

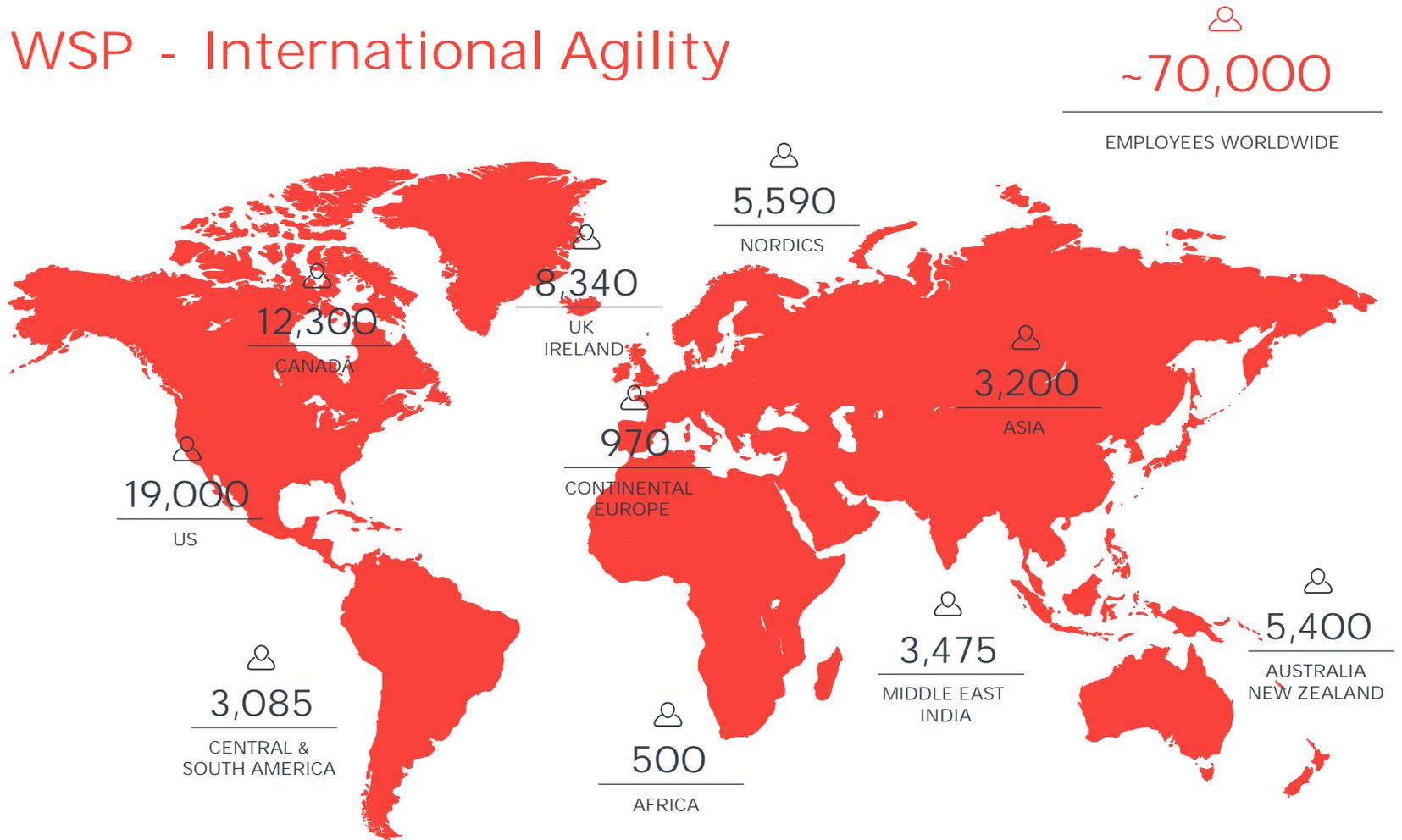


# The Emerging Hydrogen Economy Why do we need storage ?

Andres Fernandez  
SVP, USA National Market Leader - Hydrogen  
2023



# WSP - International Agility



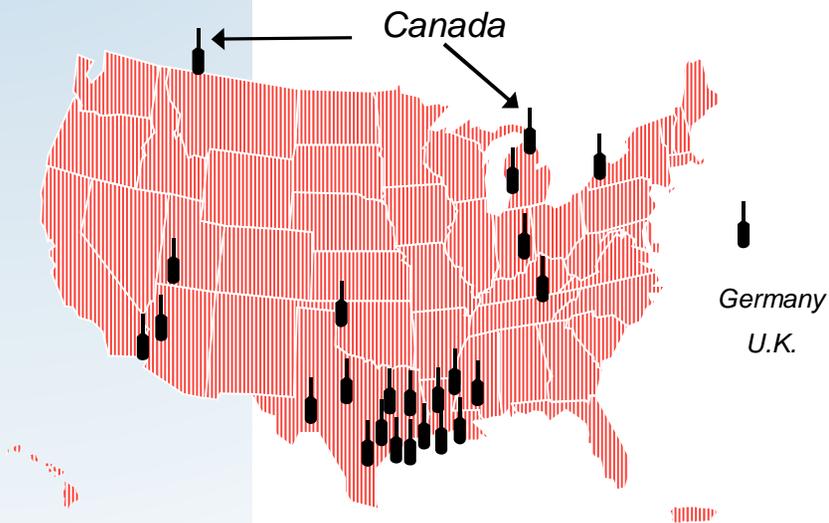
Figures as at June 29, 2019  
\*Note: Total staff figures also includes 425 employees from Louis Berger International

# WSP experience in developing salt caverns

40+ Years of Design and Construction Management Experience.

Including a 1 Mm<sup>3</sup> H<sub>2</sub> cavern for Air Liquide in 2015.

Previously known as PB-KBB, Fenix & Scisson and Parsons Brinckerhoff



