

Re: Viable hydrogen vehicle by 2010

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.energy.hydrogen/2004-09/0762.html>

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Date: 09/25/04

Date: 25 Sep 2004 18:05:11 GMT

*>I do believe that if the end of cheap oil is inevitable, and the best
>alternative is twice as expensive as oil is today – say nuclear power
>plants.*

A nuclear power plant is twice as expensive because of safety considerations. if the power plant was built where safety was not a consideration, say on a remote Pacific Atoll, then safety would not be a consideration and the only consideration would be the most economic way to produce power with a nuclear power plant. If the power plant is totally dedicated to producing hydrogen, then the hydrogen can be shipped to where its needed much like oil is shipped today. Alot of oil is drilled in remote places too. The Indian point power plant is a case in point of what not to do. the power plant is right in the middle of a populated area where million would have to be evacuated if something were to go wrong. On a remote Pacific island, this is not the case and a nuclear power plant can be built and operated cheaply. Nuclear reactions are much more energetic than chemical ones, so if a nuclear power plant can compete on an equal basis with a coal fired plant for instance, it would be cheaper. That electricity in such a remote place would have nowhere to go except into the production of hydrogen, so what really the plant would produce is hydrogen, it would be a nuclear powered hydrogen plant. the fact that a lot of a little energy was wasted in the production of hydrogen would not matter to the customers as the only form of energy that would be available to them from this power plant would be in the form of hydrogen. Energy would be wasted, but then alot of energy is wasted throughout the universe, and it bothers hardly anyone that the Sun radiates most of its energy out into space.

Tom