



Wen-Chi Cheng, PhD
Todd Knighton

3/18/2025

Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production Analysis (NIHPA) Tool

Prepared for LWRS FPOG Stakeholder Meeting Day 1



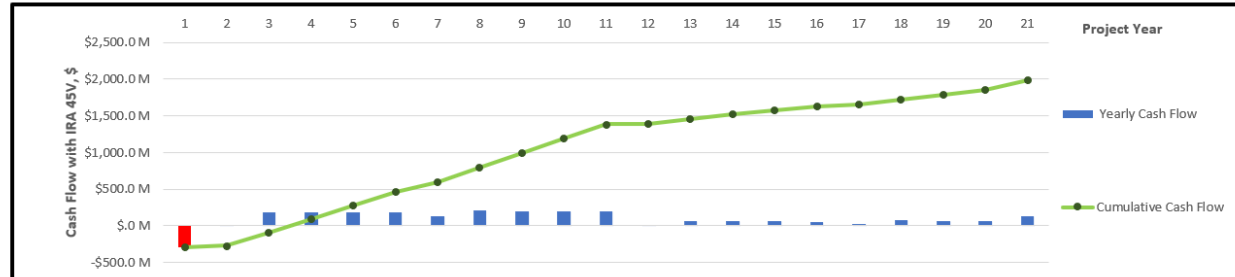
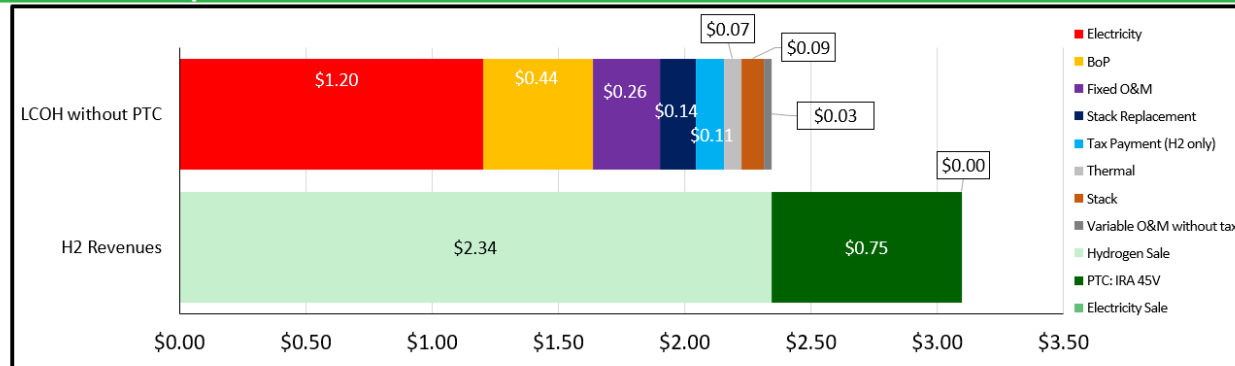
Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production Analysis (NIHPA) tool: Dashboard Representation

Step-1: Input Specification

Plant Capacity (HTSE)	Plant Life	Financial Parameters		Tool Mode Section
500 MW-dc	20 years	Weighted Average Cost of Capital	10%	Electrolyzer: HTSE
Hydrogen Market Price(2023)	Electricity Price (2023)	% of Equity Financing	40%	Energy gen. H2 production
User-defined (uncorrelated with NG and elec price)	User-defined (uncorrelated with NG price)	% of Debt Financing	60%	NPP Design Capacity
\$2.34	\$33.59	Equity interest rate	20%	
		Debt interest rate	4%	
		State Tax	6%	

Step-2: Financial Performance

Tax payments included in the LCOH?	Yes
H2 Production Only	
CLICK: Find Breakeven	CLICK: Find Breakeven
No tax credits	Tax credit (IRA Sec 45 V)
LCOH (\$ 2022)	\$2.34/Kg-H2
Internal Rate of Return (%)	10%
NPVH2 (\$ Million)	.0 M
ΔNPV=NPV _{H2} -NPV _{BAU} (\$ Million)	-48 M
Daily H2 Production (tonne/day)	351
Electricity Production Only (Business-As-Usual)	
No tax credits	Tax credit (IRA Sec 45 U)
NPV _{BAU} (\$ Million)	48 M
	261 M



Case Study 500 MWe-dc

NPP specific inputs		
Parameters	Units	Simulation Values
NPP Capacity Factor	%	90.00%
NPP Thermal Efficiency	%	34.00%
NPP Design Capacity	MW-th	3716
NPP power to electrolysis	MW-ac	538
Remaining electricity to be sold on grids	MW-ac	725

