



**HydroGEN**  
Advanced Water Splitting Materials

# Advanced Water-Splitting Technology Pathways Benchmarking & Protocols Workshop

## **Breakout Session Supplemental Slides** *High Temperature Electrolysis (HTE)*

**March 2 – 3, 2021**

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# HTE Breakout Sessions

Session ID	Topic	Lead
HTE-2	HTE Roadmap	Jamie Holladay (PNNL)
HTE-3	HTE Techno-Economic Analysis	Brian Murphy (Strategic Analysis)
HTE-4	Standard Cell and Test Methods	Dong Ding (INL)
HTE-6	Stack Testing Protocols	Neal Sullivan (CO School of Mines)
HTE-7	Performance/Durability Test Protocols	Xingbo Liu (WVU)



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## Techno-Economic Analysis Breakout Session High Temperature Electrolysis (HTE)

**Session ID: HTE-3**

**Session Chair: Brian Murphy**

**Affiliation: Strategic Analysis Inc.**

**Date: March 2, 2021**



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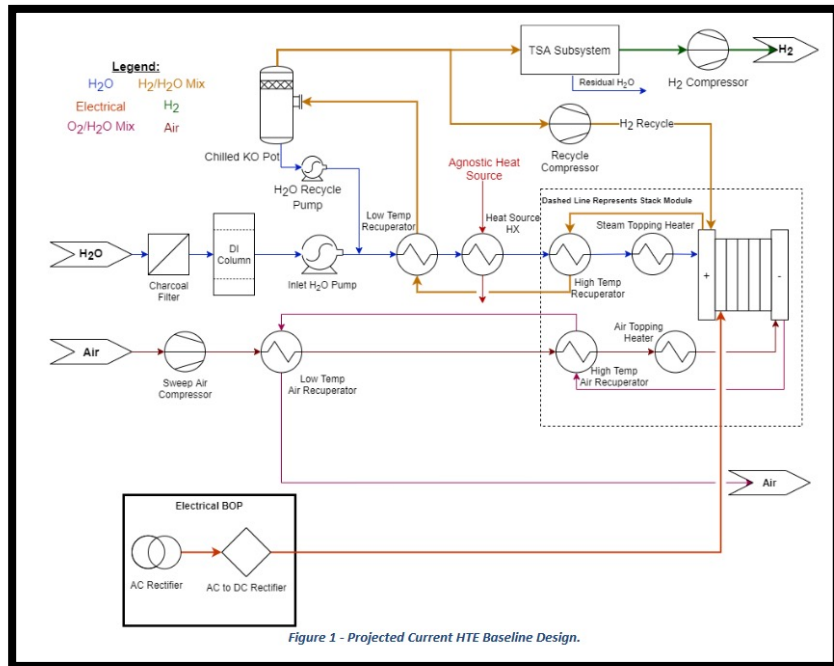
# Overview of Techno-Economic Analysis Methodology

- The objective of techno-economic analysis (TEA) is to **evaluate** and **compare** competing technologies and **chart progress** in performance and cost
- **TEA Method Steps** (*iterative*)
  - Define system: develop flow schematic and bill of materials
  - Perform system mass & heat balance modeling to identify critical design parameters
  - Enumerate H<sub>2</sub> production plant capital cost
  - Investigate and input technical and financial values into discounted cash flow analysis model H2A to evaluate the levelized cost of hydrogen (\$/kg H<sub>2</sub>)
- **Results and Post-Analysis**
  - Perform sensitivity analyses to identify components with greatest impact on cost
  - Obtain external review and feedback
  - Use feedback to update models
- **Case Study:** SOEC (2020) – [DOE Record 20006](#)
  - Targets: \$2/kg H<sub>2</sub> w/ \$100/kW stack
  - Using H2A v3.2018 w/ default financial parameters

