

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 18-2660-INV

Investigation into promoting the ownership and use of electric vehicles in the State of Vermont	
---	--

Order entered: 03/22/2019

**WORKSHOP RE: INCENTIVES, EDUCATION, AND SAFETY STANDARDS
AND FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

On May 21, 2018, Act 158 (H.917) of the 2017-2018 Vermont legislative session took effect upon its signing by the Governor. Section 25 of Act 158 directed the Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “PUC”) to conduct an evaluation and submit a report by July 1, 2019, concerning issues related to the charging of electric vehicles (“EVs”).

As part of its charge, the Commission was tasked with examining the following issues: (1) strategies to encourage EV usage at a pace necessary to achieve the goals of the State’s Comprehensive Energy Plan and its greenhouse gas reduction goals, without shifting costs to electric ratepayers who do not own or operate EVs; and (2) safety standards that should apply to the charging of EVs.¹

I. WORKSHOP

The Commission intends to convene a workshop to gather additional information to better understand these issues for preparing its report to the Legislature. At this time, the workshop is tentatively scheduled for April 23, 2019. The Clerk’s Office will send out a separate notice confirming the date, time, and location for the workshop as soon as possible.

Specifically, the Commission would like to hear from participants on the following topics:

¹ The Commission has already solicited several rounds of written comments from participants in this investigation and has conducted three workshops addressing other issues identified in Act 158. Additionally, the Commission has submitted a proposal to the Vermont Legislature recommending a statutory amendment that would clarify the limited extent of the Commission’s jurisdiction over EV charging stations.

Strategies to encourage EV usage at a pace necessary to achieve the goals of the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan and its greenhouse gas reduction goals, without shifting costs to electric ratepayers who do not own or operate EVs.

Questions for Vermont's Electric Distribution Utilities:

1. What incentives do you currently have in place to encourage ownership and/or use of EVs in their respective service territories? This response should include any incentives for the purchase of EVs and EVSE such as Level 2 home chargers, as well as any rate structures in place to encourage home charging.
2. How does your company fund the various incentives offered to your customers? Please include in your response any matching-funds programs in which your company participates.
3. What have been the customer participation rates in responding to these incentives, including the purchase of new EVs, the installation of Level 2 home chargers, and participation in any EV-specific rate offerings?
4. Please provide specific examples of distribution-utility-sponsored programs from other states designed to encourage the purchase or lease of EVs of which you are aware, including how those programs are funded. If possible, please note those utility programs that have been most successful at increasing the deployment of EVs.
5. What efforts have you made with respect to conveying the benefits of transportation electrification to your customers, including environmental benefits, lower maintenance and fuel costs, and lower costs for ratepayers generally? Please describe any plans to engage in educational activities regarding transportation electrification. Please include descriptions of information outreach such as information on your website, direct mailings to customers, bill stuffers, and promotional events.
6. What pace of EV adoption and EVSE deployment is needed for Vermont to achieve the goals of the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan and its greenhouse gas reduction goals? How can Vermont's utilities assist in meeting those goals, and what level of effort and investment is required to meet them? What can the PUC do or change to help in meeting those goals? Are you aware of the type of incentive, the level of incentive, or any approaches (such as marketing and sales information) that have proven to motivate a substantial shift to buying EVs, in Vermont or elsewhere?

The Role of State Government

1. What role can state government play in providing incentives to encourage the purchase or lease of EVs, new or used? Please provide specific examples of state-government-sponsored EV-incentive programs in other states of which you are aware, including how those programs are funded. Are you aware of the type of state incentive, the level of state incentive, or any state approaches (such as marketing and sales information) that have proven to motivate a substantial shift to buying EVs, in Vermont or elsewhere?

2. What source of funding should the State of Vermont use to provide incentives for the purchase or lease of EVs?
3. What educational programs should the State of Vermont engage in to convey the benefits of transportation electrification to Vermonters, including environmental benefits, lower maintenance and fuel costs, and lower costs for ratepayers generally?
4. What can state government do to ensure that the benefits of transportation electrification are not limited to citizens with higher levels of income?
5. What other suggestions or ideas do you have for the role of state government?
6. What other incentives can the State provide — for example, providing EVSE in state employee parking lots?
7. Should the State do more to switch its vehicle fleet to electric and prioritize the use of the most efficient vehicles in its current fleet?

