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Proton Newsletter – August 2025

August 4, 2025

A Season of Events

August and September will truly be a season of events along the Hydrogen Highway.

In coordination with the California Hydrogen Coalition and ARCHES, the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Partnership will host **Hydrogen Village “Coffee and Cars”** on Wednesday, August 20th. For more information and to register, see [HERE](#). The 2025 Trip on the Hydrogen Highway will start with **CHCOA’s Rally Day** on Friday, September 12th. We will begin at the Golden Gate Bridge in the morning and wind up in the afternoon for an event in front of the Capitol steps. Featured at the event will be distinguished speakers, food, door prizes, camaraderie and more. Rally day is open to all FCEVs, so please plan to attend. More information is [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). And, consider attending the **Renewable Hydrogen Alliance 2025 Conference** in Portland on Tuesday, September 16th. They’ve got a great panel of speakers lined up! To learn more, and to register, see [HERE](#).

This newsletter will be a bit different than previous Proton issues. We are most grateful to CHCOA Exec, Committee member Nathan Okawa for his dedication and skill as a “*Journalist for the Betterment of Hydrogen Cars*”. Since he purchased his Mirai about a year ago, he has traveled the length and breadth of California seeking out transportation-hydrogen news. Most of the rest of this issue features just a sampling of the results of Nathan’s dedicated sleuthing.

H₂ Rally Day!

Friday, September 12, 2025

Golden Gate to the Capitol

Image Credit: Don Raney Logan - 2015



Golden Gate Bridge
San Francisco



For More Information:
<https://h2tonps.org/rally-day>

- Schedule for the Day -

- 9 a.m. - Gather at Golden Gate Journey Sendoff - Drive to Capitol
- 2 p.m. - Rally by Capitol Steps
Welcome; Industry & Drivers View
View from the Capitol
View from Academia



Capitol Building
Sacramento

- Water to Water -

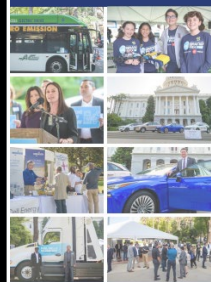


A Trip on the Hydrogen Highway

Hydrogen Village Presents COFFEE & CARS

Weds., 8/20
9:00-11:00am

West Steps of the State
Capitol, Sacramento



LET'S TALK
CLEAN TRANSPORTATION
(with coffee & light refreshments):
Showcasing the latest zero-emission hydrogen fuel cell cars, trucks, and heavy-duty vehicles with industry leaders and technology experts.

Free! Open to the public, and all ages welcome.

Questions?
info@h2fcp.org



RSVP



Northwest Renewable Hydrogen 2025 Conference

September 16, 2025
PORTLAND, OR

renewableh2.org/conference

REGISTER NOW



Chevron Opens a Second HRS in Vacaville, California

By Nathan Okawa

Chevron opened their second retail hydrogen refueling station in Vacaville, California on June 11, 2025. The station is located at 299 Orange Dr, Vacaville CA 95687 at an existing Chevron-owned property. The two pumps are located under the canopy and mirrors the setup at their



Image: H2FCP

first station in Moreno Valley, with 800 kg. of compressed hydrogen storage. After a brief "soft opening," Chevron already extended operations to 24/7 shortly after the July 4th holiday. This

station is a welcome backup to the West Sacramento station and is located 30 miles away along the I-80. I visited the station just before the holiday, and the equipment worked flawlessly. Congratulations to Chevron, Fastech and Cavendish Hydrogen.

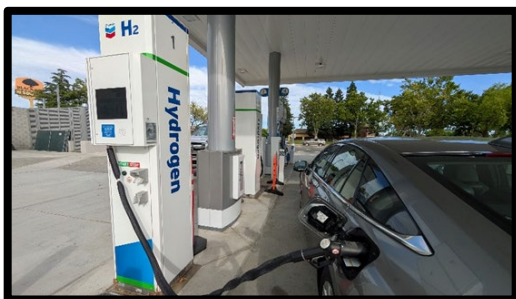


Image: Okawa



Source: Freepik

A Visit to an Ingber Rally

By Nathan Okawa

The Ingber Law Group organized two rallies in June at the State Capitol in Sacramento and at City Hall in Los Angeles. Attorney Jason Ingber claims to represent hundreds of owners in a lawsuit against Toyota. These latest rallies were intended to recruit owners of the Hyundai Nexo and Toyota Mirai.

I attended the rally in downtown Los Angeles on Sunday, June 29, 2025. The rally attracted about 30 spirited people of what appeared to be mostly Mirai owners. The attorney and his staff distributed t-shirts and pre-printed signs, and he led them in chants and a short march around City Hall, while his staff and one media outlet recorded the rally and interviews with participants.

I spoke with a few owners, and the feedback I received was mainly of a lack of communication from the automaker, as well as the inconvenience of offline stations and the high price of fuel.

Regardless of how we feel about this topic, this is a part of the history of hydrogen fuel cell cars in California.

