

COG Electric Vehicle Work Group - Joint Meeting
January 17, 2012 DRAFT Meeting Highlight

Pepco Headquarters, Conference Room, Second Floor
701 9th St NW

Attendance

Kambiz Agazi, Fairfax County
Claude Willis, Greater Washington Regional Clean Cities Coalition
Bill Updike, District Department of the Environment
Sarah Cosby, Dominion
Cassie Powers, George Climate Center
Steve Rosenstock, Edison Electric Institute
Susan Hafeli, Fairfax County
Steve Sinclair, Fairfax County
Barbara Gonzalez, Pepco
Wes McNealy, Pepco
Deepa Jonnagadla, Pepco
Dale Medearis, Northern Virginia Regional Commission
Steve Walz, Northern Virginia Regional Commission
George Schaubhut, GSA
Kathy Magruder, Maryland Clean Energy Center
Scott Pomeroy, Downtown BID
Ira Feintuch, Car Charging, Inc.
Dr. Samuel Hancock, Emerald Planet
Erica Bannerman, City of Alexandria
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Luis MacDonald, Autoflex, Inc.
Daniel MacDonald, Autoflex, Inc.
Raphael Isaac, Transportation Policy Professional
Theresa Cusick, DC DPW
Vernon Wade, Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce
Chad Sardashti, EPA Green Power Partnership Program
Dexter Turner, OPConnect
Cary Hinton, DC PSC
Craig Berry, DC PSC
Lonnie Richmond, MDE

Gregg Wallard, WMATA
Dyan Backe, City of Gaithersburg
Said Said, Prince William County
Jerry Reich, Green Power Technology LLC
Howard Ways, UDC
Kelly Zonderwyk, Arlington County
Devan Williamsen, MEA

Staff

Jeff King, COG DEP
Joan Rohlf, COG DEP
Stuart Freudberg, COG DEP
Elena Constantine, COG DTP

Conference Call

Jill Sorensen, Baltimore Electric Vehicle Initiative (BEVI)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Thomas Graham, President, Pepco, welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that coordination on deployment of electric vehicles is important for the region and an area of interest for the electrical utilities. To maintain system balance, it is important that the transition to EVSE be done right. Of particular concern are areas of concentrations with multiple vehicles plugging in at the same time. He thanked participants for their leadership in this regard and encouraged the group to address the challenges faced in transitioning to electricity as a transportation solution.

2. State Utility Regulatory Overview and Utility Perspective

Jeff King, COG DEP, presented an overview of state utility regulations/laws affecting electric vehicles in the region. In Virginia, a bill was passed allowing resale of electricity for electric vehicle charging as long as the electricity used for charging is purchased from the incumbent utility. Currently, use of electricity generated using behind the meter solar PV would be problematic under the law. In Maryland and DC, currently only entities licensed by the Commission can sell electricity. Legislation is being considered to exempt EVSE providers.

In Virginia, a Dominion EV Rate Pilot was approved by the VA SCC in July and became effective in October. The program offers two rate options specifically designed for customers with EVs: (1) whole house time of use rate and (2) a separately metered EV-only rate. Each option is open to 750 participants. The pilot will be in effect for three years. There are not EV rates yet in Maryland or DC for residential customers. Pepco has a commercial EV rate in Maryland.

Utilities have strong interest in knowing the locations of EVSE installations for system planning purposes. In Maryland, there may be legislation introduced to allow the MVA to release street address information to utilities for such purposes. Currently, auto dealers are voluntarily sharing information with utilities as long as there is customer consent.

Barbara Gonzalez said that one priority for Pepco is to promote the ability for utilities to be able to use smart grid protocols to control provision of load to vehicles. It is one thing to establish communication links, it's another to have compatible language so that the communication actually works. She also said that Pepco may be involved in a PSC authorized pilot program in Maryland.

Sarah Cosby said that education is important. She mentioned that even members of the state legislature introducing bills relating to EV may not be fully informed of some of the nuances that would impact the viability of different measures or proposals. Education of customer service reps is also important.

In response to a question, Sarah Cosby said that Dominion believes that there is an exception in the National Electric Code for 2 residential meters at a house if it is used for rate purposes.

Both Dominion and Pepco have purchased EVs for their fleets. Pepco has 10 Chevy Volts in the fleet. Dominion has 3 Volts and a Nissan Leaf.

Sarah Cosby also said that the VA Dept. of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) was awarded DOE grant totaling \$429,000 to develop a community readiness plan for the Greater Richmond Region. The goal is to develop a plan that can be replicated in other areas of the state.

Partners in this initiative include Dominion, VA Clean Cities, Sustainable Transportation Initiative of Richmond, Richmond Regional Planning District Commission, City of Richmond, VCU, and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

3. GSA EV Pilot

George Schaubhut, GSA, presented information on EV and the federal fleets. EV deployment is getting significantly more attention at GSA. One big issue that may require legislative solution is addressing restrictions on government agencies to provide access for employees and the public. They are involved with a PEV pilot to learn more about desired and available solutions for different clients. There are so many building types and client needs for vehicles, there is no one single solution. Where EVs are being deployed, each vehicle gets one EVSE. There are 17 vehicles coming into the DC market now. 150-170 vehicles have been ordered for the 9 city pilot.

4. EV Plan

Joan Rohlf presented an overview of the outline and approach for a regional plan or strategy. She discussed the issues, schedule for addressing the issues, and a process for developing recommendations. Subgroups will be formed to consider issues, develop criteria for making recommendations, and developing recommendations for the strategy. More specifics on the various subgroups and issues to be covered will be discussed at the next meeting.

5. Pepco Smart Lab Demonstration

Attendees were given a tour of the Pepco Electric Vehicles and EVSE as well as the Smart Lab.

6. Other Business

Claude Willis said he will recommend new entities/individuals to be added as stakeholders. He also suggested that more work on outreach and education is needed.

Adjourn

- Next Meeting: February 29th