



Ontario: where hydrail would excel to curtail CO₂-emissions

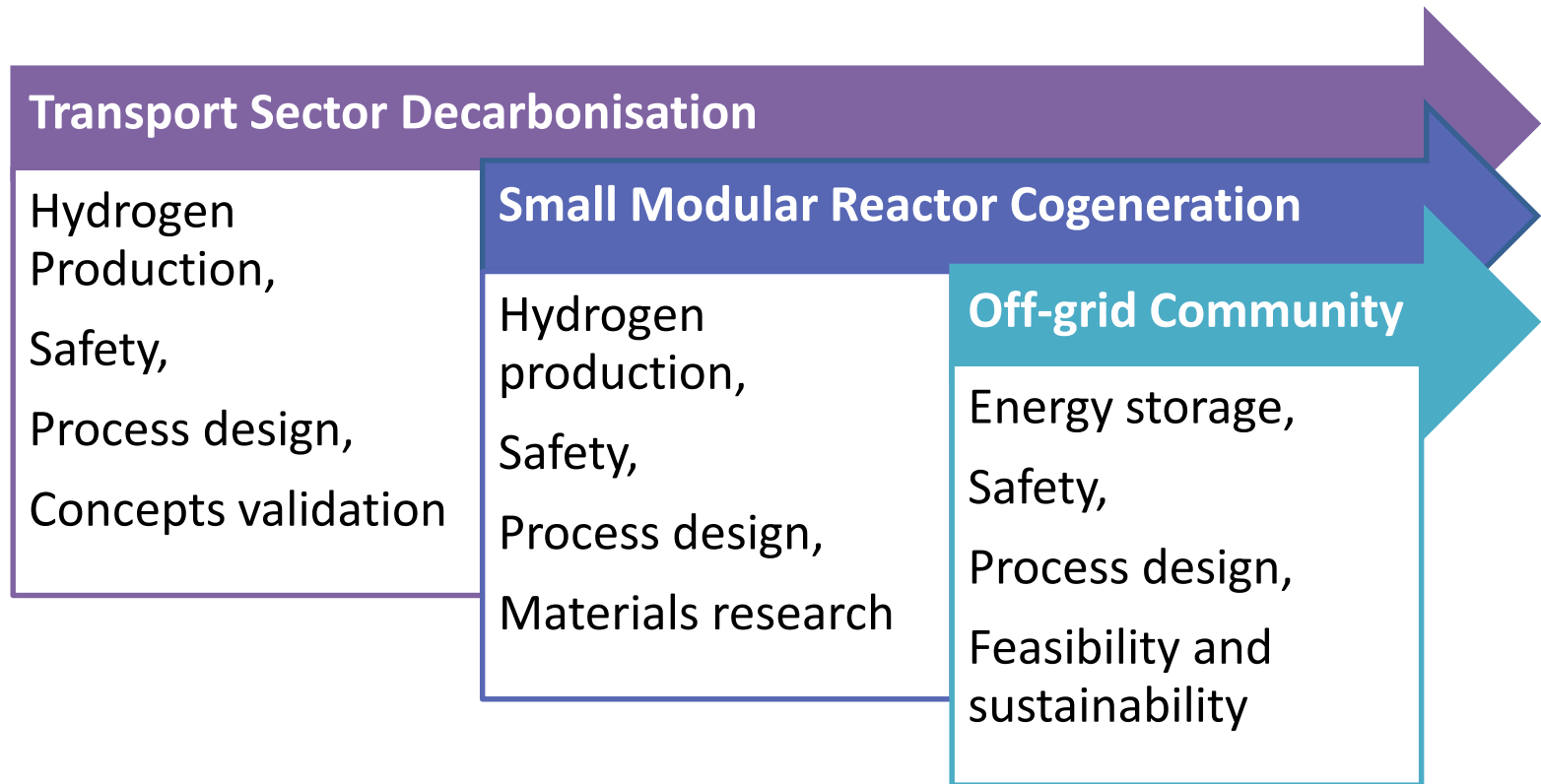
Alistair Miller Ph.D.