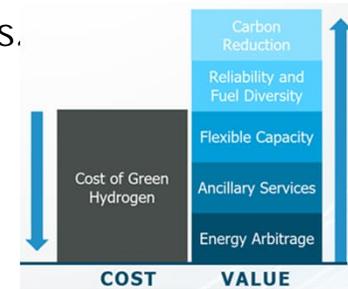
Total of more than  
200 salt caverns



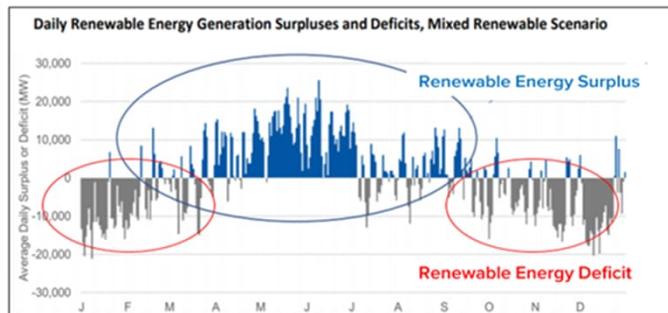
Salt Caverns - crude oil, NGL including ethane, ethylene, petrochemicals, LPG, refined product, feedstocks	173
Salt Caverns - natural gas, hydrogen, CAES	56
Salt Caverns, Chemical Feedstock - brine production	15
Hard Rock Caverns - propane, butane; 235MM Bbl total	83
Leach Plants - 126,000 total hp	21
Gas Compressor Stations - 163,000 total hp	11
Brine Disposal Wells - Over 50 miles total drilled depth	60
Industrial Disposal Wells	30
Acid Gas Disposal Wells	7

