

# **ARPA-E/DOE Methane Pyrolysis Cohort Kickoff**

**Houston, TX  
Dec. 9 & 10, 2019**

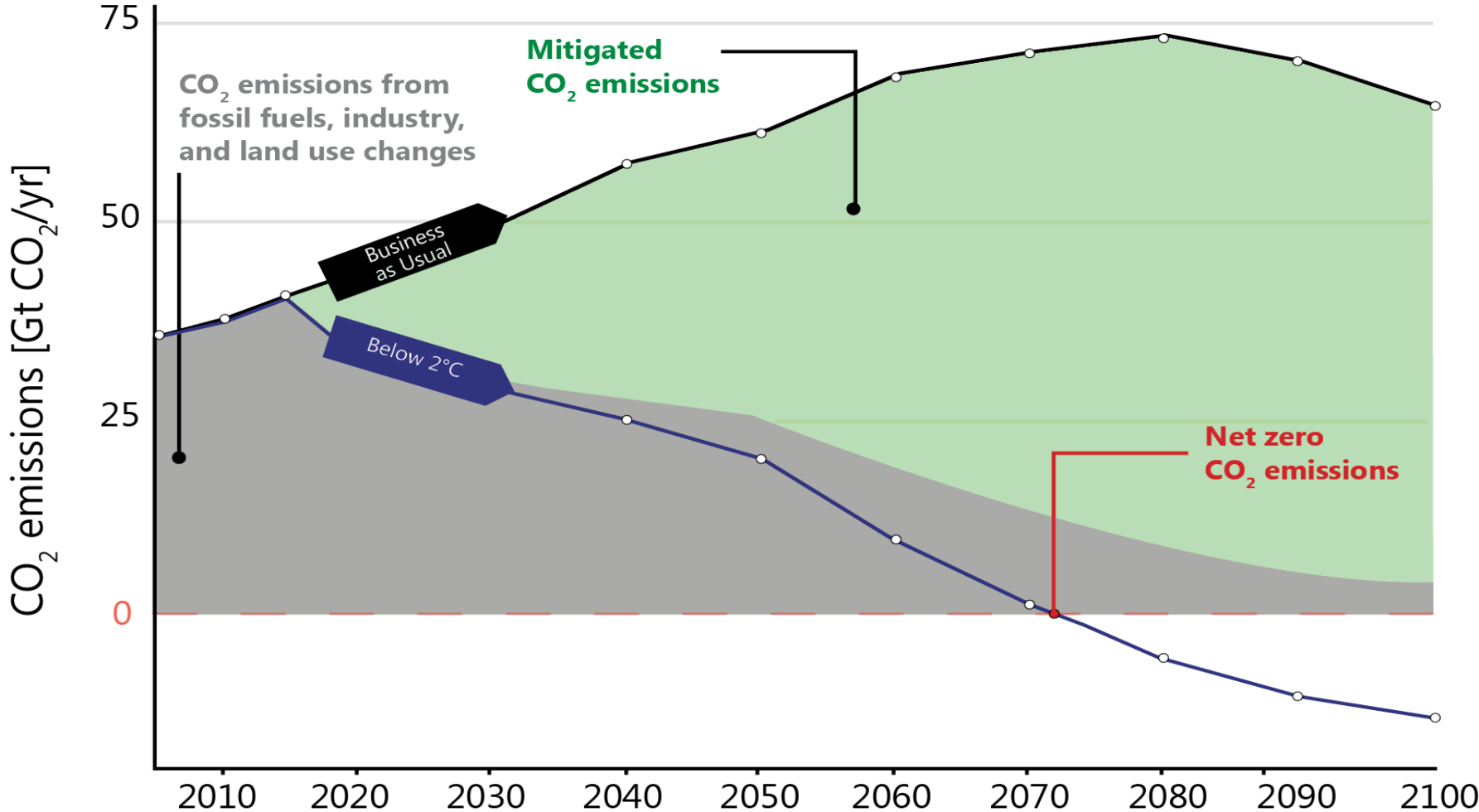


# Why is ARPA-E Interested in Methane Pyrolysis?

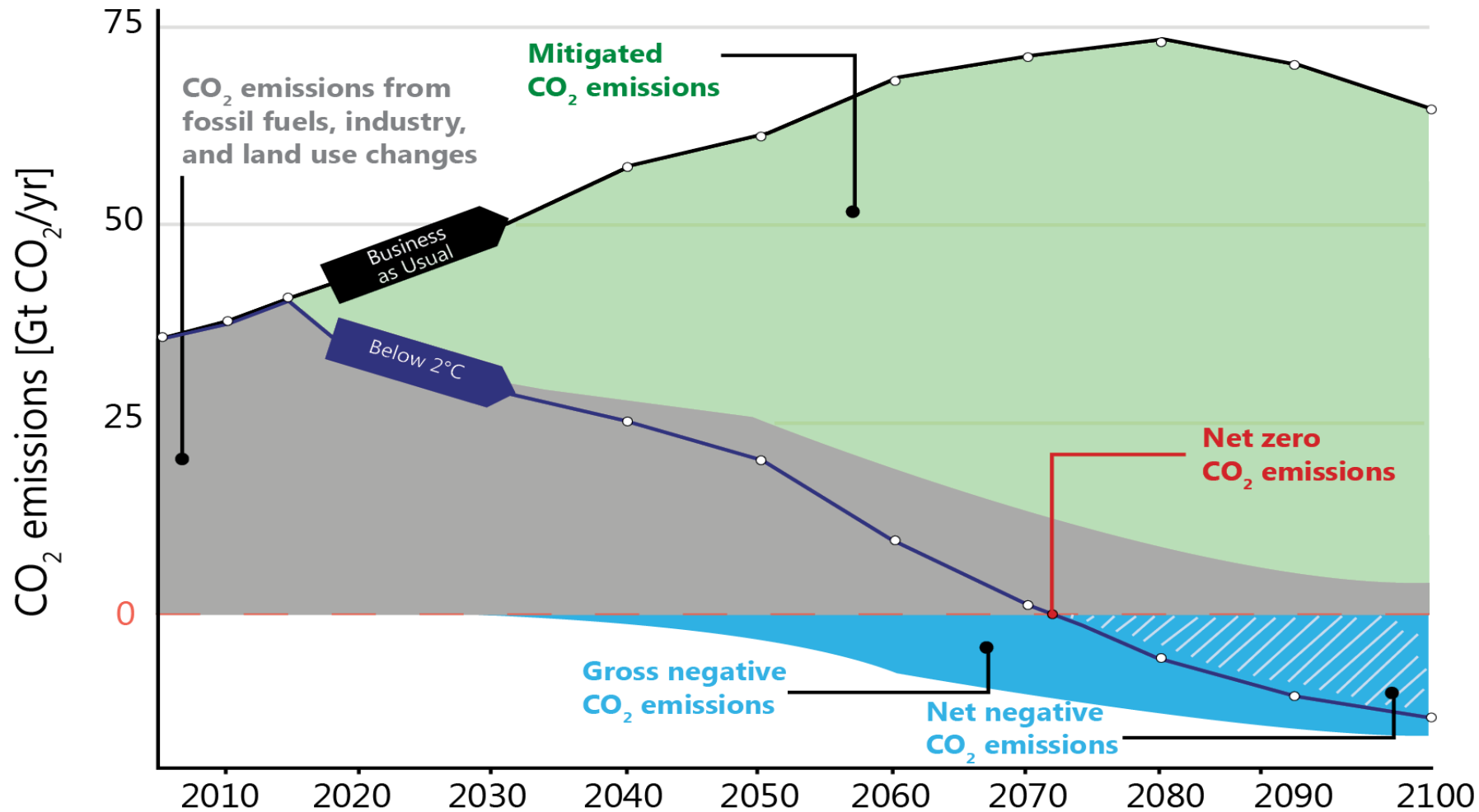