Researcher Emeritus, Chemical Engineering Branch

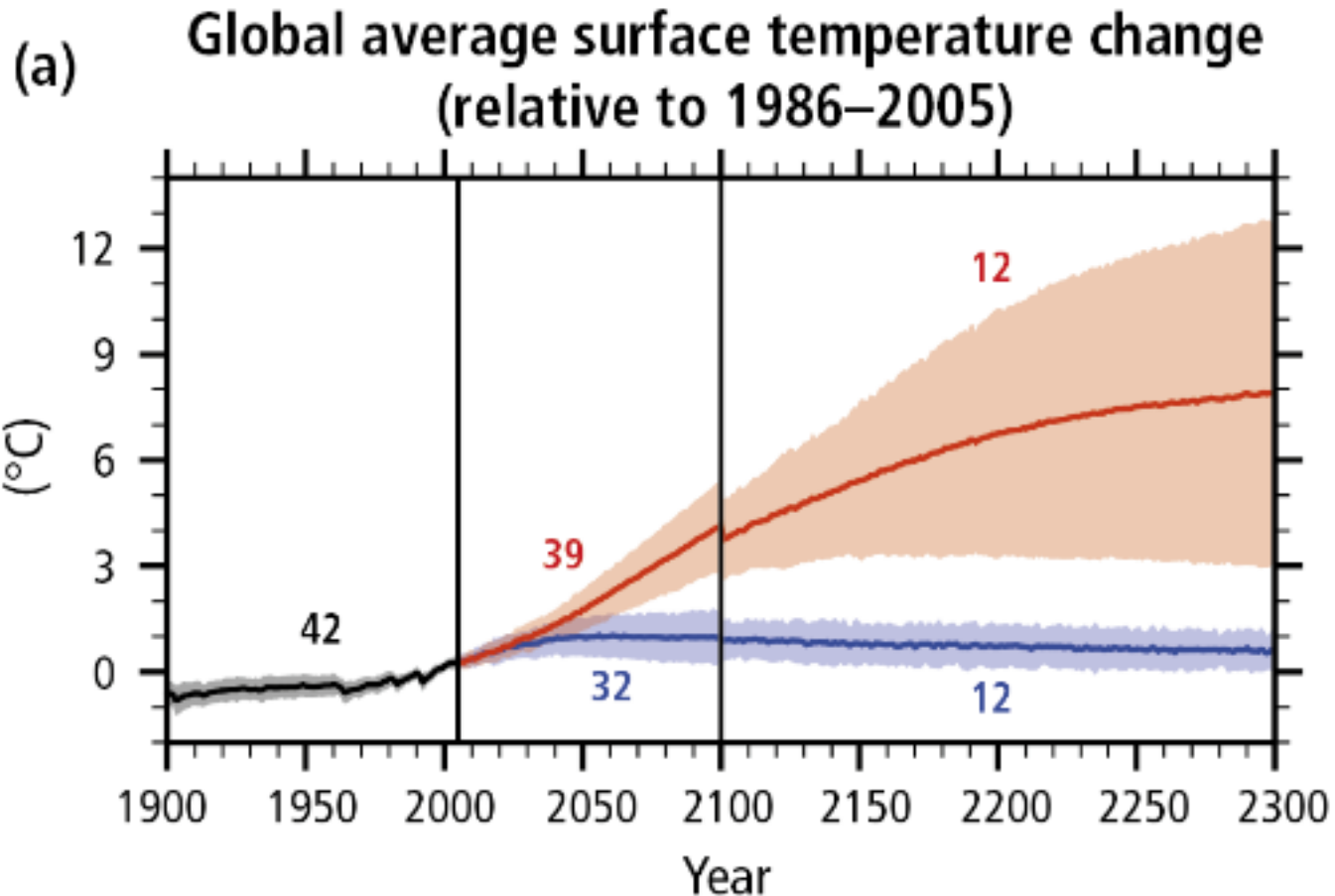


CNL Hydrogen Strategic Initiative

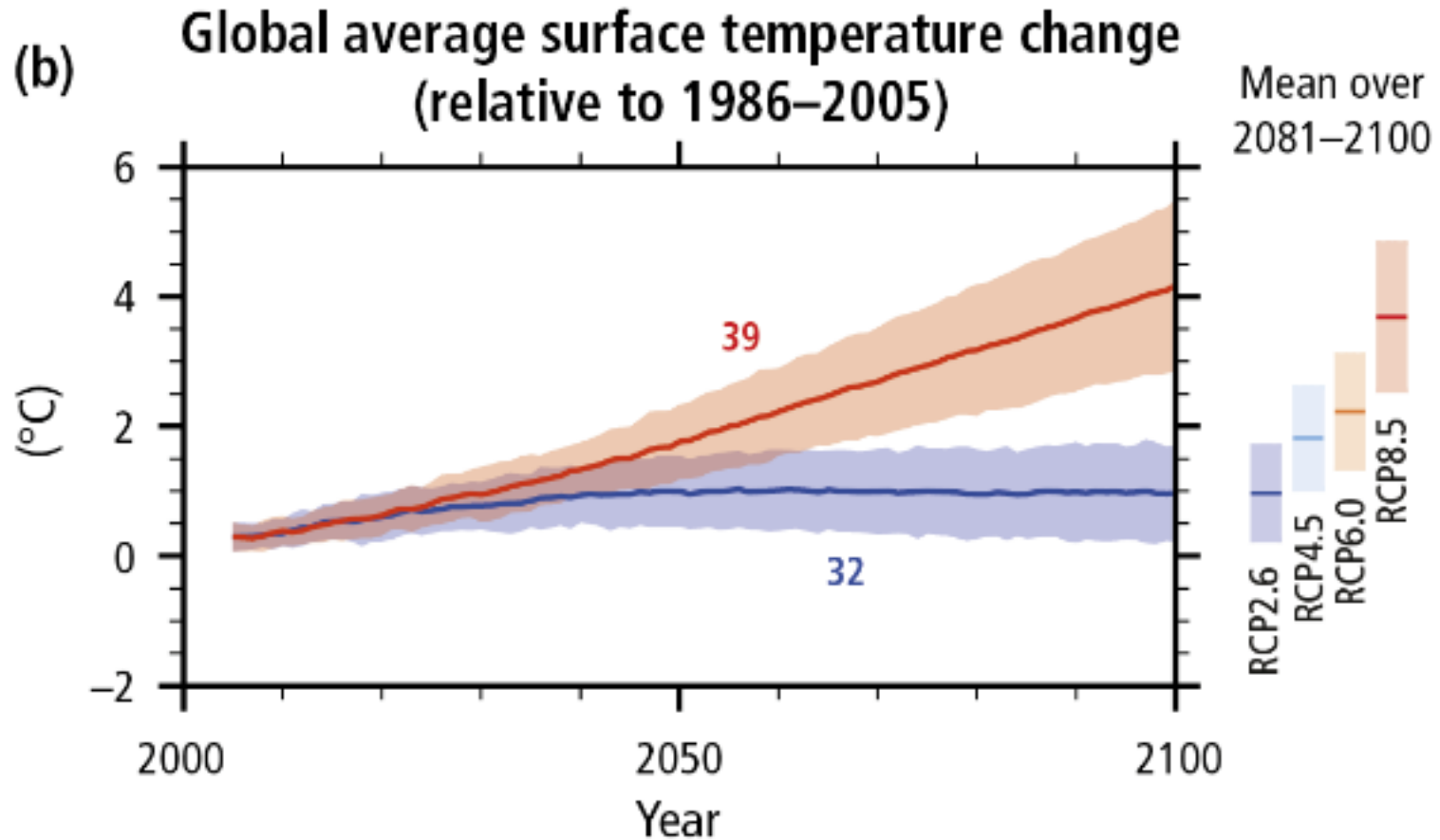
Hydrogen cogeneration, safety & applied research for three markets



RCP 2.6 (Stringent Mitigation) vs RCP 8.5 (Business more or less as usual)

