July 2023

EP-ACT NEWSLETTER

Driving Together Toward a Green Tomorrow

Schedule of Events

9:00-
Continental Breakfast
Display Vehicles and vendor tables

9:30- 11:00-
Workshop Presentations

11- 12:00-
The Only Smoke In The Air Networking BBQ Luncheon

1:00-
Phillies vs. Angels Game

www.ep-act.org

30 YEARS Clean Cities

REGISTER NOW

EP-ACT's 30th Anniversary & 12th Annual TOSITA -EV Workshop

Event Time & Schedule Change

Due to a change in the Philadelphia Phillies Schedule, we have changed the time of our event to include continuation networking at the GAME. Enjoy continental breakfast, an array of display vehicles, presentations from PA DEP, PennDOT, PECO and our Keynote Speaker Mr. Mark Smith from the US Department Of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office, followed by our renowned TOSITA Networking Luncheon- We have reserved 50 seats to the game, they will be given out on a 1st come 1st served basis- so register now!!

xfinity Live! PHILADELPHIA

When: August 30th
Time: 9am-12pm

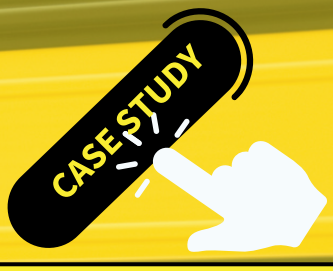
DIRECTIONS

EP-ACT to Extend Invite to 5 Stakeholders for Stakeholder Summit Event in Virginia

2023 Clean Cities Stakeholder Summit
7920 Jones Branch Dr, McLean, VA
Sept. 6, 2023 – 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Save the date for the 2023 Clean Cities Stakeholder Summit in celebration of Clean Cities Coalition Network's 30th anniversary. The summit will bring together partners from across Clean Cities, including coalition leaders and stakeholders, DOE representatives, and national laboratory staff. ***EP-ACT can only invite 5 stakeholders or potential stakeholders*** to attend the event. The summit provides an opportunity to exchange ideas, be recognized for your commitment to Clean Cities, and capitalize on the collective expertise of the entire network. Use this wonderful opportunity to network with fellow stakeholders within the same coalition and others.
Please contact us if interested or for additional information: info@ep-act.org

Propane School Bus Deployment in Pennsylvania Showcases Environmental and Economic Benefits



A new case study has been written by the Alternative Fuel Data Center (AFDC) featuring the successful efforts to deploy propane school buses throughout Pennsylvania by the Eastern Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Transportation (EP-ACT) & the Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities (PRCC).

Propane buses offer many advantages over their petroleum fueled counterparts, from reduced noise pollution and lower greenhouse gas emissions to cold weather usability and more readily available infrastructure. Propane buses can have financial benefits to school districts, as well, often having a lower total cost of ownership compared to diesel.

***"A great option for the school district is to look at the advantages that propane provides over its diesel counterpart. There are alternatives besides electric school buses, and we have found a nice niche for propane school buses in Pennsylvania,"* says Executive Director, Tony Bandiero.**

Eastern Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Transportation (EP-ACT) and the Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities (PRCC) and have worked with more than 20 school districts throughout Pennsylvania to deploy approximately 1,000 propane school buses, making the state third in the nation for the number of propane school buses on the road.

PA STATE SENATE PASSES BILL REQUIRING ELECTRIC VEHICLE OWNERS TO PAY ANNUAL FEE

June 28th, 2023: Bill 656

The Senate passed Bill 656 to hold electric vehicle owners responsible for paying an annual fee in hopes of simplifying the process of EV owners paying towards Pennsylvania's Transportation Infrastructure. Electric vehicle owners must own noncommercial passenger EVs with a gross vehicle rate of 14,000 pounds to be held responsible for paying this electric vehicle road usage charge. The charge is $290 annually and will be paid with the registration fee by credit or debit card. All fees will go into the Motor License Fund for highway maintenance and construction. The bill now heads to the House of Representatives for consideration.

The Purpose

EV owners are requred to file monthly with the PA Department of Revenue and remit the alternative tax fuel based on how much electricity their vehicle uses. According to Senator Greg Rothman, most owners fail to do this or are inconsistent with doing so, or are just unaware that it is a requirement. Therefore, this annual fee of $290 will guarantee payments are being made so that EV owners are paying their part, due to not having to pay gas tax.

LEARN MORE

What is Fair?

At an annual fee of $290, Pennsylvania would have one of the highest annual electric vehicle fees among the 33 states that enforce EV owners to pay a road use tax. Lawmakers say the fee was calculated based on the average annual gas taxes paid by owners of gas-powered vehicles at the pump in Pennsylvania.

One alternative might be to assess higher registration fees based upon the gross vehicle weight (GVW). Heavier vehicles like heavy-duty pickups, buses, commercial vehicles, and Class 7 & 8 trucks cause more damage to roads and bridges than do lighter modes of transport.