Catalyze and support the development of transformational, high-impact energy and emissions technologies



# Keeping the Temperature Rise Below 2°C



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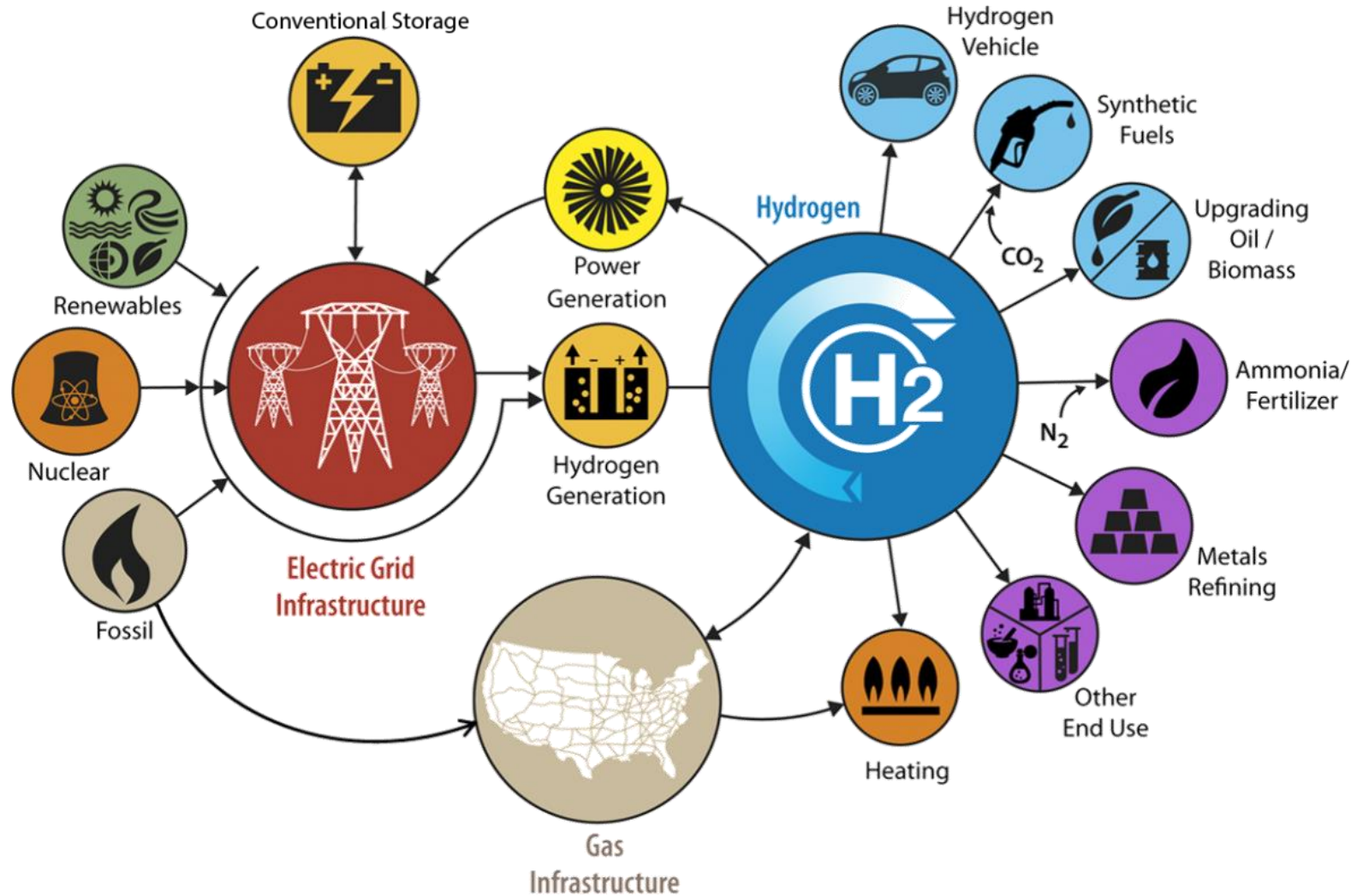


