



August 13-14, 2025 | Des Plaines, Illinois

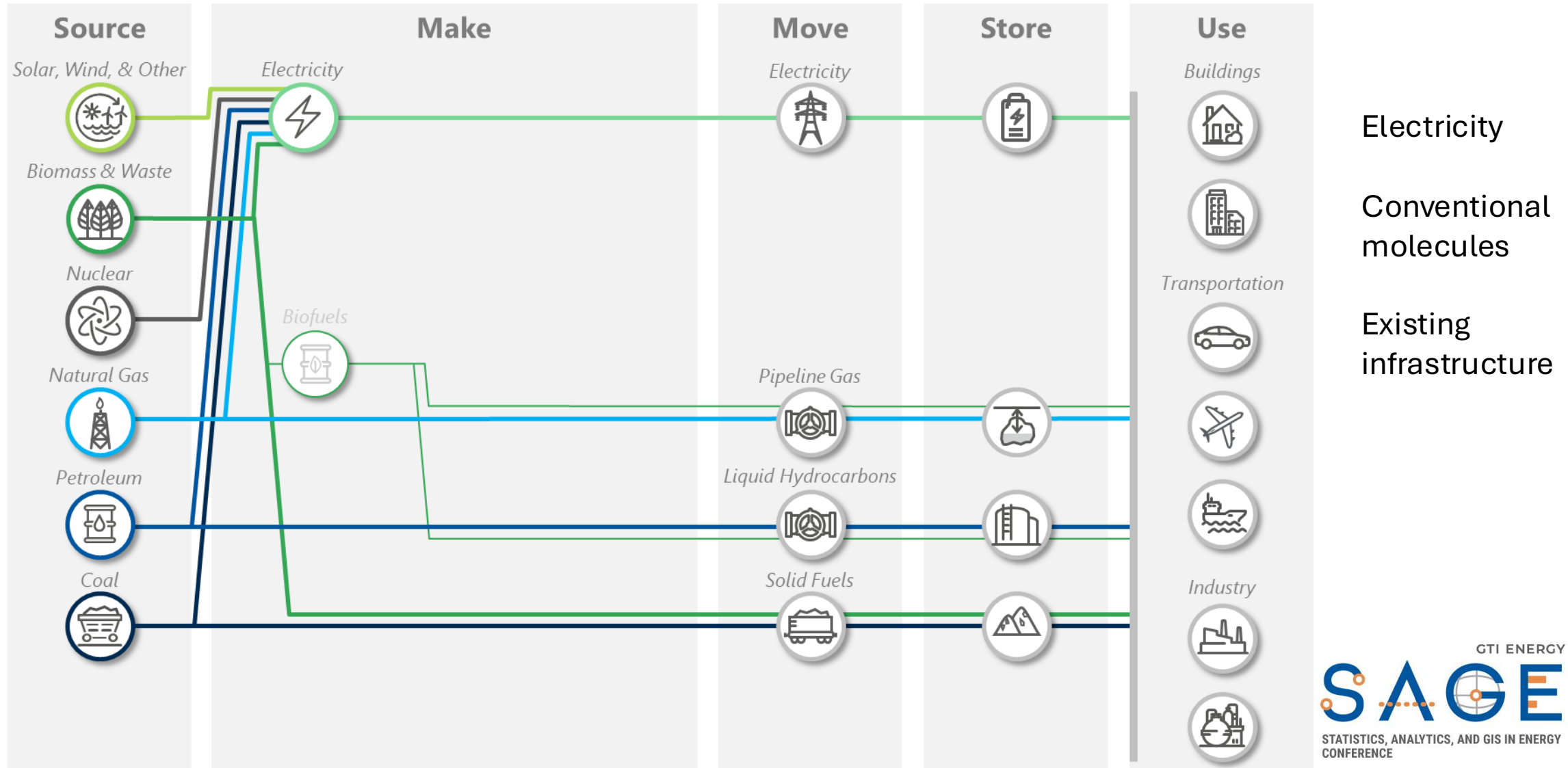
Clean Energy Network Analysis (CENA)

Ansh Nasta, *Principal Energy Systems Analyst, GTI Energy*

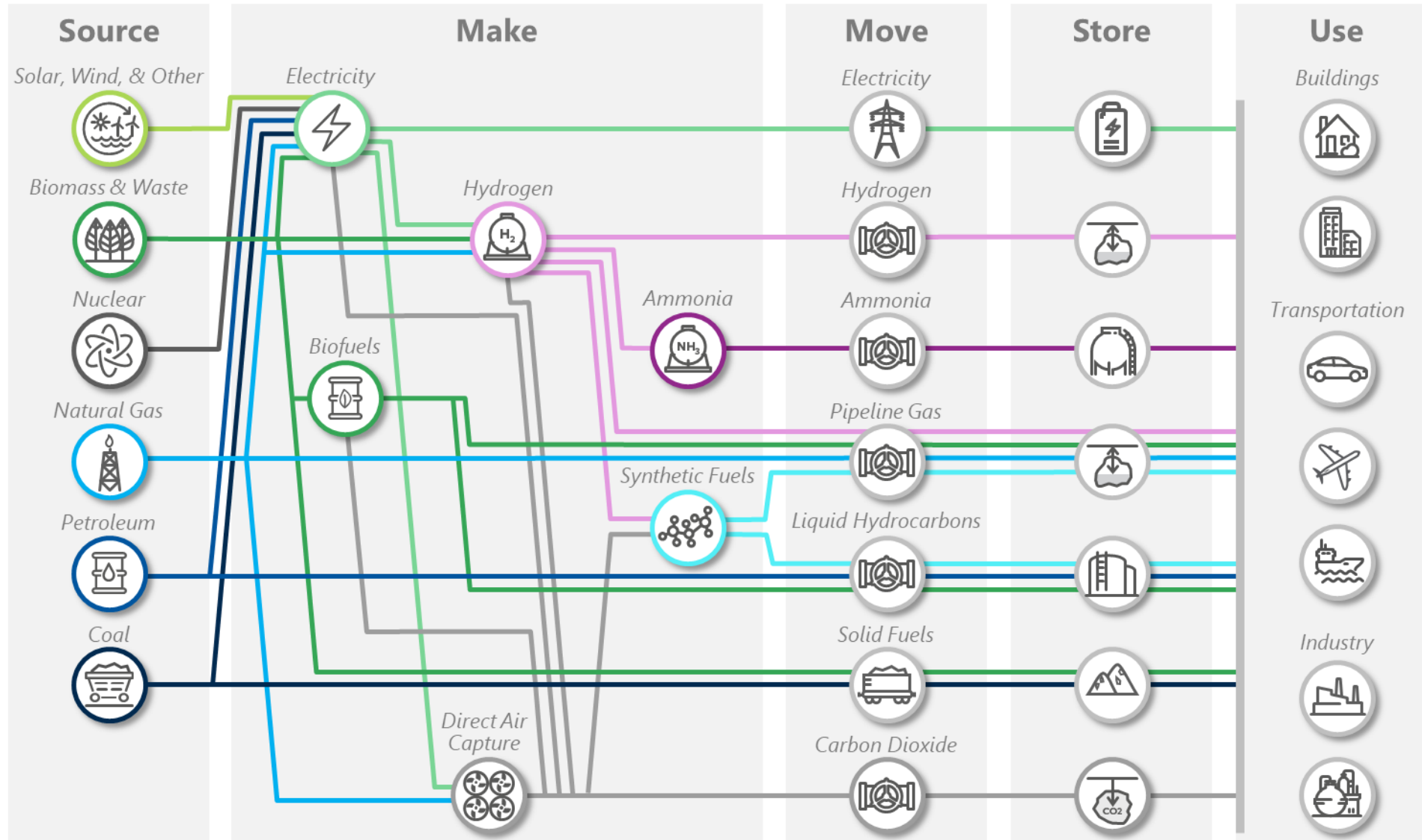
Matt Ives, *Institute Energy Systems Analyst, GTI Energy*

