LCRI Decision Support Tool for Assessment of EH&S Impacts Along the Low-Carbon Energy Value Chain

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Richard Bowers

Michael Schofield

Susan Stuver Kristine Wiley

Stephanie Shaw Annette Rohr



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Background / Overview



> Objectives

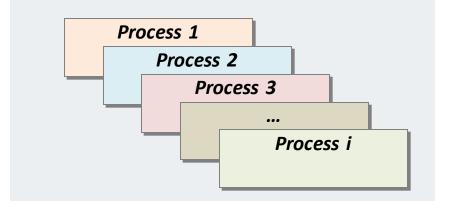
- Evaluate and compare key performance indicators (KPIs) related to sustainability across alternative energy development and delivery pathways
- Identify opportunities to minimize negative impacts
- Address localized, often varied stakeholder concerns
- Maximize possible sustainability improvements
- Product: Beta software prototype for select KPI's and low-carbon energy technologies

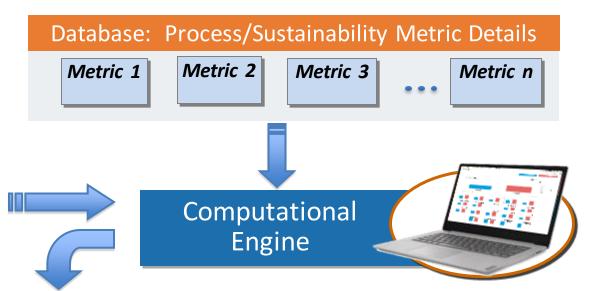


Systematic Evaluation Approach



Process Definition/Characterization

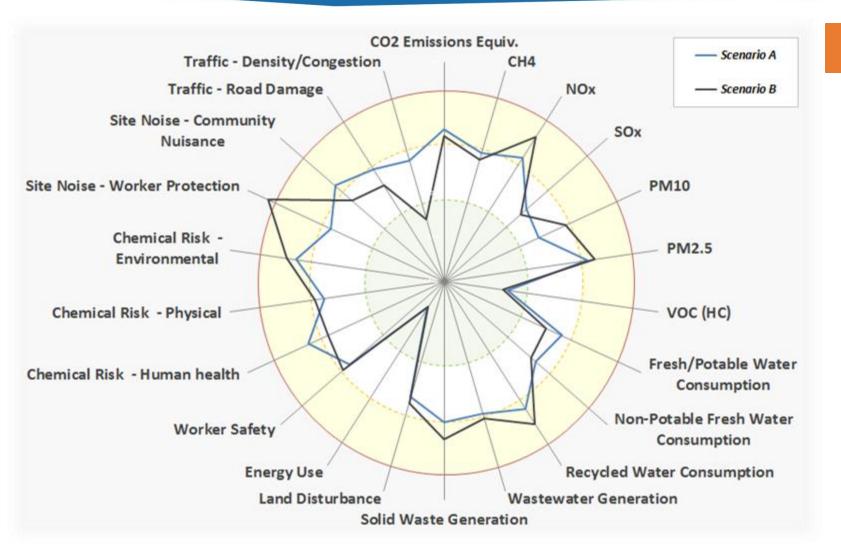




Output for Sustainability Metrics: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)							
Example KPIs	Process 1	Process 2	Process 3	•••	Process i	TOTAL	
Carbon Intensity	#	#	#	#	#	#	
Energy Intensity / Efficiency	#	#	#	#	#	#	
Water Intensity	#	#	#	#	#	#	
Health & Safety	#	#	#	#	#	#	
	#	#	#	#	#	#	

Scenario Footprint Comparison





Key Considerations

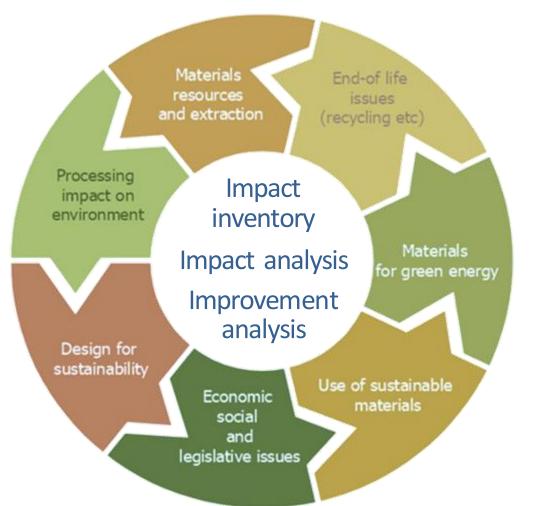
- > Target levels (goals, limits)
- > Relative scales
- > Weighting factors
- > Trade-offs
- > Competing interests/concerns