How can we best leverage U.S. gas wealth to transition to a low carbon economy?





# The Hydrogen Economy as Potential Path



<https://www.energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/h2scale>

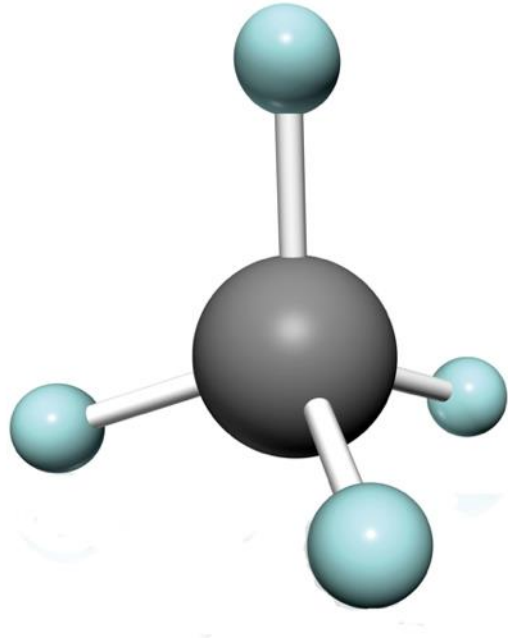
# Gold Standard for carbon-free hydrogen generation:

- ▶ Water electrolysis using renewable electricity
- ▶ Can be deployed in distributed fashion, minimizing transport
- ▶ However, water electrolysis is still very expensive:
  - ~\$4/kg H<sub>2</sub>
  - Requires at least 33 kWh/kg



# Methane is also a hydrogen repository

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**CH<sub>4</sub>**

**Hydrogen** represents

$\frac{1}{4}$  of the **weight**, but

$\frac{1}{2}$  of the **energy**



# We already make hydrogen from methane at large scale for...

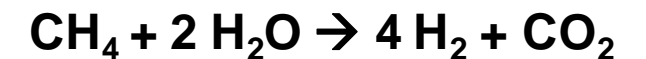
## Steam Methane Reforming (SMR)



Ammonia Production  
(Haber-Bosch)

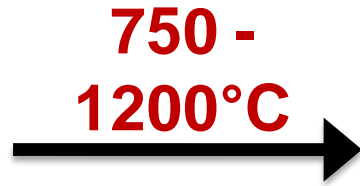
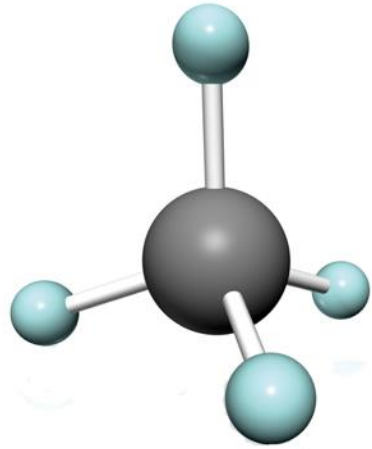
Petroleum Refining

