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From: Hydrogen Economy Advancement Team,USA

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Professor Dr. MAO:

I am writing to acquaint you with our pursuit of hydrogen railway deployment in the US and elsewhere. "Hydrail" is a generic term of art for railway (especially commuter rail) use of onboard stationary fuel cells for traction power. Hydrail allows electrification of railway lines without the expense and danger of overhead catenary wires or third rail power supplies.

In 2004, I published a short description of our Mooresville hydrail initiative in the International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, Vol 29, Issue 4, p. 438.

Given China's enormous hydroelectric resources and growing nuclear programs, it seems probable that some form of hydrail is being pursued there. We would like to become acquainted with scholars or business people interested in hydrail and to introduce you to the similarly interested colleagues around the world.

The Hydrogen Economy Action Team, "HEAT," which I chair, is a small volunteer group of technologists who see that the hydrogen economy is inevitable and therefore should be developed as rapidly as economically feasible. On 6 May, 2005, we convened in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, the First International Hydrail Conference. (please see the Conference web site, www.hydrail.org) The Conference was convened to jump-start hydrail technology for three reasons:

- 1) to reduce dependence on petroleum
- 2) to reduce rail contribution to urban air pollution and climate change
- 3) to create a new industry with economic advantages

The hydrail Conference was sponsored by the US Environmental Protection Agency, Chambers of Commerce, State agencies and Appalachian State University. Presenters came from Japan, Canada and around the United States. Denmark is designing the first hydrail line in Europe (in Jutland) and I presented their story.

Our team would be pleased to share information with anyone in China interested in advancing hydrail technology and economics.

Stan Thompson, Chairman
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