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Today's Energy Systems



Net-Zero Energy Systems



Electricity

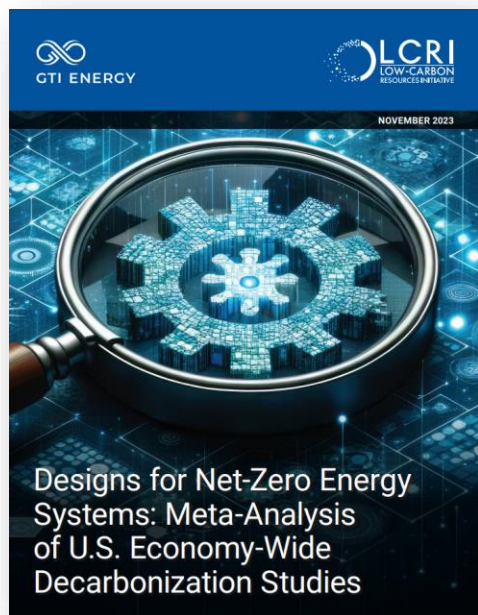
Conventional
molecules

Existing
infrastructure

New molecules

New infrastructure

Meta NZ Study



report available at
gti.energy/meta-nz/

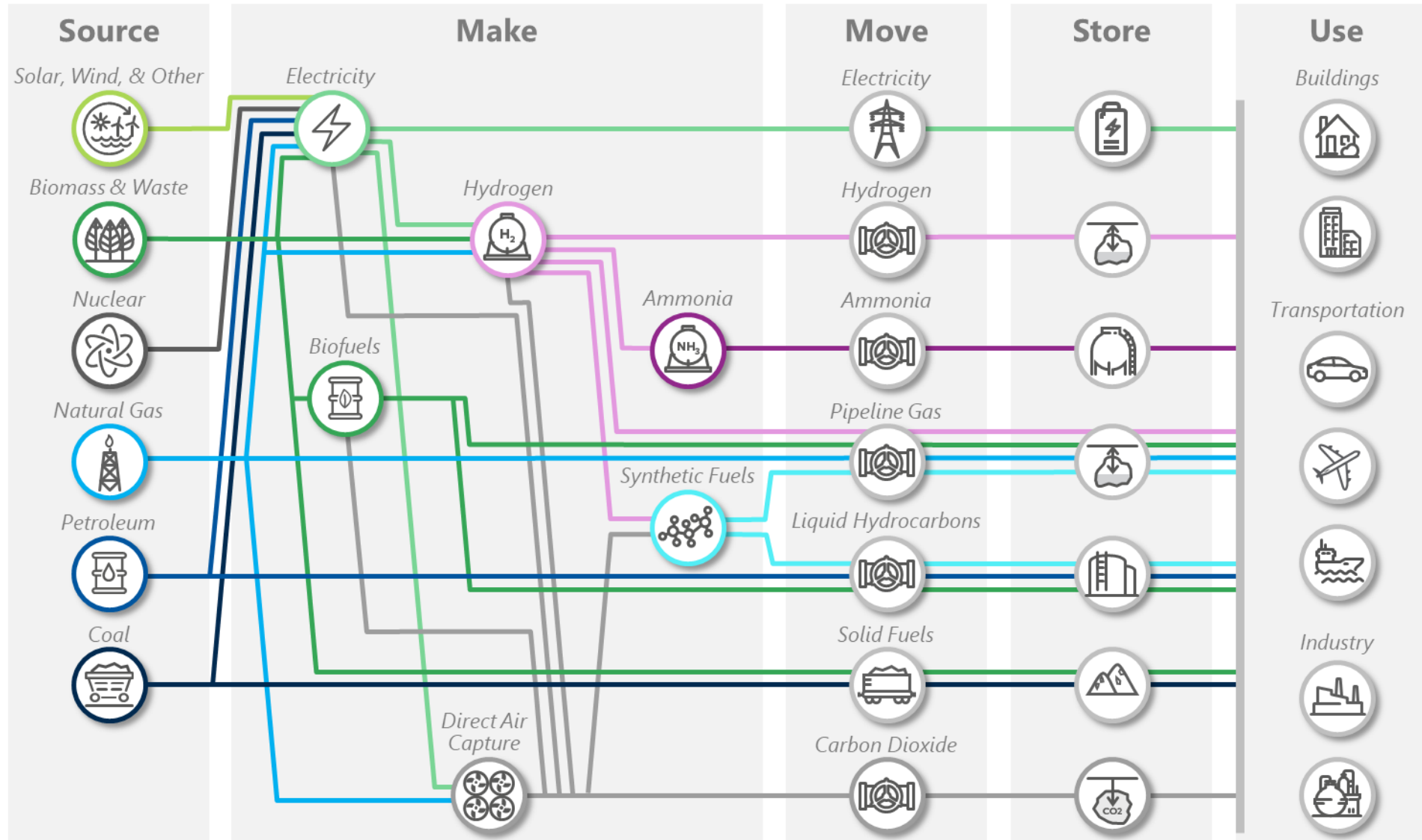
Meta-Analysis of U.S. Economy-Wide, Net-Zero Studies

