**Objective Evaluation of the Engineering Performance of Stationary Solid Oxide Fuel Cell (SOFC) Systems Based on Measured, Time-Dependent Data** 



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Comparative Performance Data for Solydera (formerly Solidpower Inc.) Solid Oxide Fuel Cell (SOFC) Systems

## **Summary**

Based on the data collected to date, the SOFC fuel cell systems (FCS) evaluated outperform high temperature proton exchange membrane (HTPEM) FCS previously evaluated in terms of (1) Electrical Efficiency & (2) Performance at Rated Value (values include down time). Figure compares (1) availability and (2) performance at rated value for efficiency (PRV<sub>eff</sub>), power (PRV<sub>p</sub>), and both efficiency & power (PRV<sub>t</sub>) for 4 different SOFC FCSs operated over 18-months with averaged data for 10 HTPEM FCSs. Values include down time. Figure compares (1) availability and (2) performance at rated value for 2 of the original 4 SOFC FCSs operated over 24-months with averaged data for 10 HTPEM FCSs. Values include down time.

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Fuel Cell Performance Comparison 100% 90% 80% 70% 60% **50%** 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% PRV\_eff PRV\_t PRV\_p **Availability** t<sub>elec\_and\_eff\_above\_rated</sub> t<sub>efficiency\_above\_rated</sub> t<sub>elec\_above\_rated</sub>  $PRV_n$ PRV  $PRV_{eff} = -$ ■ 1733 SOFC ■ 1743 SOFC ■ HTPEM

## > 4 SOFC FCSs over 18 months

One (1) of the four (4) SOFC systems, referred to as "SN1735," operated over 18-months with measured electric power output meeting or exceeding manufacturer-stated electric power output (1.5 kWe) 74.6% of the time (i.e. the PRV<sub>p</sub> including down time).



Over 18 months, SN1735's measured electrical efficiency meets or exceeds manufacturer-stated electrical efficiency (~60%) 80.2% of the time (i.e. the PRV<sub>eff</sub> including down time).



Over 18 months, SN1735 demonstrates an availability of 97.7%.



Availability is defined as the amount of time the unit is producing electric power divided by the total time of data collection. Availability is plotted above daily and collected at 1 hour time intervals.

## **> 2 SOFC FCSs over 24 months**

Over 18 months, SN1735's measured electrical efficiency and power both meet or exceed manufacturer-stated values (i.e. ~60% & 1.5 kWe) 74.6% of the time (i.e. the PRV<sub>t</sub> including down time).



PRV\_t is defined as the amount of time the unit's efficiency is ≥ the manufacturer stated electrical efficiency (60%) and power output (1.5kWe). PRV\_t is plotted above daily and collected at 1 hour time intervals.

The SOFC demonstrates a lower  $CO_2$  Emission Factor (~0.33 kg  $CO_2$ /kWhe) than both coal power plants and combined cycle gas turbine power plants.



Source: Rubin, E. S., Chen, C., & Rao, A. B. (2007). Cost and performance of fossil fuel power plants with CO2 capture and storage. Energy Policy, 35(9), 4444–4454. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2007.03.009

One (1) of the four (4) SOFC systems, referred to as "SN1743," operated over 24-months with measured electric power output meeting or exceeding manufacturer-stated electric power output (1.5 kWe) 92.4% of the time (i.e. the  $PRV_p$  including down time).

AC Power Output vs. Time SN1743



Over 24 months, SN1743's measured electrical efficiency meets or exceeds manufacturer-stated electrical efficiency (~60%) 93.4% of the time (i.e. the PRV<sub>eff</sub> including down time).



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Over 24 months, SN1743 demonstrates an availability of 93.7%.



Availability is defined as the amount of time the unit is producing electric power divided by the total time of data collection. Availability is plotted above daily and collected at 1 hour time intervals. Over 24 months, SN1743's measured electrical efficiency and power both meet or exceed manufacturer-stated values (i.e. ~60% & 1.5 kWe) 92.4% of the time (i.e. the PRV<sub>t</sub> including down time).



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Dr. Colella serves as Founder, President & Principal Research Engineer of Gaia Energy Research Institute. Dr. Colella has over ~25 years of R&D experience in academia, government, & private industry in the areas of advanced energy conversion system design, operation, & control. Her areas of expertise include the thermodynamics, chemical engineering process plant design, heat transfer, economics, computer modeling, techno-economic analysis (TEA), life cycle assessment (LCA), emissions monitoring, design for manufacture & assembly analysis (DFMA), energy systems analysis, independent testing, & resiliency of advanced energy systems. Alexandria, VA, United States P: +1 (650) 283-2701 E: wgc@gaia-energy-research-institute.com W: <u>http://www.linkedin.com/in/wgcgaia</u>