ILC-010-03
(2 February 04)
DRAFT

Canada's Perspectives on the IPHE

The scope of the IPHE should include all areas of application for hydrogen and fuel cells, including transportation, stationary and portable. While hydrogen and fuel cells could have a major impact in the transportation field, there are also many opportunities in other fields. In fact, we expect that fuel cells will first find market niches in applications other than in vehicles.

We do not see the IPHE encompassing such technology areas as coal sequestration and nuclear power generation as there exist already other international fora to deal with these topics. The IPHE could address the linkages between such technologies and the hydrogen economy.

Hydrogen production from renewable energy sources is a priority for Canada, as is hydrogen storage. Materials issues for fuel cells also need to be addressed.

There is considerable international collaboration underway already, for example under the International Energy Agency. We must ensure that good linkages are established between such organizations to eliminate duplication of effort, not only in the technical work, but in the process as well.

Codes and standards are very important, particularly in the international context. However, the IPHE should not get into the business of writing codes and standards but should encourage the use of existing structures such as the International Standards Organization.

Demonstrations of technology and its application are very important and are an effective means to instill public confidence. They should be a focus of the IPHE.

The committee should identify priority areas for investigation of potential collaboration.