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Hydrogen Supply: Pathways and Strategies

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Hydrogen Supply: Pathways and Strategies

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H₂ is one of the only long-term fuels that allows radical reductions in greenhouse gases, air pollutants and oil use.

H₂ and fuel cells could enable innovative energy products and services.

H₂ SUPPLY PATHWAYS

Like electricity, hydrogen is an **energy carrier** produced from **primary energy resources**

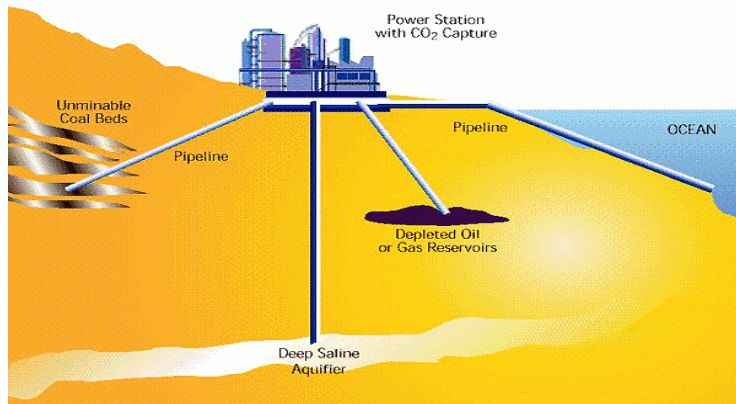
Wind



Solar



Biomass



Coal w/CO₂ Sequestration



Natural Gas



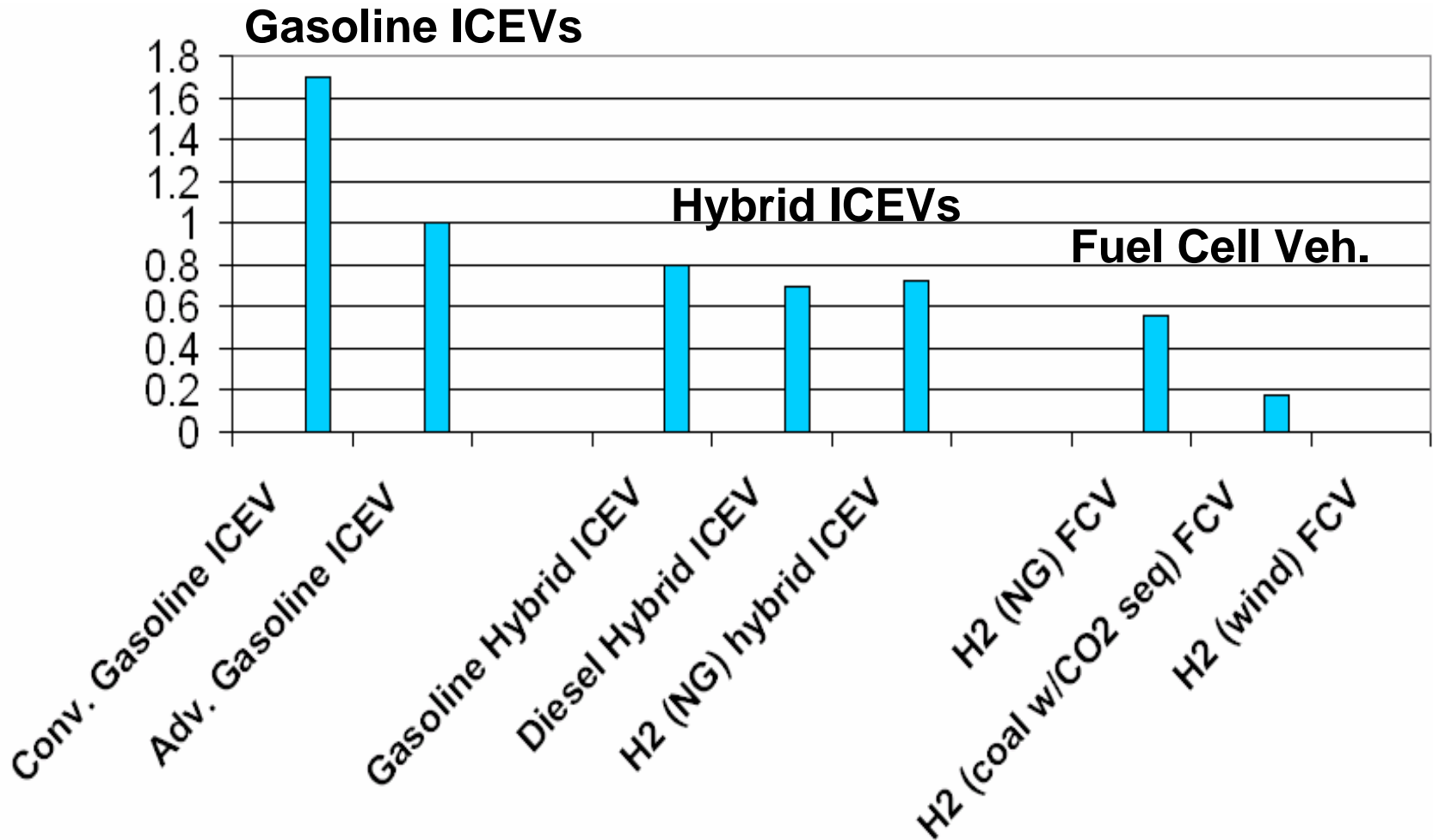
Nuclear

LONG-TERM VISIONS OF H₂ SUPPLY AND CHALLENGES

- **H₂ from renewables** (wind or solar electrolysis, biomass gasification), issue is cost rather than technical feasibility or resources.
- **Nuclear H₂** issues are cost (electrolytic H₂), technical feasibility (water splitting systems powered by nuclear heat). Same waste and proliferation issues as nuclear power.
