

Remarks from Terry Tamminen
Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency
Hydrogen Highways Announcement
April 20, 2004

More than six generations of Californians have relied upon petroleum to power everything from our industries to trips in the family car. But the basic motor vehicle has changed little in over a century, while air pollution sends one in seven children in this region to school every day carrying asthma inhalers. The health of our businesses is also threatened by rapidly rising fuel prices - - with no end in sight.

We cannot build a 21st Century economy on 19th century technology. Four decades ago, President Kennedy's bold leadership sent Americans to the moon using hydrogen fuel and fuel cells. Today we can certainly harness that same technology to take us to work, to school, and on a family vacation.

Californians invent America's future - - farms that feed the nation from our great Central Valley; and technology wizards that feed our imaginations from the Silicon Valley. Today we are poised to do so once more.

Experts agree that, while there is much work still to do, there are no "show stoppers" to hydrogen power. But they do point to a simple "chicken or the egg" problem - - who will manufacture hydrogen cars without hydrogen fuel stations? Who will build hydrogen fuel stations if there are no vehicles to use them?

Shakespeare said..."There is a tide in the affairs of men, which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; but omitted, and all of life's voyage is bound in shallows and regrets." We are afloat upon such a sea at this moment as we face our energy future. But...

- Who has the **strength** to lift our ship of state on a tide of clean, renewable energy that will carry our economy into the 21st Century and beyond?
- Who has the **wisdom** to set us on course to protect our air, water, public health, and the health of our economy?
- Who has the **vision** to set sail towards our energy independence now?

I am proud to serve that leader and to ask him now to share his vision for our energy and environmental future - - Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Thank you to:

- Our host, UC Davis and Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef
- Secretary Mike Chrisman
- Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak
- Dr. Alan Lloyd, Chair of the California Air Resources Board and Members of the Board who are here today.
- The Members of the California Fuel Cell Partnership who have brought their fantastic hydrogen vehicles here today.
- The Members of the California Stationary Fuel Cell Collaborative
- Commissioners Jim Boyd and John Geesman of the California Energy Commission
- Hank Weeda and the members of the California Hydrogen Business Council
- Dr. Shannon Baxter of the Cal-EPA
- Daniel Emmett of The Energy Independence Now Coalition