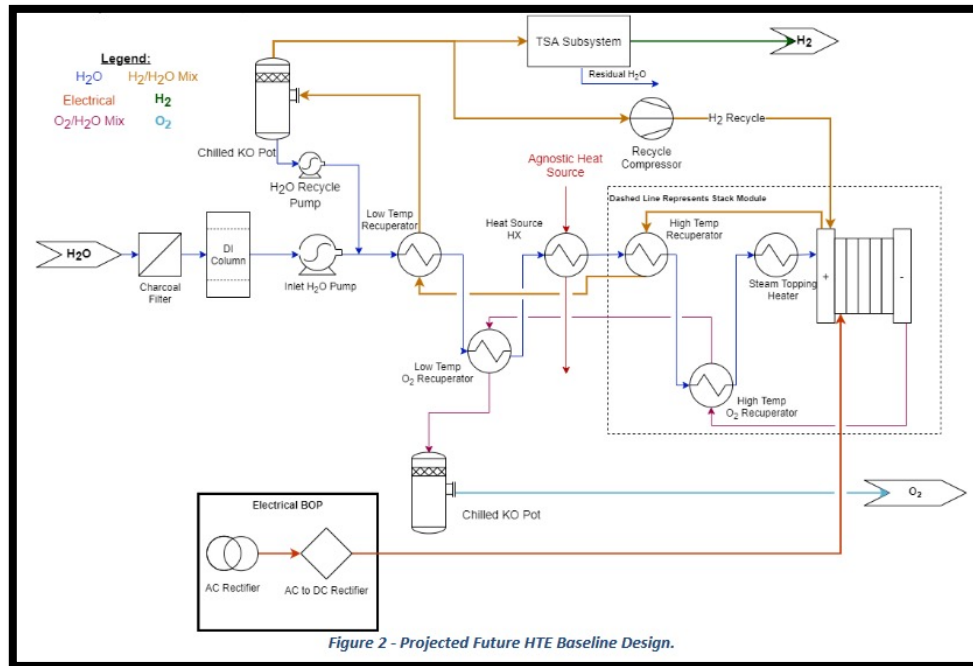


# DOE Record 20006: SOE Central Production Models

## Current



## Future



**Thermo-neutral stack operation**

**TSA system for product purification**

**Electrical topping heaters to maintain stack temperature**

**Agnostic external heat source, used only to heat water feed**

73 psi (5 bar) stack pressure, outlet compressor to **300 psi**

**320 psi (21 bar)** stack pressure, no outlet compressor

Air sweep gas on oxygen electrode

No sweep gas



# SO Electrolyzer TEA Model Assumptions – Technical

Parameter	<i>Proj. Current Central 50,000 kg/day (83 MW)</i>	<i>Proj. Future Central 50,000 kg/day (80 MW)</i>
Technology Year	2019	2035
Start-up Year	2015	2040
<b>Stack Current Density (A/cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Cell Voltage (V)	1.285	1.285
Stack Electrical Usage (kWh/kg)	<b>34.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>
[% LHV] (% HHV)	[98%] (116%)	[98%] (116%)
BoP Electrical Usage (kWh/kg)	5.8	3.1
Total Electrical Usage (kWh/kg)	<b>39.8</b>	<b>37.1</b>
[% LHV] (% HHV)	[83.7%] (98.6%)	[89.8%] (105%)
Outlet Pressure from Electrolyzer (psi)	74	320
<b>Stack Replacement Interval (years)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
	<b>11 mV/kh</b>	<b>4 mV/kh</b>
Stack Replacement Cost Percentage (% of stack capital cost/year)	22%	11%
Plant Life (years)	20	20
Capacity Factor (%)	90%	90%

- Proj. Current/Future = hypothetical @ 700 MW/year volume
- Assumed T is  $\geq 800$  °C
- Should future current density be 1.5 A/cm<sup>2</sup>?

