



A Timetable for hydrogen

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[The Energy Bulletin](#) carries a story today on the [Icelandic Hydrogen program](#). It describes a steady program of development to displace gas as a transportation fuel, based on hydrogen generated using the abundant natural power sources in the country.

But to underline the current dependence of the world on our current sources, one only need to look at the time table that they expect, in a technology that has solved the major road blocks.

INE has embarked on a research phase that is expected to last 10 to 15 years -- recognizing, like hydrogen backers everywhere, that full conversion will take 40 years or more. "The Icelandic government sees this as a marathon, not a sprint," says Chris de Koning, a spokesman for Shell Hydrogen. The corporations take a similarly long-term approach: "We have been in the energy business for 100 years," says de Koning. "We want to be in the energy business for at least another 100."

The sidebar on how global warming is hurting Californian wines isn't that encouraging either.

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