## Market trends alignment in favor of hydrogen.

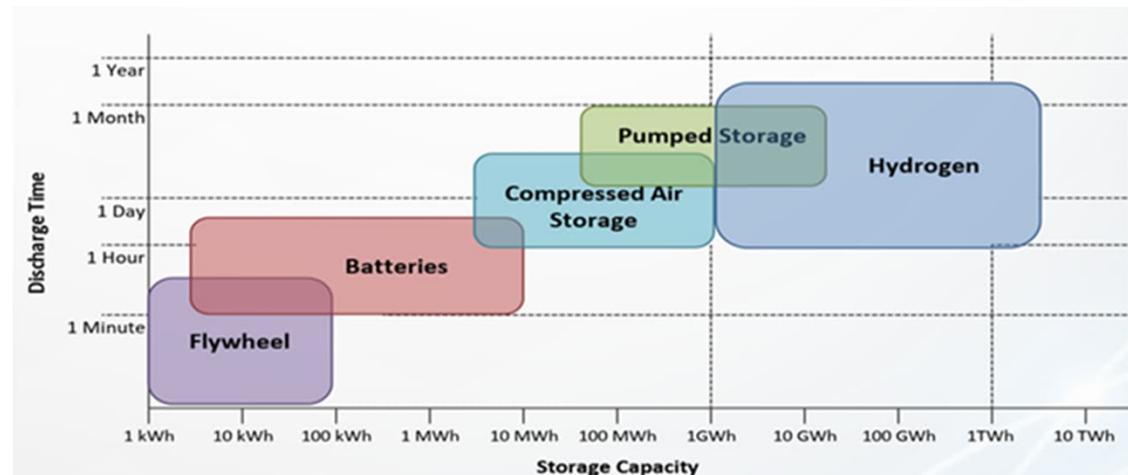
- Market is aiming at significantly reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emission.
- Solar and wind power generation increasing rapidly and cost per KWh decreasing.
- Market shows significant periodic surplus-deficit pattern.
- Cost of electrolysis is dropping quickly with mass-scale production units.
- Efficiency of natural gas / H<sub>2</sub> turbines improving.



California surplus and deficit patterns under a 100% renewable energy scenario



Source: Amont, Cohen Testimony

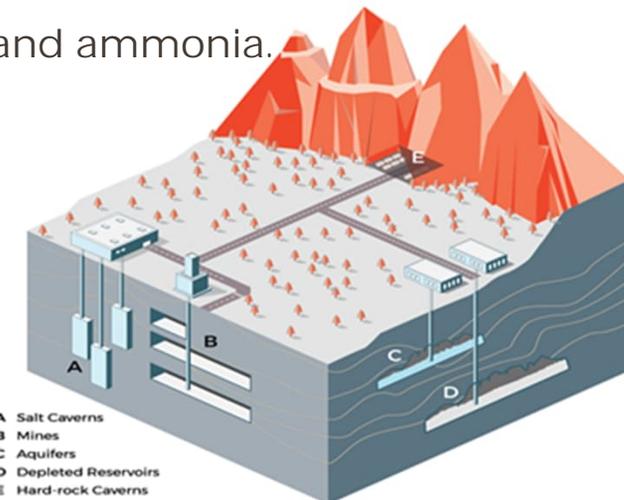


## What is new? Why now?

### Geological Energy Storage. Driving factors

- Increase usage of renewable energy sources.
- Target to reduce amount of curtailment energy & better integration of RE.
- Increased distance between energy generation and consumption hubs.
- Looking at solving energy demand variance through the year.
- New technological developments.
- Export market -New energy carriers such as hydrogen and ammonia.
- Salt cavern storage is the most cost-efficient solution.

Potential LCOS 0.30-0.60 \$/Kg H<sub>2</sub> (\*)