HYSYS model outputs (for HTSE only)		
Parameters	Units	Simulation Values
Hydrogen Production Rate per 40 Module	kg/sec	8.124
Utilities: Cooling Water Rate per 40 Module	kg/sec	1171
Utilities: Process Water Rate per Module	kg/hr	6534
Electrical Power Consumption per 40 Module	MW-ac	1076
Thermal Power Consumption per 40 Module	MW-t	188
Modular block capacity	MW-dc/Module	25

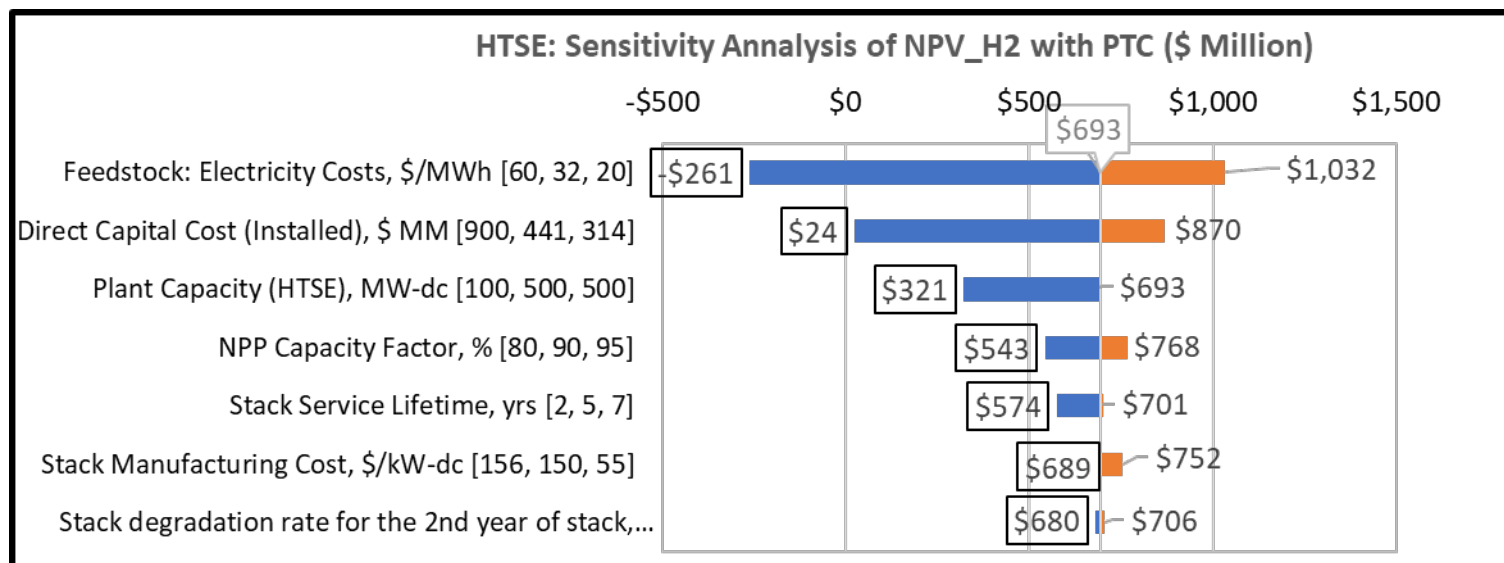
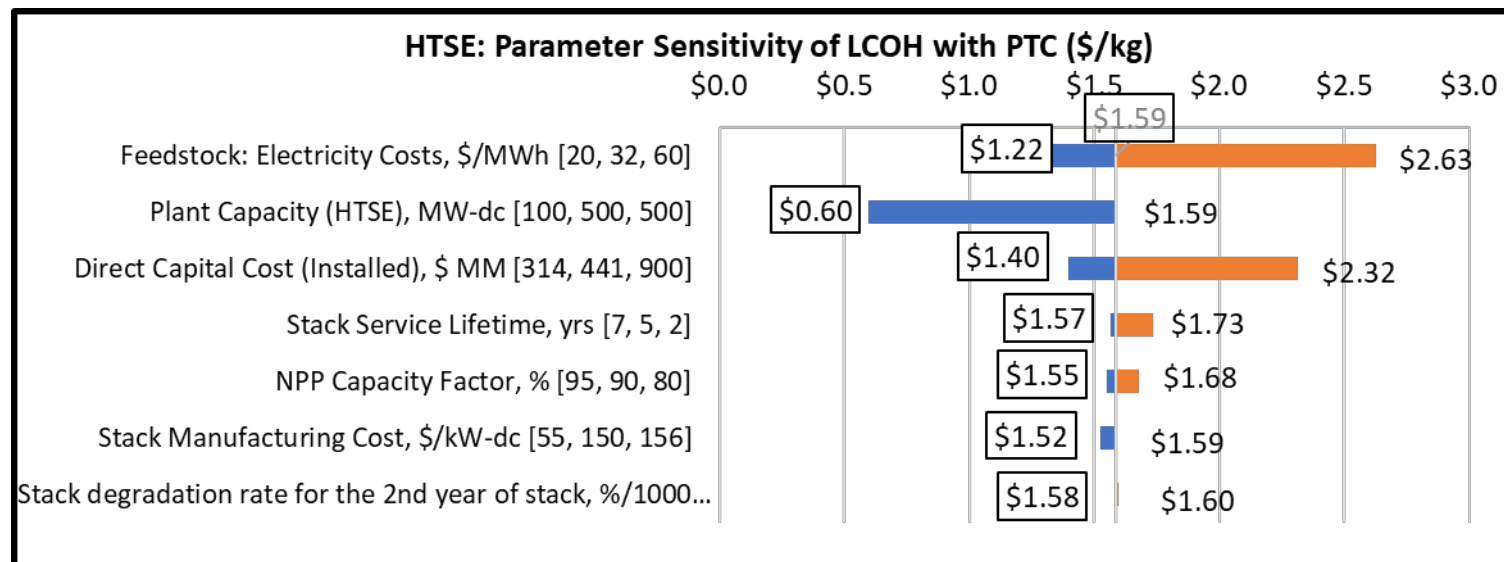
Electrolyzer Specific Inputs		
Plant Capacity (HTSE)	MW-dc	500
Total Plant Staff	-	13
Number of Modules	-	20
Plant Life	yrs	20
Hydrogen Production Rate per Module	tonne-H2/hr	0.731
Design Hydrogen Production Capacity	tonne-H2/day	351
Electrical Power Requirement	MW-ac	538
Thermal Power Requirement	MW-t	94
Stack Replacement Multipliers		
Stack Replacement Schedule	-	End of Service Life
Stack Service Lifetime	yrs	5
Stack degradation rate for the 1st year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.00%
Stack degradation rate for the 2nd year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.25%
Stack degradation rate for the 3rd year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.50%
Stack degradation rate for the 4th year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.75%
Stack degradation rate for the 5th year of stack	%/1000 hr	1.00%
Stack degradation rate for the 6th year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.00%
Stack degradation rate for the 7th year of stack	%/1000 hr	0.00%
Total Unplanned Replacement Capital Cost Factor	%	0.50%
Feedstock and Utilities Multipliers		
Feedstock: Electricity Usage	kWh-e/tonne H2	36790.85
Feedstock: Thermal Energy Usage	kWh-t/tonne H2	6434.98
Utilities: Density of Process Water	kg/m^3	998
Utilities: Density of Cooling Water	kg/m^3	998
Utilities: Process Water Rate	kg/s	36.3
Utilities: Cooling Water Rate	kg/s	585.5
Utilities: Process Water Usage	gal/tonne H2	2365.500
Utilities: Coolant Water Usage	gal/tonne H2	38154.277
H2 transportation piping diameter	inch	0