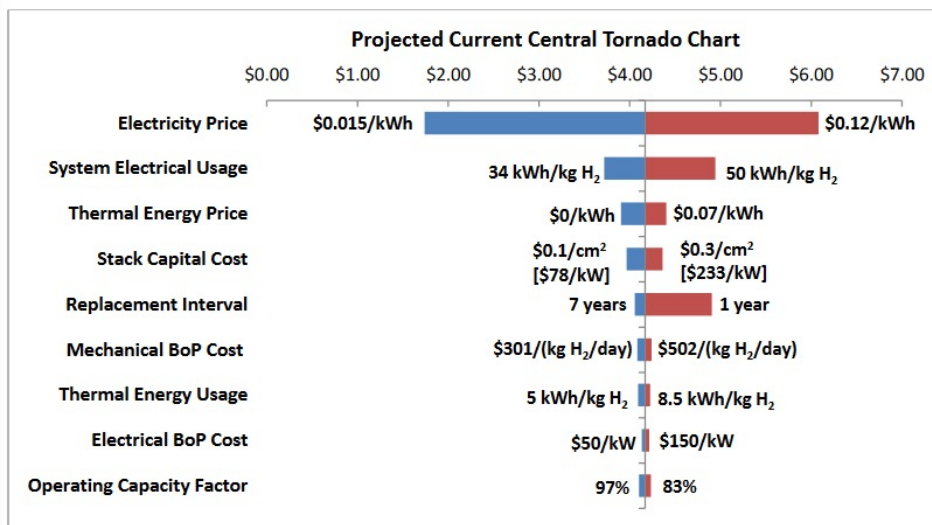
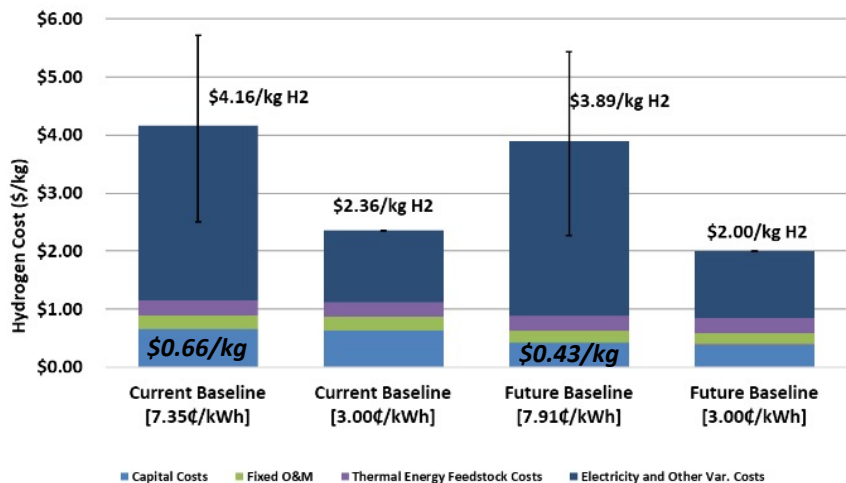


# SO Electrolyzer TEA Model Assumptions – Costs

Parameter	Current Central 50,000 kg/day (83 MW)	Future Central 50,000 kg/day (80 MW)
Technology Year	2019	2035
Start-up Year	2015	2040
Total Uninstalled Capital (2016\$/kW)	\$522	\$357
Stack Capital Cost (2016\$/kW)	\$155	\$100
BoP CapEx (2016\$/kW)	\$368	\$257
Mechanical BoP Cost (2016\$/kW)	\$283	\$192
Electrical BoP Cost (2016\$/kW)	\$85	\$65
Effective Electricity Price over Life of Plant (2016¢/kWh)	<b>7.35</b>	7.91
Effective Thermal Energy Price over Life of Plant (2016¢/kWh)	3.63	3.63
Installation Cost (% of uninstalled capital cost)	52%	63%
Indirect Costs (% of installed capital cost)	42%	42%
<b>Total Uninstalled Capital (2016\$/kW)</b>	<b>\$522</b>	<b>\$357</b>
<b>Total Installed Capital Cost (2016\$/kW)</b>	<b>\$783</b>	<b>\$582</b>
[2016\$ total]	[\$65.0M]	[\$46.6M]
<b>Total Capital Investment (2016\$/kW)</b>	<b>\$1,112</b>	<b>\$826</b>
[2016\$ total, millions]	[\$93.3 M]	[\$66M]



# SO Electrolyzer Results and Sensitivity Study



- “Future” case can hit \$2.00/kg H<sub>2</sub> target provided cheap (\$30/MWh) electricity and volume electrolyzer production
- Electricity price largest contributor to H<sub>2</sub> price, but least R&D control
- Stack cost and durability inputs are *projected current*, not actual
- DOE Record Case doesn’t consider *modular* construction; likely path forward