- **Fossil H₂ with CO₂ capture and sequestration** near zero emissions, relatively low cost, assuming nearby CO₂ disposal sites, and large scale hydrogen production. Much unknown about potential environmental impacts and feasibility of CO₂ sequestration.

FULL FUEL CYCLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

(Normalized to Adv. Lightweight 46 mpg Gasoline ICEV)



Source: Ogden, Williams, Larson, Energy Policy, 2004.

DEBATE ABOUT H₂ SUPPLY: I (greenhouse gas emissions)

- ~~• Myth: Using natural gas to make hydrogen for vehicles would increase emissions of CO₂ compared to gasoline vehicles.~~

***Studies by ITS-Davis, Argonne and NAS
show 10-40% well to wheels reduction of CO₂***

DEBATE ABOUT H₂ SUPPLY: II

(carbon “efficiency”)

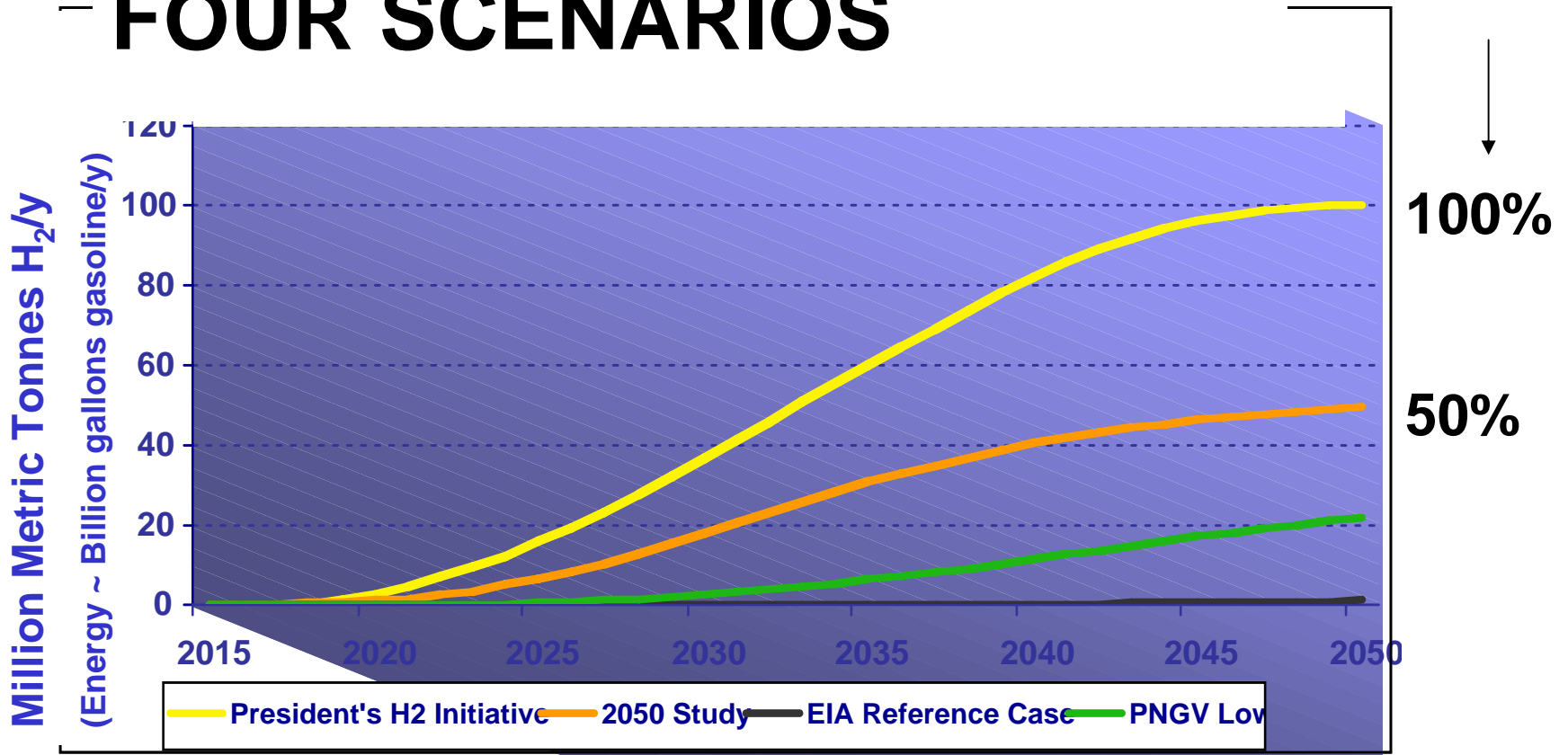
- ~~• Myth: It is “carbon-inefficient” to use NG or renewables to make hydrogen for vehicles, when these resources could be used to displace coal fired electricity.~~