1. Low Carbon Resources Initiative (*EPRI, GTI Energy*)
2. Open Energy Outlook (*Carnegie Mellon University, NC State*)
3. Evolved Energy Research
4. Princeton University
5. Decarb America (*Bipartisan Policy Center, Clean Air Task Force, Third Way*)

5 leading independent U.S. economy-wide studies

23 scenarios for least-cost pathways to net-zero

Net-Zero Energy Systems



Electricity

Conventional molecules

Existing infrastructure

New molecules

New infrastructure



Clean Energy Network Analysis (CENA)

What could the co-optimized deployment of gas infrastructure (NG/RNG/SNG, H2, CO2) look like in a net-zero future?

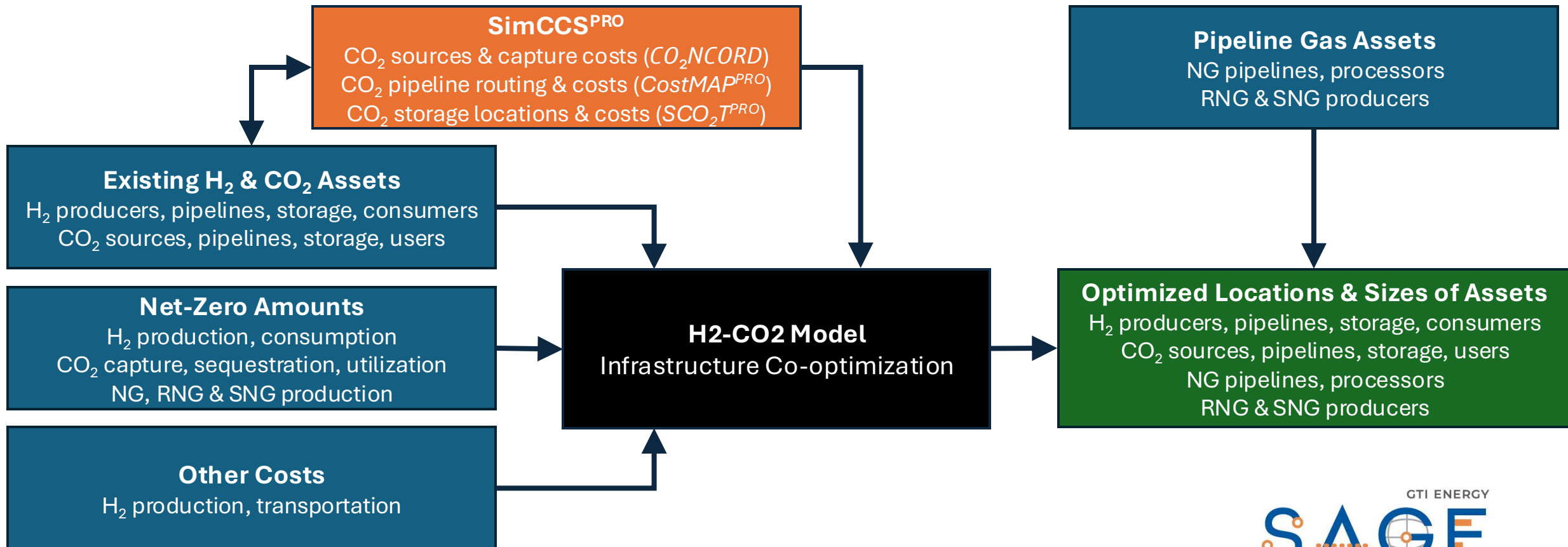
How can we answer regional questions using data from national net-zero studies?

What is the role of existing gas infrastructure in net-zero energy systems?

How do we optimize building new infrastructure to move these new molecules?

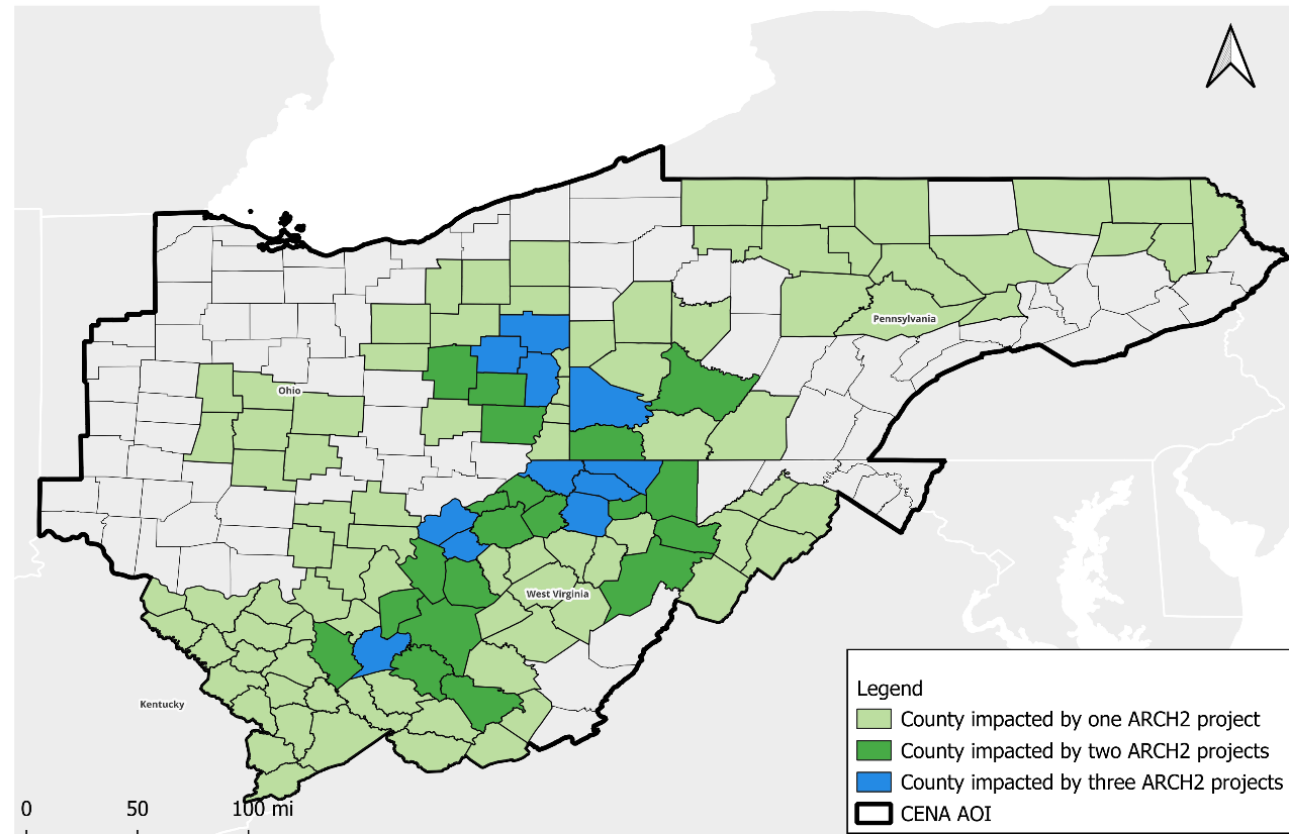
First-of-a-kind analysis that performs a **simultaneous cost-based co-optimization of CO2 and H2 infrastructure relative to NG infrastructure**