Case Study 500 MWe-dc (cont.)

Financial inputs		
Depreciation Type	-	MACRS
Depreciation Period	yrs	20
Plant Type	-	NOAK
Length of Construction	yrs	1
Start-up Year	-	2030
% of Fixed Operating Cost During Start-up	%	100.00%
% of Variable Operating Costs During Start-up	%	75.00%
% of Revenue During Start-up	%	50.00%
Weighted Average Cost of Capital	%	10.00%
Tax Status	-	Profit
H2 PTC (IRA 45V): Maximum	\$/kg-H2	\$3.00
Last year that IRA 45V that is applicable	-	2040
elec PTC (IRA 45U): Maximum	\$/MWh	\$15.00
Last year that IRA 45U that is applicable	-	2032
% of clean tax reduction	%	10.00%
% of Equity Financing	%	40.00%
% of Debt Financing	%	60.00%
Debt period	yrs	20
Debt interest rate	%	3.70%
Inflation Rate	%	1.90%
State Tax	%	6.00%
Federal Tax	%	21.00%
Total Tax Rate	%	25.74%
Working Capital	%	15.00%

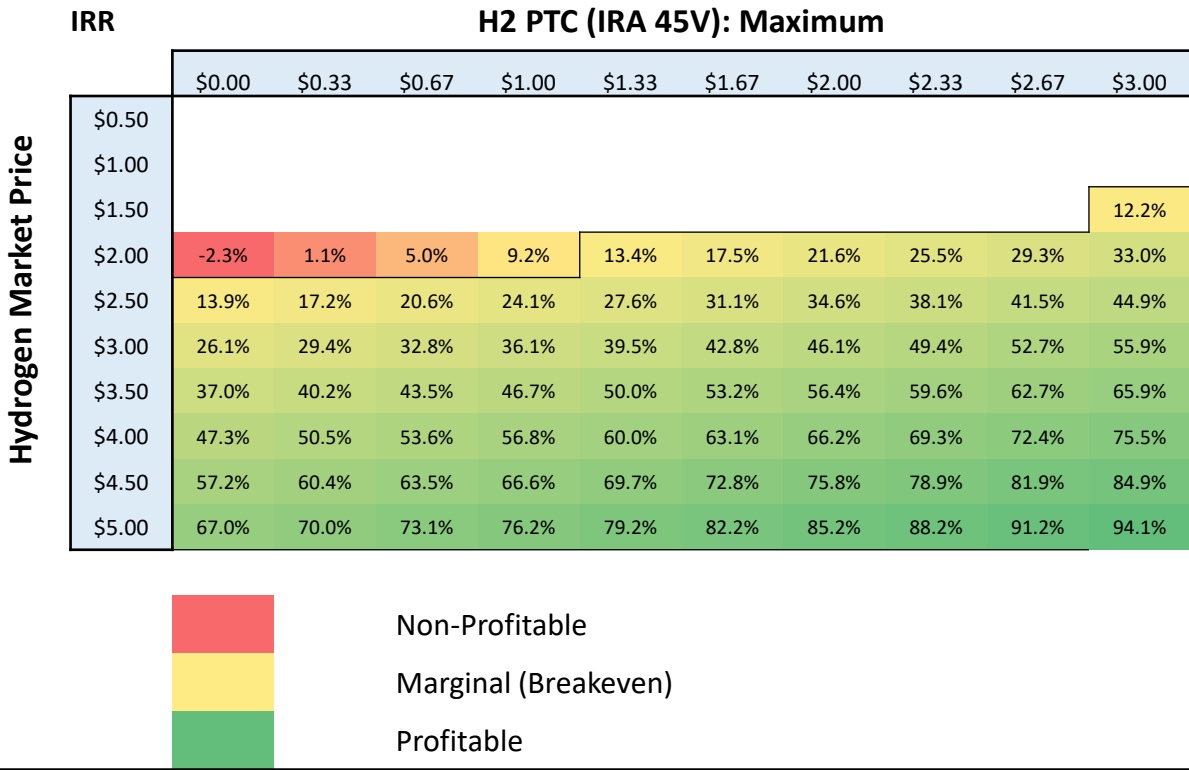
Cost contributors for LCOH		
Hydrogen Market Price	\$/kg-H2	\$2.45
Natural Gas Price	\$/MMBtu	\$3.00
Electricity Sale Price	\$/MWh	\$33.59
Feedstock: Electricity Costs	\$/MWh	\$31.76
Feedstock: Thermal Energy Cost Rate	\$/kWh	\$0.01
Utilities: Process Water Cost	\$/gal	\$0.0027635
Utilities: Coolant Water Cost	\$/gal	\$0.0000279
Burdened labor cost	\$/man-hr	\$60
Total Capital Investment (TCI)	\$ MM	\$642,343,206
TCI per kW-dc	\$/kW-dc	\$1,285
Total Depreciable Capital Costs	\$ MM	\$635,983,372
Stack costs contingency	%	10.00%
Stack mark-up costs	%	30.00%
Stack Manufacturing Cost	\$/kW-dc	\$153
BOP Cost	\$/kW-dc	\$747
Total DCC per kW-dc	\$/kW-dc	\$900
Installation factor	-	1.3335
Direct Capital Cost (Uninstalled)	\$ MM	\$337,422,387
Direct Capital Cost (Installed)	\$ MM	\$449,940,907
Salvage Value	\$ MM	\$64,234,321
Decommissioning cost	\$ MM	\$63,598,337
Indirect Depreciable Capital Cost	\$ MM	\$186,042,466
Site Preparation	\$ MM	\$8,998,818
Engineering and Design	\$ MM	\$44,994,091
Process Contingency	\$ MM	\$32,279,211
Project Contingency	\$ MM	\$32,279,211
Up-Front Permitting Costs	\$ MM	\$67,491,136
Total Non-depreciable Capital Costs		
Land costs	\$ MM	\$6,359,834
Total Fixed O&M Costs	\$ MM	\$28,295,191
Fixed O&M per kW-dc	\$/kW-dc	\$494
Labor cost	\$/yr	\$1,625,083
G&A	\$/yr	\$325,017
Property tax and insurance	\$ MM	\$12,846,864
Production Maintenance and Repairs	\$ MM	\$13,498,227

Step-3: Sensitivity Analysis (with PTC)