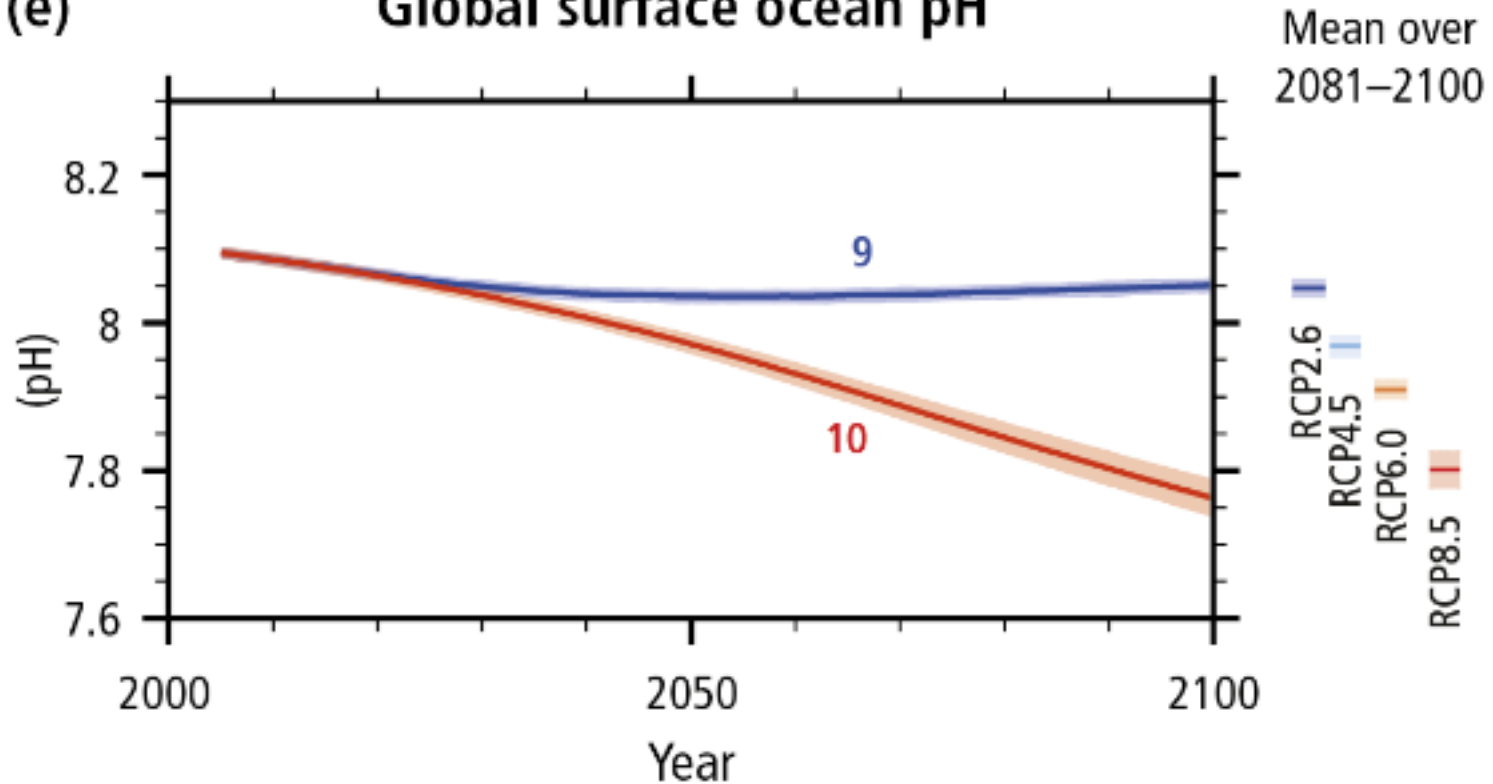


IPCC 4th Assessment RCP 2.6 vs RCP 8.5



IPCC 4th Assessment RCP 2.6 vs RCP 8.5 Global surface ocean pH

(e)



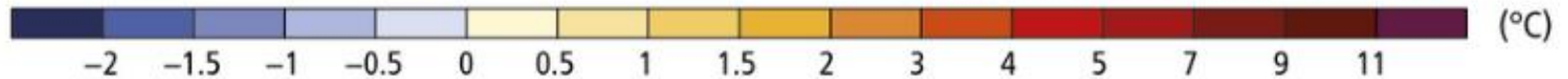
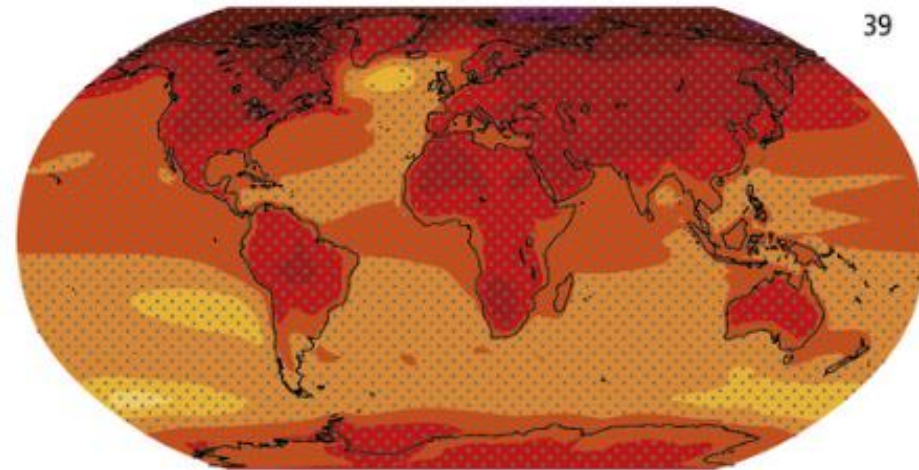
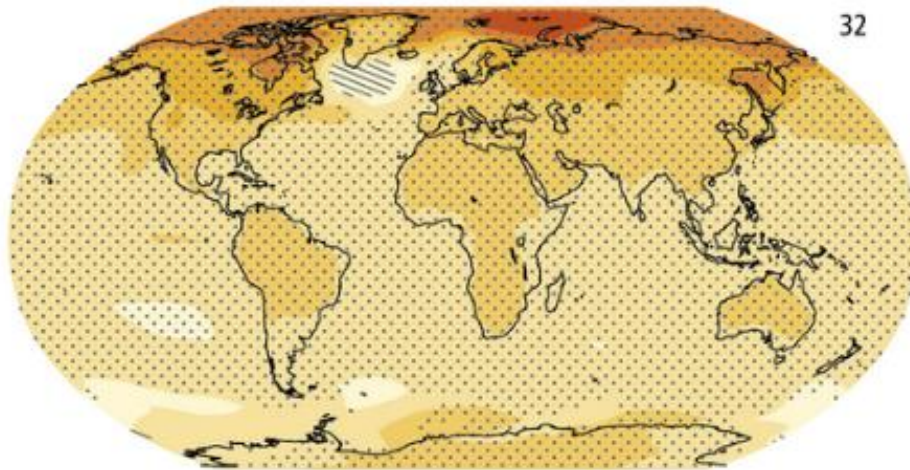
Warmer or Hotter?