Conventional LCA vs. KPI Analysis



Common Considerations



Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)	Sustainability KPI Analysis
Exhaustive, cradle-to-grave analysis of product or material	Limited analysis within defined process boundaries
Highly detailed analysis of specific product, material, or process application (often very well defined).	More generic, screening-level comparison of alternative process or technology use scenarios (often more hypothetical)
Better for more "accurate" KPI quantification in absolute terms	Good for reasonable KPI comparison in relative terms
Extensive data input requirements	Minimal data input requirements
Fewer assumptions	More assumptions
High level of effort/cost	Minimal effort/cost

KEY POINT: High level of detail, effort, and cost associated with conventional LCAs often not needed to effectively screen promising low-carbon technologies

Key Performance Indicators (KPI)



Interest /	Concern	Sustainability Issue / Example KPIs		
Environment	Climate change	Carbon intensity	CO_2 and CO_2 -equivalent emissions	
			Methane emissions	
	Air/water quality	Air quality	Hazardous air pollutant emissions	
			Particulate emissions	
		Water quality	Surface water discharges	
			Chemical spill hazards (aquatic)	
	Resource conservation	Ecological protection	Physical hazards to wildlife	
		Land use/disturbance	Environmental resour. service value	
		Energy intensity	Energy use, efficiency, loss	
		Water intensity/ consumptive use	Fresh/potable water	
			Non-potable water	
			Wastewater/recycling	
		Waste management	Solid and hazardous waste	
			Radioactive waste	
Workers	Workplace safety	Occupational	Chemical handling hazards	
		health & safety	Physical hazards to workers	
Community	Public safety	Vehicle transport/	Road accidents/injuries	
	Public nuisance	traffic	Road/infrastructure impacts; Traffic congestion	
		Aesthetics	Noise, odor, visual impacts	

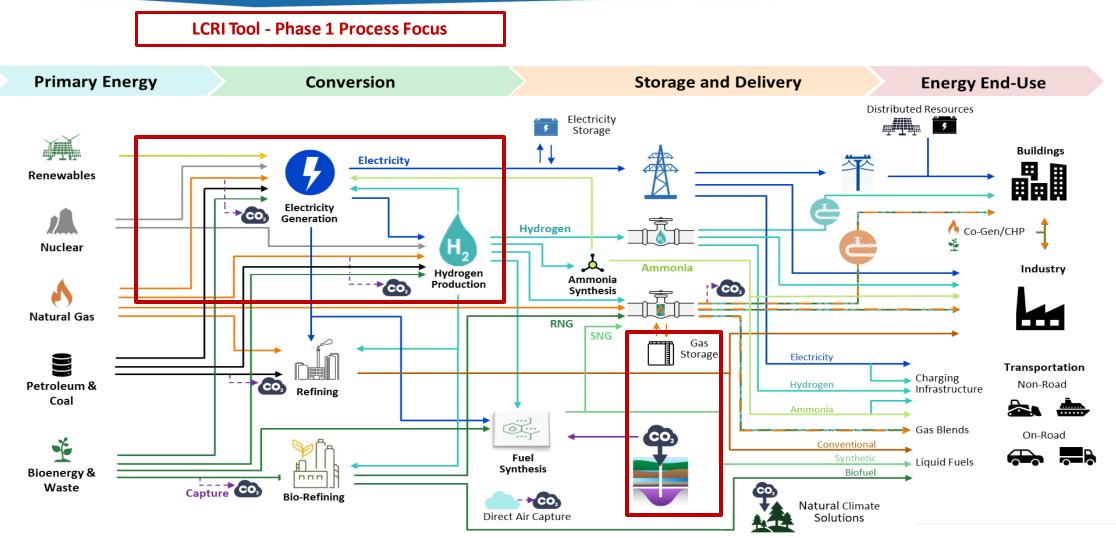
Key Considerations

- > Who or what is affected?
- > Location of potential effects?
- Nature/additivity of effects?



