## NFUEL units for storage of renewable energy Competitive Decentralized Ammonia Production



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in Portland, Oregon

## **Proton Ventures**

Proton Ventures is based in Schiedam (Netherlands)



#### **Proton Ventures**

- Established in 2001
- We are a team of enthusiastic professionals who design and implement customized solutions for our customers.
  - EPC
  - Turnkey solutions
  - and provide investment
- Capable of conducting small to large projects of up to
   50 million euros
- We have so far completed around 100 projects



# Our NFuel concept

 NFuel concept is based on decentralized production of Ammonia from (decentralized) energy sources to <u>store</u> RENEWABLE ENERGY

- surplus electricity
- biomass,
- stranded gas,
- hydrogen as (by)-product



## Our NFUEL concept

- Decentralised production offers
  - Small units, easy to handle for construction
    - No steel construction
    - Fast assembly time at site
    - No big construction effort
  - Multiple, identical units
    - The "Ford"- concept makes units cheap(er) in investment
  - Simple and transportable units, if needed
  - To be realized on small footprint
  - Low or less environmental impact issues





Lightning has tremendous energy content,

However,

it cannot be stored and made available when needed

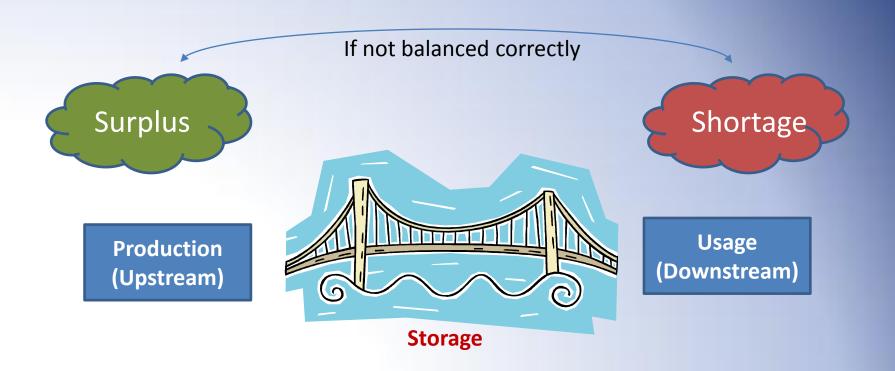


# Energy storage of fluctuating renewables by NFUEL

- Renewable sources are characterised by large fluctuations
  - availability
  - day-night swing
  - maximum-minimum in few seconds
- Creates grid inbalance
  - Leading to energy wastage
  - Curtailing issues,
  - Delayed grid infrastructure



# To bridge the energy balance



Most important thing about Energy is that it should be **available** when it is needed.



# To bridge the energy balance



Production (Upstream)

If not balanced correctly



Shortage

Usage (Downstream)

Most important thing about Energy is that it should be **available** when it is needed.

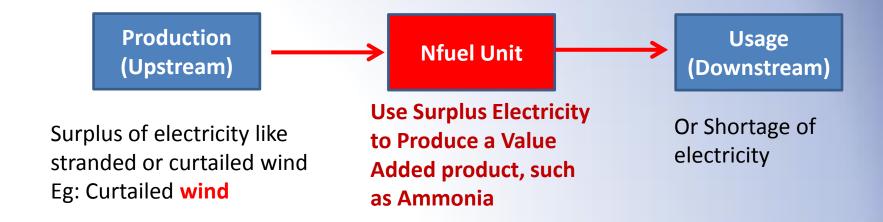


# **Customers facing Complications**

- Hurdles along the way
  - -System misbalance
  - Problem to integrate larger amount of fluctuating power within the system
  - Potential for huge amounts of power wastage
  - Profitability renewables (depreciation/payback discussions)
  - Who pays the misbalance

