



# The Golden Rules for Hydrogen Blending – it's not crazy

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# HYDROGEN J HYDROGEN FUTURES

# **CNG Services Ltd**



- CNG Services Limited (CSL) provides consultancy, design and build services to the biomethane industry, all focused on reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions
- In the past 10 years our efforts have produced a material impact with an estimated 20 year project life reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 17,500,000 tonnes through:
  - Biomethane injection into the gas grid
  - Running trucks on Bio-CNG
  - Acting as developer and design and build contractor for the Highlands CNG Project
- Working on a number of Biomethane, H<sub>2</sub> and CCUS innovation projects including:
  - Biomethane from manure with CCS
  - Biomethane direct into the NTS
  - Green H2 into the NTS and Hydrogen Business Model Projects
  - Reverse Compression to Create Capacity for Biomethane Injection
- CSL is an ISO 9001, 14001 and 45001 approved company and has also achieved Achilles certification. CSL is GIRS accredited for design and project management and has been certified as a competent design organisation for high pressure UK onshore natural gas works by DNVGL

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# **Golden Rule 1 – Don't be Crazy**

• Don't assume that people who want to generate electricity and then make Green H2 and inject into the gas grid are crazy. They might be, but to find out if they are, there are 7 critical questions:

#### Q1 – can you sell the electricity it to an I&C or domestic customer for 25 - 35 p/kWh

- This can be via a direct wire from the wind farm to the house or a factory or via the electricity grid, both are great
- This is very profitable because the electricity is priced as if was made from natural gas. It's a particularly good idea if you have an onshore wind turbine in the Scottish Highlands. Do this before anything else as its incredibly lucrative and you are probably a lunatic if you don't do it
- Selling electricity direct or via the grid is the Michelin Star restaurant option, sell a meal for £250 instead of blending all the food into a gloop and selling it for 10 p to make Biogas

#### Q2 – can you use the electricity to charge a battery?

- If, for whatever reason, the domestic heat pumps or I&C customer does not want your electricity, then use that electricity to charge a battery
- Once the battery is charged, truck it down to England and empty the battery into the electricity grid where it can be used for all sorts of things
- Moving batteries by road is actually a good idea as the charged battery is heavy and it can roll down the hills to England, when its empty, send the light load back north (the Swiss do this all the time)

Note – I am not crazy and appreciate you can charge a battery and not move it which is just a variant of Q1. But mostly, you don't use the battery where you charge it, you move it, whether in your i-phone or your Kia EV6 that I have. This is the Q2 option

#### Swiss truck charges as it goes down the mountain



The dump truck, at 45 tons, ascends the 13percent grade and takes on 65 tons of ore. With more than double the weight going back down the hill, the beast's regenerative braking system recaptures more than enough energy to refill the charge the eDumper used going up.

If you can sell renewable electricity for a gas linked price, do it. If you don't, you are crazy

# **Golden Rule 2 – Minimise the Crazy**

If you get to Q3 it means you are not completely crazy but you are not out of the partially crazy wood just yet

- Q3 can you make Green H2?
- This relies on water which should be ok in the Highlands, so there is a good chance you can make Green H2 if you have electricity that you can't sell at a gas linked price

Q4 – ok, you have now made Green H2, what can you do with it? Well, given you are not completely crazy, sell it directly to a customer for 10 p/kWh

- You would actually be crazy not to do this as its the DESNZ Hydrogen Business Model and the customer ,may only have to pay a gas linked price of say 4 p/kWh
- Note the H2 is generally not 'firm' and the customer stays connected to the gas grid for Dunkelflaute days
- This use of Green H2 as a 2020's version of a British Gas Long Term Interruptible Contract
- Not crazy at all
- Q5 if there are no local consumers for the Green H2, can you move it by road?
- A 15 MW electrolyser will make around 100 million KWh/annum of Green H2. To move this energy by road:
  - If it was natural gas at 250 bar it would need around 1,000 truck movements
  - $\circ$   $\,$   $\,$  For H2 at 350 bar it would need around 2,500 truck movements  $\,$
  - The natural gas grid back up at around 1,000 scmh will generally be delivered in a small diameter pipeline
  - No company on planet earth moves H2 by road for bulk supply to I&C customers (its just not a thing)
- Only move Green H2 by road to supply a H2 fueled vehicle which uses trailer pressure (ahead of installing electrolyser on site)

#### In GB, you can move H2 in lots of ways but if its not via a pipeline, its generally crazy

#### Moving H2 by road is crazy



#### This is also crazy, but higher up



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# **Golden Rule 3 – Never ask Chat GPT for a H2 image**

#### Chat GPT was asked to produce a CGI of a H2 Pipeline



Are we tH2ere yet? - generated using ChatGPT



We know where Chat GPT got the idea from



#### Dear Chat GPT

Next time when you are asked to produce a H2 pipeline, please search on the words "tiny molecule", "avoid flanges", "buried pipeline", "bloody idiot"

To the right is what a H2 pipeline actually looks like



### H2 CGI is completely crazy

# Golden Rule 4 – If it will take more than 5 billion years, try something else

Q6 – can I open a steel mill or fertilizer plant in the Highlands to use the Green H2?

Maybe a great idea but let's answer Q7 first

Q7 – if I make 100 million kWh/annum Green H2 in the Highlands, can I store it?

- The simple answer is no
- You need salt or depleted oil/gas fields to store Green H2 and you don't have any of them in the Highlands of Scotland

#### Q6 – continued

- But if you can get enough grant money you can hollow out a mountain to store H2 like they do in Sweden
- This is H2 airship level stupidity but, ok, we can now store Green H2 in the Highlands, can we make steel?
- Planning consent to open a steel plant in the Highlands is not as difficult as you may think and it is possible to achieve this before the sun explodes into a Red Giant which is a similar timeframe to getting capacity to inject 5 MW of electricity into the electricity grid in England

#### So, if you are making Green H2 and have no local consumer then you are crazy

#### GasUnie – HyStock – not crazy



#### Sweden – hollowed out mountain - crazy



# Golden Rule 5 – When you cannot sell H2 directly to a factory, you can inject the H2 into the gas grid and its not crazy at all

- To recap, if no direct electricity use, if no remote electricity use, and if there may not even be electricity grid capacity
- And, if there is no direct local use for the Green H2 that you can make
- We know that you cannot cannot (sensibly) move Green H2 via airship or road
- So, given all that, ideally move the Green H2 via a new buried pipeline, like this one in the National Gas Project Union
- But that will take time and to start, inject into an existing gas pipeline like this one





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Initial

Each 1 kWh of Green H2 blended into the Transmission Pipeline displaces 1 kWh of imported LNG but with no GHG emissions at all and avoiding GHG from gas exploration, gas production, gas processing, gas transportation, gas liquefaction, LNG shipping to UK, LNG boil off, LNG re-gasification and from burning the natural gas at the end of its journey

There are no downsides in blending H2 into the gas grid, only upsides

You are crazy if you do not do this GB has 800 TWh/annum of natural gas demand which is like a big blending tank, perfectly designed to create a "renewables to electrolysis" supply chain



# And finally

# "The Ladders"

# **Including the World Premier of the Electricity Ladder**

Note – other ladders are available

# **The Biomethane Ladder**

#### **Good options**



# The Bio-CO2 Ladder

#### **Good options**



**WORLD PREMIER** 

# **The Electricity Ladder**

## **Not Crazy**

