems and Praxair Create Exclusive Distribution
12. Industry Events
13. CHBC 2005 Meeting Dates - Save These Dates
14. CHBC Silver Members
15. 2005 CHBC Board of Directors
16. Be a Member of the California Hydrogen Business Council

1. Welcome New Members

CHBC welcomes new individual members Thomas Damberger, Arno Evers, Ji Yong Eom, and Holly Thomas. We appreciate your support!

2. Your Support Needed Monday, May 9!!

The Finance Letter associated with the California Hydrogen Highway Network is being reviewed in the Senate Budget sub-committee on Monday, May 9, 2005. The Finance Letter is available at

http://www.dof.ca.gov//HTML/Budget_0506/SpringAdjustments/ENV.pdf

The Finance Letter would make \$12.193 million total available to the CA H2 Net program in the 2005-2006 budget. It's not too late to call sub-committee members to voice your support. [Click here](#) for the list of names and more information.

3. Pre-registration Savings End May 10 for May 20 CHBC Meeting

There's still time to pre-register for the next CHBC General Meeting sponsored by Bay Area AQMD, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. May 20, in Sacramento. With two of the state's highest-ranking officials as keynote speakers, door prizes and more - it's an event you won't want to miss. Terry Tamminen, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's Cabinet Secretary, will present "The Governor's Hydrogen Agenda," Alan Lloyd, PhD, Agency Secretary, CalEPA, will discuss "The Future of Hydrogen in California." Shannon Baxter-Clemmons, PhD, Special Advisor for Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Programs, Office of the Secretary, CalEPA and Government Liaison to the CHBC Board, will present an update on the California Hydrogen Highway Program. Other speakers include such notable Northern Californians as Jack Broadbent, Bay Area AQMD; Jaimie Levin, AC Transit; Joan Ogden,

UC Davis; and Catherine Dunwoody, California Fuel Cell Partnership. Come at 8 a.m. for a continental breakfast and pre-meeting networking. [Register today!](#)

4. California Hydrogen Fuel Senate Bill 250 Passed Unanimously

On April 25, the Senate Environmental Quality Committee unanimously passed [Senate Bill 250](#). SB 250 classifies hydrogen as a transportation fuel and directs the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Measurement Standards to develop interim specifications for hydrogen transportation fuel.

5. California Hydrogen Highway Blueprint Plan Released

The final draft California Hydrogen Highway [Blueprint Plan](#) documents have been transmitted from the California Environmental Protection Agency to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Volume I, "Summary of Findings and Recommendations for the CA H2 Net," was prepared by CalEPA and summarizes the major findings and recommendations regarding implementation of the CA H2 Net, which are based upon Volume II. Volume II, which is based upon findings and recommendations from the individual Topic Team reports, is entitled, "Consultant Report, Blueprint Plan for the CA H2 Net." Prepared by TIAX, it contains the complete and detailed CA H2 Net Blueprint Plan.

6. Hydrogen Bill Passes Unanimously in Florida House, Senate Vote Pending

The Florida Hydrogen Energy Technologies Act ([FHETA](#)), the legislative proposal focusing on hydrogen energy technologies and incentives, passed unanimously in the Florida House of Representatives. If approved by the Senate, the Florida Hydrogen Energy Technologies Act will provide Florida companies with a four year 75% corporate tax credit for expenditures and a 100 % sales tax exemption on related equipment purchases, increasing capital investment and job creation by reducing the costs of purchasing, manufacturing and developing hydrogen energy technologies. Establish the nation's first statewide siting standard for hydrogen fueling infrastructure that creates a single, uniform standard will attract capital investment in Florida, reduce costs and ensure consistent safety codes across all regulatory jurisdictions.

7. Hydrogenics and PEI Energy Partner to Develop Wind-Hydrogen

Hydrogenics and Prince Edward Island Energy Corp. will lead a consortium of industry and government partners to develop Canada's first wind-hydrogen village demonstration - the Prince Edward Island (PEI) [Wind-Hydrogen Village Project](#). This multi-faceted initiative will demonstrate, in real-life and in real-time, how wind energy and hydrogen technologies can work together to offer clean and sustainable energy solutions across a wide range of applications. The \$10.3 million project is receiving an investment of \$5.1 million through the Hydrogen Early Adopters (H2EA) program of Technology Partnerships Canada. The Government of Prince Edward Island will invest \$2.9 million in the three-year project.