Modeling Framework



Area of Interest (AOI): Appalachia

- Important energy-producing region for over a century
- Plentiful NG to produce H₂
- Iron & steel industry that could use H₂
- Large sources of CO₂ to capture from
- Existing gas infrastructure & workforce
- ARCH2 hub



Selected counties in four states: KY, OH, PA, WV

Data Disaggregation: Net-Zero Scenarios

US

- How much hydrogen is produced via electrolysis in the US in 2050 under net-zero conditions?

Depending on available data

Region/State

- How much hydrogen is produced via electrolysis in the Ohio River Valley or in Pennsylvania in 2050 under net-zero conditions?

County-level data: population, GDP, truck stops

AOI

- How much hydrogen is produced via electrolysis in CENA's area of interest in 2050 under net-zero conditions?

Data Disaggregation: Net-Zero Scenarios

Low Carbon Resources Initiative (LCRI)

1. LCRI Opt-Tech

Optimistic assumptions for CO2 transport and storage, electrolysis, and bioenergy

2. LCRI Lim-CCS Opt-Nuc

Optimistic assumptions for electrolysis, reference assumptions for bioenergy, and no CO2 storage

Evolved Energy Research (EER)

1. EER Central

Least-cost pathway for achieving net zero by 2050

2. EER Low Land

Limits the amount of land available for building energy infrastructure due to environmental and societal constraints

Net-Zero 2050 Values	LCRI Opt-Tech	LCRI Lim-CCS Opt-Nuc	EER Central	EER Low Land
H2 consumption total [Mt/yr]	0.13	0.63	2.43	2.88
Green H2 production total [Mt/yr]	0.00	0.63	1.38	1.77
Blue H2 production total [Mt/yr]	0.13	0.00	1.04	1.11
CO2 capture total [Mt/yr]	92.01	4.91	21.15	32.67
CO2 sequestration total [Mt/yr]	92.01	0.00	18.59	29.40
CO2 utilization total [Mt/yr]	0.00	0.00	2.56	3.27
RNG production total [EJ/yr]	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.09
SNG production [EJ/yr]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NG production total [EJ/yr]	3.71	0.04	3.71	4.99

Data Gathering: NG, RNG & SNG

Natural Gas (NG)

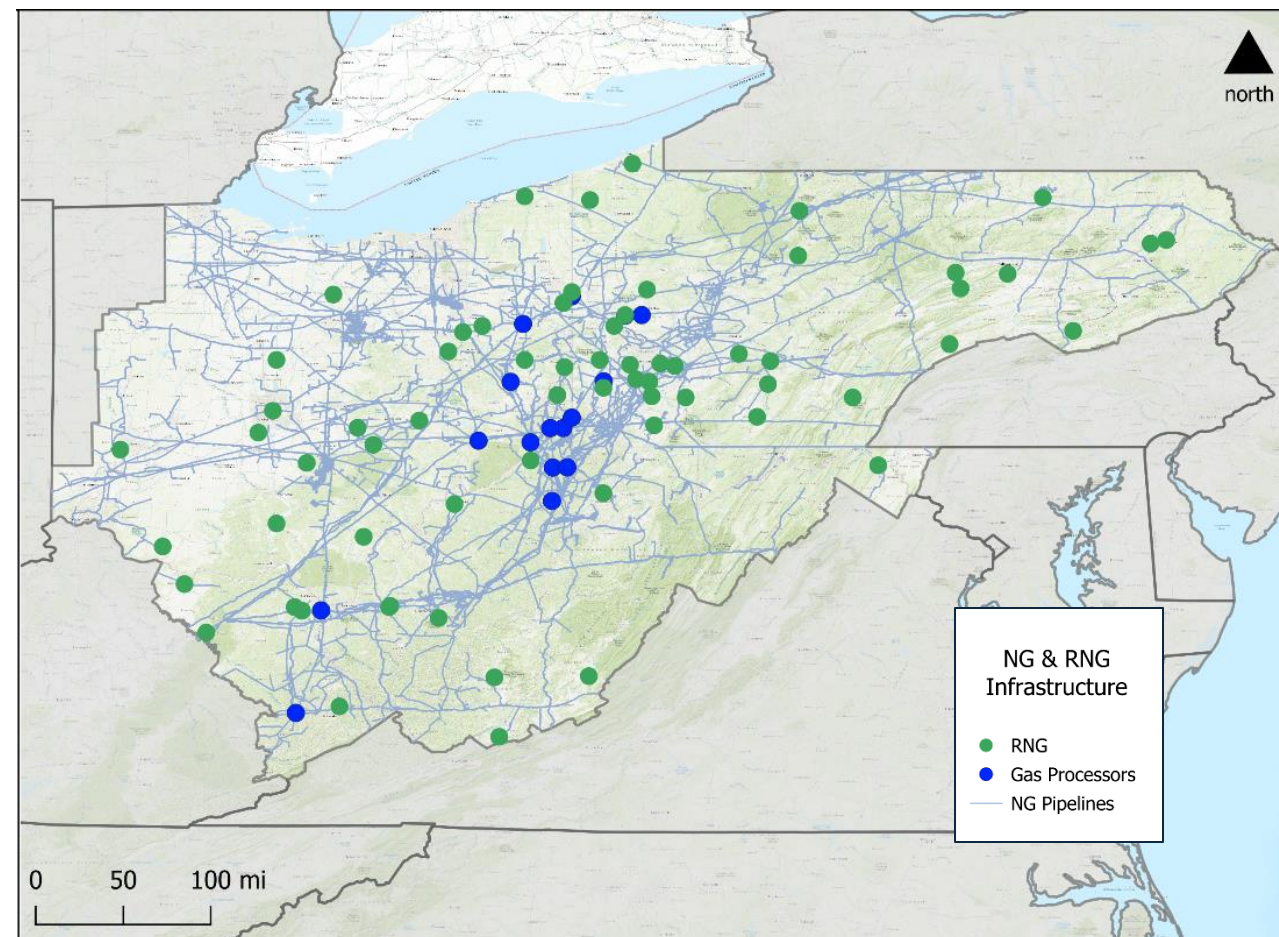
- Production: Gas processors > 50 MMcfd
- Transportation: ~73,000 km Pipelines