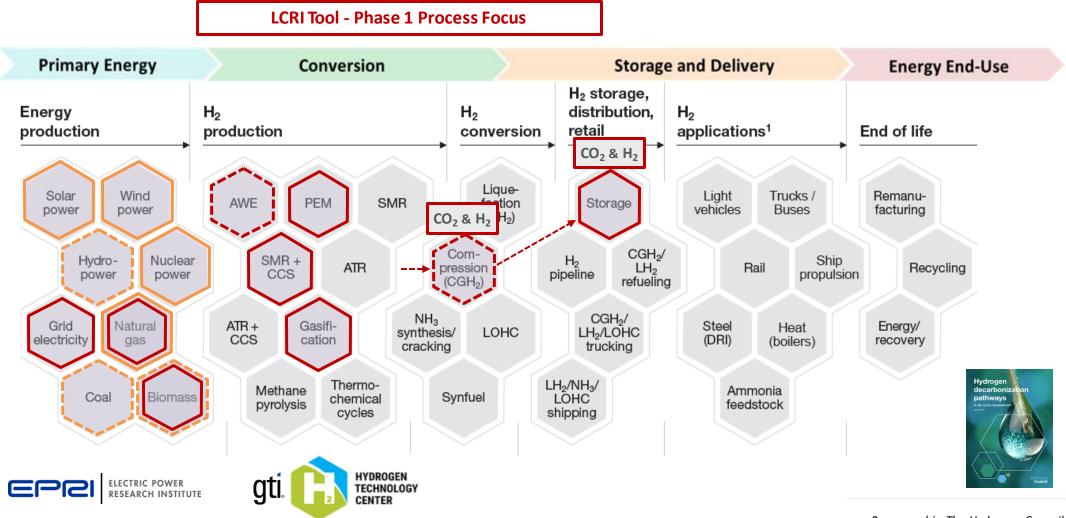
Possible Low-Carbon Energy Pathways





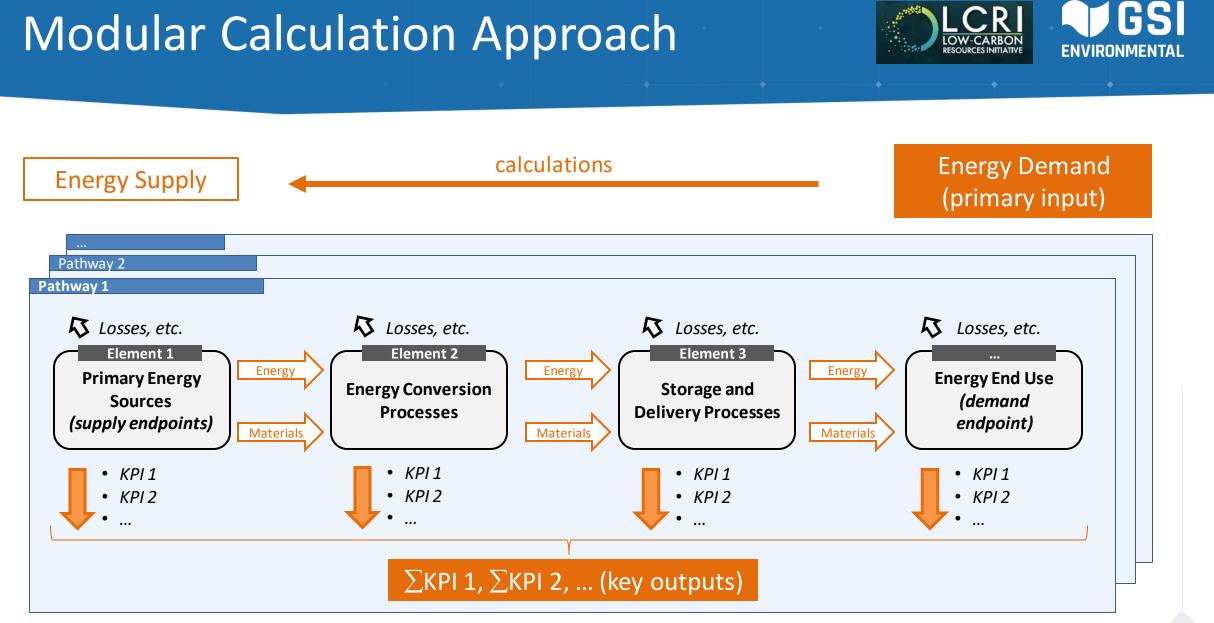
Hydrogen Development Pathways





Base graphic: The Hydrogen Council

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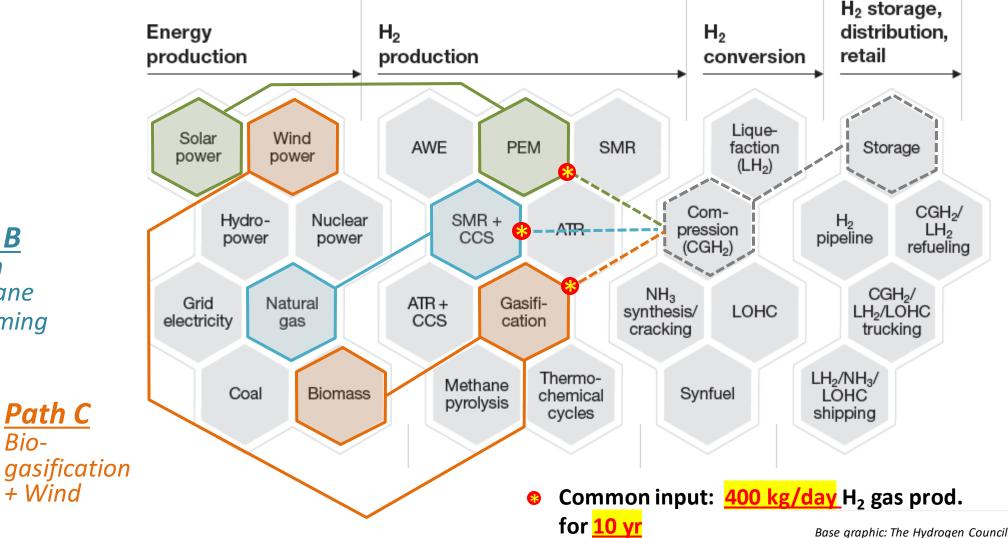


Comparative Case Example