RCP2.6

RCP8.5

(a)

Change in average surface temperature (1986–2005 to 2081–2100)



Getting onto the RCP 2.6 Track

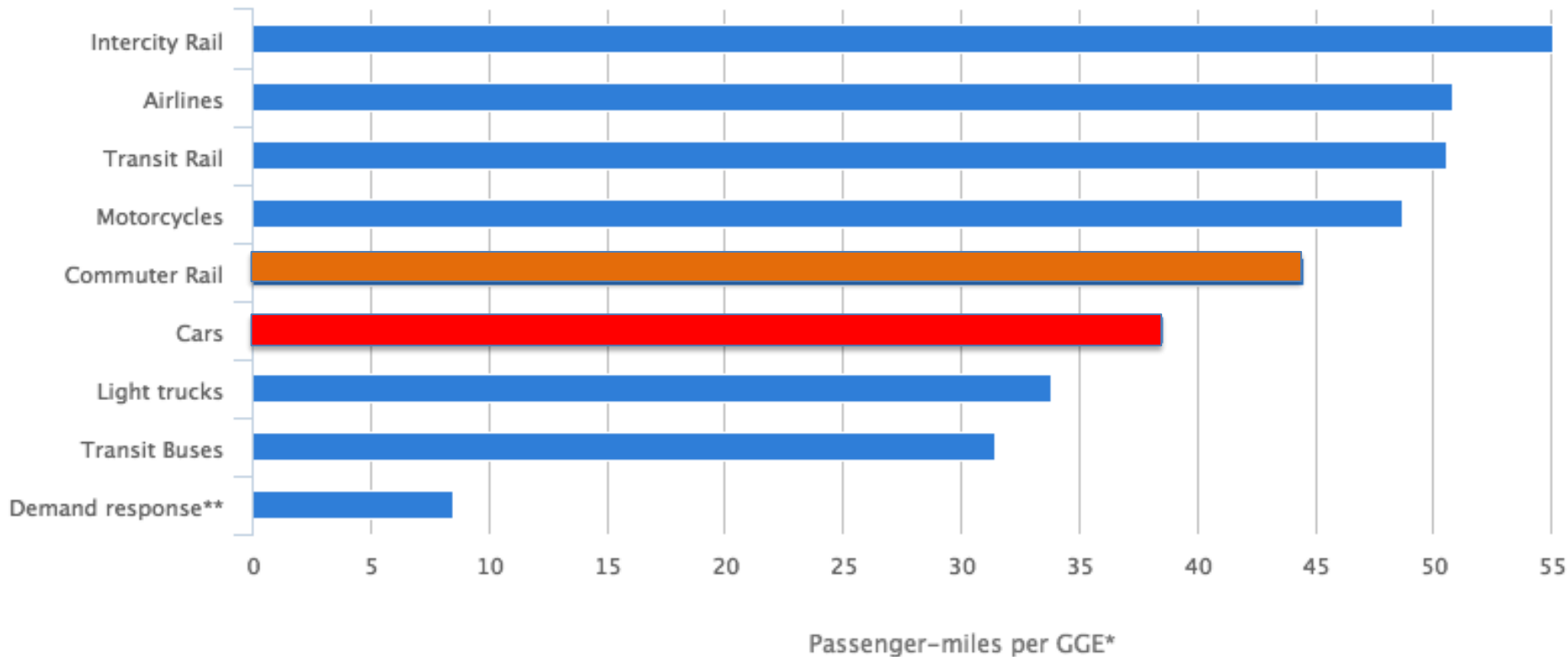
- Needs at least an 80% reduction in GHG emissions
 - Disdain any policy delivering less
- Ontario is remarkably well-placed



Merely Shifting from Cars to Trains is Marginal and Insufficient

Average Per-Passenger Fuel Economy of Various Travel Modes

[Print](#) [Dow](#)



[Oak Ridge National Laboratory](https://www.afdc.energy.gov/data/10311) Table 2.14 of the Transportation Energy Data Book 35. 2016, <https://www.afdc.energy.gov/data/10311>

But hydrail requires



requiring about three times
as much input electricity as output.

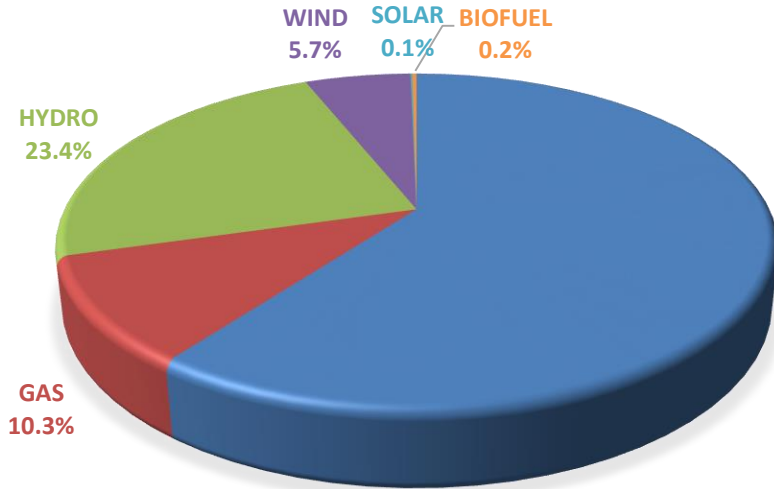
So the input electricity must
produce very low GHG emissions