8. Large-scale hydrogen Helps British Columbia Prepare for Olympics

[Westport Innovations Inc.](#) and a consortium of partners led by Sacre-Davey have been awarded approximately \$6 million by the Government of Canada to develop and demonstrate hydrogen technology in energy and transportation applications. This new funding award relates to a previously announced Vancouver-based demonstration of

public transit buses fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG) and hydrogen-enriched natural gas known as HCNG.

9. Strategies to Cut Fuel Cell Costs

Companies traditionally have invented every component themselves instead of using off-the-shelf components, which increases costs and lowers reliability. There is new focus on cost-cutting, manufacturing, and distribution, which suggests these companies are finally gearing up for production. Smart Fuel Cell announced a new membrane that would use half of the platinum catalyst, significantly reducing cost. Hitachi Maxell reported a new catalyst using a third of the platinum, again reducing costs while increasing power density. PolyFuel released a new version of its membrane that the company claims is easier to manufacture than its previous version. The hydrocarbon membrane can be manufactured with existing processes for fluorocarbon membranes, such as DuPont's Nafion, the industry standard. That, again, cuts costs. [More](#)

10. World Environment Day Mayors Conference

On June 1, mayors of the world converge in San Francisco to develop a new accord and commitment to clean energy. Today, the majority of the world's people live in cities. United Nations [World Environment Day](#) will bring together the world's mayors to share their environmental innovations and commit to taking action towards further environmental sustainability. The World Environment Day programs and workshops will foster global collaboration and the adoption of Urban Environmental Accords, commitments that are tailored to the unique characteristics of each city.

11. Proton Energy Systems and Praxair Create Exclusive Distribution

Praxair, Inc. signed an agreement with [Proton Energy Systems](#) to become the exclusive distributor in Canada and a U.S. distributor for Proton's advanced on-site hydrogen generation systems for the electric utilities industry and other applications. In the electric utility application the hydrogen generator provides a continuous flow of high purity hydrogen to cool the electric generator casing. Using a patent pending process, these turnkey hydrogen generation systems can increase the efficiency of a utility's electric generators by reducing windage loss, increasing output capacity and helping extend generator maintenance intervals, all of which can result in significant savings to the utility.

12. Industry Events

[June 3](#) - *Hydrogen Development & Safety Seminar, San Diego Miramar*

Presented by CHBC Silver Member ATTI and the National Science Foundation

[June 13](#) - *Hydrogen Development & Safety Seminar, Long Beach Transit: Jackson Transit*

Presented by CHBC Silver Member ATTI and the National Science Foundation

[June 28-30](#) - *Airport2025, Omni Shoreham, Washington, DC*

Presented by Next Generation Air Transportation System and National Safe Skies Alliance

13. CHBC 2005 Meeting Dates - Save These Dates

May 20 - Sacramento, September 16 - So Cal Location TBD, November 18 - So Cal Location TBD

14. CHBC Silver Members

CHBC gives a big thanks to our growing list Silver Members who are major contributors to our growth and success. [Click here](#) to learn about our Silver Members.

15. 2005 CHBC Board of Directors

President - Henry Wedaa

Vice President - Paul Scott, PhD

Secretary - Josh Mauzey

Treasurer - John Williams, PE

Managing Director - Catherine Rips

Membership Chairman - Gene Johnson

Dinner Meeting Chairman - Elias Azrak

Communications Director - Jerald Cole

Newsletter Chairman - John Addison

Program Chairman - Henry Wedaa

Director at Large - Gary Dixon

Director at Large - Jon Slangerup

Ex-Officio Government Liaison - Shannon Baxter, PhD

To contact the board, please click info@californiahydrogen.org.

16. Be a Member of the California Hydrogen Business Council

Be involved with the leaders in making the hydrogen economy a reality. CHBC is a non-profit organization, which offers a common meeting ground for discussing the technologies, methodologies, and opportunities in the hydrogen economy. Silver Membership is \$1,000 per year and allows organizations to send five people to each meeting at reduced member rates, plus provides valuable marketing opportunities. Individual membership is \$200 per year. To join, visit our website or call (760) 341-2924 with your credit card.

We welcome important news from our members for inclusion on our website and in next month's report. Please send to: info@californiahydrogen.org. Thank you for helping build a great organization.

*CHBC Report Publisher, John Addison
Editor, Catherine Rips*