



**CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION**



**CALIFORNIA
NATURAL
RESOURCES
AGENCY**

California Energy Commission
Clean Transportation Program

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station

Prepared for: California Energy Commission

Prepared by: Name of Recipient

January 2022 | CEC-600-2022-029

California Energy Commission

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The construction of the Thousand Oaks hydrogen refueling station has only been possible because of the substantial efforts and funds provided by a number of stakeholders.

FirstElement Fuel, Inc. graciously thanks Toyota for their vision and fortitude, Air Products and Chemicals Inc., Black & Veatch, and Vantage for bringing the project together, Tyson Eckerle for helping push the lease over the goal line, and of course, Jean Baronas, Phil Cazal, Jim McKinney, Commissioner Janea Scott and many others at the California Energy Commission for tremendous, sustained confidence in clean, alternative transportation.

PREFACE

Assembly Bill 118 (Núñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007) created the Clean Transportation Program, formerly known as the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. The statute authorizes the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop and deploy alternative and renewable fuels and advanced transportation technologies to help attain the state's climate change policies. Assembly Bill 8 (Perea, Chapter 401, Statutes of 2013) reauthorizes the Clean Transportation Program through January 1, 2024, and specifies that the CEC allocate up to \$20 million per year (or up to 20 percent of each fiscal year's funds) in funding for hydrogen station development until at least 100 stations are operational.

The Clean Transportation Program has an annual budget of about \$100 million and provides financial support for projects that:

- Reduce California's use and dependence on petroleum transportation fuels and increase the use of alternative and renewable fuels and advanced vehicle technologies.
- Produce sustainable alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels in California.
- Expand alternative fueling infrastructure and fueling stations.
- Improve the efficiency, performance and market viability of alternative light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicle technologies.
- Retrofit medium- and heavy-duty on-road and nonroad vehicle fleets to alternative technologies or fuel use.
- Expand the alternative fueling infrastructure available to existing fleets, public transit, and transportation corridors.
- Establish workforce-training programs and conduct public outreach on the benefits of alternative transportation fuels and vehicle technologies.

To be eligible for funding under the Clean Transportation Program, a project must be consistent with the CEC's annual Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan Update. The CEC issued PON-13-607 to provide funding opportunities under the Clean Transportation Program for high performance hydrogen retail refueling stations. In response to PON-13-607, the recipient submitted an application which was proposed for funding in the CEC's notice of proposed awards May 1, 2014 and the agreement was executed as ARV-14-008 on July 22, 2014

ABSTRACT

Per the terms of funding agreement ARV-14-008 between the California Energy Commission and FirstElement Fuel, Inc., FirstElement Fuel, Inc. designed, engineered, permitted, constructed, and commissioned a hydrogen refueling station located at 3102 East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. FirstElement Fuel, Inc. plans to own and operate the hydrogen refueling station until at least 2025. The station consists of a concrete reinforced block compound that encloses hydrogen storage, compression, and cooling equipment, a dispenser with two fueling hoses, a customer payment interface, a canopy, and a dedicated concrete fueling position for fuel cell vehicle drivers.

Keywords: California Energy Commission, FirstElement Fuel, Inc., hydrogen refueling station, hydrogen infrastructure, fuel cell vehicles, Thousand Oaks.

Please use the following citation for this report:

Brown, Tim and Patti Kohler. 2022. *Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station*. California Energy Commission. Publication Number: CEC-600-2022-029.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles and hydrogen refueling stations are expected to play key roles in California as the state transitions to lower-carbon and zero-emission vehicle technologies for light-duty passenger vehicles, transit buses, and truck transport fleets. Numerous government regulations and policy actions identify fuel cell electric vehicles as a vehicle technology that will be available to meet the California Air Resources Board's Zero Emission Vehicle Regulation and the Governor's Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate. More specific actions to bring fuel cell electric vehicles to California markets are specified in the Governor's *Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan*.

Hydrogen fuel cell electric drive technology offers tremendous potential for the light-duty passenger vehicle market and medium- and heavy-duty truck and bus markets. Fuel cell electric vehicle passenger vehicles can drive more than 300 miles on a tank of hydrogen and can be refueled in 3 to 4 minutes the way gasoline passenger vehicles are fueled. They have zero tailpipe emissions, while the carbon footprint of these vehicles is nearly the same as plug-in electric vehicles. The technology can be readily scaled up for SUVs, family passenger vans, pick-up trucks, urban package and beverage delivery trucks, and even heavy-duty trucks and buses. Most auto industry analysts and agencies view fuel cell electric drive technology as a complement to battery electric drive technologies, rather than as a competing technology. Both battery and fuel cell electric vehicle technologies will be needed in California to achieve the zero-emission vehicle deployment goals.

In contrast to battery electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles that can be charged in home settings, fuel cell electric vehicles require a new network of refueling stations that dispense pressurized hydrogen for consumer use. This has meant that the auto industry and station development industry have had to co-develop two new technologies in parallel: hydrogen refueling infrastructure and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles. Fuel cell electric vehicles cannot be widely marketed and sold to consumers without a minimum network of refueling stations available.

Assembly Bill 8 (AB 8, Perea, Chapter 401, Statutes of 2013) reauthorized the original Assembly Bill 118 funding program (Núñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007) and created new legal requirements for the California Energy Commission's Clean Transportation Program. The bill directs the California Energy Commission to allocate up to \$20 million per year, or up to 20 percent of each fiscal year's available funding, for the development of hydrogen refueling stations "until there are at least 100 publicly available hydrogen-fueling stations in operation in California" (Health and Safety Code 43018.9[e][1]).

The California Energy Commission contributed \$1,451,000 of the total \$2,128,208 cost to design, engineer, permit, construct, and commission the station.

The site selected for this project was 3102 East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks, California. A hydrogen refueling station at this location will serve as a core station in southern California for at least the next 10 years. FirstElement Fuel, Inc. accomplished this goal through the steps outlined below.

The owner at Thousand Oaks was excited to bring a clean, alternative fuel to his station. Lease terms were negotiated, and a lease was executed between FirstElement Fuel, Inc. and the Thousand Oaks owner on January 20, 2016.

The site configuration and design were developed by FirstElement Fuel, Inc. and detailed engineering design was performed by Black & Veatch. The zoning process in Thousand Oaks did not require a public hearing and approval was garnered administratively on March 30, 2017.

Permits for zoning, building, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire were finalized on July 18, 2017.

Hydrogen refueling station equipment was purchased from Air Products and Chemicals and the remainder of materials were sourced from a variety of general and specialty vendors. Vantage Company from Orange, CA was selected as the contractor for the project because of their relatively low bid, excellent safety record, and willingness to work with FirstElement Fuel, Inc. on multiple projects. Construction began on November 5, 2017 and was complete on March 13, 2018.