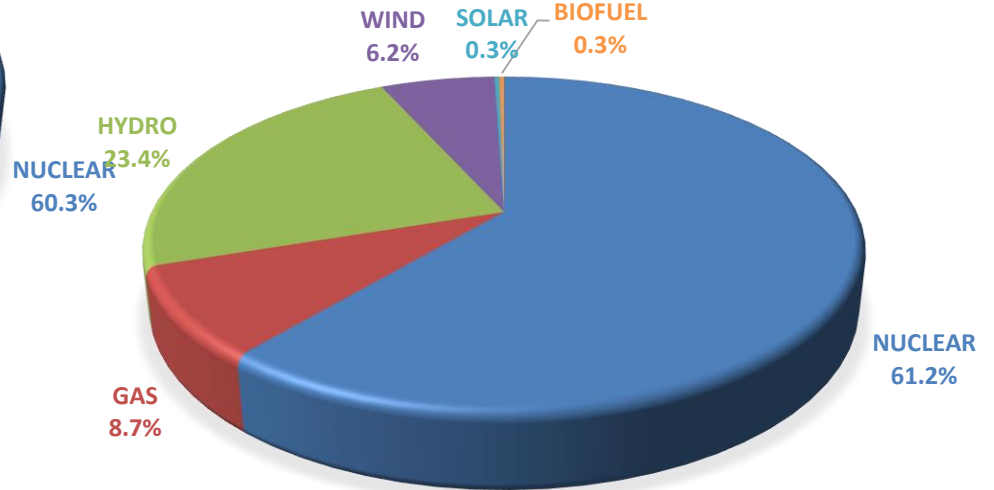
Ontario's Opportunity



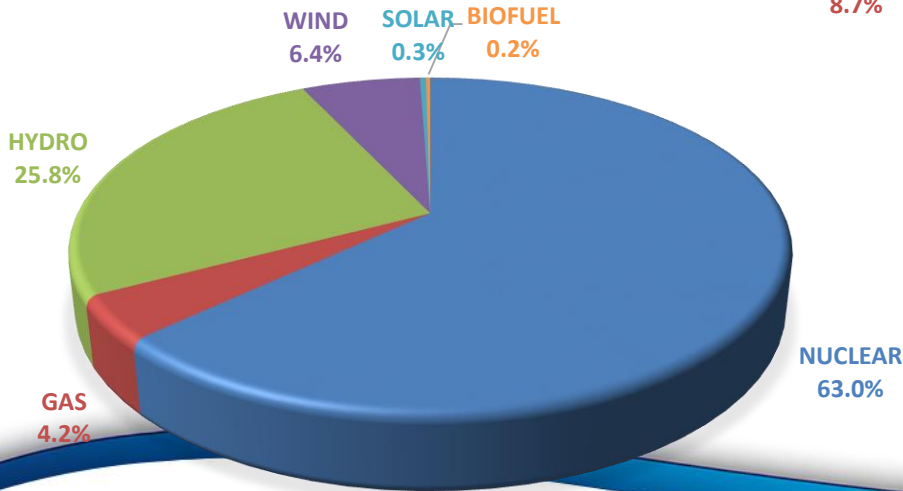
2015 AVERAGE



2016 AVERAGE



2017 AVERAGE

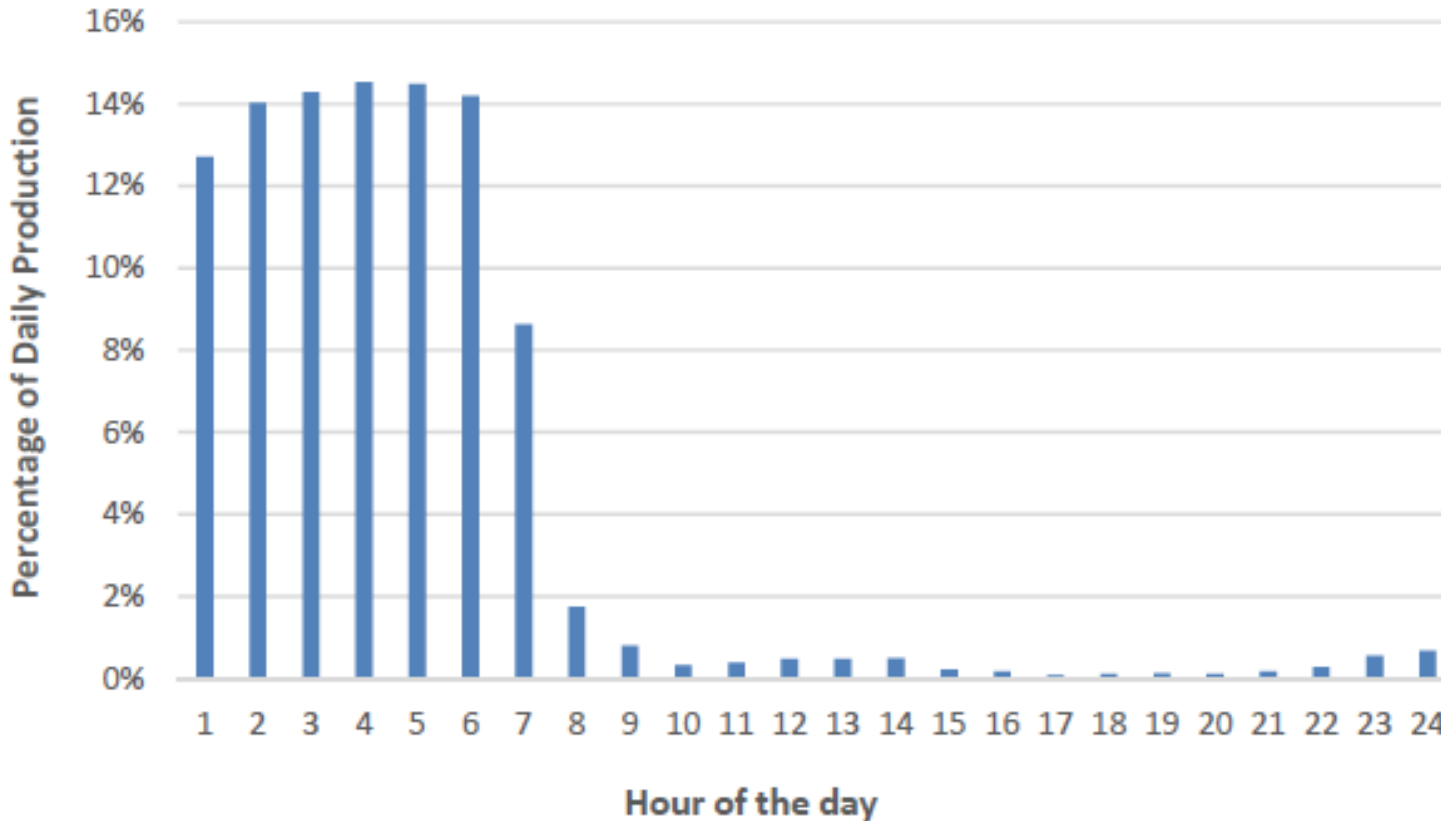


Ontario's electricity is exceptionally low-emitting