GTL



**Challenges: economical only at large scale & high CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

# Alternative Approach: Thermal Cracking of Methane



Gaseous hydrogen

+



Solid carbon



+



# CO<sub>2</sub> vs Solid Carbon from 1 Quad of Hydrogen

## SMR – CO<sub>2</sub>



Image: pbs

**70 million MT @1,200 psi**  
**117 million m<sup>3</sup> (738 million barrels)**

## Methane Pyrolysis – Solid Carbon

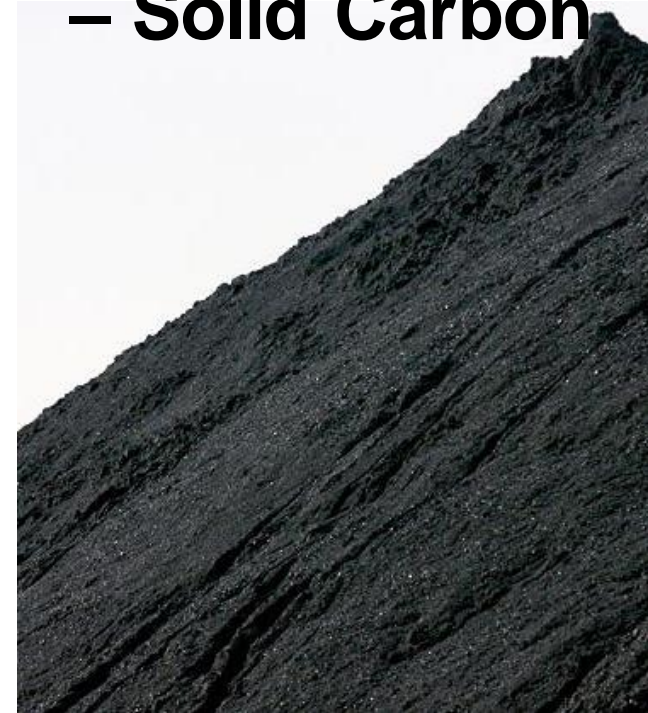


Image: dpa

**>22.3 million MT**  
**~ 45 million m<sup>3</sup>**

# H<sub>2</sub> Generation.. Competitive Landscape

Process	Yield (mol H <sub>2</sub> / mol CH <sub>4</sub> )	H <sub>2</sub> Cost (\$/kg)	C Intensity (g CO <sub>2</sub> /g H <sub>2</sub> )	Value of C/CO <sub>2</sub> (\$/tonne)	H <sub>2</sub> O required
SMR	4	~1-1.2	10	0	Yes
SMR + CCS	< 4	2	2	50 \$/tonne <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Yes
H <sub>2</sub> O electrolysis	~ 60% energy efficient	4	0	N/A	Yes, significant
Methane pyrolysis	2	<1.5 \$/kg (Target)	< 2	>100 \$/tonne <sub>C</sub> (Target)	No

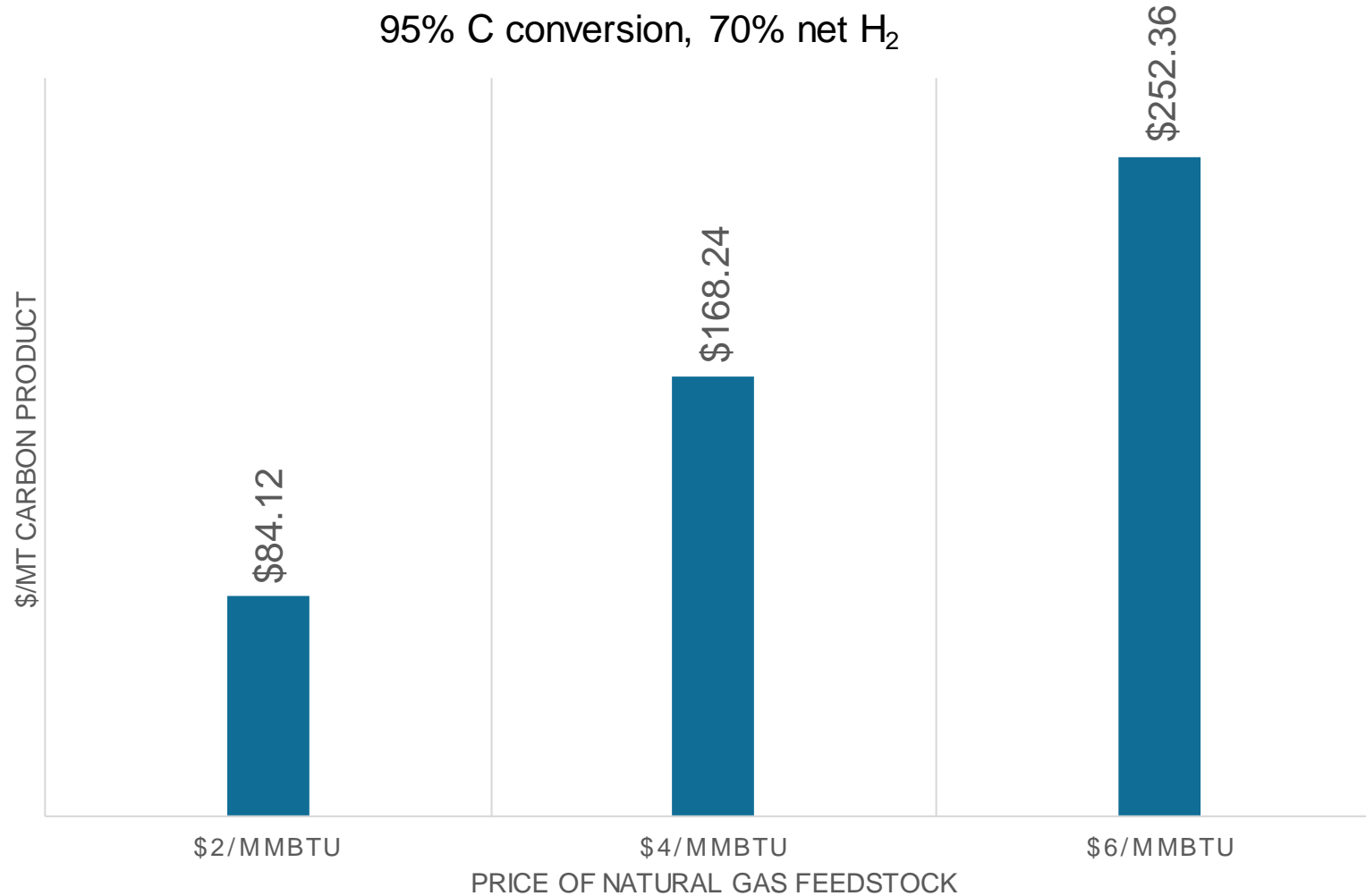
- ✓ **Methane pyrolysis..** a scalable option for low C intensity, low cost H<sub>2</sub> Generation
  - **Need..** High volume market for C by-product