Another idea some states have been considering is to assess a use tax or miles traveled tax that's based upon the number of miles a vehicle is driven. One way to determine that would be via data collected by a small transponder that plugs into a car's diagnostic (OBD II) port.

NEVI Formula Program State Plan Guidance Updates

FHWA has released updates to NEVI program guidance. The **$5 billion NEVI Formula Program** provides dedicated funding to states that deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. Under NEVI, each state is required to submit plan updates describing how it intends to use its NEVI Formula Program funds in accordance with the guidance.

*You must submit your state's plan update **no later than August 1, 2023.** All states must adhere to the latest guidance, released on June 2, 2023.*

In addition to the upgraded program guidance, *FHWA released an updated EV infrastructure deployment plan template and an updated NEVI Formula Program Q&A.* You can also find the latest state plan update template and guidance on DriveElectric.gov.

Technical Assistance

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation provides *technical assistance* on planning and implementation of a national network of electric vehicle chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure as well as zero-emission transit and school buses.

- will work with states and key stakeholders to build capacity for electric vehicles, plan for charging infrastructure, and implement approved state plans. Additional support is provided for deploying electric school buses and electric transit buses.
- provides technical assistance to transit agencies applying for or receiving funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Vehicle Program.
- provide access to a suite of resources to help deploy EV charging infrastructure.

New Analysis Guides Development of National Charging Network

In June 2023, The National Renewable Energy Laboratory produced: **The 2030 National Charging Network: Estimating U.S. Light-Duty Demand for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.**

The 81 page report contains quantitative analysis estimating the number, type and location of chargers needed to power a growing number of light-duty EV's nationwide.

With only 6 years to meet 2030 standards, much work is needed in public, private, work-place, multi-unit-dwellings locations.

The report uniquely compares the EVSE network to a eco-system of a tree, noting parts of the network are visible and some parts hidden. To grow the network the **roots** (*private charging*), the **trunk** (*public fast-charging)* and the **branches** (*public and destination charging)* must grow in unison to help adoption and provide a superior driving experience, lower total cost of ownership while trying to meet climate goals.

Key Report Findings

NREL's analysis finds that a national network in ***2030*** could require approximately **1.2 million** publicly accessible charging ports and an additional **26.8 million** privately accessible charging ports.

PA State PEV's 1,060,000

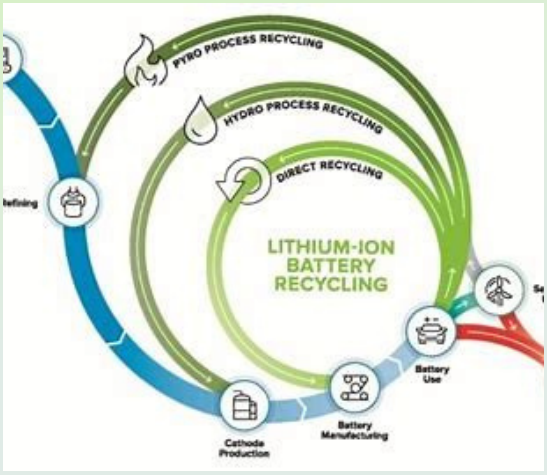
PA State Level Port Count Estimate	
Private Network Ports	*893,900*
Public Level 2 Ports	*31,900*
Public DC Fast Ports	*5,400*

This report takes many assumed data collection points and was compiled using industry, utility, OEM's national labs and other resources. EP-ACT finds this report to be helpful for an overall understanding of future needs for EV adoption.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces $192 Million to Advance Battery Recycling Technology

Consumer Electronics Battery Recycling Funding Opportunity

The *DOE's* $125 million Funding Announcement, Consumer Electronics Battery Recycling, Reprocessing and Battery Collection, will be used to fund projects on research, development and demonstration of recycling consumer electronic batteries, batteries containing devices & increasing consumer efforts in recycling batteries and batteries containing devices. Concept papers are due August 17, 2023, and the deadline for full applications is November 29, 2023.



MORE INFO

The Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling Prize

***DOE* Announces the Continuation of Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling Prize Program** with an additional **$7.4 million** in prize funds. The intent of this Battery Recycling Prize is to:

- Enable U.S.-based recyclers to reach economies of scale in their processes by providing higher volume feedstocks
- Attract private, public, state, and local dollar investments to scale collection, storage, and transportation of spent and discarded lithium-ion batteries
- Create new solutions and develop them from concepts to eventually recycle 90% of spent and discarded lithium-ion

Advanced Battery R&D Consortium

The Advanced Battery R&D Consortium funding opportunity will provide up to **$60 million** to convene major manufacturers of electric drive vehicles in the U.S., universities, National Laboratory partners, mineral and material suppliers, and other key battery stakeholders to address critical battery needs for the next phase of widescale EV commercialization. The consortium will be integral to DOE's efforts to develop advanced transportation technologies that will help decarbonize the transportation sector and significantly reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil.

