More Than 1.1 Million EVs Are on the Road in the U.S.

The number of EVs on the road in the U.S. has been steadily increasing. In 2011, there were less than 100,000 EVs on the road. By 2018, this number had grown to more than 1.1 million EVs.

KEY FACTS
- More than 1.1 million EVs are on the road in the U.S.
- Total EV sales for 2018 were up 81% compared to 2017.
- Q4 2018 was the best sales quarter ever with more than 120,000 EVs sold.

The Cost of Driving on Electricity is Less Than Gasoline

On average, it costs about $1.25 per gallon to charge a car with electricity based on the U.S. Department of Energy’s “eGallon” methodology, which compares a state’s average residential electricity rate with its average gasoline price. The cost will vary by state, from $0.83 per gallon in Louisiana to $2.95 per gallon in Hawaii.

Source: https://www.energy.gov/eere/electricvehicles/saving-fuel-and-vehicle-costs; Data updated January 26, 2019
Proposal
On December 21, 2018, Dayton Power & Light (DP&L) filed a distribution modernization plan with the Public Utility Commission of Ohio (PUCO). The plan is responsive to the PUCO’s PowerForward Roadmap issued in 2018 and includes $576 million in capital investment over the next decade. Included in this plan is a $7.2-million transportation electrification pilot. Over a three-year period, DP&L plans to install, own, and operate approximately 50 charging stations, which will be a mix of Level 2 and DC Fast Chargers, throughout its service area. The chargers will be located along the major interstate corridor and in retail stores, airport parking areas, and movie theater parking lots. In addition, DP&L will propose an intelligent charging rate for EV owners to encourage vehicle charging during off-peak hours. (Docket 18-1875-EL-GRD)

Approval
On December 20, 2018, as part of its approval of the settlement agreement in PECO Energy Co.’s (PECO’s) 2018 electric distribution rate review, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission approved PECO’s five-year EV DCFC Pilot Rider (EV-FC). The rider, effective July 1, 2019, and available to applicable commercial or industrial customers that own at least one publicly available Level 3 DCFC, will provide a demand credit to the customer’s billed distribution demand. The credit, intended to encourage deployment of infrastructure to support vehicle electrification, will be equal to 50 percent of the combined maximum nameplate capacity rating for all DCFCs connected to the service. Eligible customers will receive the credit for up to 36 months or until the pilot ends, whichever comes first. (Docket R-2018-3000164).

Approval
On January 9, 2019, the Michigan Public Service Commission approved a settlement agreement authorizing a $10 million, three-year “PowerMIDrive” program proposed by Consumers Energy. Residential customers who purchase an approved charger and sign up for the new Nighttime Savers Rate, which encourages charging during the night, will receive a $500 rebate. Consumers Energy also will offer $5,000 rebates for the installation of up to 200 Level 2 charging stations at multi-unit dwellings, workplaces, and other publicly accessible locations, and up to $70,000 in rebates for the installation of 24 DC Fast Chargers (DCFC). The Commission issued a separate order approving regulatory asset treatment of the program costs, which was not resolved in the terms of the settlement. (Docket U-20134).
The Highway Trust Fund (Fund) is a federal account that collects revenues from taxes on motor fuels, with those funds supplementing state and local dollars for highway and mass transit projects. The Fund has had budget shortfalls for more than a decade, with that gap continuing to increase.

Outlays from the Fund are projected to exceed reserves starting in 2021 for multiple reasons: the gasoline tax is not indexed to inflation (it has been 18.4 cents per gallon since 1993), and overall increasing fuel efficiency means that all vehicles are paying less into the fund.