Only valid if resources strictly constrained (not true) AND if CO₂ reduction is the only goal (not true).

Use of primary resources for electricity and fuels will be determined by economics, end-use needs, resource availability, other factors

HYDROGEN DEMAND IN FOUR SCENARIOS

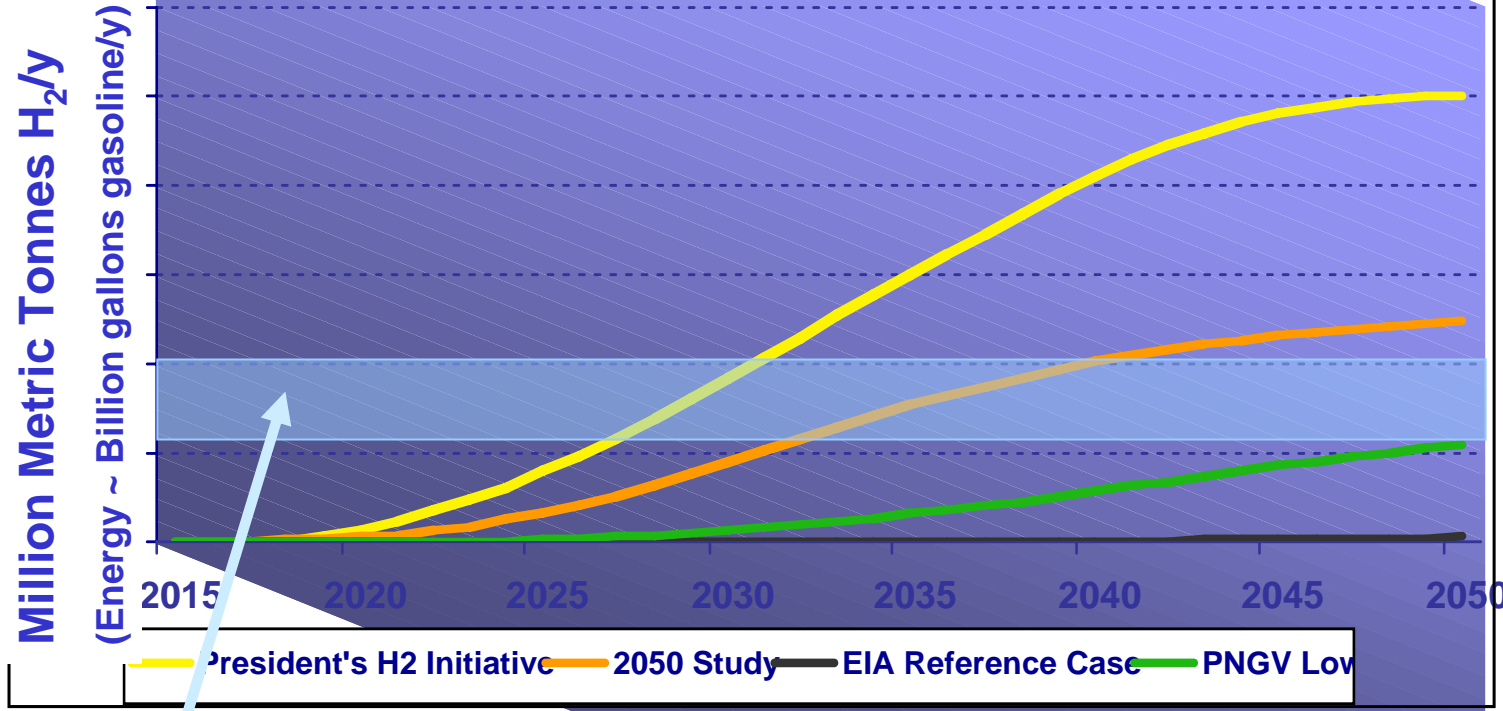
H₂ vehicle
Fraction



**Uncertainties (technology, policy, market pull)
=> difficult to project future H₂ demands**

PRIMARY ENERGY TO MEET H₂ DEMAND

Percent of current US use to make H₂ for LDVs



Scenario	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
NG	68	92	45	33	34	46	22	16
Coal								
Wind*								
Bio**								