2023 AFIG Program is Now Open!!

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Approximately $3M in funding is available through the states Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant (AFIG) for school districts, municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and businesses in Pennsylvania to transfer to clean fuel transportation! The supported alternative fuels include electricity, compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, propane, hydrogen, hythane, biodiesel, ethanol, methanol, and more.

Grant Funding Coverage

- Incremental costs related to retrofitting vehicles to operate on alternative fuels;
- Incremental costs to purchase alternative fuel vehicles;
- Cost to purchase and install the necessary fleet-refueling or home-refueling equipment for alternative fuel vehicles;
- Cost to perform research, training, development, and demonstration of new applications or next-phase technology related to alternative fuel vehicles.

EP-ACT has been assisting Stakeholder members and new potential stakeholders with this grant program for over 15 years. Our stakeholders have received over $10 million for projects including alternative fueled vehicles, infrastructure and innovative technologies from this program. If you have a project idea or a question about the program drop us a line. We are looking forward to helping you with this and any of your Alternative Fuel projects. info@ep-act.org / 215-990-8200

Application Deadlines:

August 25th, 2023 by 11:59 P.M.

December 15th, 2023 by 11:59 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENT

MEDIUM & HEAVY-DUTY ELECTRIC TRUCK WORKSHOP SERIES

JOIN EP-ACT AND PRCC FOR OUR 3RD IN A SERIES OF WEBINARS ON MEDIUM & HEAVY DUTY ELECTRIC TRUCKS

BOLLINGER MOTORS

STEVE SAGE

MANAGER, NATIONAL ACCOUNTS
BOLLINGER MOTORS

Bollinger Motors offers B4 Class 4, B5 Class 5 and B6 Class 6 electric truck platforms for fleet and commercial applications in addition to the all-wheel drive B1 Class 3 SUV and B2 Class 3 Pickup models.

THURSDAY
AUGUST 17
11:00AM - 12:00PM EST

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CLICK TO REGISTER

EP-ACT *Welcomes* New Board Members

MICHAEL G BRITT SR.

Michael has spent 31 years at UPS. He has worked in different capacities spending time in operations, industrial engineering and automotive engineering. Working 10 years in California as the Region Automotive Engineering Manager, helped him to understand alternatives to gasoline and diesel were an important part of the transportation eco-system.

Michael has led efforts in alternative fuel projects and technology development for the domestic fleet and recently for the international fleet. These projects include compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, propane, electric technology, hydrogen fuel cells, and hybrid vehicle development including both hybrid electric and hydraulic hybrid technologies.

He is a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, Technical Advisory Group to the America Trucking Association, Calstart Board Chair, and served with The United Way as a member of the Board of Directors. DOE Life Time Achievement Award Recipient 2017. Retired USMC 1st Sgt.
Michael holds a B.S. degree in Automotive Technology and a M.B.A. in Management.

BRETT GIPE

Brett Gipe is currently Vice-President, Commercial Operations & Business Development, for Coulomb Solutions Inc. (CSI)

CSI is a leading supplier of commercial EV battery systems and wide variety of accessory component electrification solutions and engineering services to North American OEMs.

Mr. Gipe has enjoyed a 30+ year career in the automotive industry, including the past 15 years in the commercial electric vehicle marketplace.

He has held Sr. Leadership roles for various OEMs and electrification solutions providers, and he has worked with some of the largest EV fleet operators and their deployments throughout the U.S. and Canada.

EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM WORKSHOP

Join us on
for an update on the **Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA)** Clean School Bus Program.
EPA staff will share information on this $400 million grant program and representatives from the **Eastern PA Alliance for Clean Transportatio (EP-ACT) and UGI** will explain the and technical as that are available t school districts and contractors fund projects to replace their school buses with clean and zero emission electric school buses.

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POSTPONED UNTIL FALL

2023
12:00 PM
Location
UNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Applications are due Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.

EP-ACT Members & Stakeholder

Thank You!

Sustaining Members

- Aqua America
- Blink
- Brightbill Transportation
- Delaware County
- DVRPC
- East Stroudsburg School District
- Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
- IMC Solar
- IMC Solar
- PA DCNR
- PA DEP
- PECO
- PennDOT
- UPS
- University of Pennsylvania
- US EPA
- US DOE

Gold Members

- AAA
- Exeter Township School District
- Hatboro-Horsham School District
- Haverford School District
- LCSWMA
- Sharp
- Transnet
- UGI
- Wilson School District
- Wilson Propane

Silver Members

Derry Township School District

Hatboro-Horsham School District

Lower Merion School District

Pennsbury School District

Philadelphia Gas Works

Radnor School District

Rhoads Energy

Roush CleanTech

Bronze Members

Air & Gas Technology

Community College of Philadelphia

EV ChargeTec

Oxford Engineering

Renewable Connections

Rowan Energy Integration

West Chester University

EP-ACT
Eastern Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Transportation

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Tony Bandiero

Program Director
Missy Brown

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MGB Consulting

Board at Large
Brett Gipe
Coulomb Solutions Inc