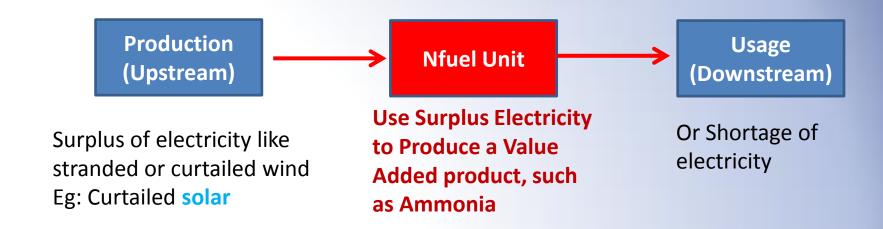


**Focus 1:Agriculture:** NH<sub>3</sub> as fertilizer



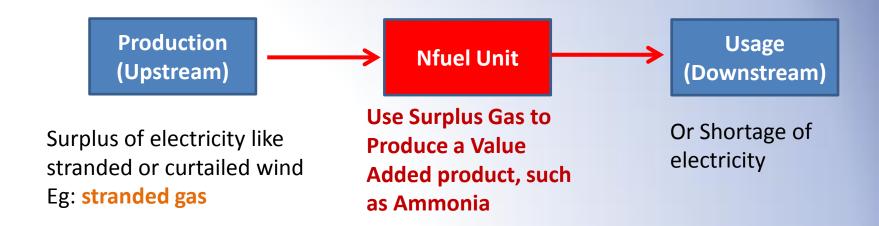


**Focus 2:Industry:** Denox in power plants, CO<sub>2</sub> capture, feedstock for chemicals production



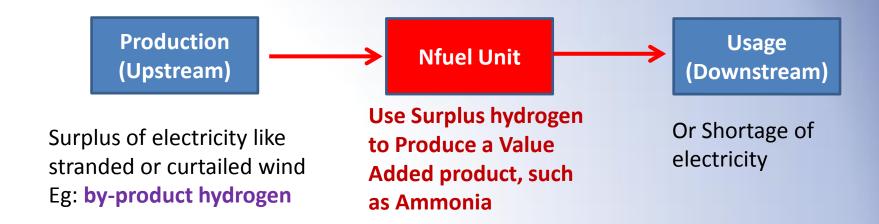


**Focus 3:Transportation fuel:** Direct injection in the internal combustion engines, Fuel Cells





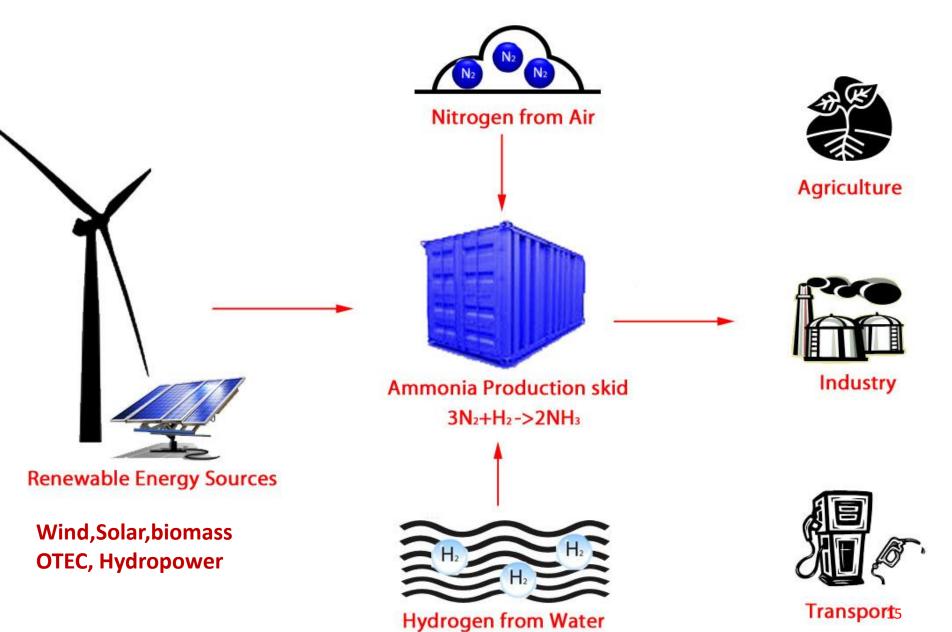
**General:** Energy carrier: easier stored & distributed than power or H2



