

HyTrojan

A new Hydrogen economy may sound benign and fashionable except it isn't. The zealous push for Hydrogen as the essential route to a just transition from fossil fuel is unfounded, both in terms of physics and economics.

The production of Green Hydrogen from water and renewable energy is extremely expensive and inefficient. Its storage and distribution are also costly and energy intensive. The process is fraught with technical and safety issues.

One suggested plan is:

- Make Blue Hydrogen with fossil fuels and carbon capture and storage (CCS)
- Then move onto Green Hydrogen when the economics become more favourable.

The snag is:

CCS is largely unproven as an effective tool to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It's Think Big, again

Taranaki has copious amounts of government and foreign money for Hydrogen development:

- \$37 million to replace New Plymouth's Wastewater Treatment Plant's thermal dryer
- \$50 million to make more urea and set up a Hydrogen refuelling network, etc.

But the new thermal dryer will still rely on fossil gas, albeit with 25-40% less emissions, without solving effluent issues.

Urea made from Green Hydrogen will still degrade farmlands and waterways.

- The truth is there is no such thing as 'Green Urea'.
- Drying our sewage with a Hydrogen-Natural Gas blend does not make our treatment plant green either.
- Building off-shore wind farms to make Hydrogen for export will retain corporate control and push energy prices up.

Think again

Perhaps all the hype for so-called Green Hydrogen is little more than a Trojan Horse.

It makes us believe that our leaders are taking serious climate action.

In reality, the plan allows extractive, polluting industries to continue business as usual.

No matter how dressed up, these ideas are not going to turn Taranaki into a Green Energy hub.



Don't buy a white elephant

We have exceeded planetary boundaries on numerous fronts.

The only responsible and wise way forward is to reduce demand for energy, minerals, non-essential travel and products.

- Live simply
- Reuse and repair
- Share more

Then we may have the hope of sustaining our societies with truly green alternatives.

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a
White Elephant?