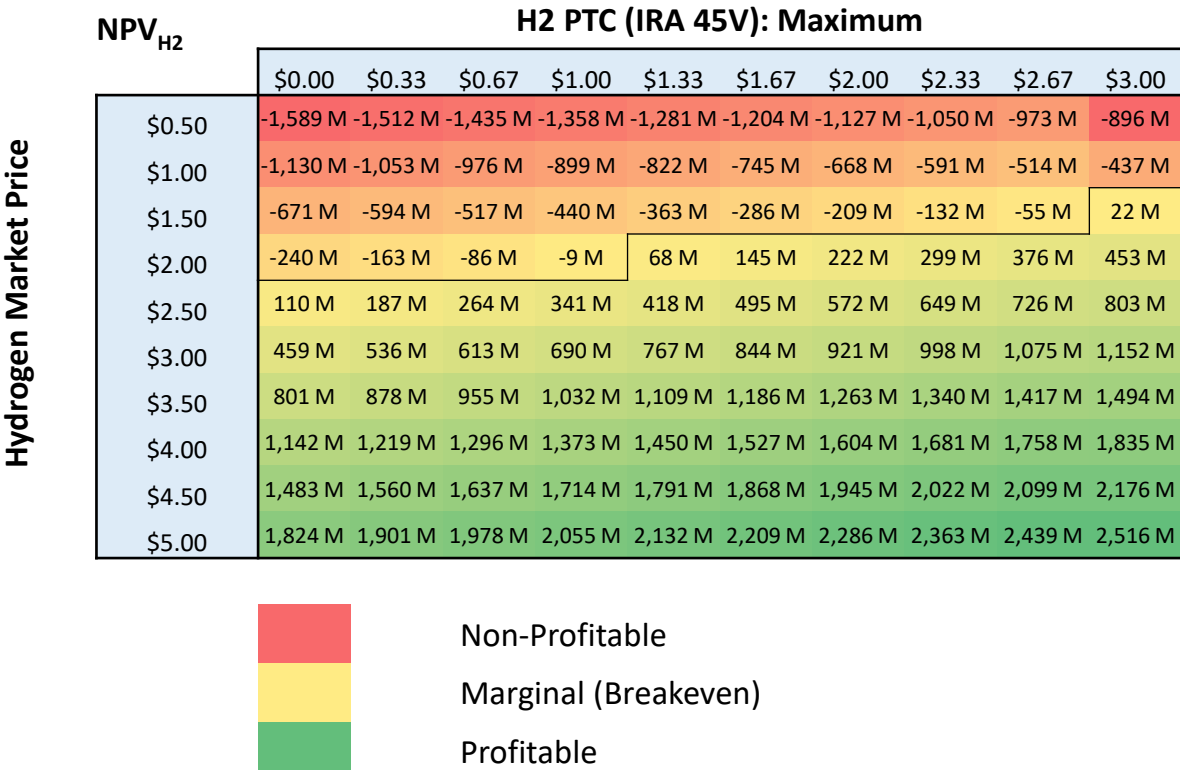


Step-4: Profitability Analysis

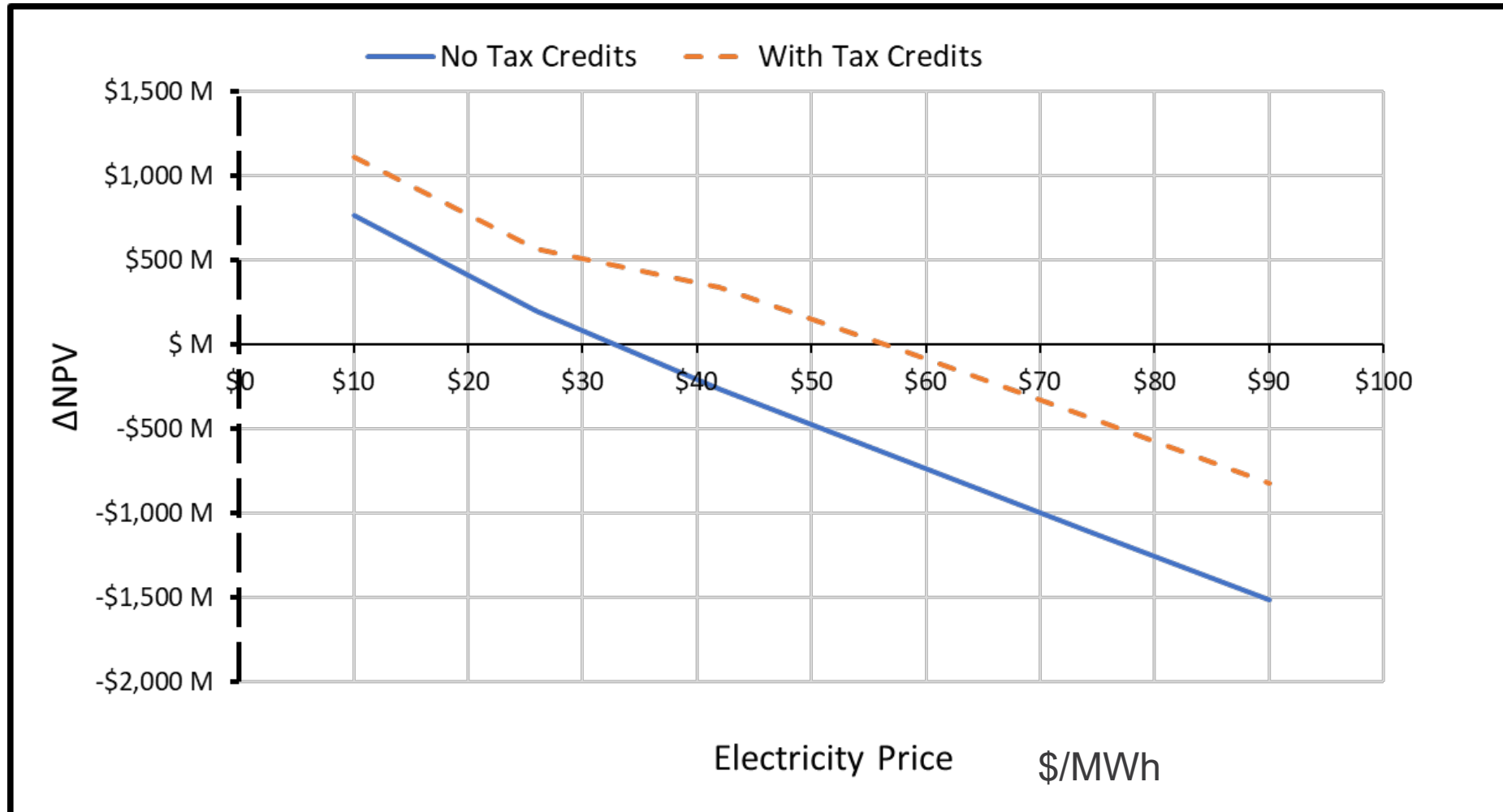
(a) HTSE: Heat map of Internal Rate of Return (IRR)