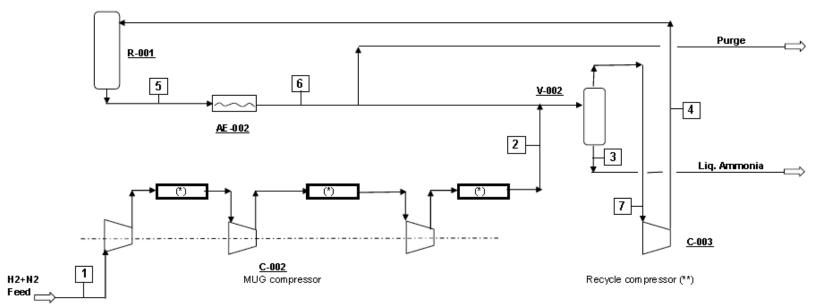


14

### **NFUEL UNIT: Basic Concept**



#### Simplified PFD NFUEL unit



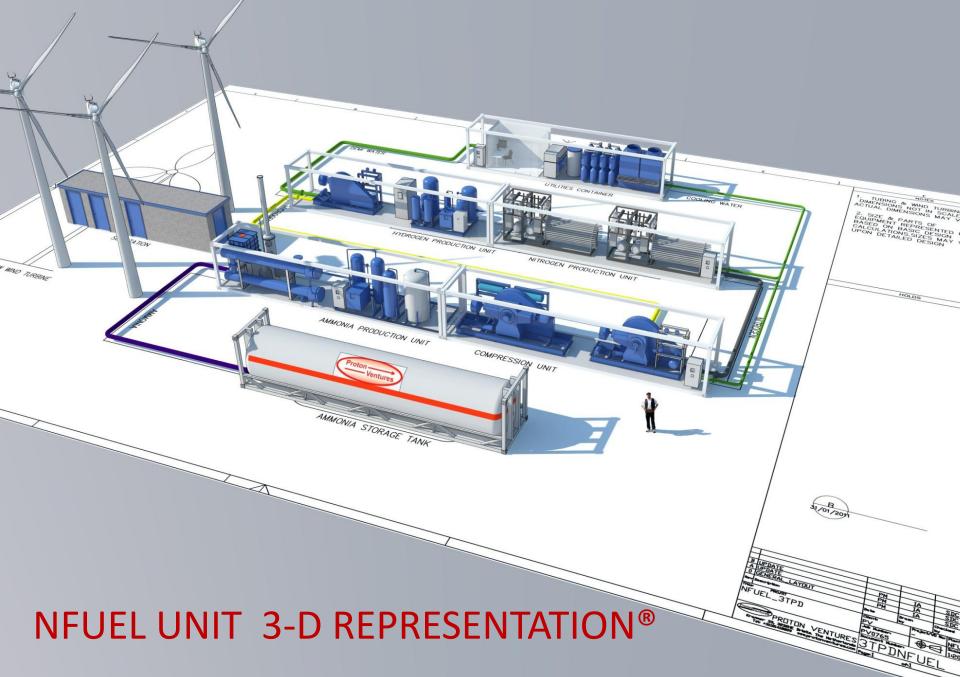
- (\*) Cooler plus condensate separator on 3rd stage discharge
- (\*\*\*) Recycle stage with oil filter/separator on discharge if Syngas compressor lubrified
- (\*\*\*) Provide pulsation dampeners for both machines to reduce pulsation to abuot 1 %

X Stream number of Material Balance

date 12-12-2010

Proton Ventures BV





- Fully automated process, design & control logic based on safe operation
- Zero Carbon process
- Safe and Proven technology
- Patented electrolysers
- Decentralised operations, hence no need for transport and logistics
- Long technical life
- Recognized international partners for supply of equipment
- Units are skid based, hence easily transportable. Hence, if needed can be relocated in the future if need be.



