

Tuesday, August 16, 2016

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Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources launches ‘Charge Up!’ Public Sector Vehicle Electrification Incentive Program

State agencies, municipalities can receive grants to deploy EVs and charging stations

Providence, R.I. — As part of Governor Gina M. Raimondo’s Clean Energy Lead by Example Initiative, the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources has launched the “Charge Up!” Rhode Island Vehicle Electrification Incentive Program.

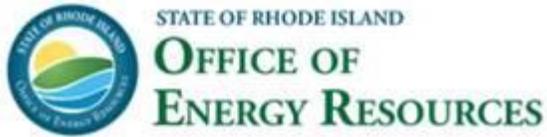
The program provides incentives for state and municipal agencies to purchase electric vehicles and install Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE or charging stations). Qualified public sector applicants may be eligible to receive a total award of up to \$75,000 to support their adoption of clean transportation solutions.

“Governor Raimondo has recognized the potential for significant energy, economic and environmental benefits derived from the increased adoption of clean transportation and energy alternatives,” said Rhode Island Energy Commissioner Carol Grant. “Charge Up! is one more example of the Administration’s commitment to ‘lead by example’ through its support for public sector adoption of sustainable transportation solutions and infrastructure.”

Governor Raimondo’s Lead By Example Executive Order (15-17) includes a requirement that a minimum of 25 percent of new light-duty state fleet purchases and leases are met with zero-emission vehicles by 2025. According to the Rhode Island State Energy Plan, the transportation sector accounts for 40 percent of the total statewide energy expenditures, releasing 4.5 million tons of carbon emissions into the atmosphere annually. Alternative clean transportation solutions, including EVs, can reduce consumer fuel costs, increase energy security, and mitigate emissions from the transportation sector.

Charge Up! applicants may qualify for up to \$60,000 in incentives to support the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charging stations (Level II or higher) at publicly-accessible locations. Additionally, applicants that install at least one charging station through this program may also qualify for up to \$15,000 to support the purchase or lease of new EVs as part of their public sector fleet. The program is being supported by an allocation of state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) auction proceeds.

Only Rhode Island state agencies and municipalities are eligible for this program. In order to be eligible, a qualified public sector entity must have completed – or is contracted to install – a comprehensive energy efficiency and/or renewable energy project that, at minimum, offsets the projected electricity consumption that will be used as a result of installing new electric vehicle charging stations.



This program builds on OER's successful DRIVE program, which provides Rhode Island consumers with rebates to support their adoption of electric vehicles. To date, DRIVE has helped place more than 75 electric vehicles on Rhode Island roadways.

Applicants can download and complete a submission form at <http://www.energy.ri.gov/Transportation/ChargeUp/index.php>. For more information on the Charge Up! program, please visit www.energy.ri.gov or contact Ryan Cote, OER Program Manager, at (401) 574-9118.

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***About the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources:** The Office of Energy Resources (OER) is Rhode Island's lead state agency on energy policy and programs. The mission of OER is to lead Rhode Island to a secure, cost-effective, and sustainable energy future. OER works closely with private and public stakeholders to increase the reliability and security of our energy supply, reduce energy costs and mitigate price volatility, and improve environmental quality. By developing and implementing smart energy policies—such as those that promote energy efficiency and renewable energy—OER helps advance Rhode Island as a national leader in the new clean energy economy. For more information, visit www.energy.ri.gov.*