Name: Michael McGowan Title: Head of Hydrogen Solutions Organization: Linde North America County: Rockland I performed a quick scan of this document, searching for the term hydrogen and fuel cells. Repeatedly, hydrogen fuel cells are described as not being "near-term" solutions. Quite frankly, these statements are simply inaccurate. Fuel cells have been very successfully deployed in multiple material handling and back-up power applications. NY companies such as Plug Power and Raymond Corp are quite active in these sectors. Fuel cell automobiles have also been deployed by multiple OEMs with tremendous success. We do need to increase the population of thee vehicles before they can approach commercial competitiveness, however, the Comment: existing vehicles are superb and every indicati! on from the OEMs indicates stronger, commercially viable vehicles by 2015. That is pretty near-term. The need to build the infrastructure is very near-term, if we are to be prepared for 2015. Please reconsider your consideration of hydrogen and fuel cells in your program. I would like to share some great work completed by the National Hydrogen Association (I am the current chairman) describing the key role hydrogen has in our energy evolution.

Please see the attached Energy Evolution document developed by the NHA. The entire document, a short version, and summary presentations can be found at: <u>http://www.hydrogenassociation.org/general/evolution.asp</u>