## ACES Delta (UT) Green Hydrogen UGS Project

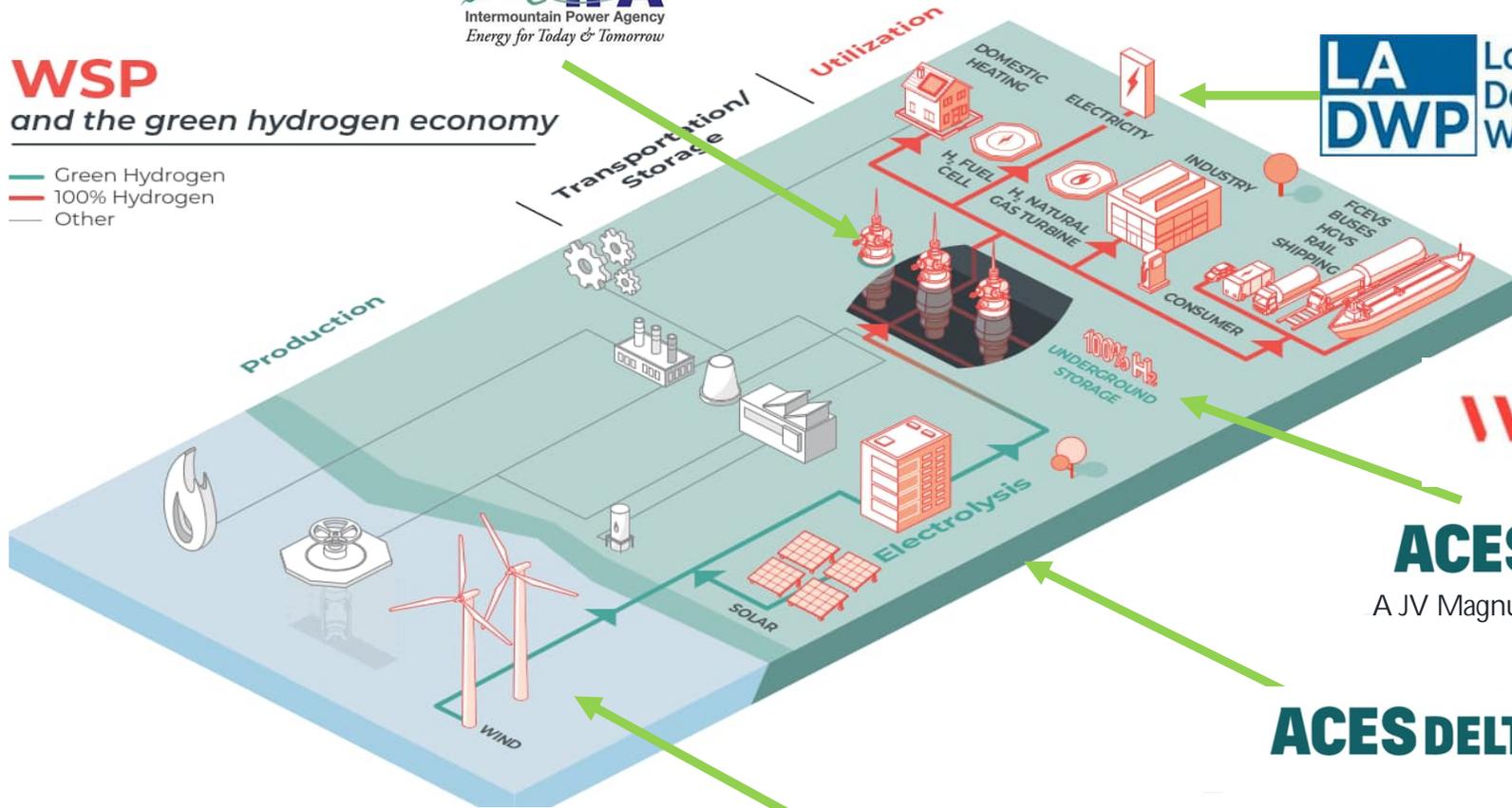
The ACES-Delta project converts renewable power into green hydrogen that can be stored in commercial-scale solution mined caverns. This stored hydrogen becomes an energy reserve that can be released to produce fuel for electric power generation at any time.

- World's largest green hydrogen storage project.
  - Total of 9 MMbbbls or ~1,4 Mm<sup>3</sup>. Total storage capacity of ~ 20,000 metric tons
- *Future Ready*. Helping society to advance the decarbonization process of the industry.
- Use excess electricity from the western United States region's renewable generation assets to produce renewable green hydrogen.
- Energy storage perspective, both caverns will hold the equivalent of 300 GWh of carbon-free dispatchable energy.
- According to the EIA in 2020, current installed battery storage across the U.S. is 1.2 GWh.
- Would be the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> hydrogen caverns developed in the USA.