(b) HTSE: Heat map of Net Present Value (NPV_{H2})



Step-5: Electricity vs. Hydrogen Production Preference Analysis

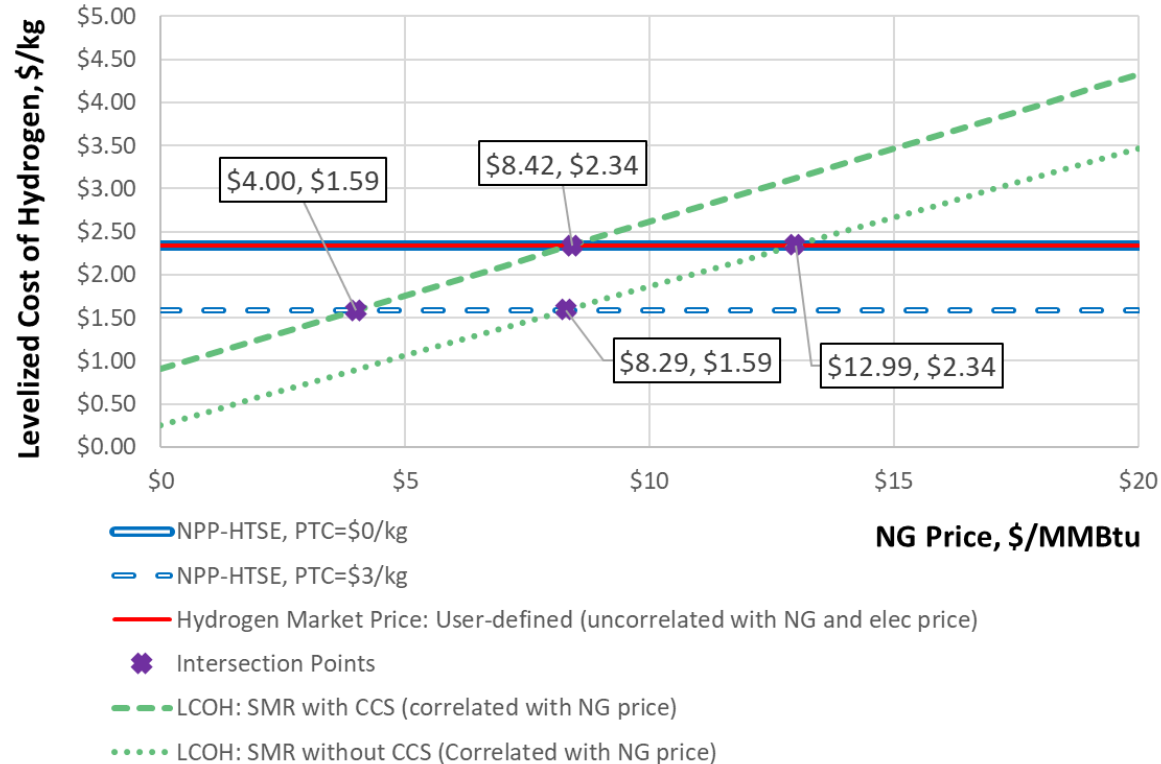


H₂ Production

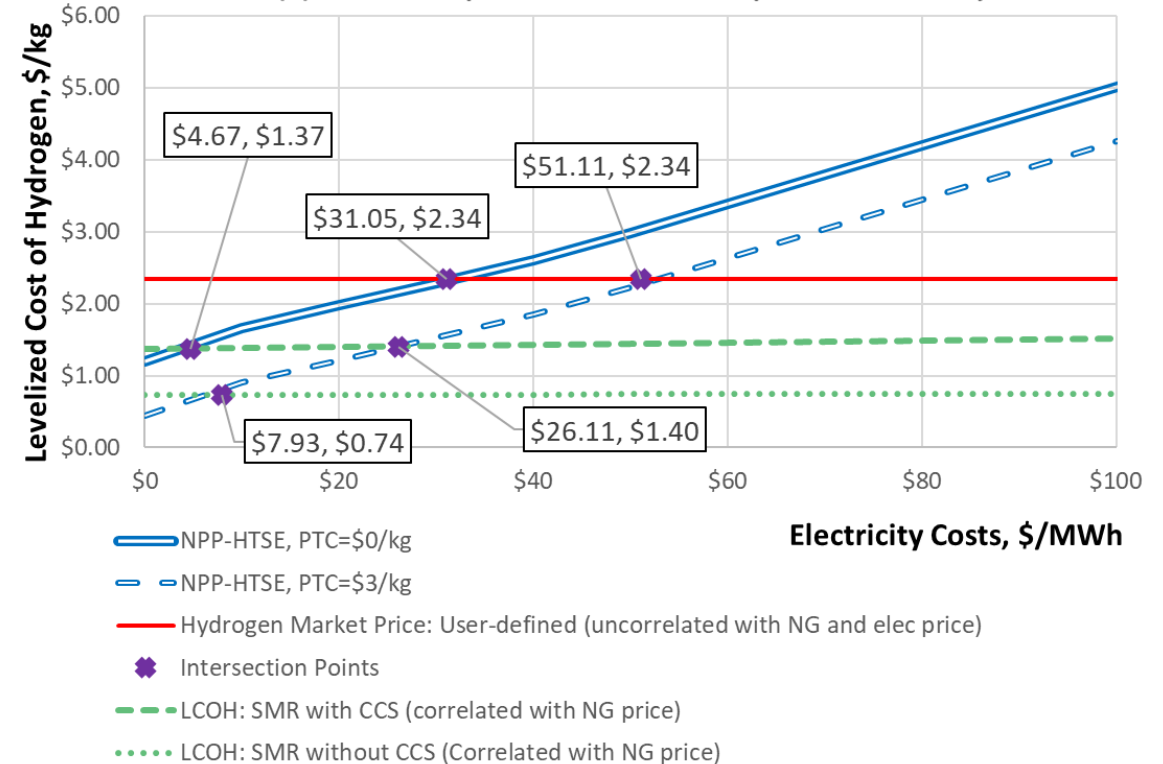
Electricity Sales

Step-6: Competitive Analysis (NPP-HTSE H₂ vs. Steam Methane Reforming)

(a) HTSE: Competitiveness with Respect to NG Price



(a) HTSE: Competitiveness with Respect to Electricity Price



Techno-Economic Assessment (TEA) for Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production

- Penev, M., G. Saur, C. Hunter, and J. Zuboy. *"H2A: Hydrogen production model: Version 3.2018 user guide (draft)."* User guide. US Department of Energy, United States of America (2018).
- Wendt, D.S., Knighton, L.T. and Boardman, R.D., 2022. *High Temperature Steam Electrolysis Process Performance and Cost Estimates* (No. INL/RPT-22-66117-Rev000). Idaho National Lab.(INL), Idaho Falls, ID (United States).