# Value of Carbon Important to Pay for Extra Methane

## PRICE OF CARBON REQUIRED TO PAY FOR METHANE

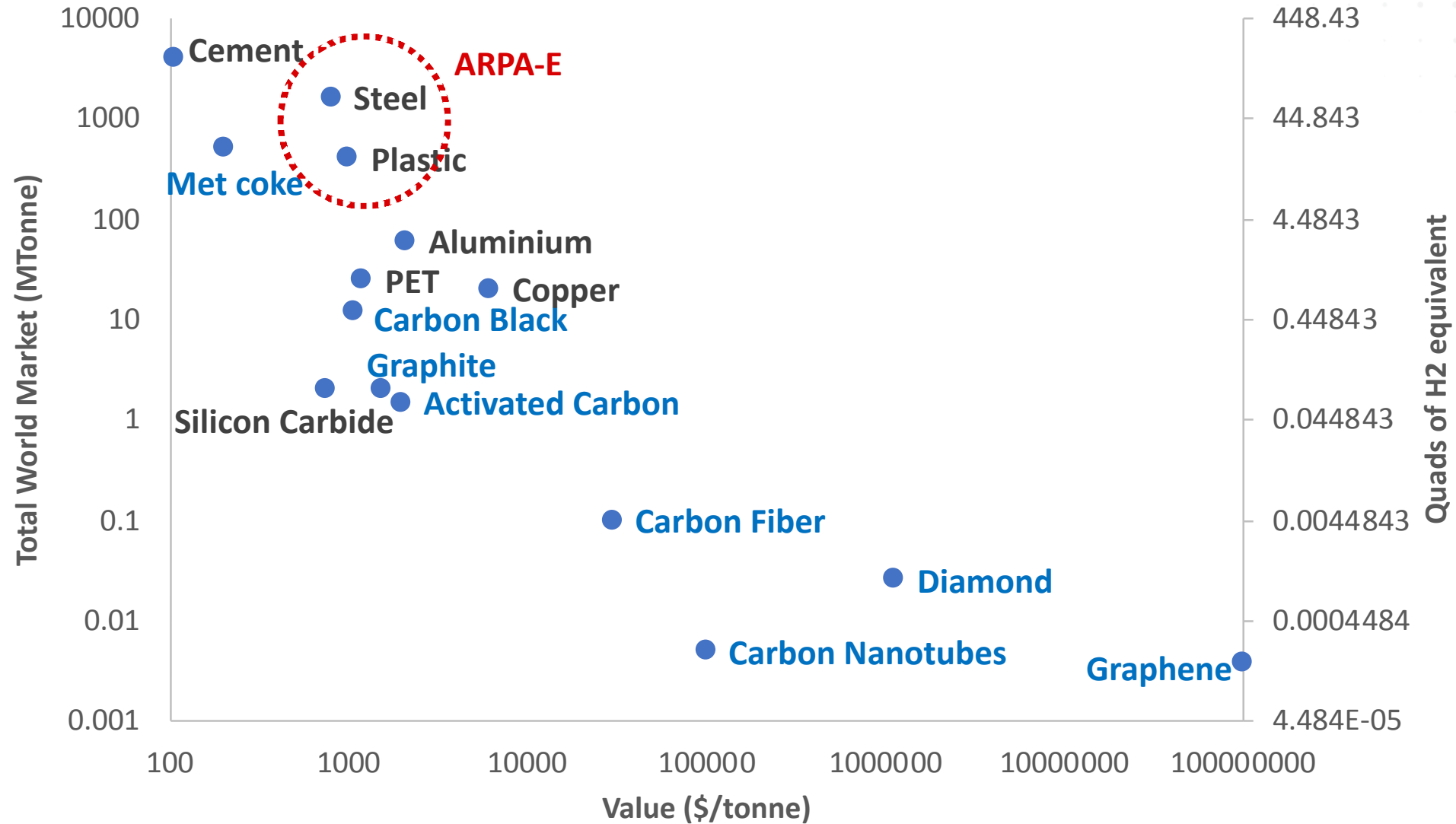
95% C conversion, 70% net H<sub>2</sub>



**Conversion efficiency is very important.**



# Which markets can absorb this volume of carbon?



# ARPA-E Methane Pyrolysis Time Line

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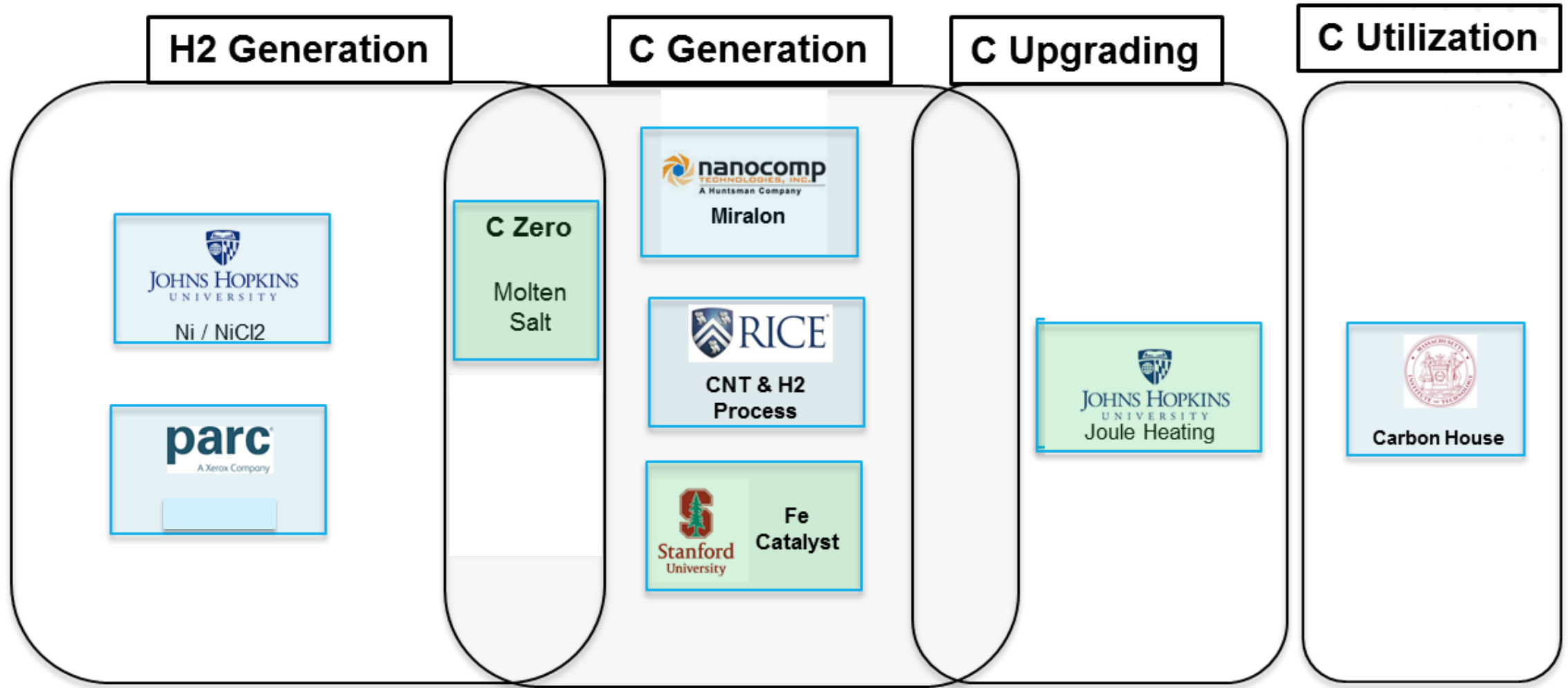
- ▶ **Oct. 2016:** Idea for a methane pyrolysis program at ARPA-E seeded
- ▶ **Feb. 2017:** Methane Pyrolysis Fast Pitch at ARPA-E Summit
- ▶ **Sep. 2017:** Methane Pyrolysis Workshop in DC
- ▶ **Dec. 2017:** Release of OPEN 2018
- ▶ **Mar. 2018:** RFI on Carbon allotrope inter conversion
- ▶ **Dec. 2018:** OPEN 2018 Methane Cohort selection announced
- ▶ **May 2019:** Methane Pyrolysis TINA FOA released
- ▶ **Oct. 2019:** TINA FOA Selections announced
- ▶ **Dec. 2019:** Methane Pyrolysis Cohort Kick-off