Path A Proton Exchange Membrane *Electrolysis* + Solar

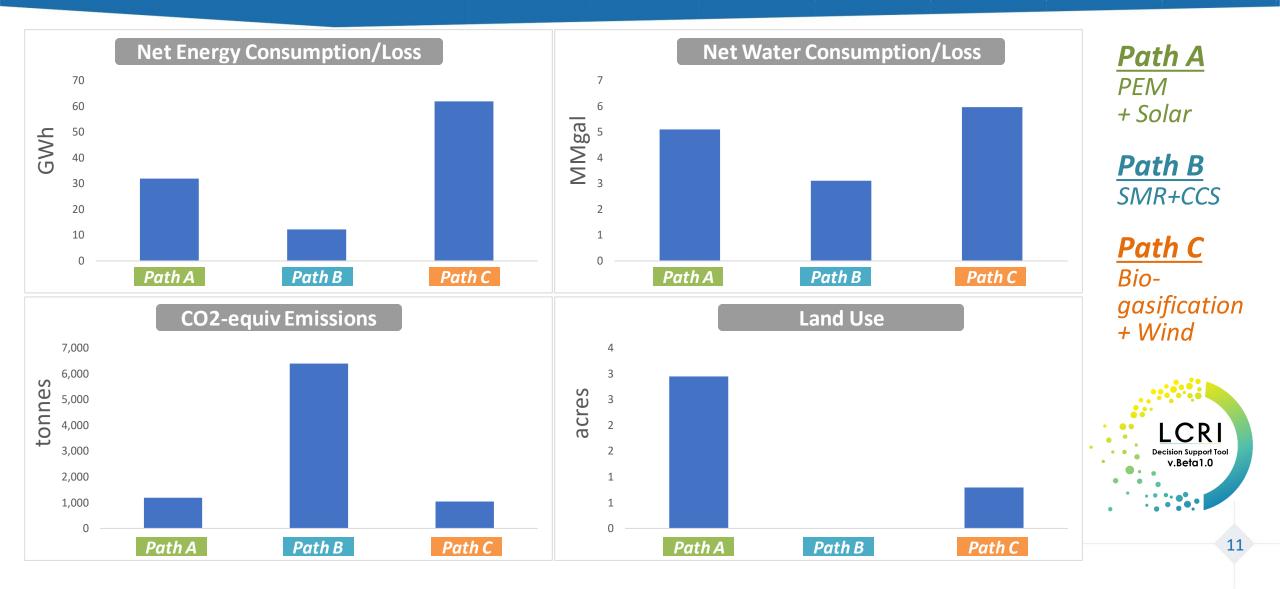




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Preliminary Case Study Results Comparison





Thank you!



Questions?

rlbowers@gsienv.com sstuver@gti.energy eknipping@epri.com



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