

# Clean Hydrogen Start-Up Syzygy to Slash Workforce

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Syzygy Plasmonics, a Houston-based clean energy start-up that uses light instead of heat to produce low-carbon hydrogen, plans to lay off more than half of its workforce amid rising headwinds in the US clean energy space.

In an official notice sent to the Texas Workforce Commission last week, Syzygy CEO Trevor Best said the company will lay off 68 employees in the Houston area starting on Mar. 31 "as a result of the company's current financial outlook."

"This is a difficult time for many clean tech companies, so it is necessary to adjust to match the pace of the market," Best told Energy Intelligence. "This shift has led us to make the difficult choice to reduce headcount. ... It's a devastating decision to eliminate jobs, especially because our employees represent the very best talent in our industry."

He added that Syzygy has offered outplacement services to the laid-off employees and that the remaining team members are "focused on commercializing our amazing technology for hydrogen and sustainability aviation fuel."

Syzygy's announcement comes as US President Donald Trump looks to [implement an energy agenda](#) focused on ramping up fossil fuel production while threatening to unwind his predecessor's policies aimed at promoting the development of lower-carbon energy, including billions of dollars in incentives enacted by the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act and the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Syzygy has raised more than \$113 million from investors including Chevron, Equinor, Aramco Ventures and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries for the development of its proprietary technology, which produces "blue" hydrogen with a reactor powered by light instead of burning fuel for heat, significantly reducing its carbon intensity.

In late January, Syzygy reported that it and partner Lotte Chemical had successfully completed a test of its second proprietary reactor — “the world's largest all-electric ammonia cracking system” — in South Korea.

Syzygy co-founder and Chief Technology Officer Suman Khatiwada said in a statement at the time that the companies “made history” with the test.

"This is the breakthrough that Korea, Japan and Eastern Europe have been waiting for," she said. "They now have an efficient, proven way to crack imported ammonia for hydrogen."

Khatiwada added that the next step for the firm was “small commercial plant deployment."

Fonte: [https://www.energyintel.com/00000194-f156-d625-ab9e-f3df18310000?utm\\_campaign=Energy+Intelligence+News%2C+February+10%2C+2025&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=sendgrid.com&utm\\_term=20250210Z](https://www.energyintel.com/00000194-f156-d625-ab9e-f3df18310000?utm_campaign=Energy+Intelligence+News%2C+February+10%2C+2025&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid.com&utm_term=20250210Z)