



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Resource Management Commission

**FROM:** Richard Morgan, GB & ET Manager

**DATE:** October 18, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Electric Vehicle and Emerging Technology Monthly Update

I am pleased to present this monthly report on Austin Energy's Plug-In Partners Home Charging Station Program, the Plug-In EVerywhere™ ("PIE") network of plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) charging stations, and the recently launched Texas River Cities Initiative.

Under the Plug-In Partners Pilot Program, Austin Energy provides residential customers that purchase or lease an electric vehicle a rebate of 50% of the cost and installation of a level 2 charging station, up to \$1,500. In return, customers agree to allow Austin Energy to potentially replace their Level 2 charging station with Austin Energy-owned smart charging equipment. As part of the program, Austin Energy will collect charging behavior information with the customer's consent, and will later conduct a charge management pilot. The charge management pilot program will give Austin Energy an opportunity to work with electric vehicle customers to gather data and potentially manage residential charging in a manner that meets customer needs and minimizes electrical distribution system impacts.

Austin Energy is making substantial progress in establishing a network of 115 public charging stations conveniently located in office, retail, and government locations throughout the Austin area through the PIE program. The dual Level 1/Level 2 (110 or 220 volt) stations include ordinary electric plugs and the J1772 plug now standard on all new PEV models. The stations are capable of delivering up to 7.2 kW and can fully charge a Chevy Volt in 2-3 hours or a Nissan Leaf in 6-8 hours or less. Austin Energy owns and maintains the stations. We are currently providing a rebate (up to \$2,500) of 50% of the installation cost. This rebate is limited to two stations per location and up to 10 stations per organization.

We also offer Plug-In EVerywhere access cards at a special pilot rate: six months of unlimited access for just \$25. Customers may purchase a PIE card by visiting our website [www.pluginpartners.com](http://www.pluginpartners.com). PEV drivers who do not wish to purchase the cards may access the stations using an RFID-enabled credit card at a rate of \$2 per hour of charging.

Lastly, on September 9, 2011 the Department of Energy awarded Austin Energy approximately \$500,000 for a regional electric vehicle infrastructure planning project called the Texas River

Cities (TRC) initiative.<sup>1</sup> The initiative will develop a template for the efficient deployment of cost-effective electric vehicle infrastructure in the region stretching from San Antonio to Georgetown to support the market.

The TRC initiative has commitments from the City of San Antonio, CPS Energy, Bluebonnet Electric Coop, and Pedernales Electric Coop, with plans to add electric providers and municipalities within the region. The TRC project will engage partners in an industry advisory council to provide a market perspective to the project.

The DOE also funded an award to the Austin-based Center for the Commercialization of Electric Technologies to develop an infrastructure plan that will link the TRC plan in Central Texas to the Texas Triangle region.

Attached you will find a monthly report detailing the activities of the EV-ET program to date.

If you have any questions about the Plug-In EVerywhere network, please contact Richard Morgan at [Richard.morgan@austinenergy.com](mailto:Richard.morgan@austinenergy.com) or 512-482-5309.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://energy.gov/articles/energy-department-awards-will-promote-electric-vehicles-24-states-and-train-workforce>