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Hydrogen Fueling via Guanidine J. A. VAN VECHTEN, Oregon Sustainable Energy — Three related materials, ammonia (NH3), urea (OCN2H4), and guanidine (CN3H5) are practicable hydrogen-based fuels¹ that could be produced in the giga-tonne quantities required from air, water and renewable energy. NH3 has long been established as a fuel for internal combustion engines and can be cracked to H2 for use in fuelcells, but is a gas at STP and extremely toxic, so general use is problematic. Urea and guanidine can easily be converted to NH3 and CO2 by addition of hot water from oxidation of NH3. Both are solids at STP, non-toxic, non-explosive and commonly shipped in plastic bags. The energy density in kWhr/L of guanidine is 4.7 compared with 3.0 for urea, 3.5 for liquid NH3, and 0.8 for H gas in 10,000 psi tanks. The specific energies in kWhr/kg for these materials are respectively 3.58, 2.35, 5.2, and (including the tank) 1.8. Guanidine melts at 50 C and is infinitely soluble in both ethanol and water. 1) http://www.energy.iastate.edu/renewable/biomass/AmmoniaMtg06.html

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