## Major Cost Contributors at Present

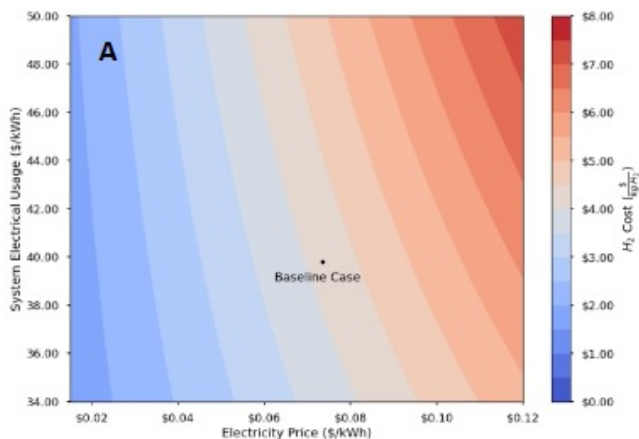
Stack	BOP
High-temperature thermal treatments	Compressors
Precision cutting ( <i>green or fired</i> )	Hydrogen product treatment ( <i>compression / TSA or PSA</i> )
Interconnect fabrication	High-temperature equipment ( <i>heat exchangers</i> )
Number of parts/processing steps	Electrical BOP



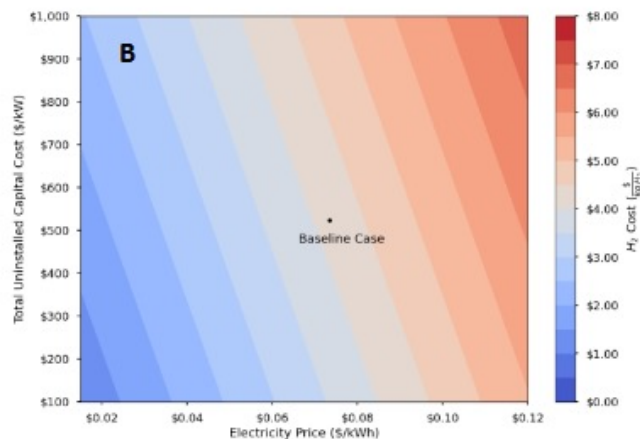


# Contour Plots from DOE Record

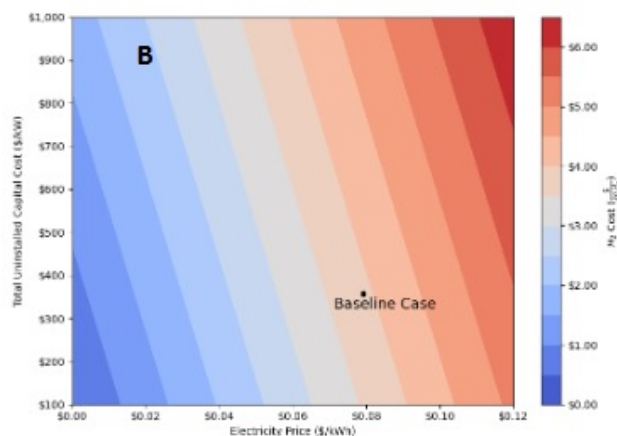
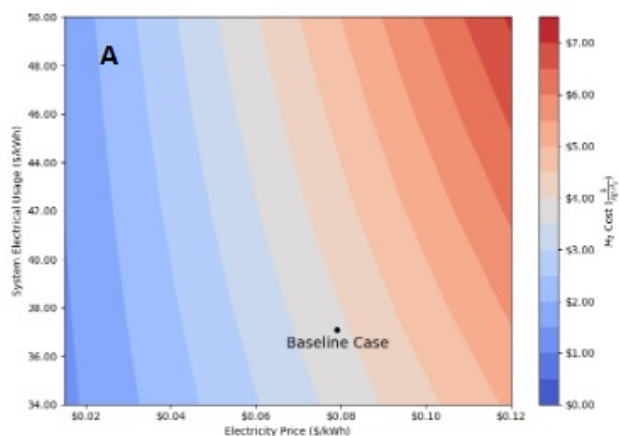
## System Electricity Usage