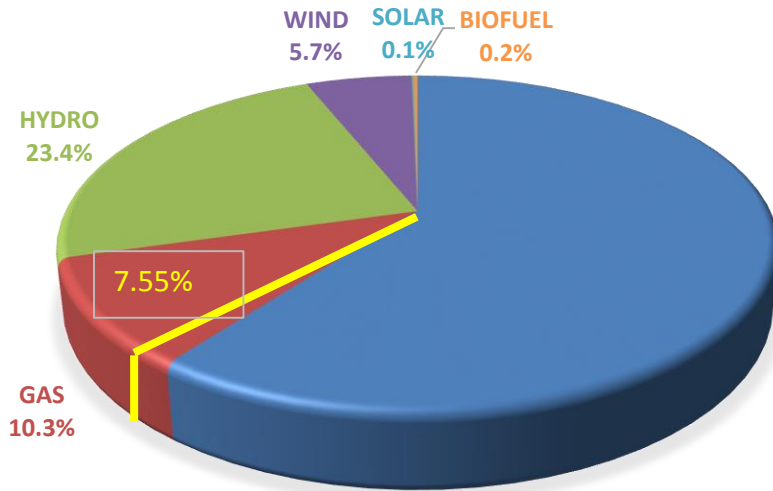


From Metrolinx Hydrail Feasibility Study

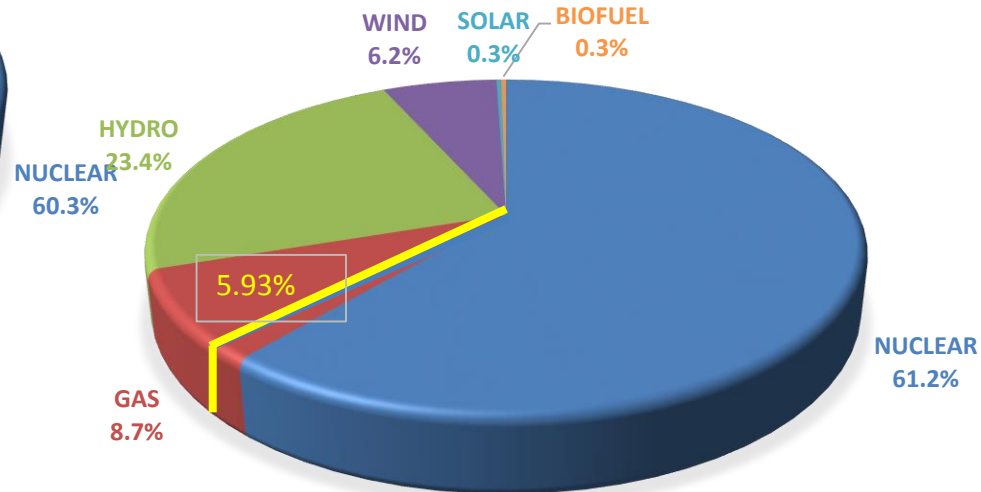
FIGURE 4-23 DAILY HYDROGEN PRODUCTION REFLECTING THE USE OF CHEAPER ELECTRICITY PRICE PERIODS STARTING IN 2024