# Goals for this Methane Pyrolysis Kick-off

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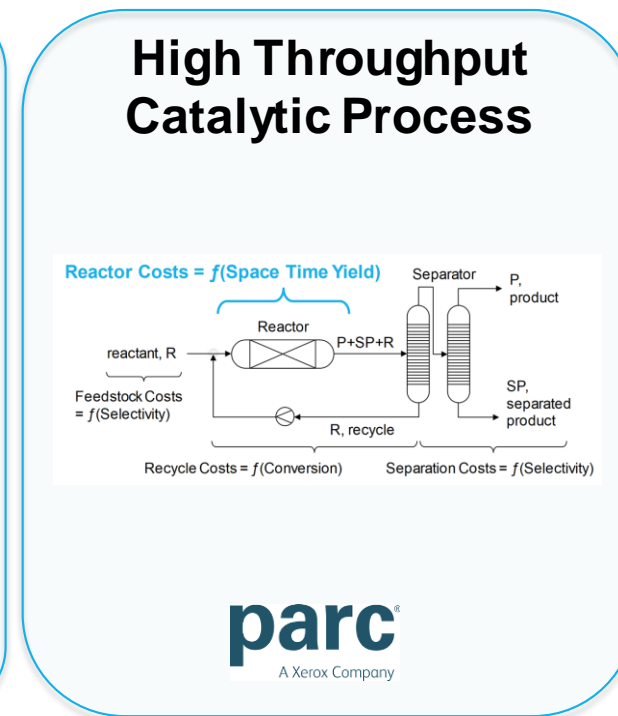
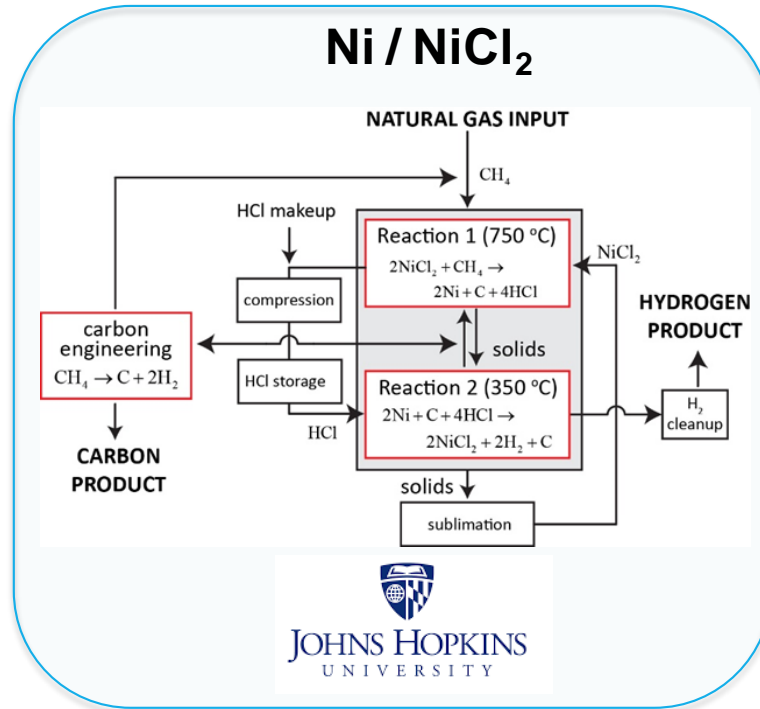
- ▶ Delineate opportunity space for methane pyrolysis and its products
- ▶ Accelerate learning and the move towards commercialization
- ▶ Clearly benchmark methane pyrolysis against incumbent and emerging technologies
- ▶ Foster development of a strong community of scientists, engineers, business, investors and government

# Methane Pyrolysis Cohort.. 2018 OPEN & 2019 FOA



TINA 2019   
OPEN 2018 

# Teams.. H<sub>2</sub> Generation Focus

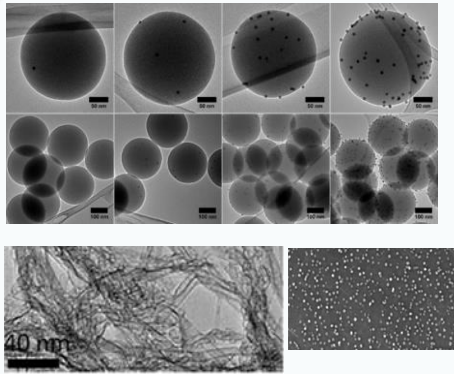


- **Catalyst activity..** Increase H<sub>2</sub> yield @ high space velocity
- **Catalyst life..** Reduce C deactivation
- **C product..** Upgrade/lower metal contamination
- **Process..** Scalable & High T / corrosion resistant alloys

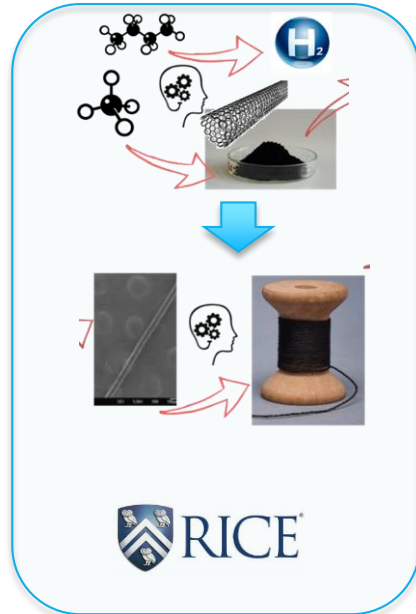


# Teams.. Carbon Production & Upgrading Focus

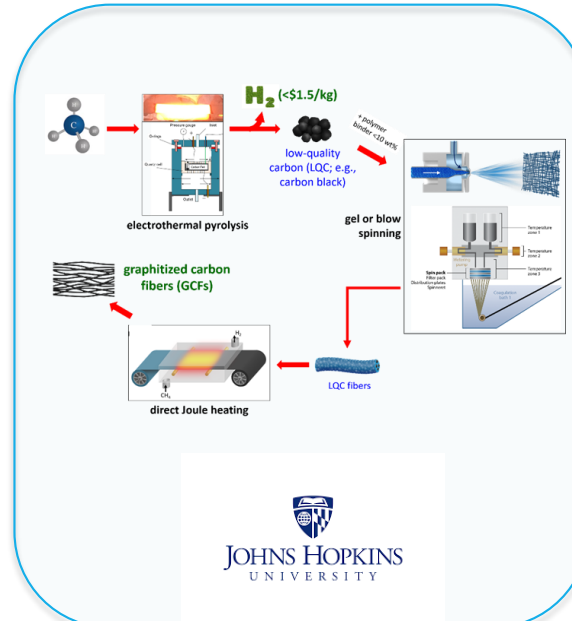
## CNT Heterogeneous Catalyst & Recyclability



