None of them had found hydrogen to be a suitable means for heating homes and businesses.

The problem, Rosenow points out, is that using hydrogen in such a way would be inefficient. To be feasible, hydrogen would have to be created using a renewable resource. It would then have to be either burned at a plant to heat a boiler driving a turbine to create electricity to send to homes, or be sent directly to homes. If it was sent directly to homes and burned in a furnace, it would be approximately five times less efficient than an ordinary heat pump. He notes that with this approach, more renewable energy would be needed than has been forecast, which would involve building more wind and solar farms, pushing the cost of hydrogen heating even higher.

He concludes by noting that discussions regarding the use of hydrogen to heat homes is taking attention away from more worthy endeavors, which is delaying the changes required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions sooner rather than later.


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