

Tim Harwood – H21 Project Director November 2020

H21 Programme of Projects



H21 is a suite of pioneering gas industry projects sponsored by Ofgem and led by Northern Gas Networks, focused on demonstrating the existing UK gas grid can be repurposed to carry 100% hydrogen, in order to help meet the UK governments





















H21 NIC: Phase 1a & 1b



Phase 1a HSE – SD Buxton



Leakage Testing

- Comparing leakage rates between natural gas and hydrogen.
- Testing on existing 0-7bar network assets.

Phase 1b DNV GL Spadeadam

Consequence Testing

- Tests to establish the consequences of a hydrogen leak.
- Include observation of tracking, dispersion, ignition potential and explosive limits.



H21 Social Sciences









High Level Results: (so far)

- Safety not a major concern for the public.
- Cost (general and of appliances) and disruption are barriers.
- Able to digest quite technical information and retain and explain it.
- Difficulty with some of the terms we use e.g. Decarbonisation, CCS, SMR, ATR etc.
- Want to be told the facts (not what might happen).
- Want to be brought along the hydrogen journey.
- Key words and phrases are importar



H21 phase 2a & 2b





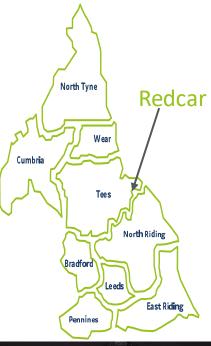
2a - Microgrid at Spadeadam

- ✓ Built at Spadeadam next to the HyStreet
- Represents a typical distribution network
- ✓ Will run on 100% hydrogen
- ✓ Will be connected to NG "futuregrid" to enable full "beach to burner" research on one site (subject to NIC funding)



2b - Unoccupied Trial site

- ✓ Site is in Redcar near Middlesbrough
- Unoccupied network operations trial will be undertaken on an existing section of the gas network.
- ✓ Will run on 100% hydrogen
- ✓ A stepping stone to occupied trials





H21 phase 3 and beyond



What's next?



100% hydrogen conversion roll-out?

H21 Phase 3

Currently awaiting a funding decision.

Phase 3a – 50 houses

Phase 3b – a further 620 homes

BAU conversion roll-out

Anticipate gradual increase in size and complexity of conversion area and learning by doing.

