Electric Vehicle Charging Association, AEP Ohio, and Environmental Coalition Sign Agreement on Rebate Incentive Program for Charging Stations in Ohio

The program would provide roughly $9.5 million in rebates toward the purchase of electric vehicle smart charging stations in the Columbus area

COLUMBUS, OH—The Electric Vehicle Charging Association (EVCA) signed onto an agreement Monday that, if approved, will make hundreds of smart charging stations available to drivers in American Electric Power (AEP) Ohio’s service territory. The stipulation agreement concludes a highly collaborative, successful settlement process that brought together support from EVCA, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) staff, the investor-owned utility, National Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, and the Environmental Law and Policy Center. The agreement provides a framework for roughly $9.5 million in rebates toward the purchase electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the Columbus area.

“The stipulation agreement is the result of trust and hard work put in by all parties to reach a scalable, sustainable program to support electric vehicle drivers in Ohio,” said Terry O’Day, President of EVCA. “The rebate program model advanced in this agreement has been successfully utilized by utilities throughout the country. The agreement will quickly support drivers with valuable charging programs and low administrative costs, bringing Ohio the most cost-effective solution for utilities to help the EV market grow. If approved, we expect this program to quickly put smart charging stations at workplaces, businesses, and government properties throughout Central Ohio and advance Smart Columbus efforts.”

The agreement identifies rebate amounts for public sites, workplaces, and multi-unit dwellings, covering both level 2 and DC fast charging stations. The program sets $3.7 million for level 2 station applications, resulting in about 300 charging stations. In addition the stipulation agreement allocates $5.8 million for DC fast charging station rebates, enough for approximately 75 stations. For some customers, the rebates would cover up to 100% of the cost of charging stations. The program is designed to set aside at least 10% of charging station rebate funds for locations in low-income communities.

In June 2016 the City of Columbus won the U.S. Department of Transportation $40 million Smart City Challenge. The City is now preparing to follow through on its proposal to deploy
innovative transportation and mobility technologies, including EV charging stations. EVCA and its members strongly supported the use of utility rebates to roll out a Smart City technology demonstration program for networked charging stations.

Established in 2015, EVCA is a not-for-profit trade association that brings together leaders in the EV charging industry to educate policymakers, stakeholders and members of the public about the critical role of EV technology, infrastructure and services and to advocate for policies that will expand clean transportation. Current members are ABM, ChargePoint, Clean Fuel Connection, Inc., Cyber Switching Solutions, Inc., Envision Solar, EV Connect, EVgo, SemaConnect, and Volta Charging.

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