# WSP and the green hydrogen economy

- Green Hydrogen
- 100% Hydrogen
- Other



**ACES DELTA**  
A JV Magnum + Mitsubishi

**ACES DELTA**



20,000 tones of Green Hydrogen Storage

EPCM + Commissioning

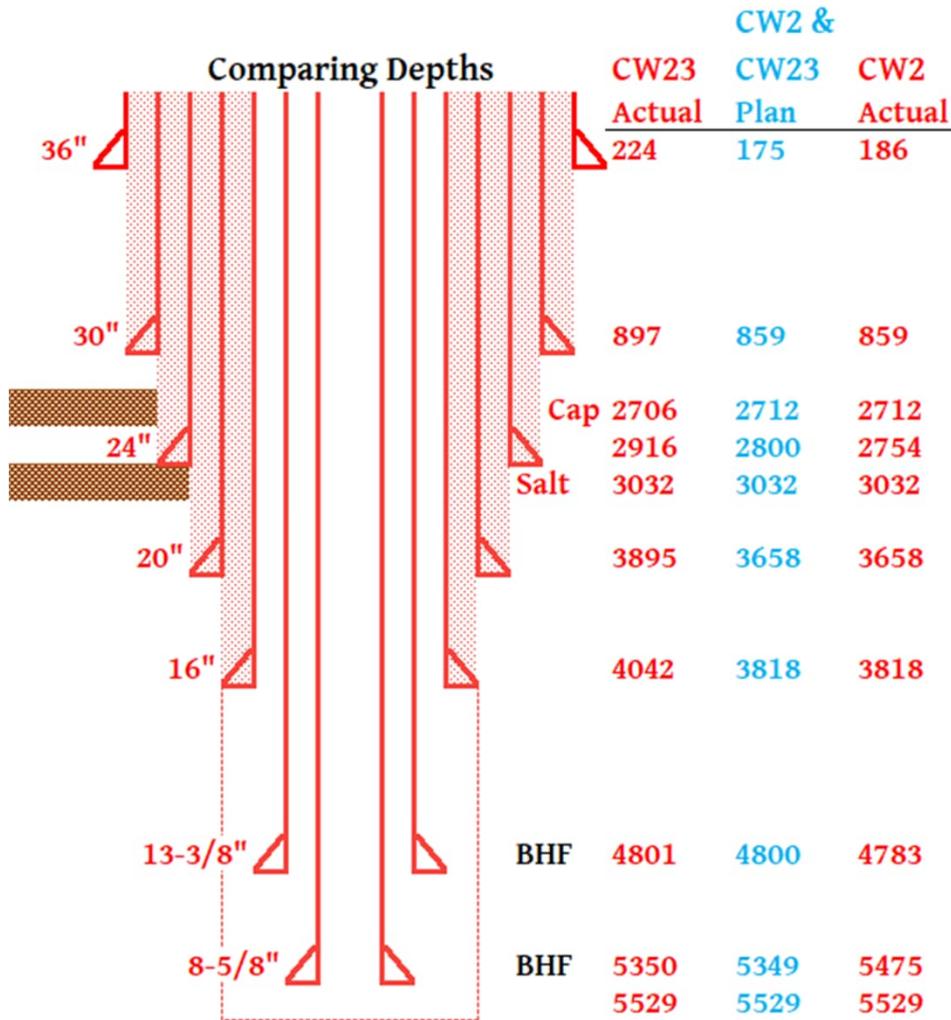


# Bases of design

## III. Cavern Characteristics

- Last Cemented Casing Depth..... 3,520 ft
- Maximum Operating Pressure Gradient ..... 0.80 psi/ft
- Minimum Operating Pressure Gradient ..... 0.30 psi/ft
- Total Gas Capacity at 4.45 MMB Net Leached Volume.....  $9.36 \times 10^6$  kg
- Roof Depth ..... 3,720 ft
- Total Depth ..... 5,350 ft
- Maximum Cavern Diameter ..... 222 ft
- Total Leached Volume..... 4.85 to 6.0 MMB
- Net Leached Volume ..... 4.45 to 5.5 MMB