* > class 3 wind
 ** fraction of range + pastureland required for H₂ via gasification

100 million H₂ vehicles w/ 2-3 X today's gasoline vehicle fuel economy

DEBATE ABOUT H₂ SUPPLY: III

(Primary Supply)

- ~~• Myth: Making H₂ for vehicles would vastly increase natural gas use.~~

During the transition period when NG would be used (next 20-30 years), H₂ use will be relatively small, so the increased NG demand to make H₂ would be <10%

WHERE WILL H₂ COME FROM?

- **Near term:** Natural gas “transitional” source for H₂ in US
 - 10-40% GHG emissions reduction v. Advanced gasoline vehicles
 - Small impact on natural gas use, at H₂ use <2025
- **Long term:** Ample resources for near-zero GHG emission H₂ production in US, globally
- **Many solutions for H₂ supply:** depends on level of demand, resource availability, geography.

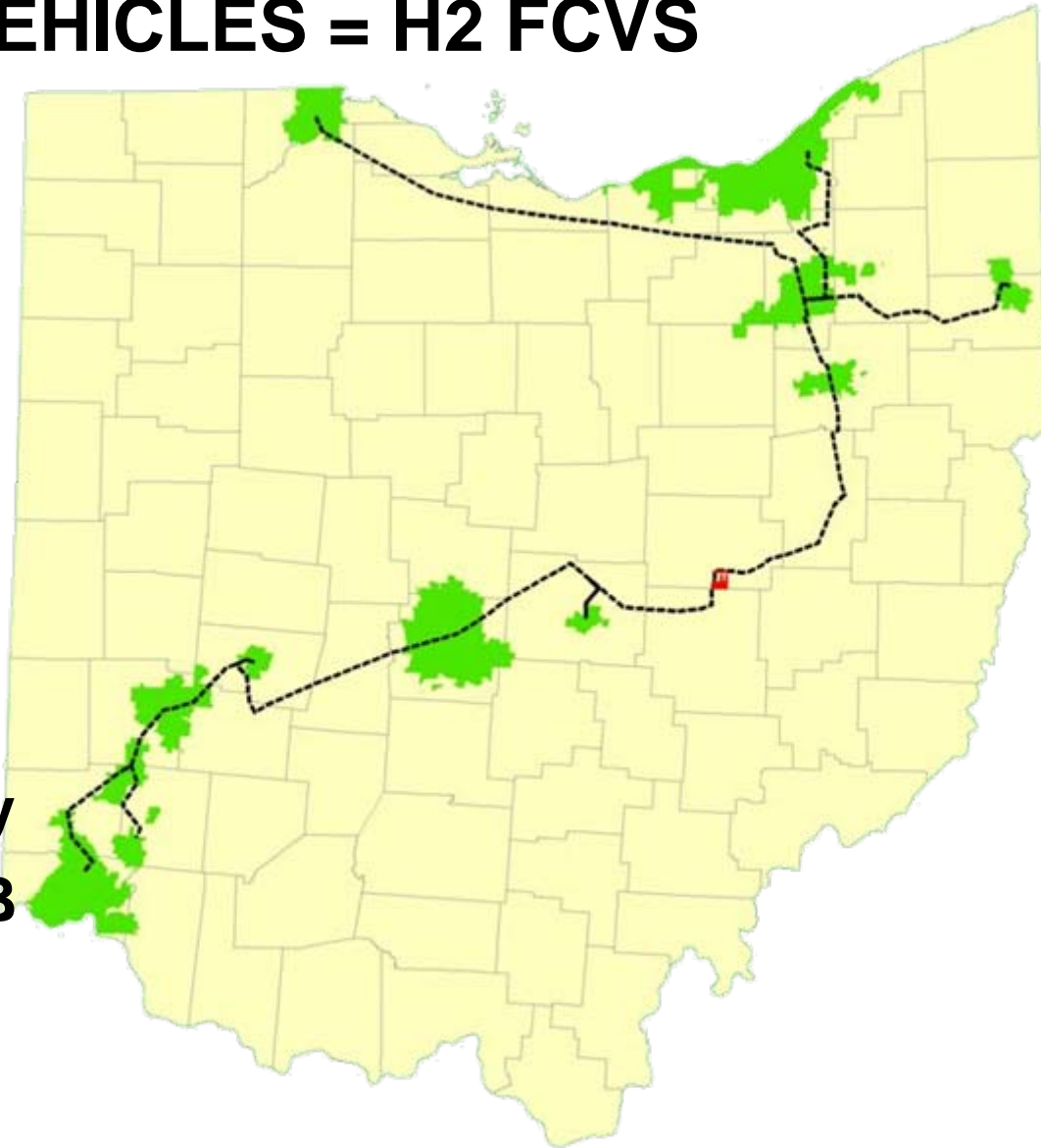
HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- Several hundred to several thousand \$ per vehicle for **mature** H₂ refueling infrastructure. (Near term costs higher. Costs decrease w/learning, scale)
- Shell estimates 11,000 H₂ stations needed nationwide for “coverage”, initial cost \$12 B
- Full implementation of H₂ infrastructure \$100sB
- But costs to maintain, expand conventional transport fuels infrastructure also large.
- Delivered H₂ cost range ~\$2.5-4/kg for mature H₂ economy. With efficient (2-3 X) H₂ FCV, fuel cost per mile < current cost for gasoline cars. (near term H₂ costs higher)
- (energy in 1 gallon gasoline ~ energy in 1 kg H₂)