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)

- 18 existing and 48 new RNG facilities
- Potential RNG production capacity of ~160,000 scfm

Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG)

- None



Data Gathering: H₂ & CO₂

H₂ production

- NGR+CC, electrolysis, BG+CC

H₂ transportation

- Pipelines

H₂ storage

- Subsurface depleted gas reservoirs

H₂ consumption

- Iron & steel, cement, ammonia, synthetic fuels, MHDVs, refineries

CO₂ capture

- H₂ production, power plants, cement/lime, ethanol

CO₂ transportation

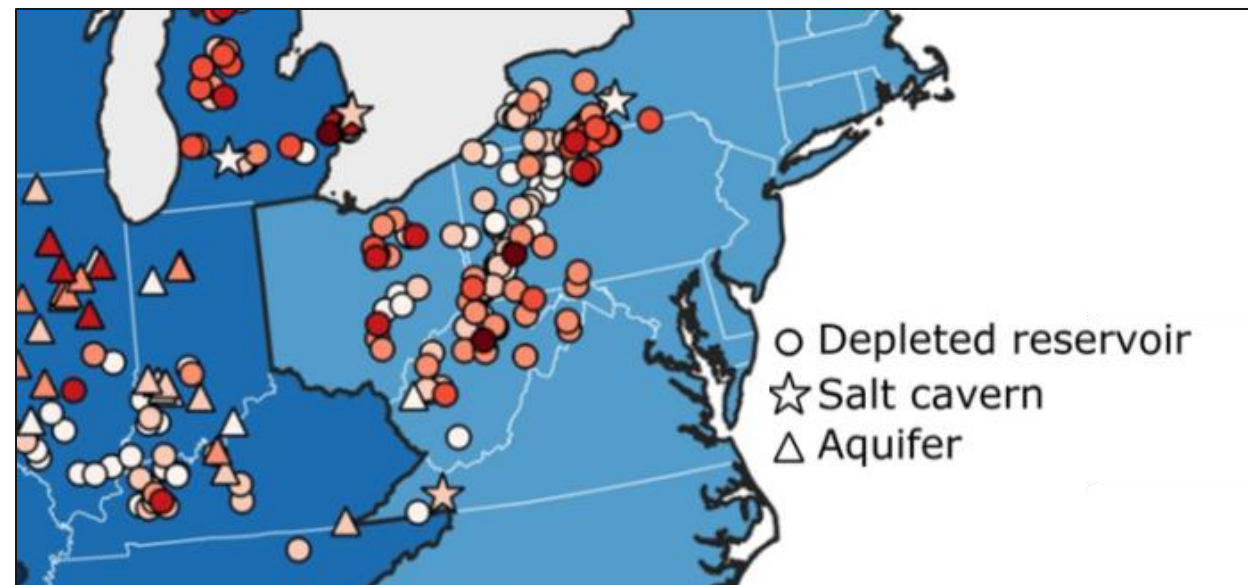
- Pipelines

CO₂ sequestration

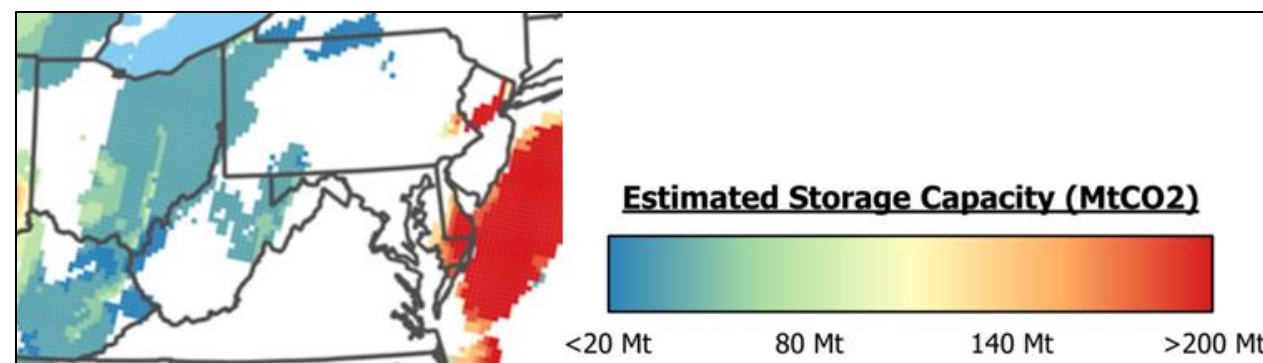
- Geologic subsurface

CO₂ utilization

- Synthetic fuels



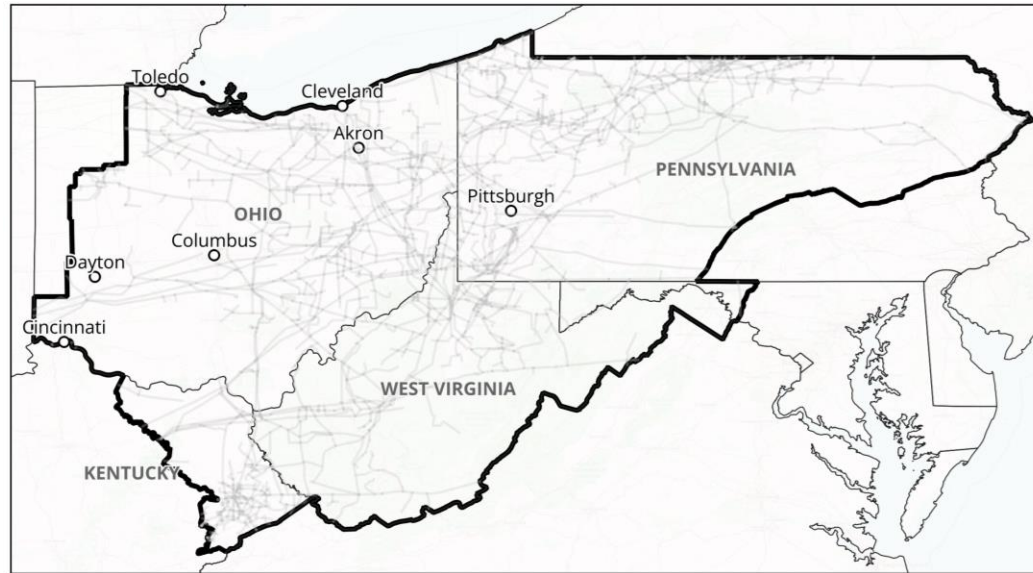
Adapted from Lackey et al.



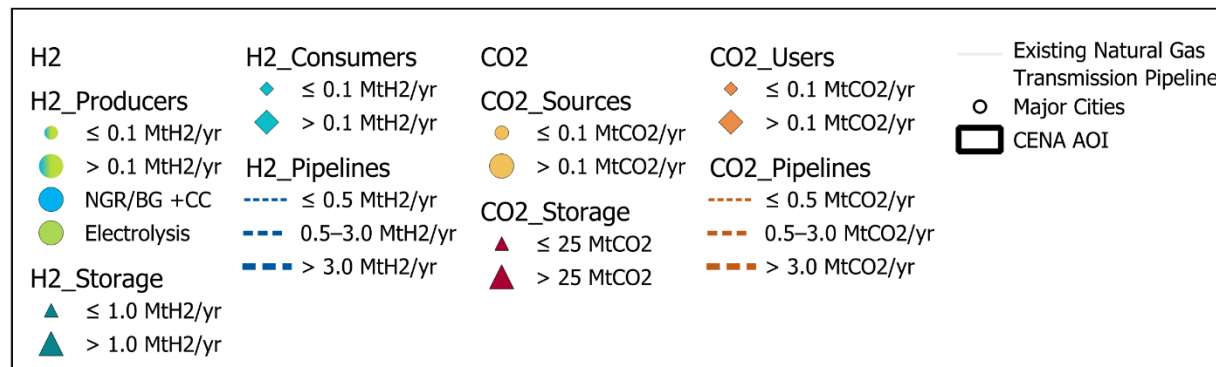
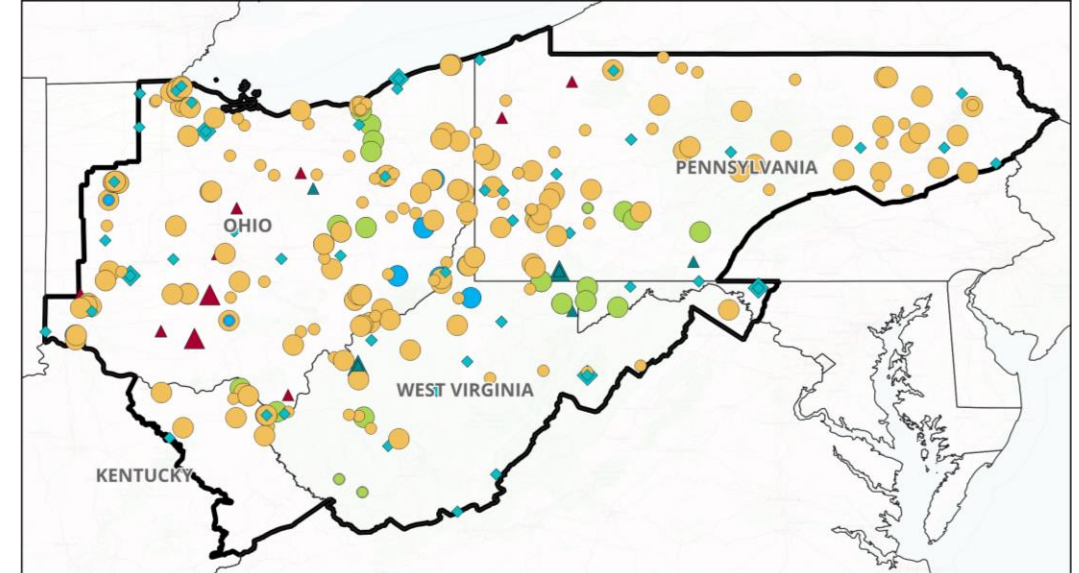
Adapted from Carbon Solutions

