

Electric Vehicle Charging Station Cost Recovery Policy for Rhode Island State-Owned Facilities

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

In accordance with Section 42-140-11 of the Rhode Island General Laws, the Office of Energy Resources (OER) is implementing a new cost recovery policy for electric vehicle charging stations located on state-owned properties. This initiative establishes a fair cost-recovery model to support the sustainable operation and maintenance of EV charging infrastructure.

Cost Recovery Policy

Proposed Fee Structure:

- Level 2 Charging Stations: \$0.28 per kilowatt-hour (kWh)
- DC Fast Charging (DCFC) Stations: \$0.39 per kWh

These fees will apply to all users—including the state fleet, state employees, and the public. The proposed rates are designed to recover costs associated with electricity consumption, station maintenance, network services, and overall operations. This supports the sustainability of the charging network across state-owned properties and ensures efficient station utilization and access for all users.

Idle Usage Policy and Fees

- Level 2 Stations Idle Fee: \$0.25 per minute after 4 hours of continuous occupancy. Users will receive a notification from the ChargePoint app 15-minutes before the idle fee begins and again once it goes into effect.
- Level 3 (DCFC) Stations Idle Fee: \$0.35 per minute after 1 hour of continuous occupancy. Users will receive notifications from the ChargePoint app 15 minutes before idle fee begins and again once it goes into effect.

State Fleet Idle-Fee Exemption:

For an initial 6-month period, all state fleet vehicles will be exempt from idle fees at stations exclusively designated for state fleet use. During this time, users will receive notifications, and OER will assess usage patterns to develop a more robust policy. This future policy will aim to improve usage efficiency and address coordination challenges, ensuring optimal access to charging infrastructure for the state fleet.

This idle use policy encourages the prompt removal of vehicles upon completion of charging or after extended use, allowing other users access to the charging stations.

Applicability and Communication

This cost recovery policy applies only to charging stations located on state-owned property, both those currently existing and any additional stations installed after this policy goes into effect.

Beginning January 1, 2025, all charging stations will display the updated cost recovery rates so that each user is aware of the rates before initiating a charge.

This policy will be reviewed periodically and updated by OER as needed to ensure sufficient cost recovery for continued operation and maintenance of the network.

Allocation of Funds

All proceeds from the charging station fees will be deposited into the "Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Operating and Maintenance Account," a restricted receipts account within the state's general fund. Administered by OER, this account is dedicated exclusively to supporting the installation, operation, and maintenance of EV charging stations on state-owned properties. Funds in this account are exempt from the indirect cost recovery provisions of § 35-4-27, ensuring that all revenues are directed toward operating and enhancing EV infrastructure on state-owned properties.