HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME TOPIC HORIZON-CLEANH2-2023-01-01

GA No. 101137893

REDHY

Redox-Mediated economic, critical raw material free, low capex and highly efficient green hydrogen production technology



REDHY - Deliverable report

DELIVERABLE 3.1 – Fluorine-free PEM and PEI







| Deliverable No. | 3.1 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Related WP | WP3 |
| Deliverable Title | Fluorine-free PEM and PEI |
| Deliverable Date | 30.06.2025 |
| Deliverable Type | Report |
| Dissemination level | SEN |
| Author(s) | Julien Fage, Assam Raja (CENmat) |
| Checked by | Tobias Morawietz |
| Reviewed by (if applicable) | Tobias Morawietz |
| Approved by | Tobias Morawietz |
| Status | submitted |

Document History

| Version | Date | Editing done by | Remarks |
|---------|----------|----------------------|---|
| 1.0 | 15.05.25 | Julien Fage (CENmat) | Creation of the document, structurazation |
| 2.0 | 18.06.25 | Julien Fage (CENmat) | Implementation of data and text |
| | | | |
| | | | |



Public Summary

The EU project REDHY is developing a new generation of electrolysis systems that move beyond today's conventional technologies. Instead of optimizing traditional setups, REDHY takes a disruptive approach based on bipolar membrane systems, which combine acidic and alkaline membranes into a single architecture. This design opens new possibilities for efficiency, cost reduction, and critical raw material minimization.

One key step in this development is replacing PFAS-containing materials, such as Nafion, with safer alternatives. PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are known as "forever chemicals" due to their environmental persistence and growing regulatory concern.

This deliverable presents progress toward creating PFAS-free proton exchange membranes, which will form the acidic side of future BPMs. Several membrane formulations were developed using sulfonated polymer strategies, with some achieving conductivity and performance levels comparable to Nafion. Importantly, these materials also meet REDHY's Milestone 4 target of >70 mS/cm conductivity and <55% water uptake and show promising stability in early testing.

In parallel, ionomers matching the new membrane chemistry are being developed for use in the catalyst layers. These efforts support REDHY's goal of building sustainable, high performance electrolysis systems with minimal environmental impact and full material integration across PEM/AEM interfaces.



6. Acknowledgement

The author(s) would like to thank the partners in the project for their valuable comments on previous drafts and for performing the review.

Project partners:

| # | Partner short name | Partner Full Name |
|---|--------------------|---|
| 1 | DLR | DEUTSCHES ZENTRUM FUR LUFT – UND RAUMFARHT EV |
| 2 | CNRS | CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIC |
| 3 | UNR | <u>UNIRESEARCH BV</u> |
| 4 | UPV | UNIVERSITAT POLITECNICA DE VALANCIA |
| 5 | IDN | INDUSTRIE DE NORA SPA-IDN |
| 6 | CENMAT | CUTTING-EDGE NANOMATERIALS CENMAT UG HAFTUNGSBESCHRANKT |
| 7 | CNR | CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE RICERCHE |

Disclaimer/ Acknowledgment





Copyright ©, all rights reserved. This document or any part thereof may not be made public or disclosed, copied or otherwise reproduced or used in any form or by any means, without prior permission in writing from the REDHY Consortium. Neither the REDHY Consortium nor any of its members, their

officers, employees or agents shall be liable or responsible, in negligence or otherwise, for any loss, damage or expense whatever sustained by any person as a result of the use, in any manner or form, of any knowledge, information or data contained in this document, or due to any inaccuracy, omission or error therein contained.

All Intellectual Property Rights, know-how and information provided by and/or arising from this document, such as designs, documentation, as well as preparatory material in that regard, is and shall remain the exclusive property of the REDHY Consortium and any of its members or its licensors. Nothing contained in this document shall give, or shall be construed as giving, any right, title, ownership, interest, license or any other right in or to any IP, know-how and information.

The project is supported by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and its members.

The project has received funding from Clean Hydrogen Partnership Joint Undertaking under Grant Agreement No 101137893. This Joint Undertaking receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme, Hydrogen Europe and Hydrogen Europe Research.

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Clean Hydrogen Partnership. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.