OPTIMIZED PIPELINE NETWORK

IF 10% OF VEHICLES = H2 FCVS

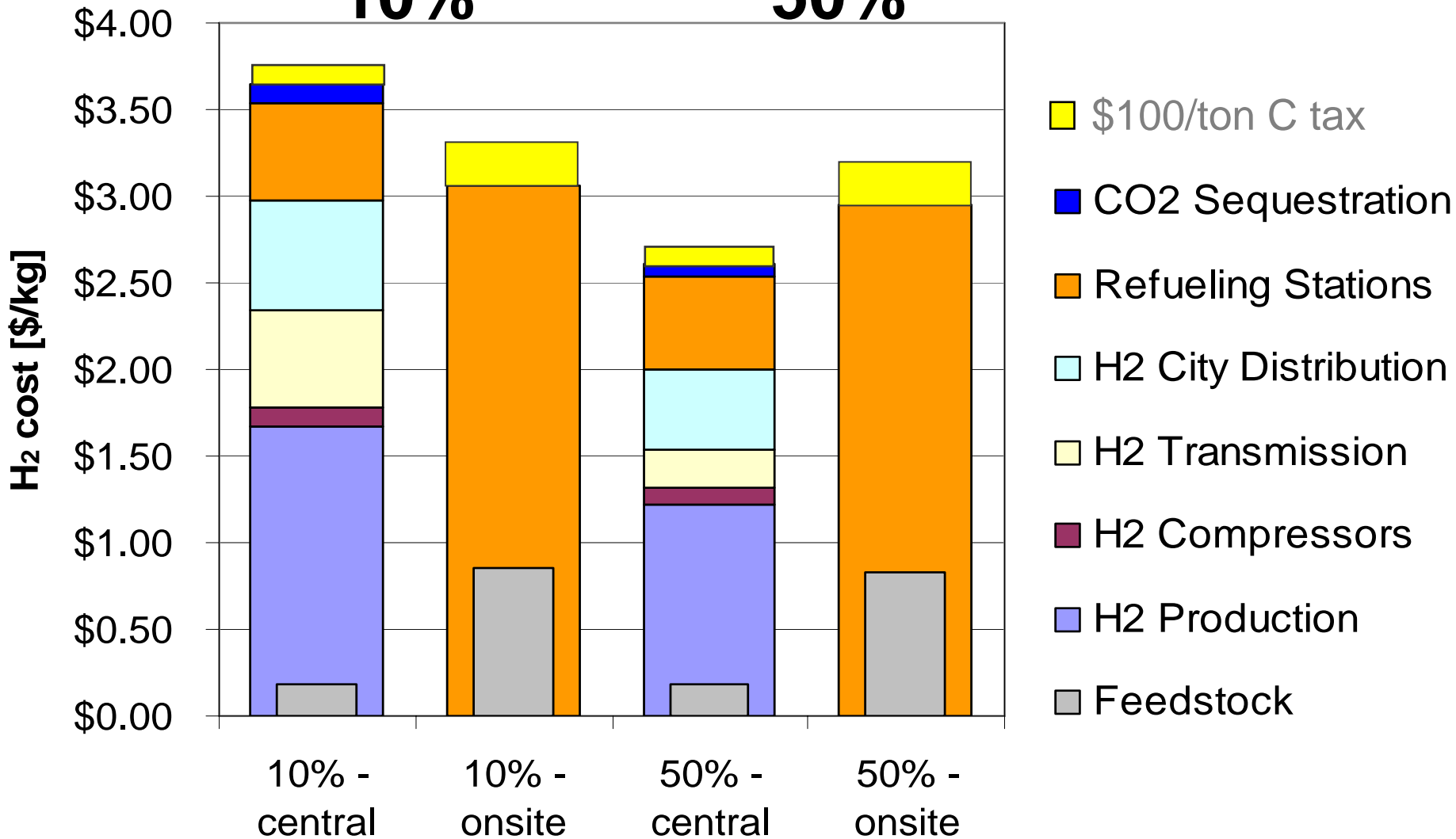
- 1 coal plant - 253 tons H₂/day
- 12 cities
 - 1345 km of local distribution pipelines
 - 187 refueling stations,
- 936 km intercity pipeline
- CO₂ sequestration system 4500 ton CO₂/day
- Total capital cost = \$1.3B or \$3400/vehicle



