

**TO:** Resource Management Commission

FROM: Karl Popham, Electric Vehicles & Emerging Technologies Manager

**DATE:** November 15, 2011

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

For your information is an update regarding Austin Energy's Plug-In Partners Home Charging Station Rebate Program, the Plug-In EVerywhere<sup>TM</sup> (PIE) network of public charging stations, and an overview on the recent Department of Energy (DOE) grant awarded to Austin Energy.

<u>Home Charging</u>. For home-based charging stations and as part of the Plug-In Partners Pilot Program, Austin Energy provides residential customers that purchase or lease an electric vehicle a rebate of 50% for 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 in the future. This provides an opportunity to work with early-adopting, electric vehicle customers to gather data and understand charging that meets customer needs and minimizes the impact to the grid.

<u>Public Charging</u>. Austin Energy is making substantial progress in establishing a network of 116 public charging stations located in office, retail, and government locations throughout the Austin area. The dual Level 1/Level 2 (110 or 220 volt) stations include ordinary electric plugs and the now standard J1772 connection. Austin Energy provides a rebate of 50% (up to \$2,500) of the installation cost and owns/maintains the stations. This rebate is limited to two stations per location and up to 10 stations per host organization.

<u>Payment Options</u>. To support the convenience of using public charging stations, AE offers prepaid cards at a special pilot rate of \$25 for six months of unlimited access. Customers may purchase a PIE card by visiting <u>www.pluginpartners.com</u>. PEV drivers also have the option of using a credit card at a rate of \$2 per hour of charging.

<u>Texas River Cities (TRC) Initiative</u>. DOE awarded Austin Energy approximately \$500,000 on September 9, 2011 to launch a regional electric vehicle infrastructure planning project called the Texas River Cities (TRC) initiative. <sup>1</sup> This initiative will develop a publically available plan detailing the efficient deployment of an electric vehicle infrastructure in the region stretching from San Antonio to Georgetown. The TRC initiative has commitments from the City of San Antonio, CPS Energy, Bluebonnet Electric Coop, and Pedernales Electric Coop, with plans to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://energy.gov/articles/awards-advanced-vehicle-development

add additional electric providers and municipalities within this corridor. The TRC project will engage partners via an industry advisory council to provide a market perspective.

Attached please find detailed metrics for Austin Energy's charging station programs. If you have any questions, you may contact Karl Popham at <a href="mailto:karl.popham@austinenergy.com">karl.popham@austinenergy.com</a> or 512-505-3714.