

Alaska Electric Vehicle Working Group Charter & Objectives

AKEVWG Overview

Purpose

The transportation sector has begun its transition to electrification in areas throughout the world. The Alaska Electric Vehicle Working Group (AKEVWG or Working Group) is a collaborative effort between electric vehicle stakeholders (government agencies, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and interested individuals, etc.) and offers a forum to investigate challenges, coordinate solutions, and share best practices for electric mobility. The group is dedicated to smart and efficient electric transportation development in Alaska and is open to any interested party that supports its mission.

The mission of the AKEVWG is to minimize barriers to adoption of electric transportation in Alaska and to create a vibrant and enduring ecosystem for EVs and other modes of electric transport through strong local and regional partnerships.

Background

In response to the VW diesel emissions settlement and the accelerating trend of transportation electrification the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) hired SparkBox and Alaska Center for Energy and Power to facilitate the EVWG in January 2020. As part of the VW settlement, AEA plans to contract with a vendor to install and operate EV charging stations along the contiguous road system. Though all final decisions will continue to rest with the AEA VW Program Manager and AEA Management for allocation of AEA administered funds, the Working Group will assist its members, including the AEA, through activities that best aide the continuing development of electric vehicle adoption in Alaska. It is anticipated that the goals of the Working Group will extend past the VW Trust process to encompass market adoption of EVs more broadly. It is also anticipated that additional sources of capital, beyond the VW Settlement funds, will be needed to support the goals listed below.

Medium-Term Goals

- Develop the conditions to increase adoption of EVs in Alaska to 8% of all new vehicle sales by 2025
- Develop an EV charging network with fast-charging stations every 100 miles along the primary Railbelt transportation corridor
- Install community-based charging stations in EV ready communities to increase EV visibility and ubiquity; provide a reliable charging “safety net” for unexpected charging needs, and to provide “destination” charging for long day or overnight trips.
- By 2023, increase statewide total EVSE by 59 Level 2, 30 Level 3, and 2 energy storage-supported Level 3 units.
- Demonstrate EVs in fleet vehicle applications to gather performance data and to demonstrate feasibility in cold climates.
- Establish policies that demonstrates state, municipal, and utility leadership on EVs.

Near-Term Organizational & Policy Priorities

1. Identify and recruit new members to the AKEVWG to ensure stakeholder roles are well represented
2. Assist in the planning and development of a statewide EV charging network
 - 2.1. Gather site-specific data to identify the attributes that lead to successful siting of charging infrastructure for both site hosts and EV users
 - 2.2. Promote the deployment of VW Trust funds
 - 2.3. Support installation of 13 Level 3 and 10 Level 2 charging stations
3. Support installation of community-based charging infrastructure
 - 3.1. Gather site-specific data to identify the attributes that lead to successful siting of charging infrastructure for both site hosts and EV users
 - 3.2. Promote the deployment of VW Trust funds
 - 3.3. Support installation of 4 Level 3 and 23 Level 2 charging stations in EV ready communities
4. Support the development of EV fleets in passenger vehicles, trucks, buses, and shuttle vans in Cordova, MOA, and others
5. Support the collection and analysis of EVSE, site host, EV, and EV user data to inform solutions to key market barriers
6. Conduct public outreach and education
 - 6.1. Hold two ride-and-drive events in 2020 (AKEVA)
 - 6.2. Hold virtual EV Workshop (ACEP and USARC)
 - 6.3. Hold Beneficial Electrification and EV Workshop (Cordova Electric)
7. Develop policy recommendations by 2021 to:
 - 7.1. Remove of barriers to customer choice of EVs
 - 7.2. Ensure equitable access to EVs
 - 7.3. Pair renewable energy with EVs
8. Support the review of electric utility rate structures by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to determine solutions to the demand charge problem that exists with EV fast charging for some utilities

Structure

Membership

The AKEVWG organizational structure will include registered membership through a signed acknowledgment agreeing with the group's mission and objectives. Registered membership will be free and registered members will have full voting rights on future work plans, policy initiatives, and endorsements or resolutions. It is expected that the group members will provide knowledge, resources, and/or personnel in support of AKEVWG activities.

Meetings

Working Group participants will meet quarterly to share updates and coordinate plans for EVs in Alaska, learn from experts in the field, identify barriers to EV adoption, and finalize recommendations for market and policy solutions. Technical sessions will be held approximately monthly to address market and policy barriers in detail. These technical sessions are intended as smaller breakout groups where content experts develop draft solutions that are forwarded to the larger Working Group. When formal

decisions are required, for example to approve recommendations on EV charging station siting criteria or EV policy, the group will strive toward consensus with a simple majority used when consensus cannot be reached.

Communication Tools & Information Resources

Listserv

Interested parties can sign-up for the AKEVWG listserv at <http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/alaskaev>.

Website

AEA will integrate a webpage within its agency website with a summary of the AKEVWG with notice of upcoming meetings.

Newsletter

AEA and its contractor will develop and circulate a short newsletter on a quarterly basis to AKEVWG members highlighting recent member activities and opportunities.

Document Library

AEA hosts a library of curated documents for members that is intended as a collection point for information and research on EVs and the various barriers and solutions to market uptake. AEA hosts these informational resources on its SharePoint site. If you need assistance accessing this site, please contact Taylor Asher TAsher@akenergyauthority.org.

For additional information about the AKEVWG, contact:

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