DELIVERED H₂ COST v. H₂ VEHICLE FRACTION

10%

50%



DEBATE ABOUT H₂ SUPPLY: IV

(Cost)

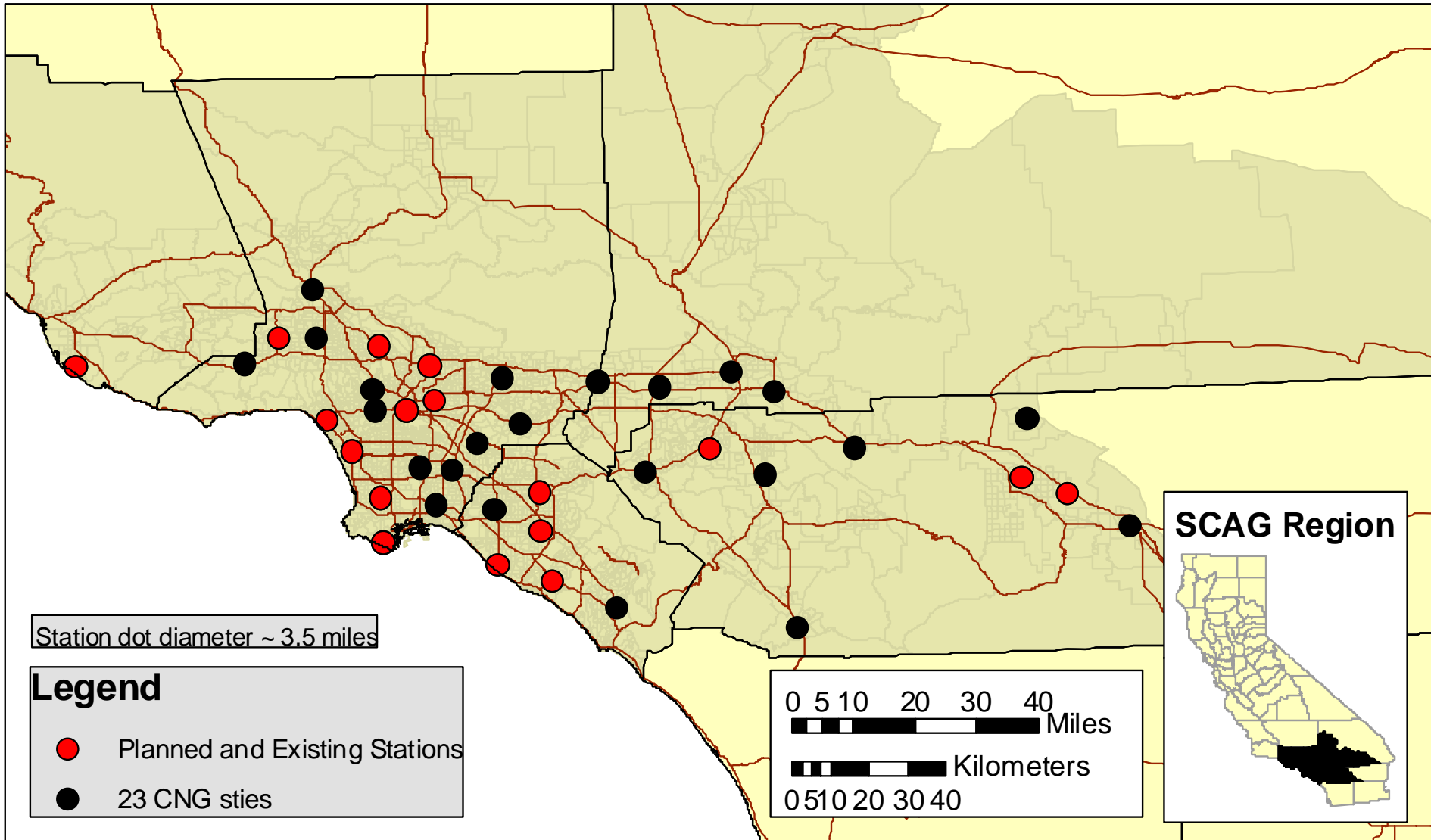
- ~~• Myth: Hydrogen infrastructure will be extraordinarily expensive.~~