The Role of Public Interest Organizations

1. What role can public interest organizations play in educational programs in Vermont to convey the benefits of transportation electrification to Vermonters, including environmental benefits, lower maintenance and fuel costs, and lower costs for ratepayers generally?
2. Please provide examples of programs from other states that are designed to ensure that the benefits of transportation electrification are not limited to citizens with higher levels of income.
3. What other suggestions or ideas do you have for the role of public interest organizations?

Questions for EV and EVSE Manufacturers and Organizations

1. What incentives does your company or organization provide or promote to encourage the deployment of EV charging stations and the purchase and lease of EVs?
2. What actions can the State of Vermont take to help increase the rate of deployment of EV charging stations throughout the state? Please give examples from other states.
3. How does your company or organization prioritize site selection for the deployment of EV charging stations? Please include both level 2 stations and DCFC stations and explain how your site-selection guidelines might differ between the two types of technology.
4. Please provide examples from other states where electric distribution utilities work with EVSE providers to support the deployment of EV charging stations. Include an explanation of any public interest or similar test that must be met before such a utility may include the costs of EVSE deployment in its rate base.
5. How can EV and EVSE companies assist in facilitating the achievement of the goals of the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan and its greenhouse gas reduction goals?

Safety standards that should apply to the charging of EVs.

1. What safety standards should apply to EV charging stations?
2. What state agency is best positioned to draft and enforce any necessary regulations?
3. Please provide citations to any uniform safety standards or regulations that have been adopted in other states for EV charging.

Participants are encouraged to submit written materials addressing the above topics in advance of the workshop by filing them in this case using ePUC no later than April 8, 2019. If any participant wishes to make a presentation at the workshop, the presentation should be filed no later than April 1, 2019, in ePUC along with a request for time at the workshop. For instructions on how to file your materials in ePUC, please see the memorandum from the Clerk's Office issued October 24, 2018. Please do not file your responses as "public comments." After the Commission receives any written materials and requests for presentation, it will issue an agenda for the April 23, 2019, workshop that includes both a start time and an expected completion time.

II. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

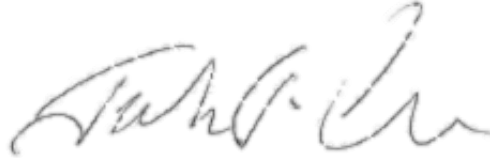
The Commission thanks all the participants for the considerable time and effort they have devoted to this investigation. The detailed and thoughtful written submissions filed throughout this process, combined with in-person presentations and active engagement at three day-long workshops, will have provided us with key information needed for us to complete the analysis and reporting tasks set forth by the Legislature in Act 158.

In order to meet the approaching deadline of July 1, 2019, for our report to the Legislature, the Commission is establishing May 13, 2019 as the deadline for final written recommendations from the participants. In making their recommendations, participants should keep in mind that the Commission will be giving them full consideration and potentially including them as recommendations in its final report to the Legislature. To that end, the Commission invites those filing final recommendations to be as clear and persuasive as possible, and to ensure that their recommendations are fully supported by research, facts, and examples of effective practices adopted elsewhere in the country. It will be most helpful to the Commission in preparing its report if participants' final recommendations are indexed to the specific reporting requirements identified in Act 158, Section 25. Participants should also include in their final

recommendations any ideas or recommendations they have that would assist the State in meeting its transportation electrification goals that were not otherwise raised by questions posed by the Commission during the course of this investigation.

SO ORDERED.


Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 22nd day of March, 2019.



John J. Cotter, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: **March 22, 2019**

Attest: 
Deputy Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PSB Case No. 18-2660-INV - SERVICE LIST

Carolyn M.X. Alderman, Esq. (for VEPP Inc.)
VEPP Inc.
P.O. Box 1938
Manchester Center, VT 05255
carolyn@veppi.org

Travis Allan (for FLO Services USA, Inc.)
FLO Services USA, Inc.
tallan@flo.com

Olivia Andersen (for Renewable Energy Vermont)
Renewable Energy Vermont
P.O. Box 1036
Montpelier, VT 05601
Olivia@revermont.org