Commissioning began on January 24, 2018 and was complete on February 12, 2018. The FirstElement Fuel, Inc. team performed the bulk of the commissioning tasks including cleaning, purging, and pressure testing with Air Products performing final start-up.

CHAPTER 1:

Station Design and Construction

Project Timeline

There were many steps required to bring the Thousand Oaks hydrogen refueling station project to completion. The following synopsis highlights the most critical items, provides detail on each one, and states the timing required for each step for this particular project.

Site Acquisition (Fall 2013 – January 20, 2016)

Beginning in the Fall of 2013, FirstElement Fuel, Inc. (FE) took steps to identify and acquire appropriate sites for the station. FE worked with historic vehicle sales data, academic publications, automakers, and the CEC's Station Location Areas to select desired market locations. FE then analyzed specific properties within the target locations to find sites that could meet the space requirements for hydrogen fueling equipment.

After selecting general locations and specific sites, FE contacted station owners and operators to negotiate lease opportunities. A lease was executed with the property owner at 3102 East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 on January 20, 2016.

Equipment Procurement (September 16, 2014 – December 14, 2017)

FE selected Air Products equipment because of the cost, capacity, reliability, and more mature supply chain as compared to other suppliers as detail in the FE program opportunity notice application. A contract was executed with Air Products for the equipment on September 16, 2014 and equipment was delivered to the site on December 14, 2017.

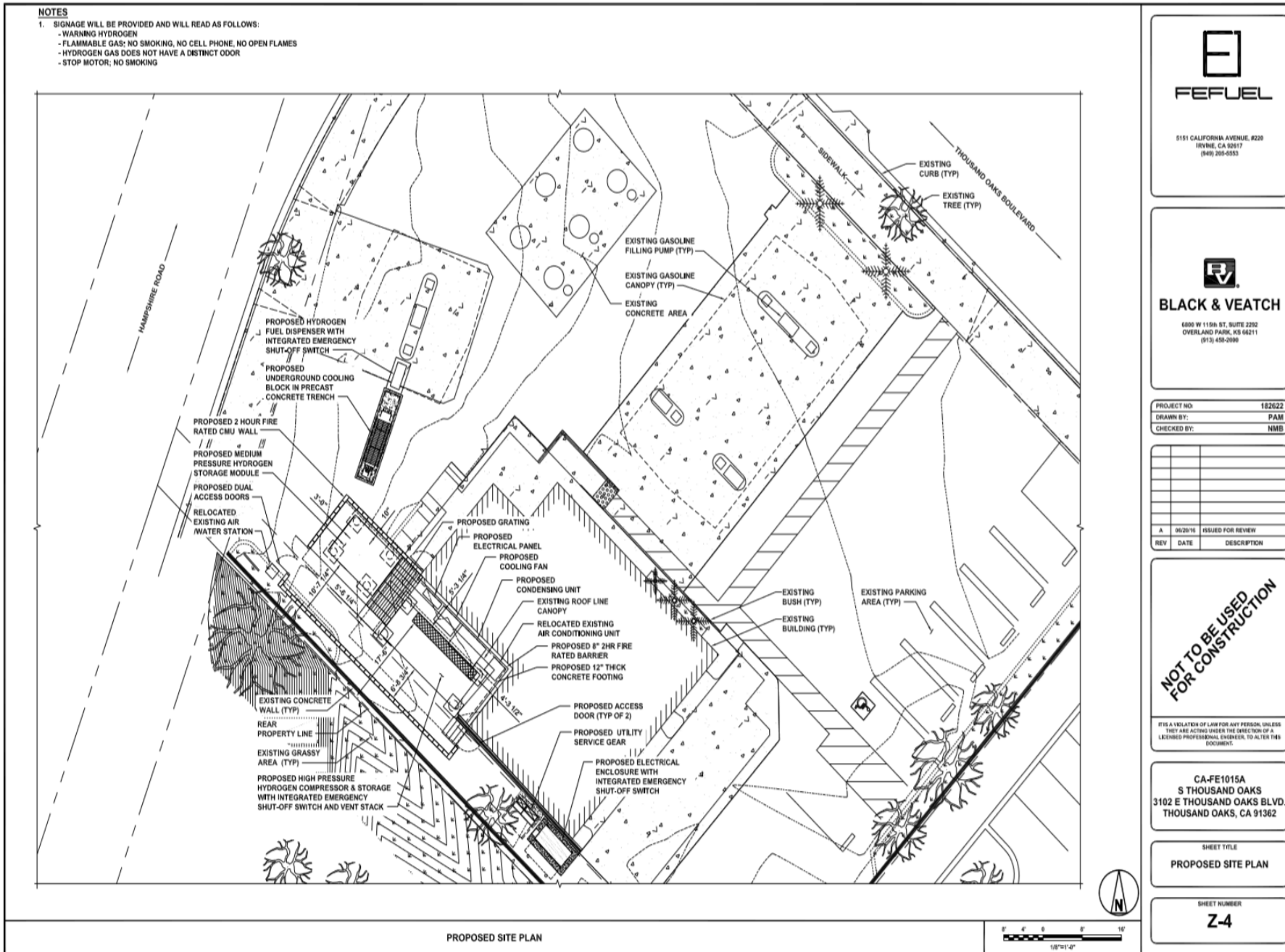
Site Design and Engineering (5/15/2016 – 7/18/2017)

On May 3, 2016, a detailed engineering survey for the Thousand Oaks station site was performed by Clark Survey as shown in Figure 1.

On June 24, 2016, zoning drawings were generated that provide an accurate but relatively high-level depiction of the project for review by planners at the jurisdiction. These construction drawings (CD) are signed and sealed by the professional engineer of record to ensure their accuracy and completeness. The equipment compound page of the zoning drawings is shown in Figure 2.