Initial cost barrier. Mature costs may be comparable to maintaining and expanding conventional fuel infrastructure

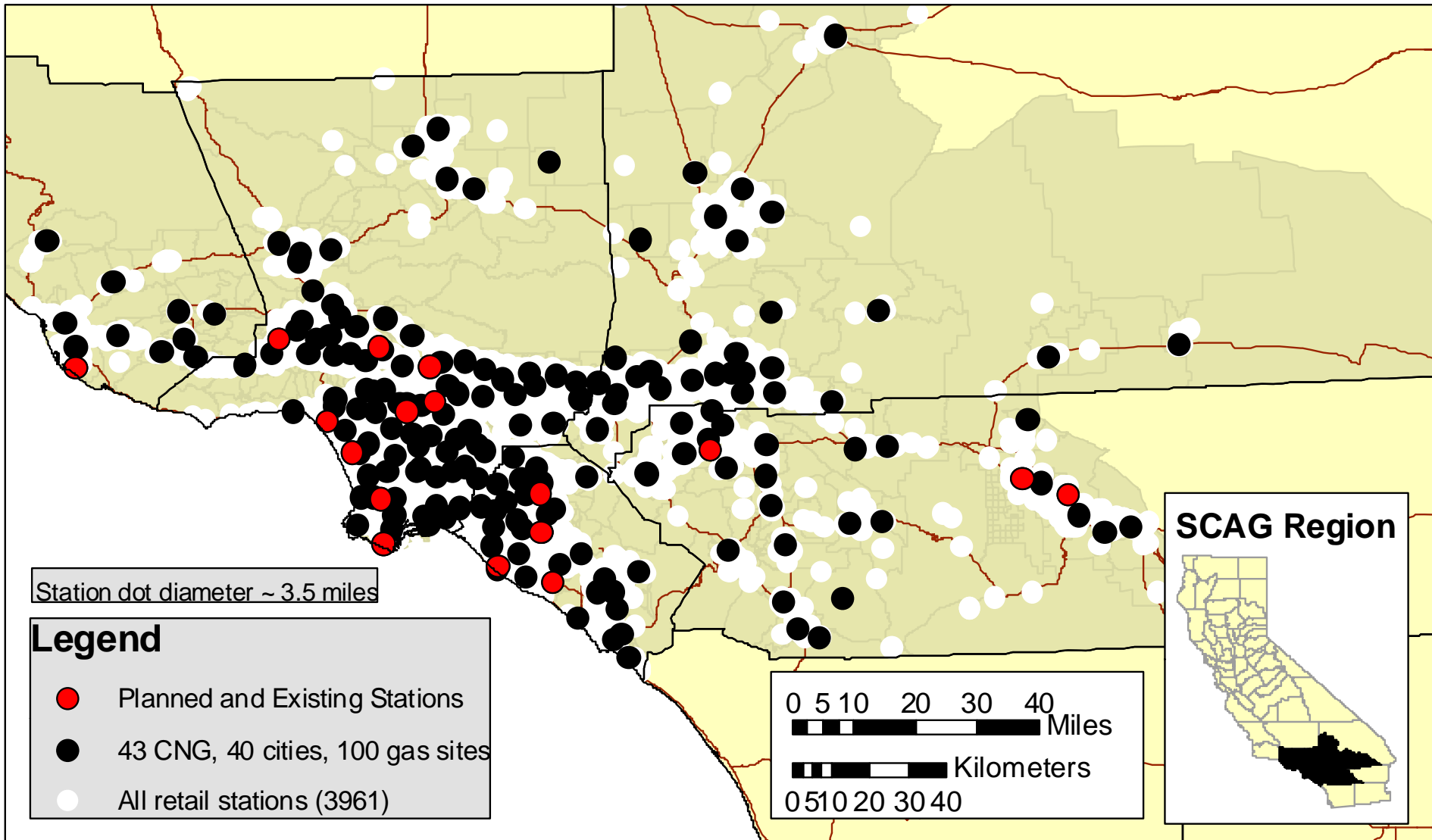
- ~~• Myth. Hydrogen fuel will be extraordinarily expensive at the pump.~~