- Knighton, L.T., Wendt, D.S., Richards, J.D., Rabiti, C., Abou Jaoude, A., Westover, T.L., Vedros, K.G., Bates, S., Elgowainy, A., Bafana, A. and Boardman, R.D., 2021. *Techno-Economic Analysis of Product Diversification Options for Sustainability of the Monticello and Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plants* (No. INL/EXT-21-62563-Rev001). Idaho National Lab.(INL), Idaho Falls, ID (United States).
- Cheng, W.C., Knighton, L.T., Larsen, L., Talbot, P. and Boardman, R., 2023. *Estimating the Value of Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production and the Dependency of Electricity and Hydrogen Markets on Natural Gas*. INL/RPT-23-73909, August.
- Root, S. J., Knighton, L. T., Cheng, W.-C., Larsen, L. M., Sweeney, K. P., Boardman, R. D., & McKellar, M. (2023). *Comparison of Energy Storage and Arbitrage Options for Nuclear Power*. <https://doi.org/10.2172/2310901>
- Maria A. Herrera Diaz, Todd Knighton, Wen-Chi Cheng, Kathleen P. Sweeney, Frederick C. Joseck, Jack Cadogan, Nahuel Guaita, and Richard D. Boardman, Adarsh P. Bafana, Neeraj C. Hanumante, and Amgad A. Elgowainy, "Hydrogen Generation and Industrial Heat Opportunities for Nuclear Plants in the Gulf Coast", INL/RPT-24-80189, 2024