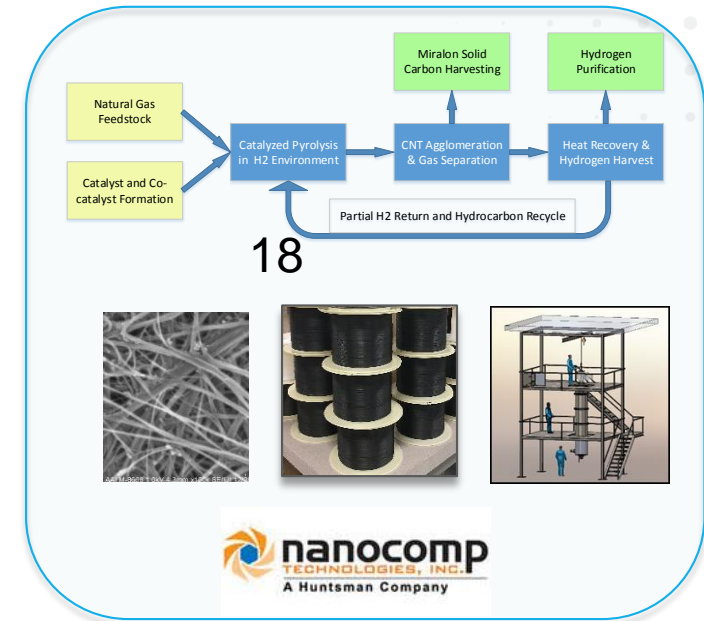
## CNT Homogenous Catalyst & Fiber spinning Scale-up



## Carbon Upgrading / Joule Heating



## Miralon Scale-up / NG Feedstock



- Feedstock..
- Catalyst recycle..
- C product..
- Process..

Improve activity with NG, with net positive  $H_2$  yield  
 Reduce metal contamination in C product  
 Tailor properties for large volume markets  
 Scalable

# What we are going to do for the rest of the day

1:05 PM	H <sub>2</sub> Economy: Present status and future directions	Uday Turuga (ADI Analytics)
1:35 PM	Panel 1: H <sub>2</sub> Economy Moderator: Greg Thiel (ARPA-E)	David Dankworth (Exxon Mobil) Joe Powell (Shell) Colin Alie (Suncor) Ron Kent (SoCalGas)
2:45 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
3:00 PM	Performers Presentations: H <sub>2</sub> Focus Programs	Order of Presentation (10 min/presenter): (1) PARC (OPEN 2018) (2) JHU/ETCH (OPEN 2018) (3) CZero (TINA 2019) (4) CZero (H <sub>2</sub> @scale) (5) U of Colorado (H <sub>2</sub> @scale)
4:00 PM	T2M Approach	Madhav Acharya (T2M Advisor, ARPA-E)
4:20 PM	H2A Model TEA	Michael Penev (NREL)
4:50 PM	Day 1 Wrap-up	Marc von Keitz (ARPA-E)
5:00 PM	<b>Poster Set-up</b>	
5:20 PM	Poster Session	Performers, NREL, Carbon Hub

# Kick-off Meeting: Day 2

7:30 AM	Registration & Continental Breakfast	
8:00 AM	Welcome - Day 2	Marc von Keitz (ARPA-E)
8:05 AM	Panel 3: Challenges moving Methane Pyrolysis to Scale Moderator: Dan Hancu (ARPA-E)	William Daloz (BASF) Brian Chambers (Shell)
9:05 AM	Production of carbon and hydrogen from natural gas via catalytic pyrolysis	Ranjani Siriwardane (NETL)
9:20 AM	Tri-generation Pyrolysis	Gary Schubak (Ekona Power)
9:35	Carbon House	Mark Goulthorpe (MIT)
10:05 AM	Coffee Break	
10:25 AM	Panel 3: Carbon Markets Moderator: Zara L'Heureux (ARPA-E)	David Matheu (CABOT), Marie Contou (Carbon Hub) David Hatrick (Huntsman)
11:25 PM	Performers Presentations: Carbon Focus Programs	Order of Presentation (10 min/presenter): (1) Rice (OPEN 2018) (2) Stanford (TINA 2019) (3) Nanocomp (OPEN 2018) (4) JHU (TINA 2019) (5) MIT (OPEN 2018)
12:15 PM	Lunch	
1:30 PM	Panel 4: Investors and Start-up Moderator: Madhav Acharya (ARPA-E)	Jana Hanova (Evok Innovations) Ganesh Kailasan (OGCI) Tom Griffin (Breakthrough Energy)
2:30 PM	Panel 5: Government Agencies Moderator: Marc von Keitz (ARPA-E)	Jared Ciferno (FE) Eric Miller (EERE) Emilie Sioch (NASA)
3:30 PM	Concluding remarks	Marc von Keitz (ARPA-E)
3:45 PM	End of Meeting	



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# Let's get started!