



## **SOUTH CAROLINA HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL ALLIANCE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance Names Executive Director**

**Columbia, S.C.** – The South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance has selected Shannon Baxter-Clemmons, Ph.D. of the California Environmental Protection Agency as the Alliance's Executive Director. Beginning March 1, Baxter-Clemmons will be responsible for coordinating the development and promotion of hydrogen and fuel cell initiatives across the state.

Baxter-Clemmons previously served as the Assistant Secretary for Hydrogen and Alternative Fuels Policy at the California Environmental Protection Agency. During her time in California, she led the development of the California Hydrogen Blueprint Plan, which was adopted by Governor Schwarzenegger in May 2005. She also contributed to the development of the California Fuel Cell Partnership and managed a number of landmark studies on the commercialization of alternative fuel vehicles.

"It is especially exciting that Dr. Baxter-Clemmons, a young professional from South Carolina and a graduate of USC, is taking over the reins of South Carolina's hydrogen and fuel cell initiative," said Fred Humes, Chairman of the South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance. "Her work in California in support of the Governor's hydrogen program, gives her a breadth of experience that will be put to good use in South Carolina."

Before locating to California, Baxter-Clemmons was employed as Director of Special Projects at Fuel Cells 2000 in Washington, DC.

"It's an honor to come home and have an opportunity to serve the citizens of South Carolina," said Baxter-Clemmons. "The members of the South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance have been working hard to advance hydrogen and fuel cell technologies that can secure the energy future of our state and nation."

South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance offices will be housed within the South Carolina Department of Commerce in Columbia where Baxter-Clemmons received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Carolina in 1999. Her graduate research on direct methanol fuel cells was conducted at Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago.

"I am happy to be back in the Palmetto State and look forward to building on the good work of the South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance members," said Baxter-Clemmons.

The South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance, SCHFCA, is a nonprofit organization founded in January 2006 from six core members dedicated to hydrogen and fuel cell initiatives: the Center for Hydrogen Research, Clemson University, the Savannah River National Laboratory, SC Department of Commerce, S.C. State University and the University of South Carolina.

In its first year, SCHFCA has introduced hydrogen-related legislation in our state and secured a significant industry meeting, the 2009 National Hydrogen Association conference. The conference is expected to bring more than \$1 million in economic impact to the Columbia area through the attendance of hundreds of exhibitors and participants. SCHFCA has also sponsored a national student design competition and developed a plan for a statewide hydrogen fueling infrastructure.

SCHFCA is leading the way towards making South Carolina a significant contributor to the national and international hydrogen economies. For more information on the South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance, please visit [www.SCHydrogen.org](http://www.SCHydrogen.org).

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