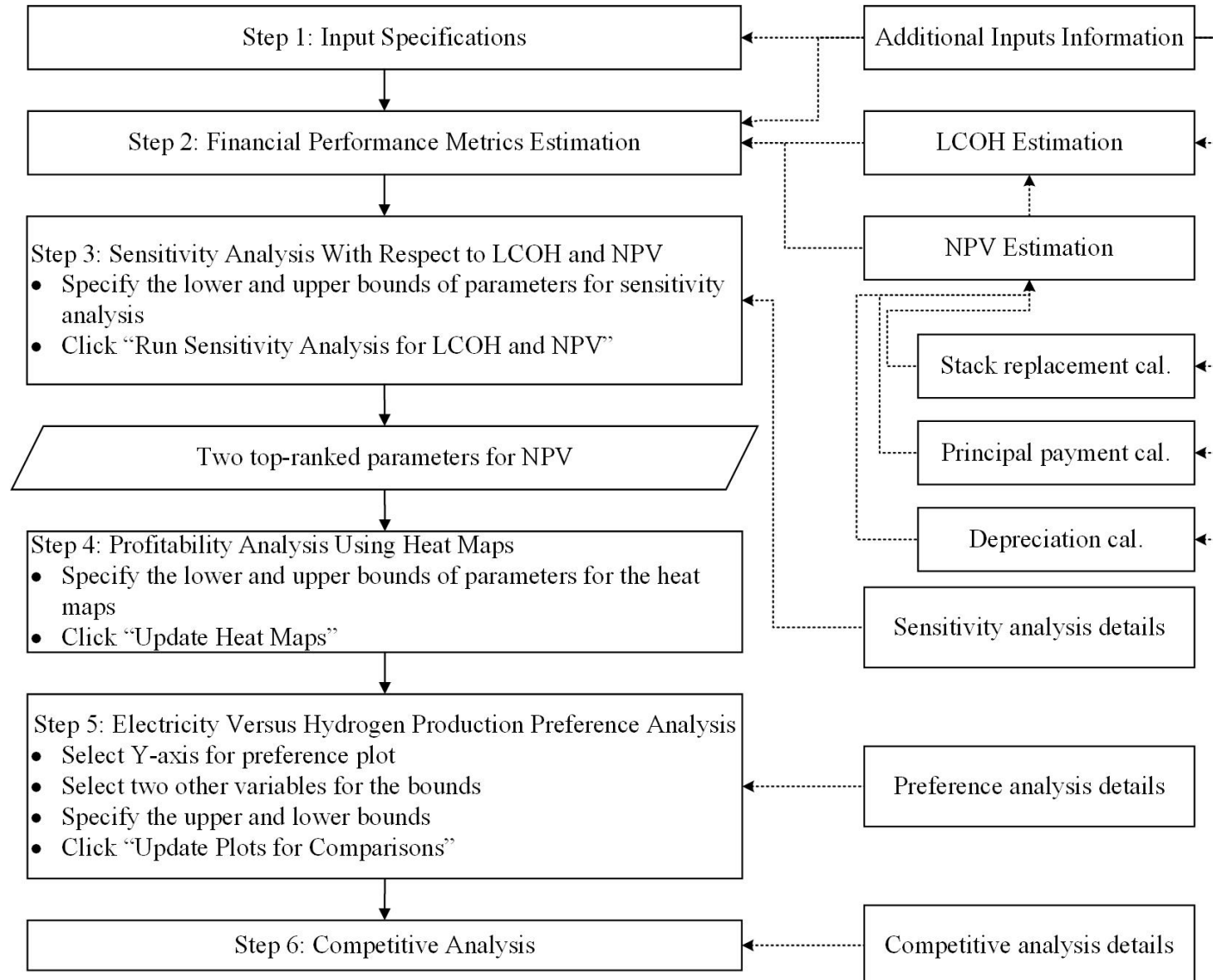


<https://lwrs.inl.gov/nihpa/>

Sustaining National Nuclear Assets

lwrs.inl.gov

Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production Analysis (NIHPA) tool: Methodology



<https://lwrs.inl.gov/nihpa/>

Nuclear Integrated Hydrogen Production

