CENTER FOR Hydrogen® SAFETY
Connecting a Global Community
120 Wall St. FL 23
New York, NY 10005
www.h2tools.org
www.aiche.org/chs

Dear Clean Energy Siting Council,

The Center for Hydrogen Safety (CHS) at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) is pleased to submit the following recommendations to the Washington State Department of Commerce in response to the Draft Recommendation Ideas for the 2026 Annual Legislative Report. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute recommendations and respectfully offer the following input for consideration.

Center for Hydrogen Safety

Since its founding in 2019, the Center for Hydrogen Safety (CHS) has served as a global community committed to advancing the safe use of hydrogen. As a non-profit within the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), we bring together industry, government, and academia to strengthen hydrogen safety culture, provide trusted resources, and foster collaboration worldwide. Building on AIChE's long-standing expertise in process safety, CHS offers training programs, educational content, and technical guidance that help organizations work confidently with hydrogen.

Feedback on Proposed Recommendation #4

The following recommendations are submitted with regard to Proposed Recommendation #4: Develop public information to address safety and other concerns regarding clean energy technologies.

Recommendation 1: Fund Dedicated Hydrogen Workforce Safety Training

We recommend that Washington allocate a dedicated portion of funding for clean energy technology safety to hydrogen workforce training. As hydrogen technologies and fueling infrastructure continue to expand across the state, ensuring that operators, maintenance staff, emergency responders, and safety personnel have a foundational understanding of hydrogen-specific hazards is essential. Unlike traditional fuels such as gasoline or natural gas, hydrogen presents unique properties and risks that are not intuitive and cannot be safely addressed by applying conventional fuel knowledge alone. Targeted training is critical to bridging this gap and supporting the safe, reliable deployment of hydrogen infrastructure statewide.

CENTER FOR Hydrogen® SAFETY
Connecting a Global Community
120 Wall St. FL 23
New York, NY 10005
www.h2tools.org
www.aiche.org/chs

Funds for hydrogen workforce training activities could support regional in-person fundamental hydrogen safety training sessions, bringing accessible, expert-led instruction directly to the communities most actively investing in hydrogen technologies and infrastructure.

To ensure training quality and credibility, sessions should be led by recognized hydrogen safety experts. For example, CHS offers an established in-person training series delivered by members of the Hydrogen Safety Panel (HSP), an independent expert body with over 800 years of collective expertise in hydrogen safety. The HSP has supported the California Energy Commission for the past decade through hydrogen safety reviews and related technical input, demonstrating a strong track record of objective, high-quality guidance. The HSP is a trusted, not-for-profit panel that leverages safety reviews, research, and information dissemination to help government agencies, industry, and other stakeholders ensure hydrogen is safely stored and handled. Its technical objectivity and depth of experience make it a premier resource for reducing knowledge barriers to hydrogen technology deployment.

Recommendation 2: Commission a Public Hydrogen Safety Report for Washington State

We also recommend that Washington commission a publicly available hydrogen safety report tailored to the state's unique context and hydrogen ambitions. Such a report would serve several important functions:

- Build awareness and trust: Clear communication dispels misconceptions and supports public and industry confidence in hydrogen safety.
- Understand hydrogen properties: Hydrogen's unique behaviors require intentional design and engineered safeguards, including ventilation, leak detection, hazard analysis, and shutdown systems.
- Apply proven safety practices: Safe hydrogen use depends on qualified personnel, consistent training, and adherence to established codes and standards (NFPA, ICC, CGA, ASME, CSA, and others).
- Strengthen regulations: Continuous updates to codes, standards, and permitting frameworks are essential to keep safety performance aligned with emerging hydrogen technologies and applications.

CENTER FOR Hydrogen® SAFETY
Connecting a Global Community
120 Wall St. FL 23
New York, NY 10005
www.h2tools.org
www.aiche.org/chs

A comparable report has been developed for the State of California and is publicly available as a model and reference and is available on the H2Tools.org online portal.[1]

We are grateful for Washington's commitment to advancing safety for clean energy technologies, including hydrogen, and we look forward to supporting these efforts. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or to discuss these recommendations further.

[1] https://h2tools.org/document/hydrogen-safety-considerations-california