Carolyn Browne Anderson, Esq. (for Green Mountain Power Corporation)
Green Mountain Power Corporation
2152 Post Road
Rutland, VT 05702
carolyn.anderson@greenmountainpower.com

Thomas Ashley (for Greenlots)
Greenlots
925 N. La Brea Avenue
6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90038
tom@greenlots.com

Mitch Bainwol, President & CEO (for Auto Alliance (Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers))
Auto Alliance
803 7th Street
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001

Charlie Baker (for Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission)
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404-2109
cbaker@ccrpcvt.org

Reginald Beliveau, Jr.
Swanton Village, Inc. Electric Department
P.O. Box 279
120 First Street
Swanton, VT 05488
rbeliveau@swanton.net

(for Swanton Village,
Inc. Electric Department)

Meredith Birkett
Village of Johnson Water & Light Department
P.O. Box 603
Johnson, VT 05656
vojmanager@townofjohnson.com

(for Village of Johnson
Water & Light
Department)

Jennifer Bosco
National Consumer Law Center
7 Winthrop Square
4th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
jbosco@nclc.org

(for National Consumer
Law Center)

Victoria J. Brown, Esq.
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
vbrown@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Ellen Burt
Town of Stowe Electric Department
P.O.Box 190
Stowe, VT 05672
eburt@stoweelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Molly Connors
ISO New England, Inc.
One Sullivan Road
Holyoke, MA 01040-2841
Molly.Connors@iso-ne.com

(for ISO New England
Inc.)

William Coster
1 National Life Drive
Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620
billy.coster@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Natural Resources)

Matt Cota
Vermont Fuel Dealers Association
963 Paine Turnpike North
Berlin, VT 05602
matt@vermontfuel.com

(for Vermont Fuel
Dealers Association)

Bonnie Datta
Siemens
4000 E. Third Avenue
Suite 400
San Mateo, CA 94404
bonnie.datta@siemens.com

(for Siemens)

Carine Dumit
Tesla
160 Van Brunt
Brooklyn, NY 11231
cdumit@tesla.com

(for Tesla)

Daniel Dutcher
Agency of Transportation
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001
daniel.dutcher@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Transportation)

William F. Ellis
McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan
271 South Union Street
Burlington, VT 05401
wellis@mcneilvt.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Jonathan Elwell
Village of Enosburg Falls Water & Light
42 Village Drive
Enosburg Falls, VT 05450
jelwell@enosburg.net

(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.)

Elijah D Emerson, Esq.
Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC
PO Box 1309
Montpelier, VT 05601
eemerson@primmer.com

(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.) (for
Town of Northfield
Electric Department)
(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)
(for Village of Johnson
Water & Light)

Steven R Farman
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
5195 Waterbury-Stowe rd
Waterbury Center, VT 05766
sfarman@vppsa.com

Department)
(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Dan Gatti
Union of Concerned Scientists
dgatti@ucsusa.org

(for Union of Concerned
Scientists)

James Gibbons
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
jgibbons@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Britta Gross
General Motors
britta.gross@gm.com

(for General Motors)

Jeremy D. Hoff
Stackpole & French
Stackpole & French
P.O. Box 819
Stowe, VT 05672
jhoff@stackpolefrench.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Bill Humphrey
Village of Lyndonville Electric Department
P.O. Box 167
20 Park Avenue
Lyndonville, VT 05851
bhumphrey@lyndonvilleelectric.com

(for Village of
Lyndonville Electric
Department)

Erick Karlen
Greenlots
925 La Brea Avenue
6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90038
ekarlen@greenlots.com

(for Greenlots)

Chris King
Siemens
4000 E. Third Avenue
Suite 400
San Mateo, CA 94404
chris_king@siemens.com

(for Siemens)

Michael Krauthamer
Alliance for Transportation Electrification
michael@evtransportationalliance.org

(for Alliance for
Transportation
Electrification)

Sandra Levine, Esq.
Conservation Law Foundation
15 East State Street, Suite 4
Montpelier, VT 05602
slevine@clf.org

(for Conservation Law
Foundation)

Johanna Miller
Vermont Natural Resources Council
9 Bailey Avenue
Montpelier, VT 05602
jmiller@vnrc.org

(for Vermont Natural
Resources Council)

Kevin George Miller
ChargePoint, Inc.
294 East Hacienda Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008
kevin.miller@chargepoint.com

(for ChargePoint, Inc.)