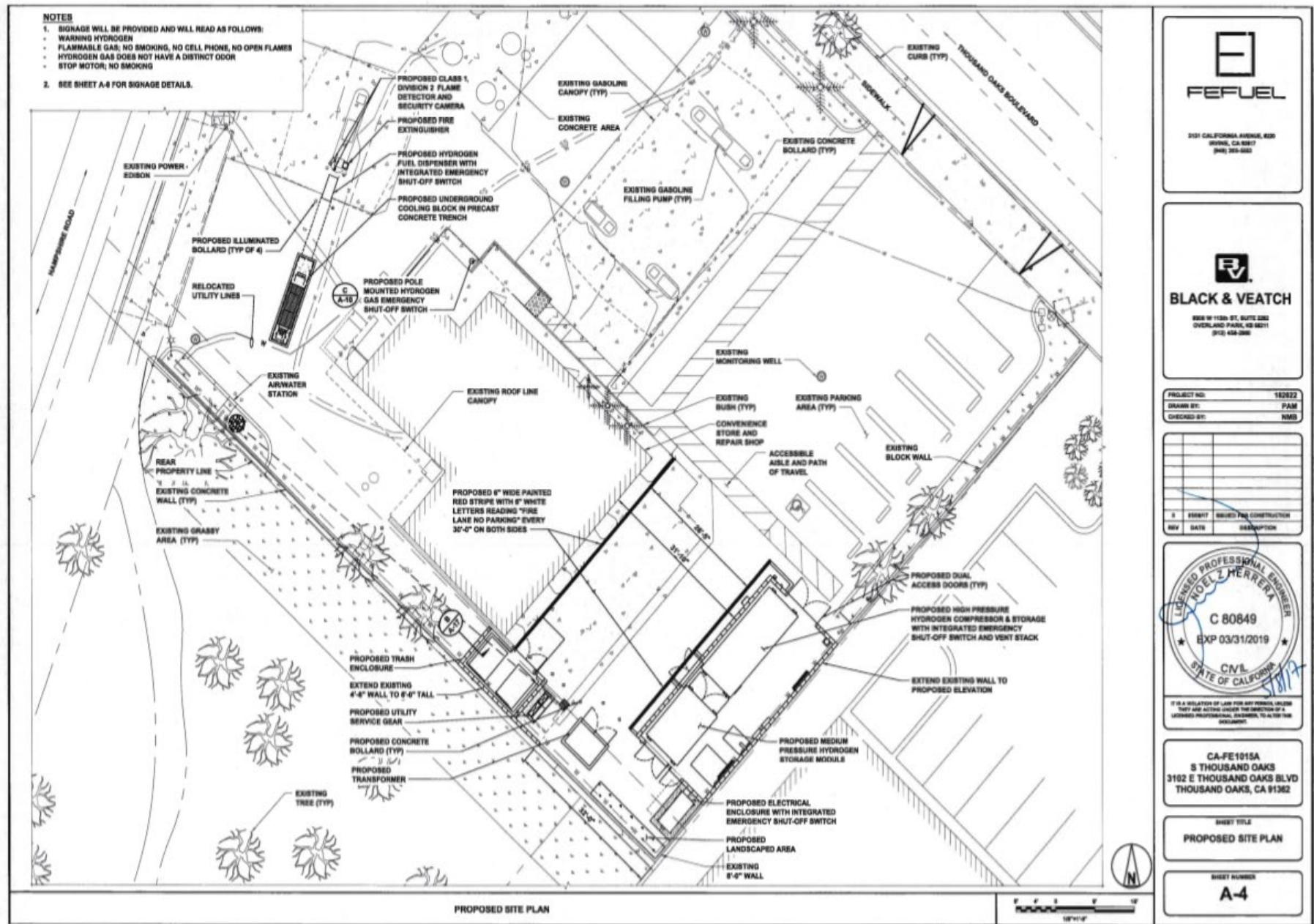
On March 30, 2017, draft final construction drawings (or "CD 90s") were completed that depict all of the minute detailed required for both construction and the permit review process. Final construction drawings (or "CD 100s") were completed with 60 pages that depict all of the minute detailed required for both construction and the permit review process on July 18, 2017. These drawings are similarly signed and sealed by the professional engineer of record to ensure their accuracy and completeness. The equipment compound page of the CD100 Drawings is shown in Figure 3.

Figure 2: Detail of Equipment Compound from Zoning Drawing Set Showing More Detail and Accuracy than CD30



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Figure 3: Detail of Equipment Compound from CD100 Drawing Set Showing Complete Detail for Permitting and Construction



FEFUEL

3101 CALIFORNIA AVENUE, #200
 IRVINE, CA 92617
 (949) 265-0262

BLACK & VEATCH

800 W 11300 ST, SUITE 2200
 OAKLAND, CALIF. 94612
 (916) 434-2800

PROJECT NO: 100222
 DRAWN BY: PAM
 CHECKED BY: NMB

NO.	ISSUED FOR	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION		

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
 NOEL Z. HERRERA
 C 80849
 EXP 03/31/2019
 CIVIL
 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CA-FE1015A
 S THOUSAND OAKS
 3102 E THOUSAND OAKS BLVD
 THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91382

SHEET TITLE
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

SHEET NUMBER
A-4

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Entitlement Process (6/27/2016 – 3/30/2017)

The zoning application was submitted to the appropriate jurisdiction on June 27, 2016. The local planning department must verify that the project meets the zoning requirements of the proposed location, and approve any aesthetic, landscaping or other details that are important to the community. Approval was received on March 30, 2017.

Permit Process (5/9/2017 – 7/18/2017)

All building permit applications were submitted on May 9, 2017 and approved on July 18, 2017.

Construction Process (11/5/2017 – 3/13/2018)

FE submitted a detailed bid package to contractors in July of 2017. The contract was awarded to Vantage Company. The bulk of Vantage Company's construction experience lies in cell towers. Cell towers are roughly similar to hydrogen stations in size, have similar foundations and block walls, and have similar electrical requirements. Vantage Company provided a reasonable bid, had a desire to get involved with hydrogen projects, and had a willingness to work in southern California. Construction started November 5, 2017. Figure 4 shows the equipment compound nearing completion. Hydrogen storage, compression, cooling, and dispensing equipment was delivered to the site on December 14, 2017, as shown in Figure 5. Construction was completed on March 13, 2018.

Figure 4: Station Equipment Compound Nearing Completion



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Figure 5: Hydrogen Station Equipment Arriving by Truck in Thousand Oaks.



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Commissioning Process (1/24/2018 – 2/12/2018)

Station Declared Operational (2/12/2018)

The Thousand Oaks hydrogen station met the CEC's definition of operational by completing installation of all station/dispenser components, obtaining all of the required permits from the local jurisdiction, filling the station's storage tubes with pressurized hydrogen gas, successfully passing a hydrogen quality test, successfully fueled one fuel cell vehicle with hydrogen, and becoming open to the public.