#### **NFUEL** characteristics:

1,6 MW continuous or about 14 kWh/kg ammonia, excl transport pump(s)

1 m3/hr potable water

app 5000 ft2

110 NM3/hr air

no operational manpower

some maintenance (2-3%)

fully automated

intrinsic safe +

120 kg/hr NFUEL =app 3,3 Mton/day = app app 1000 t/annum



#### **NFUEL characteristics: Power2ammonia**

#### 2 \* 125 Nm/hr electrolysers at 4,7 KWh/Nm3 H2

- 1 Dm-water unit (RO plus)
- 1 N2 generator (85 NM/3hr N2 pure)
- 1 syngas compressor
- 1 recycle compressor
- 1 ammonia reactor + loop ancillaries
- 1 storage tank app 15 Mton
- 1 control system (controlled from NL)
- 1 power contract
- 1 off take agreement for ammonia
- 1 land rental agreement
- 1 permit
- 1 license agreement
- 1 year time (production time)

120 kg/hr NFUEL =app 3,3 Mton/day = app app 1000 t/annum



#### **NFUEL characteristics: Gas2ammonia**

#### 1 mini-ATR for 250 NM3/hr H2

- 1 Dm-water unit (RO plus) bigger sized than for power
- 1 N2 generator (85 NM/3hr N2 pure)
- 1 syngas compressor
- 1 recycle compressor
- 1 ammonia reactor + loop ancillaries
- 1 storage tank app 15 Mton
- 1 control system (controlled from NL)
- 1 gas contract
- 1 off take agreement for ammonia
- 1 land rental agreement
- 1 permit
- 1 license agreement
- 1 year time (production time)

120 kg/hr NFUEL =app 3,3 Mton/day = app app 1000 t/annum



## How does it compare with Gasoline

oil prices (\$) per gallon	\$/mr	mbtu Oil
3		26,00
3,2		27,73
3,4	29,46	
3,6	31,20	
3,8		32,93
4		34,66
4,2		36,40
4,4		38,13
4,6		39,86
4,8		41,59
5		43,33

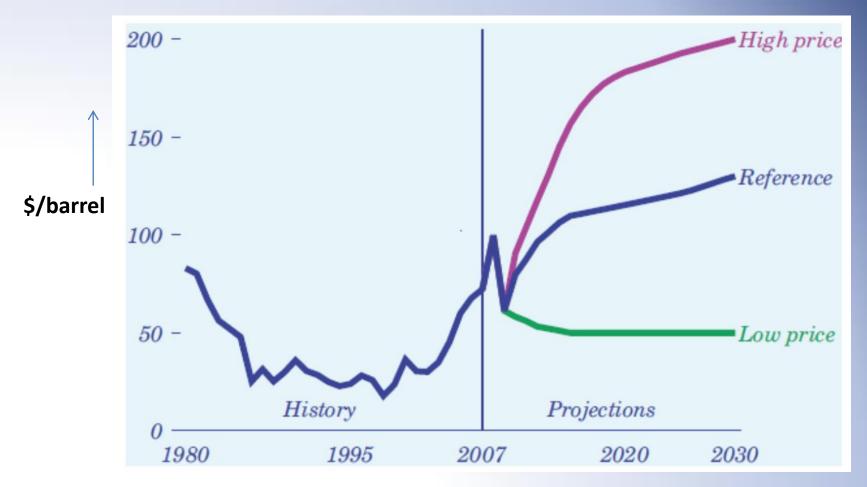
**Current Gas Prices in Iowa** 

Ammonia prices \$/Ton	\$/Mmbtu Ammonia	
500	28,46	
550	31,30	
600	34,15	
650	36,99	
700	•	39,84
750		42,68
800		45,53
850		48,38
900		51,22
950		54,07
1000		56,91