Infrastructure Available for Optimization

Existing Natural Gas Pipelines

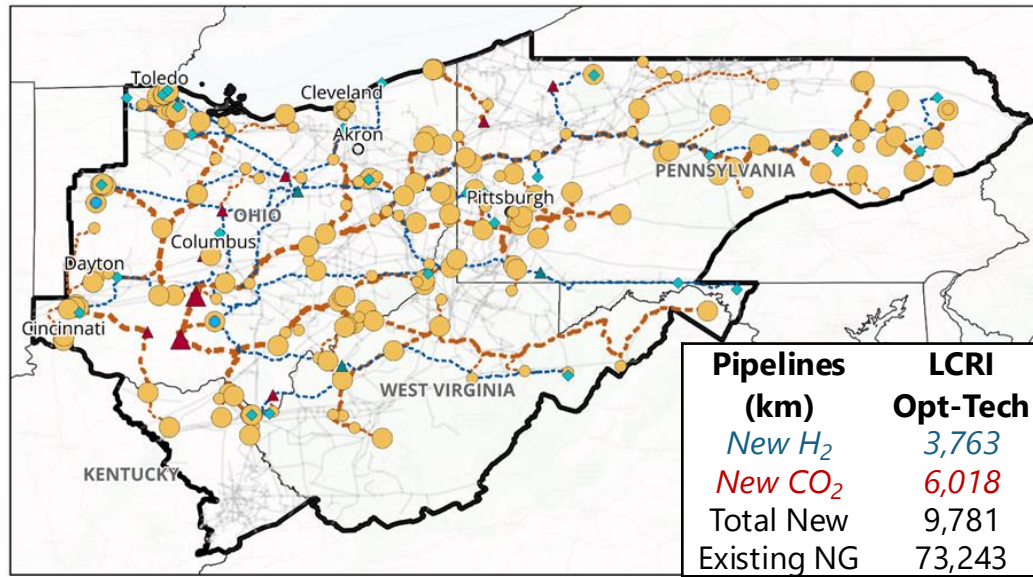


Potential H₂ & CO₂ Assets

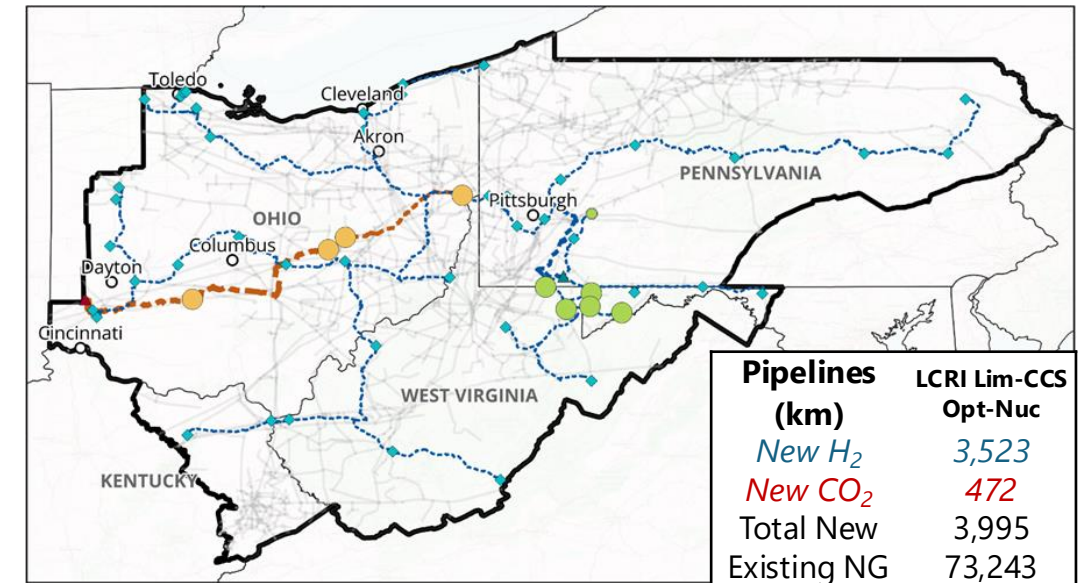


Results of Net-Zero LCRI Scenarios

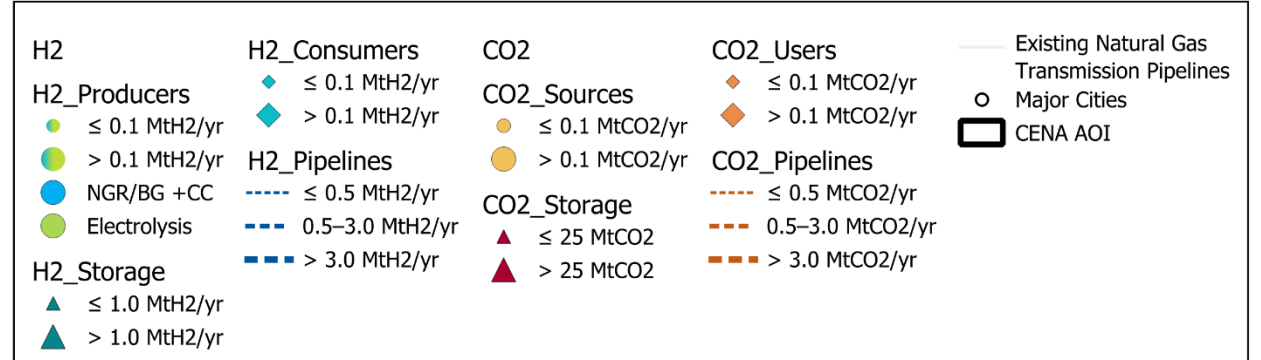
LCRI Opt-Tech



LCRI Lim-CCS Opt-Nuc

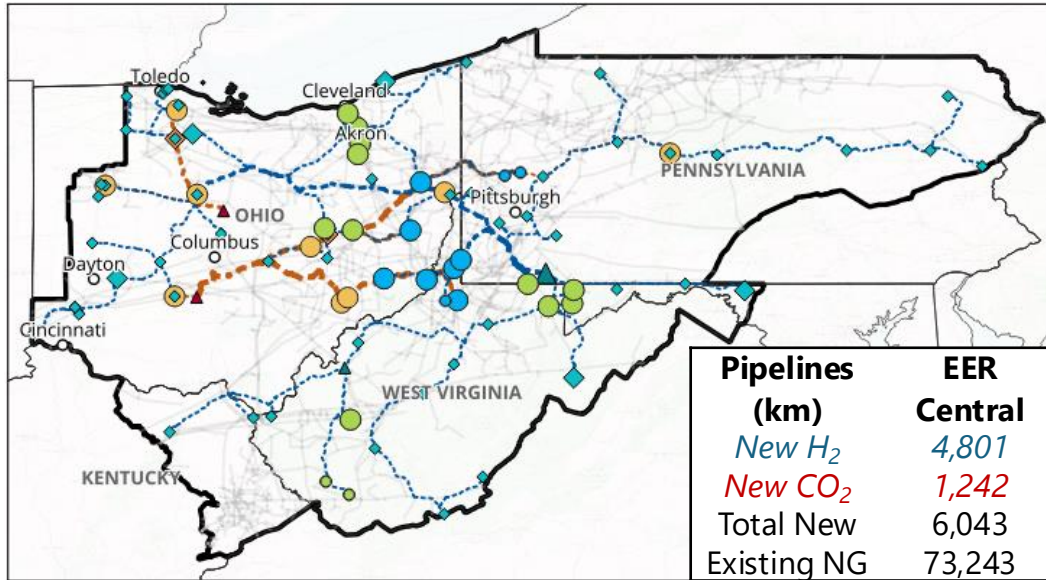


Amount	Opt-Tech	Lim-CCS Opt-Nuc
Green H ₂ [Mt/yr]	0.00	0.63
Blue H ₂ [Mt/yr]	0.13	0.00
CO ₂ capture [Mt/yr]	92.01	4.91

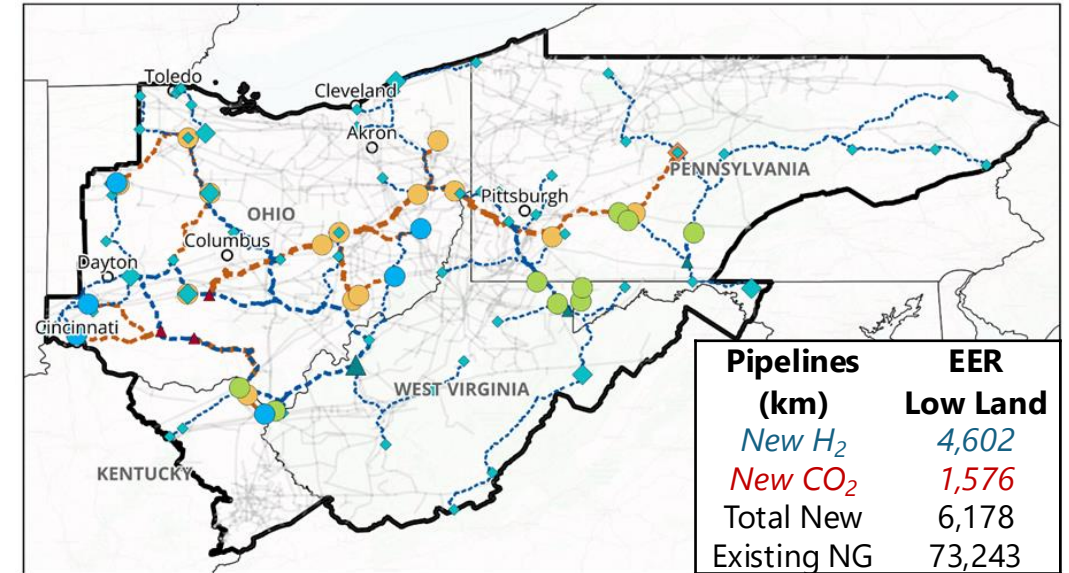


Results of Net-Zero EER Scenarios

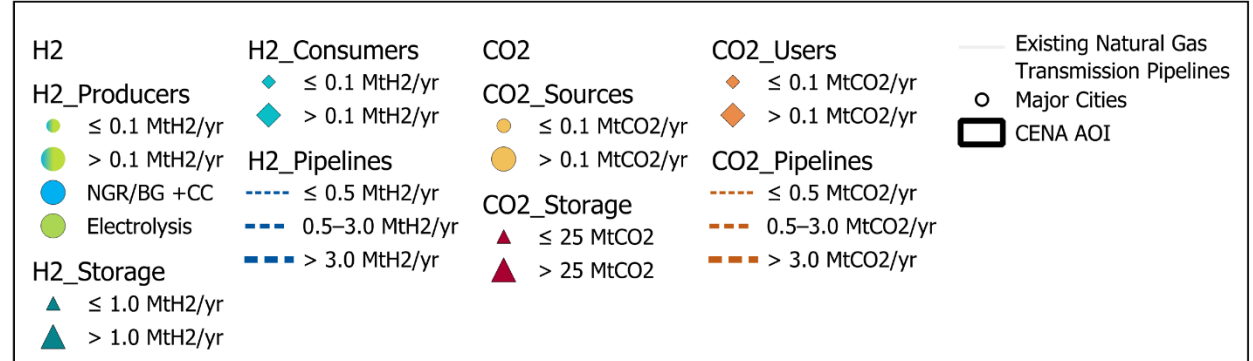
EER Central



EER Low Land



Amount	Central	Low Land
Green H ₂ [Mt/yr]	1.38	1.77
Blue H ₂ [Mt/yr]	1.04	1.11
CO ₂ capture [Mt/yr]	21.15	32.67



Can we build it?

Pipelines (km)	LCRI Opt-Tech	LCRI Lim-CCS Opt-Nuc	EER Central	EER Low Land
<i>New H₂ Pipelines</i>	<i>3,763</i>	<i>3,523</i>	<i>4,801</i>	<i>4,602</i>
<i>New CO₂ Pipelines</i>	<i>6,018</i>	<i>472</i>	<i>1,242</i>	<i>1,576</i>
Total New Pipelines	9,781	3,995	6,043	6,178
Build Rate over 25 Years (km/yr)	391	160	242	247

- Total length of existing NG transmission pipelines in the CENA AOI is 73243 km
- 294 km of natural gas transmission pipelines were installed in WV in 2022
 - This build rate could lead to 7,000 km of new transmission pipelines in WV by 2050

Key Takeaways

- **H₂ and CO₂ infrastructure** are key to least-cost net-zero pathways in the U.S.
- **New modeling tool** enables co-optimized, geospatial planning of these assets
- **High interconnectivity** found, especially in Appalachian region scenarios
- **Project-by-project planning** may miss synergies and lead to inefficiencies
- **Modeling supports broader planning**, beyond immediate hub boundaries
- **Deployment is feasible**—pipeline build rates align with recent NG benchmarks