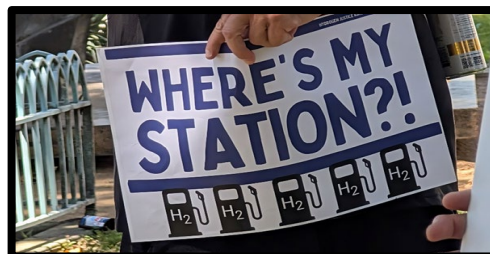
Related links:

<https://jasoningber.com/toyota-mirai-lawsuit-attorney/>

[Hydrogen vehicle owners say they were misled by dealers: 'Stop the Lies'](#)

[From the next Prius to paperweight: Hydrogen cars exasperate owners, prompt lawsuit against Toyota](#)

Rally photos:





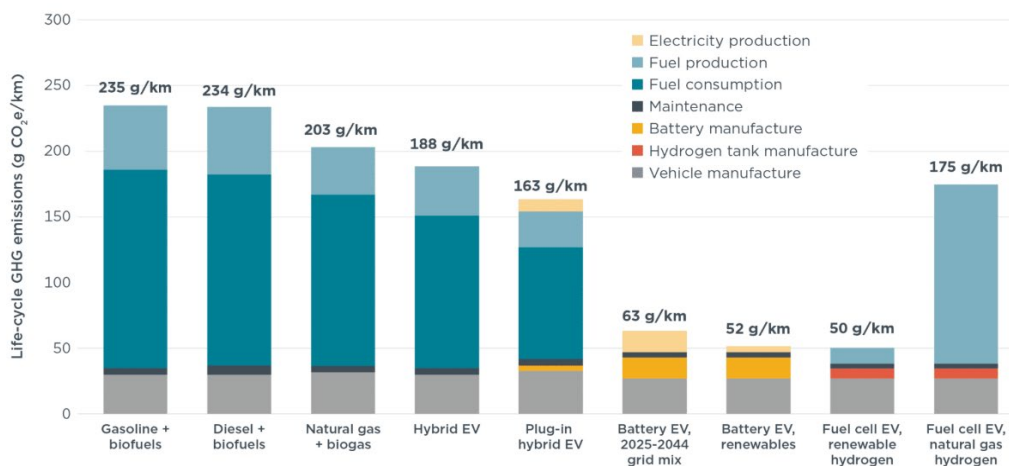
Life-cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Passenger Cars in the European Union 2025

By Nathan Okawa

The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) is an independent, non-profit organization that aims to provide unbiased research and analysis to environmental regulators. Their mission is to improve the environmental performance and energy efficiency of transportation, focusing on road, marine, and air travel. They strive to provide data-driven, transparent analysis to policymakers and other stakeholders to support informed decision-making. (The ICCT reported in 2015 their discoveries that led to the uncovering of discrepancies in emissions testing in the Volkswagen emissions scandal.)

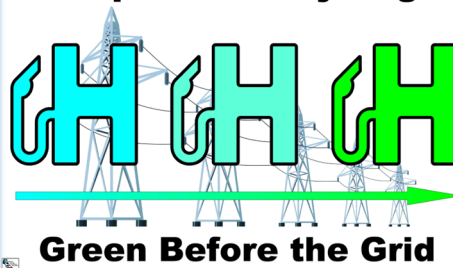
In an update to previous reports, the ICCT finds that battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) can have the lowest life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions among various current forms of passenger cars, depending upon the mix of renewable or fossil fuels. The analysis covers the greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle manufacture and battery production, fuel and electricity production, fuel consumption and maintenance and recycling. FCEVs using hydrogen produced from natural gas produced LCA (life cycle assessment) emissions are on par with Hybrid EVs and Plug-in Hybrids. The lowest LCA emissions were found to be FCEVs using renewable hydrogen as fuel.

Figure 1. Life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions of medium segment passenger cars sold in the European Union in 2025



Ed. – With its “Green Before the Grid” campaign, CHCOA has long advocated for the continuing advancement of hydrogen toward zero carbon intensity sources.

Transportation Hydrogen





The Station Beat

By Nathan Okawa

For fuel cell car owners, there is much to be thankful for in 2025 regarding the availability of hydrogen throughout the state and the number of TNO (temporarily not operational) stations being put back into service. With that said, I hope to highlight stations that are online and others that are no longer in operation, both to spotlight stations that many current fuel cell car owners depend upon and to look back on stations taken out of operation.

First, a look back:

Palo Alto Air Liquide Station, 3601 El Camino Real, Palo Alto 94306

The Palo Alto station is co-located at an existing Shell station near Stanford University and opened on August 14, 2018 through a partnership with Air Liquide, the CEC and Toyota at a cost of nearly \$2.7 million, including a



Palo Alto Station

CEC grant of \$1.75 million. This station provided hydrogen at both H35 and H70 pressures, from compressed hydrogen storage of approximately 180 kg and was the

38th station in the state. The CEC report indicated challenges with the supply chain disruption of hydrogen in Northern California, and issues with the chiller, dispenser, and point of sale system. Air Liquide supplied this station with hydrogen from the trans-fill facility in Etiwanda, CA during the shortage in Northern California.

This station operated from 6 am to 10 pm “as a courtesy



Palo Alto Station

to nearby residents,” possibly indicating noise issues from the equipment that I understand affect certain stations in 2025 and limit hours of operation. A table of dispensing data in the CEC report showed increasing usage in 2019 peaking at 706 fills in December, with an

average fill size of 3.2 kg. Online comments indicated that operations at this station were problematic and the station operated intermittently only through 2020 and 2021. Shell ultimately closed this station when they announced they were ending retail sales of hydrogen in February 2024. Pictures of the station during construction can be seen in the referenced CEC report. Pictures in this report were taken during a trip to Northern California in July 2025.

Hydrogen Snippets



Roseville HRS is Open!



Photo: Roseville Toyota

Roseville Toyota HRS is open for business. Call 916-367-0824 for appointment (Mirai FCEVs only). For a limited time a fill-up is complementary.

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LCFS Credit Prices