Figure 6: Hydrogen Fuel Quality Report on February 2, 2018

SmartChemistry

First Element Fuel Thousand Oaks H70

<u>SAE J2719 SUMMARY</u>	SAE J2719 Limits (umol/mol)	SMART CHEMISTRY Detection Limits (umol/mol)	<u>Concentration (umol/mol)</u>
H₂O (J2719:2016)	2	2	< 1
Total Hydrocarbons			
-C₁ Basis (J2719:2016) (THC may exceed 2 micromoles per mole due only to the presence of methane, in which case the summation of methane, nitrogen and argon is not to exceed 100 ppm)	2		2.4
Methane			1.8
Propane			0.18
Isobutane			0.26
Butane			0.092
O₂ (J2719:2016)	2	2	< 2
He (J2719:2016)	200	20	< 10
N₂ & Ar (J2719:2016)	200		
N₂		2	< 5
Ar		2.2	1.1
CO₂ (J2719:2016)	2	0.02	< 0.05
CO (J2719:2016)	0.2	0.0002	0.0016
Total S (J2719:2016)	0.02		0.000021
Hydrogen Sulfide		0.000002	0.0000074
Carbonyl Sulfide		0.000002	0.000011
Methyl Mercaptan (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000002
Ethyl Mercaptan (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000002
Dimethyl Sulfide (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000001
Carbon Disulfide		0.000002	0.0000026
Isopropyl Mercaptan (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000001
Tert-Butyl Mercaptan (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000002
n-Propyl Mercaptan		0.000002	< 0.000001
n-Butyl Mercaptan		0.000002	< 0.000001
Dimethyl Disulfide (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000001
Tetrahydrothiophene (J2719:2016)		0.000002	< 0.000001
Formaldehyde (J2719:2016)	0.02	0.001	0.0018
Formic Acid (J2719:2016)	0.2	0.0002	0.00010
Ammonia (J2719:2016)	0.2	0.001	< 0.001
Total Halogenates	0.02		< 0.01
Cl₂ (J2719:2016)		0.0002	< 0.0002
HCl (J2719:2016)		0.02	< 0.01
HBr (J2719:2016)		0.0002	< 0.0006
Total Organic Halides (32 compounds in red and bold listed in "Non-Methane Hydrocarbons") (ASTM D2885, Smart Chemistry Ltd. is for each individual organic halide)		0.001	< 0.001
Particulate Concentration (J2719:2016)	2.0002		Not Required
Particulates Found & Size (J2719:2016)			Not Required
Hydrogen Fuel Index	99.9996		99.99965%

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Automaker Testing

Division of Measurement Standards Certification (2/9/2018)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Measurement Standards is responsible for enforcement of California weights and measures laws and regulations and must certify any device used for metering the sale of commercial items within California.

Acting as a Registered Service Agent and working with the local County Weights and Measures Officer as a witness, FirstElement, Inc. successfully put the dispenser into service as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7: Division of Measurement Standards Certification at Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Customer Usage (2/12/2018 – Present)

The first customer, shown in Figure 8, filled their Hyundai Tucson at the Thousand Oaks station on February 12, 2018 and the station has been used regularly since then. The Thousand Oaks station dispensed 74 kilograms of hydrogen in February 2018. Sales in March 2018 were 84 kilograms, 742 kilograms in April 2018.

Figure 8: First Customer Using the Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station on February 12th, 2018.



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Station Operational Status System Activated (3/30/2018)

Figure 9: Screenshot of California Fuel Cell Partnership Station Operational Status System Showing Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station Status

Station Status

Open Retail Stations	H70	H35	
Anaheim			
Campbell			
Costa Mesa			
Del Mar			
Diamond Bar			
Fairfax-LA			
Fremont			
Harris Ranch			
Hayward			
Hollywood			
La Canada Flintridge			
Lake Forest			
Lake Tahoe-Truckee			
Lawndale			
Long Beach			
Mill Valley			
Mountain View Open 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM			
Newport Beach (New)			
Ontario (New)			
Playa Del Rey			
Riverside			
San Jose			
San Juan Capistrano			
San Ramon			
Santa Barbara			
Santa Monica			
Saratoga Open 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM			
South Pasadena Open 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM			
South San Francisco			
Thousand Oaks (New)			
Torrance			
UC Irvine			
West LA			
West Sacramento			
Woodland Hills Open 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM			

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

The station is open and active as shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10: Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Environmental Impacts

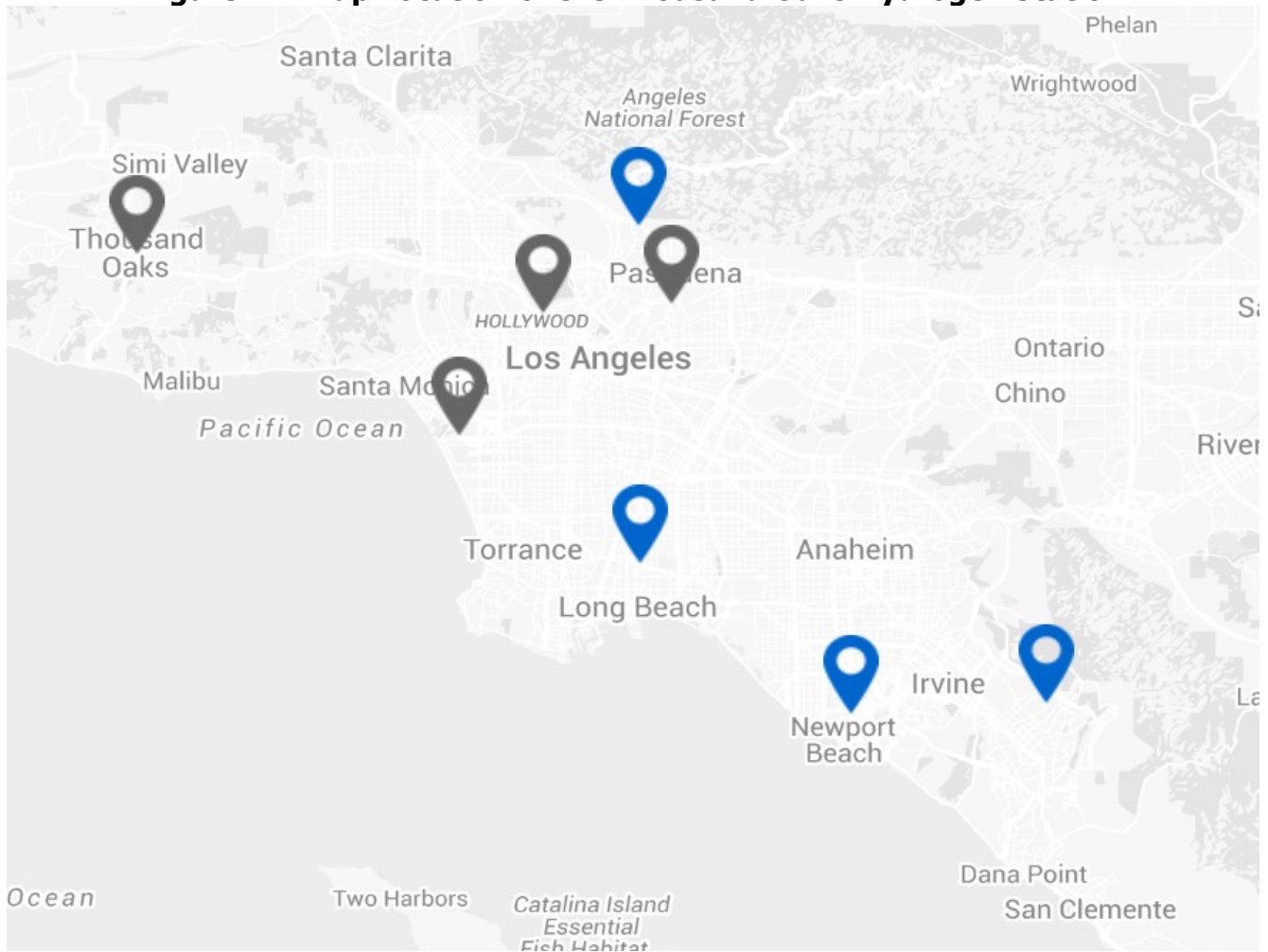
Minimal was consumed for this project. There was no additional landscaping added for the construction of the hydrogen refueling station and therefore no additional irrigation water will be consumed.