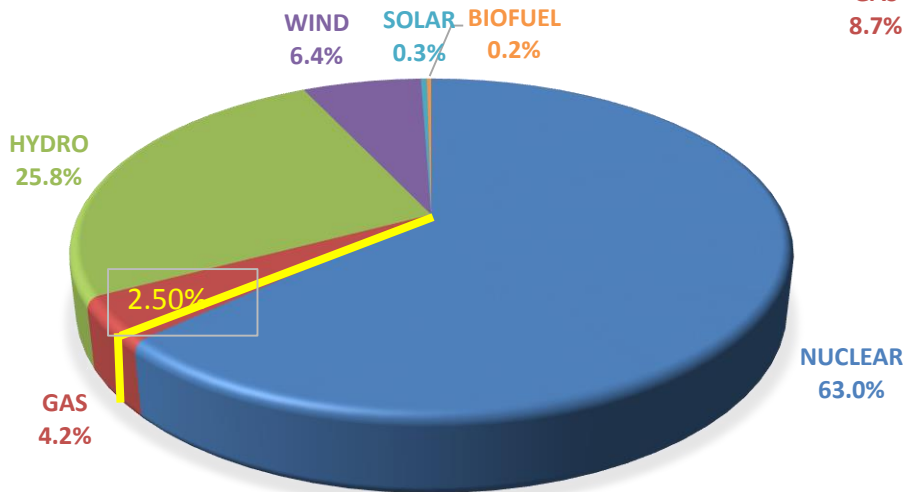
2015 AVERAGE



2016 AVERAGE



2017 AVERAGE



The small hours effect:

midnight to 6 a.m.

Both Catenary and Hydrail reduce CO₂ Emissions by over 80%

CO₂ Emission Reductions

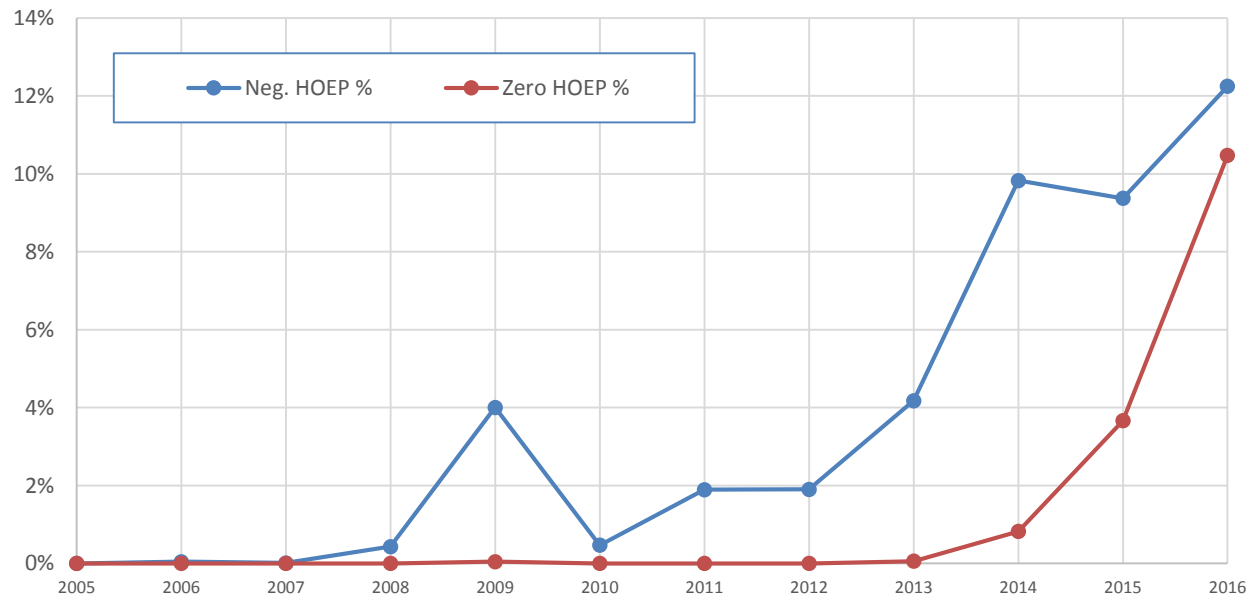
	Hydrail	Catenary
2015	83.1%	91.6%
2017	94.4%	96.3%

Reduction can become even better over time if grid continues to become even greener.

Of course, this is only a component of a much larger challenge. So making changes requiring the lowest capital inputs should be an important consideration.



Wind and solar are highly variable and nuclear likes continuous operation. So assuming Ontario's electricity remains low-emitting, periods when electricity generation has zero or negative value will continue to grow. The beauty of hydrail is that it can access these periods.



A Green Transportation Future for Ontario is Imperative

