



Hydrogen Means Business in California!

September 1, 2020

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Bill Zobel | Executive Director
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The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 3163 (Salas) Energy: biomethane: procurement.

Dear Governor Newsom:

The California Hydrogen Business Council¹ (CHBC) respectfully requests you to sign AB 3163, which would expand the definition of biomethane to include the non-combustion thermal conversion of eligible biomass.

This legislation will support an important new pathway to creating renewable hydrogen, which is the only gas that emits zero greenhouse gas over its lifecycle and a key enabler of California's climate goals. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory found in their report *Getting to Neutral*² that gasification of woody biomass is the most cost-effective way to achieve the state's goal to achieve negative greenhouse gas emissions.

Renewable hydrogen can also help address the triple threat of COVID 19, wildfire, and power outages due to the threat of wildfires and other natural disasters. When paired with stationary fuel cells, renewable hydrogen can provide the 24/7/365 zero greenhouse gas and zero criteria air emissions power generation in all weather conditions. In transportation applications, hydrogen fuel cells eliminate the public health threats posed by pollution emitted by cars, medium and heavy duty vehicles, which are putting people at greater risk of health impacts and death by COVID-19. Hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles furthermore help ensure the transition to zero emission vehicles is equitable, since it is a more convenient option for many low income Californians, many of whom cannot easily plug in at home.

The CHBC appreciates you considering signing this bill into law and welcomes any questions you may have.

Best regards,

William Zobel
Executive Director | California Hydrogen Business Council

¹ The CHBC is comprised of over 100 companies and agencies involved in the business of hydrogen. Our mission is to advance the commercialization of hydrogen in the energy sector, including transportation, goods movement, and stationary power systems to reduce emissions and dependence on oil. The views expressed in these comments are those of the CHBC, and do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the individual CHBC member companies. Members are listed here: www.californiahydrogen.org/aboutus/chbc-members/

² <https://www.llnl.gov/news/new-lab-report-outlines-ways-california-could-reach-goal-becoming-carbon-neutral-2045>