The use will not cause any unsightly appearances, such as noise, glare, dust, or odor. The facility is a modern addition to an existing gasoline station. No outdoor sound amplification systems were installed; however, lighting was installed at the facility to aid in evening fueling.

Thousand Oaks Station in the Network

Figure 11 shows the location of the Thousand Oaks hydrogen station at 3102 East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks as a primary station in the southern California Area.

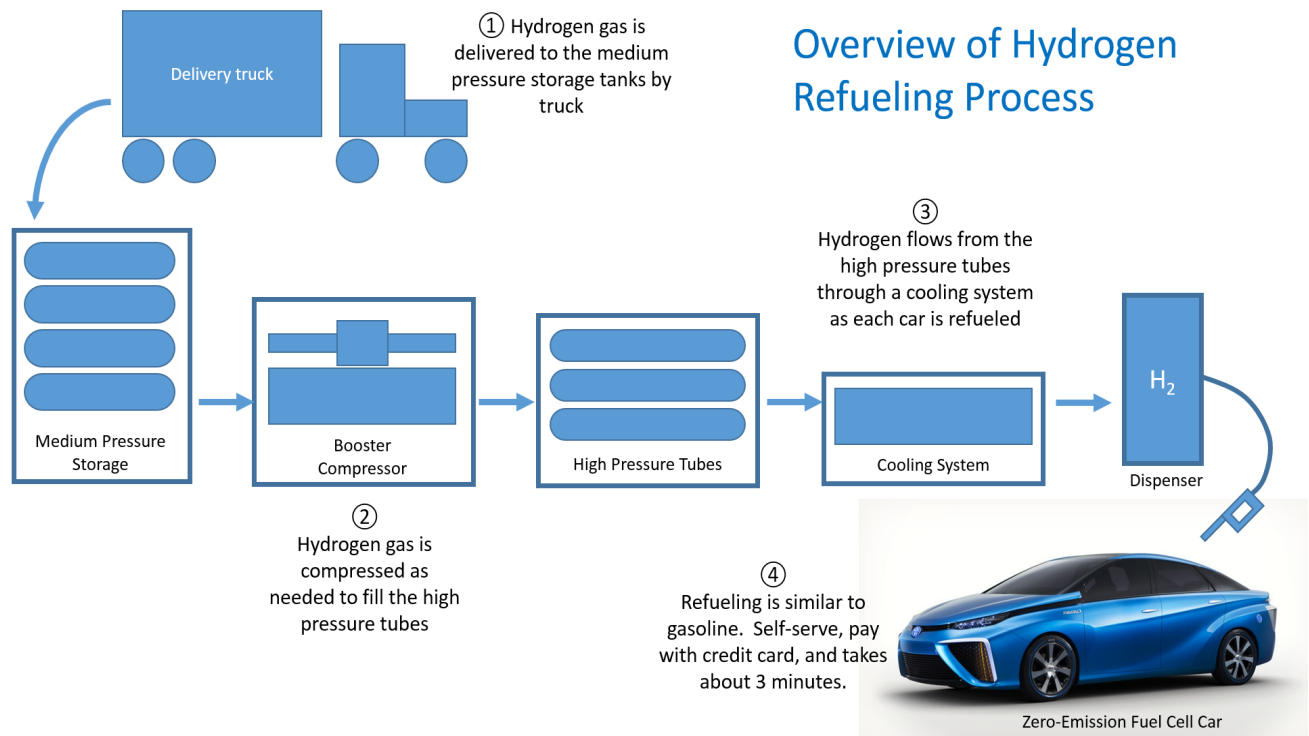
Figure 11: Map Location of the Thousand Oaks Hydrogen Station



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Schematic Layout of the Thousand Oaks Station

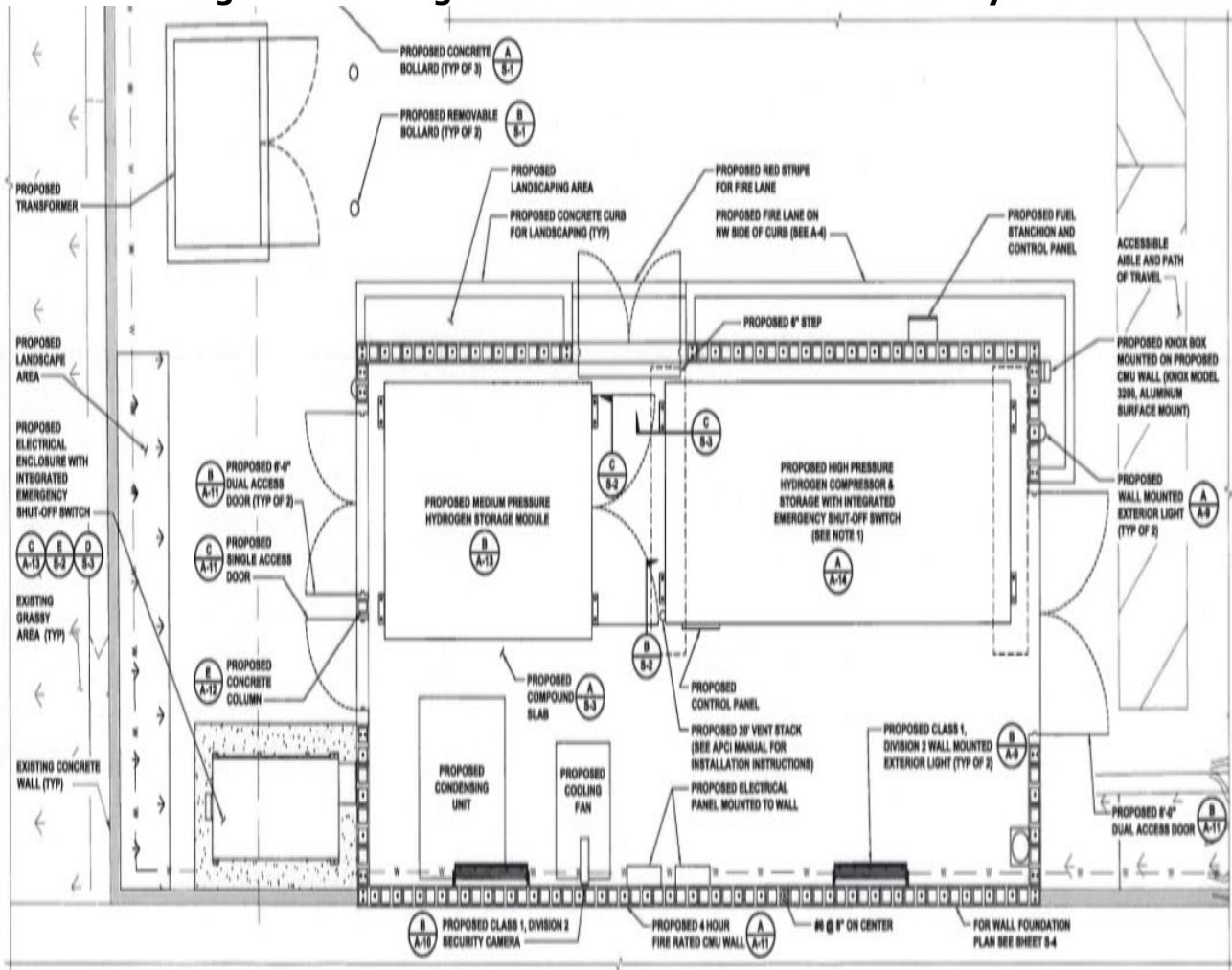
Figure 12: Schematic Depicting Hydrogen Station Equipment and Refueling Process