Decentralized ammonia production – NH3 price between 600-700\$/Ton



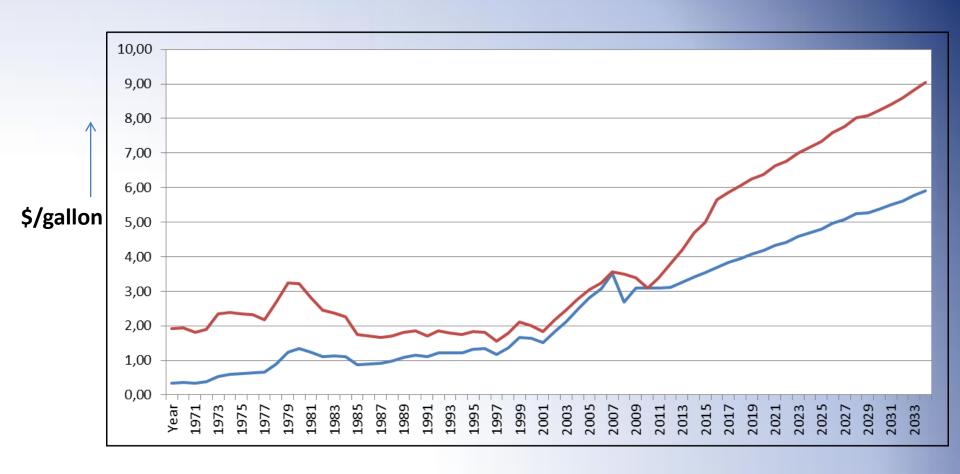
# **Crude Oil Price Projection**



- World Oil Price Forwcast in three cases (adjusted as per 2007 \$ prices)
- Data source DOE (2009)



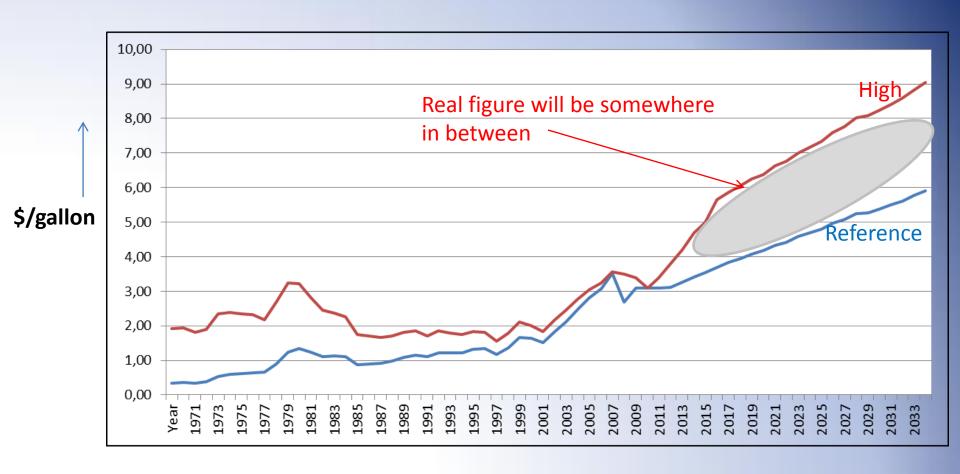
#### Oil Price Forecast



- Based on IEA Forecasts (2009 Annual Report)
- Blue line is the Reference case scenario and Red line is the high price scenario



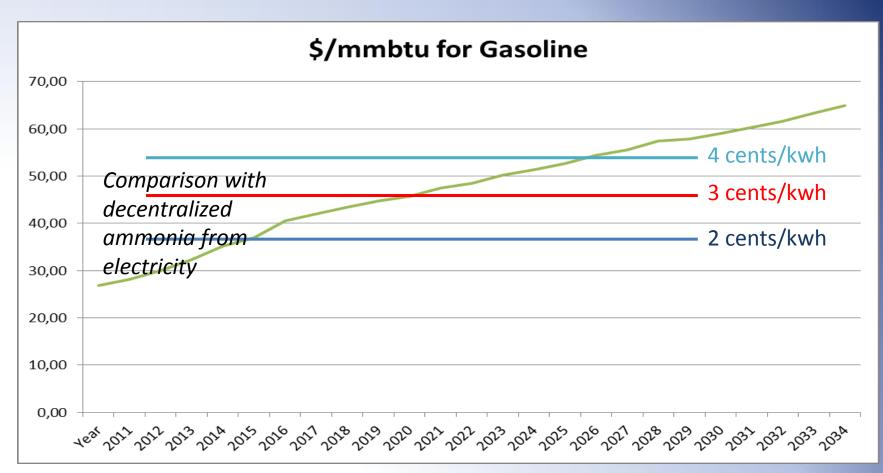
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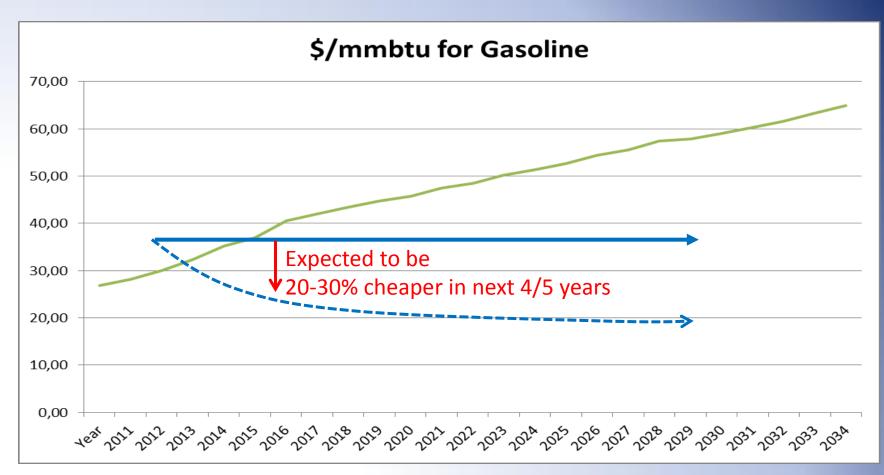
# Price-point mbtu comparison



