

Where President-Elect Obama and Vice President-Elect Biden Stand on Fuel Cells and Hydrogen

The following is a compilation of speeches, comments and quotes that the President-Elect and Vice President-Elect have made in the past about hydrogen and fuel cells. The material was accessed from their presidential campaign and Senate websites.

Barack Obama

July 2008 - Sen. Obama's advertisement discussing his plan to provide real relief to consumers and help America move toward energy independence:

The 30-second ad features a short clip showing a **fuel cell-battery hybrid vehicle** in the background.

<http://my.barackobama.com/page/community/post/stateupdates/gGxYbL>

From Sen. Obama's position on energy:

Senator Obama believes that America must commit to a new national energy policy focused on improvements in technology, investments in renewable fuels such as wind and solar power, and greater efforts in conservation, efficiency, and waste reduction. Shifting from our current investment and consumption practices to this new direction will be one of the great leadership challenges in the coming decade.

Working to Lower High Gas Prices: Senator Obama also worked with Congressman Rahm Emanuel to obtain several million dollars to establish the first **ethanol-to-hydrogen refueling station** for refueling Chicago natural gas bus fleets.

<http://obama.senate.gov/issues/energy>.

September 2007: Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) today announced that the Senate Appropriations Committee included his funding requests in the Fiscal Year 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill.

- \$3,000,000 to Chicago State University, for research into unmanned aerial systems - Funding will be used to improve the effectiveness of the military's unmanned aerial systems by **replacing conventional power supply systems with fuel cell technology packages** specifically made for mobile robotics systems. Senator Obama secured these funds along with Senator Durbin.

http://obama.senate.gov/press/070920-obama_secures_f_4

April 2007: During a Senate Finance Committee hearing on transportation energy issues today, committee members Sens. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) highlighted their bipartisan effort together with Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) to begin a shift in our nation's transportation sector away from conventional liquid fuels and toward electrons. Their plan will lay out a three-pronged strategy to promote Plug-in Electric Drive Vehicles (PEDVs), which would include pure battery electric, extended range electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and **plug-in fuel cell vehicles**.

http://obama.senate.gov/press/070419-cantwell_hatch

October 2006: The latest issue of Harper's Magazine contains a piece titled "BARACK OBAMA INC. The birth of a Washington machine." The story is unfortunately filled with a selective presentation of the facts, innuendo and a cynical assumption of bad faith in our leaders.

Misleading Claim #2: - Favors to the Nuclear Industry

Fact: Obama voted with 75 other Senators to promote a wide array of innovative energy technologies. The Sununu amendment in question would have eliminated loan guarantees to encourage emerging clean-energy technologies. These guarantees encouraged a wide array of renewable fuel. Besides nuclear energy, the guarantees can be used for solar and wind power, hybrid cars, **hydrogen fuel cells**, carbon sequestration, coal gasification and other technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

http://obama.senate.gov/press/061023-senator_obamas_6

Joe Biden

Senator Biden's Delaware Funding Requests for FY 2009:

- **Hydrogen Storage System for Vehicular Propulsion** - Delaware State University, Dover, DE

To enable scientists at Ion Power, Air Liquide, and the University of Delaware to undertake a joint venture to develop a hydrogen storage system and to test it in a fuel cell powered vehicle. This project, involving two universities and two industrial partners in the state, would also be of regional and national significance since it addresses the national priority to develop alternative energy sources. Request: \$3,000,000

- **Automotive-Based Fuel Cell Hybrid Bus Program** - University of Delaware, Newark, DE

To continue the hybrid bus program by extending the range of the fuel cell buses for deployment in Wilmington and Dover and simultaneously develop and install hydrogen refueling stations in these locations. Request: \$2,000,000 / Funded: \$984,900 in Omnibus Appropriations bill for 2008.

- **Optimized M-25 Soldier Fuel Cell System** - DuPont Fuel Cells, Wilmington, DE

To meet the Army's one-year goal of creating a reasonably priced, lightweight, reliable, and more powerful power source for light infantry divisions in Iraq. Request: \$3,000,000 / Funded: \$2,000,000 in FY2009 Department of Defense and Military Construction bill.

<http://biden.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FY2009FundingRequests6.pdf>

http://biden.senate.gov/press/press_releases/release/?id=CC8E6A4B-D53C-4620-B26B-57203C834A1C

http://biden.senate.gov/press/press_releases/release/?id=10E150A6-8BB7-459B-BFD1-09B6D4CEE651

June 2005 - Floor Statement, Energy Policy Act of 2005:

The legislation also requires that we quadruple the amount of renewable fuels, such as ethanol, used annually in gasoline. Furthermore, this bill advances conservation by promoting energy-efficient homes and appliances, **fuel cell vehicles**, hybrid vehicles, and alternative fuel vehicles.

<http://biden.senate.gov/press/statements/statement/?id=7d23c79d-59e1-4f6c-bab1-fa8c69c5d235>