Pamela Moore
Village of Jacksonville Electric Company
P.O. Box 169
Jacksonville, VT 05342
pmoore@jacksonvilleelectric.net

(for Village of
Jacksonville Electric
Company)

John Morley
Village of Orleans Electric Department
Municipal Building
One Memorial Square
Orleans, VT 05860
orloffice@villageoforleansvt.org

(for Village of Orleans
Electric Department)

Craig Myotte
Village of Morrisville Water & Light Department
857 Elmore Street
Morrisville, VT 05661

(for Village of
Morrisville Water &
Light Department)

cmyotte@mwlvt.com

Ken Nolan
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
P.O. Box 126
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
knolan@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Emily Nosse-Leirer
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404
enosse-leirer@ccrpcvt.org

(for Chittenden County
Regional Planning
Commission)

Pete O'Connor
Plug in America
poconnor@pluginamerica.org

(for Plug In America)

Jessica Patterson
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
PO Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
jess@hardwicelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

James Porter, Esq.
Vermont Department of Public Service
112 State St
Montpelier, VT 05620
james.porter@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

Mary Powell
Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446
ceo@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

William Powell
Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 8
East Montpelier, VT 05651
bill.powell@wec.coop

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Patricia Richards
Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 8
East Montpelier, VT 05651
patty.richards@wec.coop

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Evan Riordan
Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department
P.O. Box 519
Barton, VT 05822
electricmanager@bartonvt.com

(for Barton Village Inc.
Electric Department)

David Roberts
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
128 Lakeside Avenue
Suite 401
Burlington, VT 05401
droberts@veic.org

(for Drive Electric
Vermont)

Carol Robertson
Village of Hyde Park Electric Department
P.O. Box 400
Hyde Park, VT 05655
carol.robertson@hydeparkvt.com

(for Village of Hyde
Park Electric
Department)

Jenny Ronis
1 National Life Dr
Montpelier, VT 05633
Jenny.Ronis@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Transportation)

Matt Rutherford
Town of Stowe Electric Department
P.O. Box 190
56 Old Farm Road
Stowe, VT 05672
mrutherford@stowelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Richard H. Saudek, Esq.
Diamond & Robinson, P.C.
15 E. State Street
P.O. Box 1460
Montpelier, VT 05601-1460
rhs@diamond-robinson.com

(for Vermont Fuel
Dealers Association)

Jeffrey Schulz
Town of Northfield Electric Department
51 South Main Street
Northfield, VT 05663
jschulz@northfield.vt.us

(for Town of Northfield
Electric Department)

Ronald A. Shems, Esq.
Tarrant Gillies & Richardson
P.O. Box 1440
Montpelier, VT 05601-1440
rshems@tgrvt.com

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Nathaniel Shoaff
Sierra Club Environmental Law Program
2101 Webster Street
Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
nathaniel.shoaff@sierraclub.org

(for Sierra Club)

Joni Sliger
Regulatory Assistance Project
jsliger@raponline.org

(for The Regulatory
Assistance Project)

Darren Springer
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
dspringer@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Matthew Stanberry
Advanced Energy Economy
1518 Beacon Street
Waban, MA 02468
mstanberry@aee.net

(for Advanced Energy
Economy)

Alison Milbury Stone, Esq.
Vermont Attorney General's Office
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-1001
alison.stone@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Agriculture, Food and
Markets)

Michael Sullivan
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
P.O. Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
msullivan@hardwickelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

Rebecca Towne
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
rtowne@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Vehicle and Automotive Distributors Association (VADA), *pro se*
1284 US Route 302
Suite 2-Berlin
Barre, VT 05641

Matthew J. Walker
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 401
Burlington, VT 05401
mjwalker@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Ben Walsh
Vermont Public Interest Research Group
bwalsh@vpirg.org

(for Vermont Public
Interest Research Group)

David C. Westman
Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 401
Burlington, VT 05401
dwestman@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Brian Zelis
Nissan-USA
brian.zelis@nissan-usa.com

(for Renault-Nissan-
Mitsubishi)

John Zicconi
Vermont Transportation Board
14 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
john.zicconi@vermont.gov