For H₂ FCV, fuel cost per mile < today's gasoline vehicles

Case study for CA H2 Highway Network: 17 planned H2 stations + 23 fleet sites

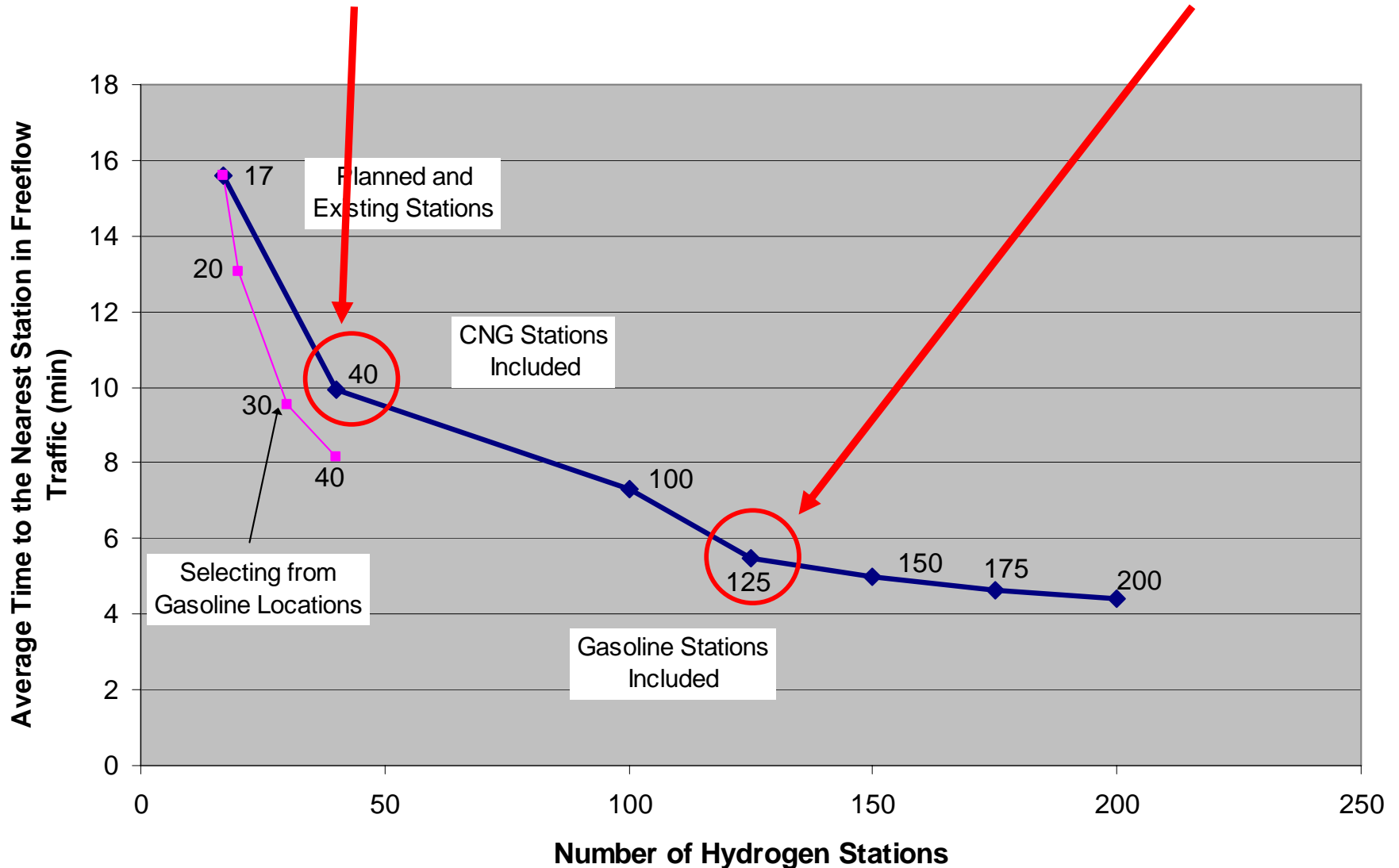


17 planned H2 stations + 43 fleet sites + 40 largest cities + 100 gasoline locations



Ave. Travel Time to Nearest Station

H2 at 1% of gasoline sta. => 10 minutes; 3% => 5 minutes



HOW SOON COULD H₂ MAKE A MAJOR DIFFERENCE?

- Time to change energy system ~ decades.
- H₂ end-use technologies need more development before entering mass markets, and time to penetrate markets.
- It will be several decades before hydrogen could reduce emissions and oil use on a global scale. (local impacts sooner)
- Beyond 2025, potential for large impact of H₂ technologies on reducing emissions.
- Potential to transform energy production and use

ACTIONS TO ENABLE A H₂ ECONOMY

- **RD&D :**
 - Fuel cells
 - H₂ storage for vehicles
 - Small scale H₂ production systems
 - Advanced vehicle systems (ICEs, hybrids, FCVs)
 - Low-cost “zero-C” energy supply (elec, H₂, fuels)
- **Demonstrate/enable H₂ infrastructure**
 - Demonstrate technology
 - Codes and standards
 - Infrastructure transition cost barrier
 - Strategies for H₂ infrastructure
- **Policies reflecting external costs of energy (near term->long term)**