## Uninstalled Capital Cost



**Figure 6 – Contour plots depicting results of the two-parameter sensitivity studies for the Projected Current case. The dependency of  $H_2$  cost based on electricity price and System Electrical Usage is shown in (A). The dependency of  $H_2$  cost based on electricity price and uninstalled capital cost ( $\frac{\$}{kW}$ ) is shown in (B).**



**Figure 7 – Contour plots depicting results of the two-parameter sensitivity studies for the Projected Future case. The dependency of  $H_2$  cost based on electricity price and System Electrical Usage is shown in (A). The dependency of  $H_2$  cost based on electricity price and uninstalled capital cost ( $\frac{\$}{kW}$ ) is shown in (B).**



# Discussion Topics

## 1. Feedback on TEA & discussion of future TEA's

- Parameter validity:
  - Technical: current densities, stack pressure, electricity usage, sweep gas
  - Direct and Indirect costs (*different from H2A default?*)
  - “Heat source agnostic” design
- Appropriate “Future Case” TEA parameters given state-of-the-art and projected RD&D directions
- What do you want to get out of TEA studies
  - Other sensitivity studies? Alternative case studies?
  - What factors or parameters have the most uncertainty?

## 2. Intersection of stack design and manufacturing

- Barriers to cost targets; Methods for reducing major stack cost contributors
  - Combination of heat treatment steps
  - Elimination of parts (*barrier layer? Contact layers?*)
- Stack design to reduce BOP costs: lower T, integrative designs, etc.
- Other potential design / manufacturing topics:
  - Effect of cell construction (cathode/electrolyte/metal-supported, PCEC) on manufacturing costs? Can we make any general statements?
  - Technical pros and cons of comparable manufacturing methods
    - Tape casting / screen printing / dip-coating
    - Stamping vs. cutting
  - Potential supply chain issues with *any* common stack materials as production scales up? (*Yttrium, scandium, nickel, lanthanides*)



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## Stack Testing Protocols High-Temperature Electrolysis

**Session ID: HTE-5**

**Session Chair: Neal Sullivan**

**Affiliation: Colorado School of Mines**

**Date: March 3, 2021**

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# Session Goals: Develop stack-characterization protocols within IP concerns of developers

- Define metrics for which HTE stack developers will hold few IP concerns
  - Bad examples would be metrics normalized to active area
    - Area-specific resistance ( $\Omega \text{ cm}^2$ ), current density ( $\text{A cm}^{-2}$ )
    - $\text{H}_2$  production per unit cell active ( $\text{moles H}_2 / \text{cm}^2 \text{ s}$ )
    - Frequently the metrics of most interest to the community
      - Suffer less information to ease developers' concerns
  - Consider broader stack-performance characteristics
    - Rated by total  $\text{H}_2$  production rate ( $\text{moles H}_2 / \text{sec}$ )
    - Voltage and current at start of life
    - Cold-state leakage rate
    - Efficiency
    - Degradation rate
    - Specific  $\text{H}_2$  production rate ( $\text{moles H}_2 / \text{s} / \text{kg of stack}$ )
    - Volumetric  $\text{H}_2$  production rate ( $\text{moles H}_2 / \text{s} / \text{L of stack}$ )



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## Performance/Durability Test Protocols Technology: HTE

**Session ID: HTE-7**

**Session Chair: Xingbo Liu**

**Affiliation: West Virginia University**

**Date: March 3, 2021**

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# Session Goals

- Performance
  - O-SOEC vs. H-SOEC
  - Temperature, pressure, steam concentration, I-V, electrochemical (EIS, what else?)
  - H<sub>2</sub> production rate (under what condition), steam utilization
  - Efficiencies
  - Protocols on other components (coatings, seals, contact layers etc.)
- Durability
  - Accelerated tests
  - Temperature, steam, voltage, current,
  - Cycling (thermal, V-I, etc.)
  - ...