Currently, battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids (operating in all-electric mode) do not contribute to the Highway Trust Fund today. All vehicles should help fund infrastructure maintenance and improvements fairly and proportionally. From 2011 through 2016, EVs are estimated to have displaced about 391 million gallons of fuel, the equivalent of about $72 million in revenue to the fund. (More detail: ANL)

Approval
On January 14, 2019, the Maryland Public Service Commission issued an order authorizing Baltimore Gas & Electric, Pepco, Delmarva Power, and Potomac Edison Co. to proceed with a modified five-year pilot program to support the deployment of 5,000 chargers. The program includes a $300 rebate to residential customers who install Level 2 smart chargers; incentives for the installation of chargers at multi-unit dwellings; electric company-owned and operated charging stations at government-owned locations; and the development of a residential EV-only time-of-use rate. In addition, up to five percent of program costs can be allocated to education and outreach costs. (Docket 9478)

DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 on January 18, 2019, which requires 100 percent of public buses, privately owned fleets, and taxis licensed to operate in the District to be zero-emission by 2045. No later than July 2021, the DC Department of Transportation will be required to submit a comprehensive clean vehicle transition plan with policy recommendations to achieve at least 25 percent zero-emission vehicle registrations by 2030. The Department of Motor Vehicles also will revise the vehicle excise tax amount to depend upon a vehicle’s fuel efficiency. (More detail: Clean Energy Omnibus)

Our Take

The Highway Trust Fund and EVs

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- Outlays from the Fund are projected to exceed reserves starting in 2021 for multiple reasons: the gasoline tax is not indexed to inflation (it has been 18.4 cents per gallon since 1993), and overall increasing fuel efficiency means that all vehicles are paying less into the fund.
- Currently, battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids (operating in all-electric mode) do not contribute to the Highway Trust Fund today. All vehicles should help fund infrastructure maintenance and improvements fairly and proportionally. From 2011 through 2016, EVs are estimated to have displaced about 391 million gallons of fuel, the equivalent of about $72 million in revenue to the fund. (More detail: ANL)
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT EVS**

**PACIFIC POWER**

Pacific Power’s three-year outreach and education pilot program aims to increase customer exposure to and understanding of electric transportation and its benefits across its Washington, Oregon, and California service areas. The pilot program includes communicating with customers through advertising and newsletters; developing self-service resources that will allow customers to locate tailored information about EVs easily; coordinating and promoting community events including ride-and-drives; and providing technical assistance to non-residential customers interested in installing EV charging infrastructure by performing on-site charging feasibility assessments. Throughout the duration of the pilot, from 2017 to 2019, Pacific Power is collecting and analyzing program data and metrics to help inform future program development. (Docket UM-1810, OR; A17-06-031, CA; UE-180757, WA)

**XCEL ENERGY**

To raise awareness about EVs and learn about what approaches resonate the most with customers in Minnesota, Xcel Energy recently began to roll out education and outreach for its Residential EV Service Pilot Program. A combination of targeted marketing and social media are being used to encourage customers to participate in the pilot. Additionally, Xcel Energy will be evaluating the pilot to further enhance its customer offerings and compile materials for peer-to-peer recommendations and sharing of information. Lastly, to encourage auto dealers to promote the pilot program, Xcel Energy is providing a $100 payment to auto dealers for each customer who participates in the pilot. (Docket M-17-817)

**TAMPA ELECTRIC, AN EMERA COMPANY**

Recognizing the importance of informing customers – or in this case future customers – about EVs, Tampa Electric Company has partnered with high school driver’s education programs to teach students about the operation, maintenance, and ownership of EVs. The curriculum includes: proper driving skills to maximize the efficiency of driving an EV; different types of charging technologies; and information about how electric rates are set and when charging is least expensive. The program is expected to have more than 5,600 participants. (Docket 170015-EI)

**MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY**

Through an ongoing initiative, Maui Electric Company is engaging middle and high school science, technology, engineering, and mathematics students at company-hosted EV fairs across the island. Students aid attendees, typically Maui Electric customers, by helping them to navigate the company’s EV Wattplan, a tool that helps potential buyers make informed decisions when purchasing an EV. This provides students with the opportunity to share their knowledge about the benefits of EVs with Maui Electric customers.