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Figure 13 shows a detailed view of the actual final, as-built configuration of the Thousand Oaks station. Table 1 presents a list of all subcontractors as well as the total budget for the project.

Figure 13: Enlarged View of Final Thousand Oaks Layout



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Table 1: List of Subcontractors and Budget

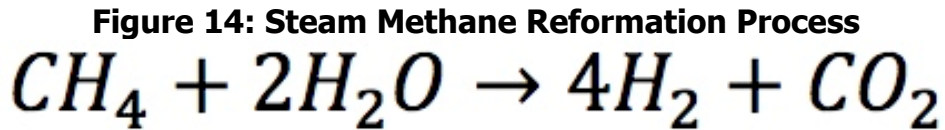
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Allentown , PA	
H2 station equipment	\$1,506,171.30
Black & Veatch, Overland Park, KS	
Construction	\$372,858.91
Engineering	\$74,286.10
Permitting	\$29,291.82
Project Management	\$35,990.62
Various Vendors	
Construction Materials (tubing, wire, etc.)	\$52,480.97
Fixtures (doors, lights, etc.)	\$33,811.59
MSI Tech, Irvine CA	
Data Collection Tool	\$5,822.38
Karen Calhoun, Newport Beach, CA	
Legal services	\$13,150.03
Vertical Advisors LLP, Newport Beach, CA	
Financial services	\$4,345.13
Total Vendor Costs	\$2,128,208.85
California Energy Commission Grant	\$1,451,000.00
Remaining cash provided by FE	\$677,208.85
Total CEC cost share (w/o FE internal costs)	68.2%

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

CHAPTER 2:

Data Collection and Energy Analysis

The Thousand Oaks hydrogen refueling station is supplied by hydrogen generated via the Steam Methane Reformation process, shown in Figure 14, that converts methane and water to hydrogen and carbon dioxide:



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Per California Senate Bill 1505, Environmental Standards for Hydrogen Production, at least one third of the hydrogen sold by FirstElement’s state funded hydrogen refueling stations will be produced from renewable sources. Hydrogen is supplied to the hydrogen fueling stations from Air Products’ hydrogen production facilities in Wilmington/Carson, CA. Renewable biogas will be procured as feedstock for the facilities, resulting in delivered hydrogen product that meets the requirements of this PON and the 33.3 percent renewable hydrogen requirements of California SB 1505 (sources of biogas shown in Figure 15). Renewable hydrogen at 100 percent is achievable through the same supply pathway, however at a higher cost.

Air Products currently has a contract for sourcing of the renewable biogas that meets Public Resources Code Section 2574(b)(1); documentation is provided in Figure 16. Although California has a substantial amount of biogas resources, local supply cannot be injected into California pipelines because of CA Health & Safety Code Section 25420. Air Products’ biogas supply for this project is being sourced outside of California and transported to California with connection to a natural gas pipeline in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council region that delivers gas into California.

Figure 15: Biogas Sources

Exhibit A
RB Supply Sources
Shell Energy North America (US), L.P.

Supply Source	Address	Pipeline/LDC	Receipt	Delivery
Greentree Landfill	635 Toby Road Kersey, PA 15846	National Fuels Gas TETCO NGPL EPNG Social Gas FAR	Landfill meter Nat Fuel-Bristoria Tetco-Sweet Lake 3825 EPNG Jal 3083 Topock	Bristoria NGPL-Sweet Lake EPNG Jal 3083 Topock Social Citygate
Imperial Landfill	11 Boggs Road Imperial, PA 15126	National Fuels Gas TETCO NGPL EPNG Social Gas FAR	Landfill meter Nat Fuel-Bristoria Tetco-Sweet Lake 3825 EPNG Jal 3083 Topock	Bristoria NGPL-Sweet Lake EPNG Jal 3083 Topock Social Citygate

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Figure 16: Biogas Supply Contract Between Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. and Shell Energy North America.


**SELF-GENERATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM
DIRECTED BIOGAS FUEL SUPPLIER
ATTESTATION**

I, Shell Energy North America (US), L.P., hereby attest that Directed Biogas will be supplied to Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. by nomination and will comply with all applicable rules of the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) including but not limited to;

- a) Contract will include term (minimum of 5 years), cost, amount of renewable fuel injected on a monthly basis for the length of the contract, address of renewable fuel facility, and facility address of Host Customer.
- b) Documentation will be provided that shows that the third party gas provider can inject the renewable fuel into the natural gas pipeline.
- c) The Renewable Fuel Supplier facility must produce fuel that meets the SGIP definition of renewable fuels.
- d) The gas must be injected into a natural gas pipeline system that is either within the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) region or interconnected to a natural gas pipeline in the WECC region that delivers gas into California.

The undersigned understands that non-compliance to any SGIP requirements will be grounds for partial or complete incentive refund.

Shell Energy North America (US), L.P.

Signature: 

Name Printed: Edward Brown

Title: Vice President

Company: Shell Energy North America (US), L.P.

Date: 3/21/2011

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

Hydrogen is delivered to all FE stations (including Thousand Oaks) by a Department of Transportation certified high-pressure delivery trailer.

The Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Transportation Model produced by Argonne National Laboratory was used to determine the energy sources and greenhouse gas emissions data presented in Table 2: As shown, 1/3 of the energy feedstock is renewable, nearly zero petroleum is used, and the only tailpipe emissions are water compared to the myriad pollutants emitted by combustion of gasoline. Also, the entire well-to-wheels greenhouse gas emissions are 58 percent lower than similar usage for a typical California gasoline vehicle.

Table 2: Percentage of Energy Sources and Well-to-Wheel Greenhouse Gas Emissions for FirstElement Hydrogen Compared to Average California Gasoline

Energy Sources	Fuel Cell Vehicle fueled at FirstElement station	Average California internal combustion car fueled by gasoline
Coal	1.7%	0.4%
Petroleum	0.3%	78.6%
Natural Gas	64.7%	13.9%
Renewable	33.3%	7.1%
Total Greenhouse Gases	178 grams/mile	428 grams/mile
Tailpipe Emissions	Pure Water	VOC, CO, NOx, PM10, PM2.5, SOx, CH4, N2O, and toxins

Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc.

The Thousand Oaks hydrogen station is capable of dispensing 180 kilograms/day. Assuming that fuel cell electric vehicles average 52 mile/kilogram (taken from the Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Transportation Model), and consumption of 180 kilograms/day for the next 10 years, the station will offset 8,384 metric tons of total greenhouse gases compared to equivalent gasoline vehicles. Also, the Thousand Oaks hydrogen station will eliminate over 1.54 million gallons of gasoline, assuming the 2013 national passenger fleet average fuel economy of 21.6 miles per gallon¹.

Data on the operation of the station will be collected and reported to the CEC throughout the term of an associated operations and maintenance grant through the Clean Transportation Program. Data collected and reported will include throughput, vehicle usage, gallons of gasoline displaced, and a comparison of the project’s actual performance to proposed expectations.

1 Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics; [Table 4-23: Average Fuel Efficiency of U.S. Light Duty Vehicles](http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov.bts/files/publications/national_transportation_statistics/html/table_04_23.html); available at http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov.bts/files/publications/national_transportation_statistics/html/table_04_23.html

CHAPTER 3:

Statement of Future Intent

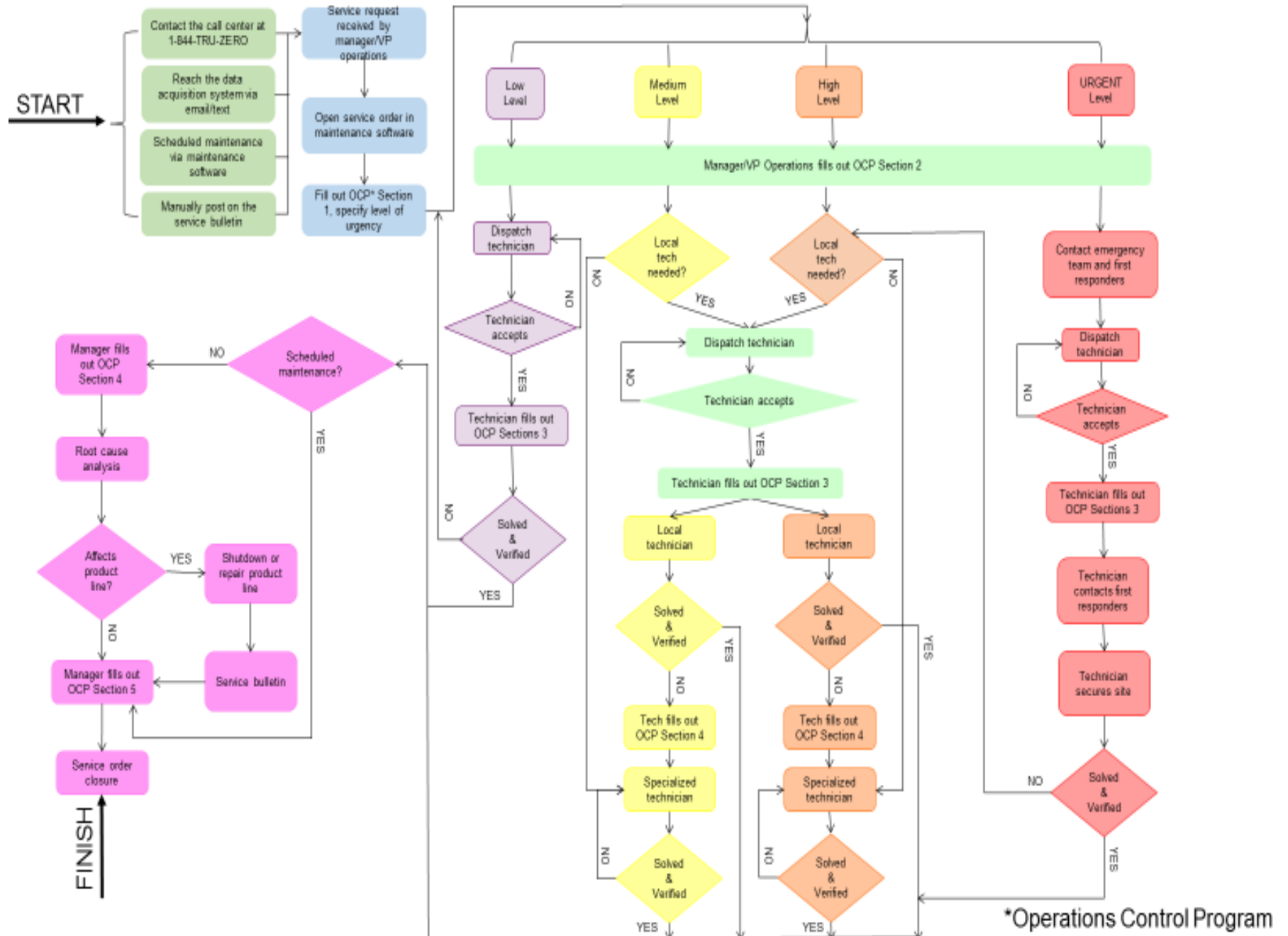
FE intends to own and operate the refueling station in Thousand Oaks, CA for at least 10 years. FE has invested substantial capital to build the station and will require many years of operation to recoup the development costs. FE has executed an initial 10-year lease with the landowner with the possibility for extension.

In addition, FE is building an in-house maintenance team that will have the personnel and equipment resources to maintain and repair any of our stations as quickly as possible throughout California. Figure 17 shows a flow diagram for response from the Operations and Maintenance team.

To augment onsite personnel across the FE network, a comprehensive data collection and monitoring system has been implemented. Figure 18 shows a screenshot of one page of the system. FE maintenance personal can access a breadth of real-time performance and sensor data, live video feeds, and historic usage data, and can control some features of the station remotely, 24 hours a day.