# Planned vs Actual Casing Depths



# Project Status

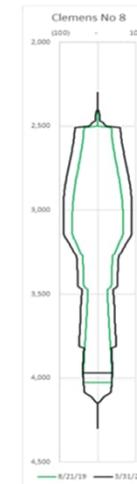
- Engineering innated 2021
- Field work started June 2022
- Both wells currently drilled to a depth of 1.700m.
- 41cm production casing set at ~1.300m.
- Total of 120 drilling days per well.
- MIT conducted
- Solution mining to start April 2023 @ 19.000 liters/min.
- Cavern #1 to be completed July 2025 #2 by Dec 2026



Network: Feb 22, 2023 7:23:51 AM MST.  
 Local: Feb 22, 2023 7:23:51 AM MST  
 39°29'51.132" N, 112°36'23.147" W  
 Remark:



Fun fact...

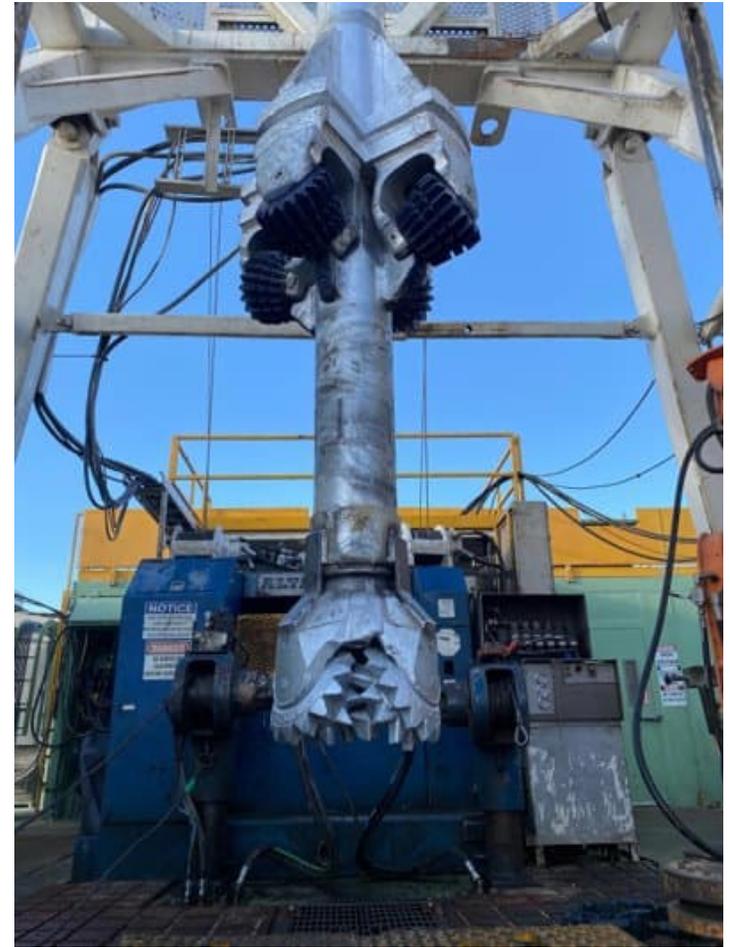


**Cavern #8**  
 Roof: 2,400'  
 Floor: 3,968'  
 Total height: 1,568'  
 Average Diameter: 120'

**Empire State Building**  
 Total height: 1,250'  
 (without antenna)  
 Dimensions (base): 187' by 424'

Leach plant equipment, leaching wellhead  
and hole opener

ACES DELTA



## Looking Ahead at the Hydrogen Economy / storage

A McKinsey & Company report estimated the hydrogen economy could generate \$140 billion in annual revenue by 2030, projecting that hydrogen could meet 14% of total domestic energy demand by 2050.

As renewable energy becomes more efficient and commonplace, excess capacity during non-peak demand can be increasingly used to generate hydrogen, thus "storing" energy.

Analyzing market behaviour from the natural gas sector, 10-15% of the total annual hydrogen consumption may have to be stored at any given moment.

# Thank you!

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USA Market Leader Hydrogen

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