- Price-point comparison of gasoline vs decentralized ammonia production
- Here the green line represent the mean of reference and high case scenario of gasoline prices



# Price-point mbtu comparison



Price-point comparison of gasoline vs decentralized ammonia production



# Avenues of capital cost reduction

- Building multiple units at the same time
  - Discounts on equipments from suppliers
- Technological improvements
  - Efficient and cheaper electrolysers
  - Reuse wasted heat (be careful with integrations!)
- Smart construction
  - Eliminate compressors, etc...
- Using by-product oxygen
- Continuous creativity to reduce prices
  - Improving the process and product



## **Opportunities**

- We offer mini-ammonia units for stranded locations
  - To begin with the ammonia can be used as a fertilizer, as this
    is the established market
  - Over time as ammonia engines develop, farmers can use ammonia as a fuel
  - We are in talks with few partners to develop ammonia engines and generator sets to complete total supply chain.
- Advantages of decentralized fuel production fits the bill of a transportation fuel
  - Multiple points of production scattered around, but at strategic location, which will act as fuel stations for the future
  - Reduced costs and time for handling and transportation of fuel



# Why decentralized

- Renewables available at stranded locations offers best opportunities today
  - Trade off with fossil fuels (gasoline costs much higher than average in New York/ heavily concentrated central)
  - Make use of local infrastructure for ammonia
  - Less transportation costs to bring ammonia to stranded area
  - New applications for ammonia in progress
    - Ammonia fuel cells
    - Ammonia power generators
    - Ammonia gas turbines
    - Ammonia Engines (stationary and mobile)



# Why decentralized

- Large units have some negatives
  - More re-transportation
  - Storage and logistics problems rise
  - Need for long term, multi client agreements for financing
  - But larger units should be cheaper when more than 6 NFUEL units are required, step change
- 1000 ton/annum unit fits small communities
- 1000 ton/annum units can be easily increased by duplication
- Also important: Be independent! Full control once fuel applications start developing
- Also political reasons: what to do with stranded wind



- NFUEL units available today at 1000 t/annum units
  - power2ammonia and gas2ammonia
  - Proven technology
  - Financing possibilities with banks today

Other sizes possible today as well, but not as skids

Capital costs reductions underway



- For ammonia as a fuel
  - Decentralized ammonia production can be already competitive with gasoline at price-point mbtu at stranded locations
  - More area's will become competitive when gasoline price rise in time
  - Slow introduction is most logical process
  - Small capital investments seem the trend to go



- Ammonia as a fertilizer
  - Present ammonia farmer pricing competitive with NFUEL investment
    - Based on curtailed energy
    - Power balancing
    - To become independant
  - New add-on technology for farmers could make decentralised nitrates as well (patent pending)



- Ammonia as a chemical
  - Green chemicals from NFUEL will be new development
  - NFUEL units may have a positive effect on operating permits
  - Decentralised, high quality ammonia is available without transport and logistics problems
  - At site production of ammonia at power plants for DENOX



# Thank you

For more details about our NFUEL- units please email us at <a href="mailto:info@protonventures.com">info@protonventures.com</a>