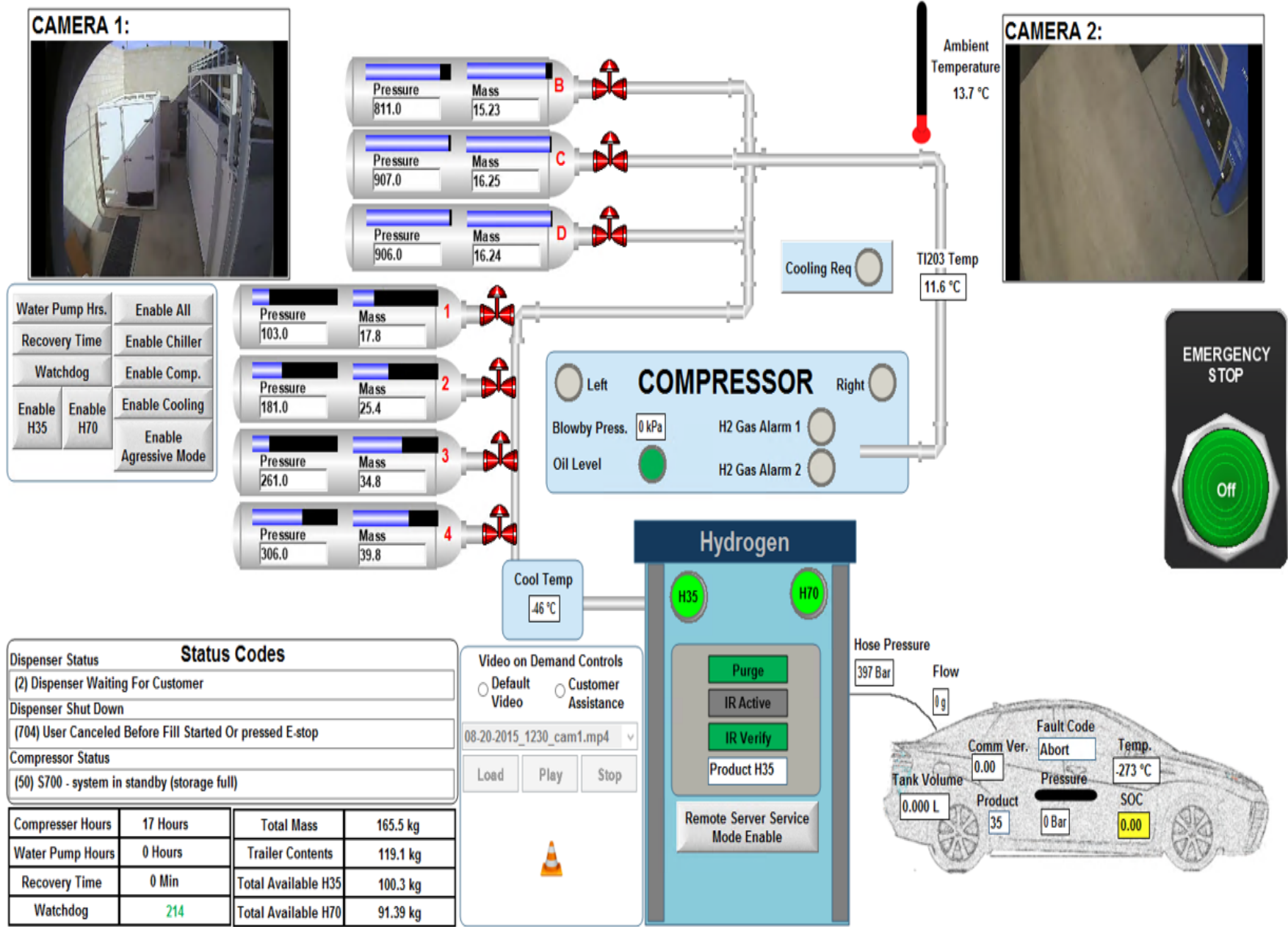
In addition to remote monitoring, FE has implemented rigorous Computerized Maintenance Management Systems and Enterprise Asset Management systems to schedule and track maintenance, repairs, and inventory. Work orders will be generated, completed, and logged for all maintenance and repair activities. This will help to maximize station up-time and enable tracking of key performance indicators.

Figure 17: FirstElement, Inc. Operations and Maintenance Control Plan



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc

Figure 18: Screenshot of FirstElement Inc.'s Remote Monitoring System



Source: FirstElement Fuel, Inc

CHAPTER 4:

Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations

The following is a list of important findings from the Thousand Oaks hydrogen station project:

- Because the location of the equipment in Thousand Oaks is on a prominent city corridor, special attention was paid to the height of the hydrogen equipment. The result was a need to reconfigure the compressor cooling and hydrogen refrigeration systems in order to reduce the overall height by roughly 4 feet in order to meet strict city ordinances.
- The entitlement process in Thousand Oaks requires a public hearing if someone from the public requests one after a noticing period. One neighbor did request a public hearing. But, because FE was able to reach out to the neighbor directly and answer his questions one-on-one, he withdrew his request for a lengthy and costly hearing and ultimately became a strong supporter of the project.
- National Fire Protection Agency 2: Hydrogen Technologies Code is a critical tool for working with permit agencies. The code clearly defines fire safety guidelines that enable local jurisdictions and builders to reach common ground, while also ensuring safety via the rigorous National Fire Protection Agency code writing process. The key is for both station builders and station permit agencies to fully understand, and appreciate, the content of National Fire Protection Agency 2.

GLOSSARY

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION (CEC)—The state agency established by the Warren-Alquist State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Act in 1974 (Public Resources Code, Sections 25000 et seq.) responsible for energy policy. The CEC's five major areas of responsibilities are:

1. Forecasting future statewide energy needs.
2. Licensing power plants sufficient to meet those needs.
3. Promoting energy conservation and efficiency measures.
4. Developing renewable and alternative energy resources, including providing assistance to develop clean transportation fuels.
5. Planning for and directing state response to energy emergencies.

Funding for the CEC's activities comes from the Energy Resources Program Account, Federal Petroleum Violation Escrow Account, and other sources.

Construction Drawing (CD)—Construction drawings form part of the overall documentation that is used for tender, for the contract between the employer and contractor, and for the construction itself. The construction drawing provides a graphic representation of how the building will be built.²

FirstElement Fuel, Inc. (FE)—A California-based company established in 2013 to provide safe, reliable, retail hydrogen to customers with fuel cell electric vehicles. The company is the developer, owner and operator of the True Zero brand of retail hydrogen stations, which currently represents the largest retail hydrogen station network in the world.

² [What is a Construction Drawing](https://www.firstinarchitecture.co.uk/what-is-a-construction-drawing/) is available at <https://www.firstinarchitecture.co.uk/what-is-a-construction-drawing/>