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The effect of electricity markets, and renewable electricity penetration, on the levelised cost of energy of an advanced electro-fuel system incorporating carbon capture and utilisation

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

- 1 The effect of electricity markets, and renewable electricity penetration, on
- 2 the levelised cost of energy of an advanced electro-fuel system incorporating
- 3 carbon capture and utilisation

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10 Abstract

- 11 Power-to-Gas (P2G) is a technology that converts electricity to gas and is termed gaseous fuel from
- 12 non-biological origin. It has been mooted as a means of utilising low-cost or otherwise curtailed
- 13 electricity to produce an advanced transport fuel, whilst facilitating intermittent renewable
- 14 electricity through grid balancing measures and decentralised storage of electricity. This paper
- 15 investigates the interaction of a 10MW_e P2G facility with an island electricity grid with limited
- 16 interconnection, through modelling electricity purchase. Three models are tested; 2016 at 25%
- 17 renewable electricity penetration and 2030 at both 40% and 60% penetration levels. The
- 18 relationships between electricity bid price, average cost of electricity and run hours were established
- 19 whilst the levelised cost of energy (LCOE) was evaluated for the gaseous fuel produced. Bidding for
- 20 electricity above the average marginal cost of generation in the system (€35-50/MW_eh) was found to
- 21 minimise the LCOE in all three scenarios. The frequency of low-cost and high-costs hours, analogous
- 22 to balancing issues, increased with increasing shares of variable renewable electricity generation.
- 23 However, basing P2G systems on low-cost (less than $€10/MW_eh$) hours alone (999 hours in 2030 at
- 24 60% renewable penetration) is not the path to financial optimisation; it is preferential to increase
- 25 the run hours to a level that amortises the capital expenditure.
- 26

27 Keywords:

Power-to-gas (P2G); Levelised cost of energy (LCOE); Renewable Energy Storage; Electricity Market;
Electrofuel; Optimisation.

- 30
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