



Joint Office of  
**Energy and  
Transportation**

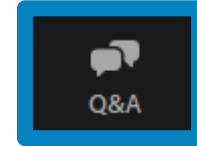
# **Engaging Utilities: Rural Cooperatives Working to Deploy EV Charging**

6/18/2024

[driveelectric.gov](https://driveelectric.gov)

# Zoom Tips and Housekeeping

- Controls are located at the bottom of your screen. If they aren't appearing, move your cursor to the bottom edge.
- Submit questions using the “Q&A” window



# Disclaimer

**Notice:** This webinar is being recorded and may be posted on the Joint Office website or used internally.

If you speak during the webinar or use video, you are presumed to consent to recording and use of your voice or image.

# Agenda

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**Introduction** from the Joint Office

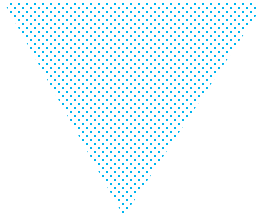
**Presentations** from panelists

**Panel Discussion**

**Audience Q&A**



# Mission and Vision



## Mission

To accelerate an electrified transportation system that is affordable, convenient, equitable, reliable, and safe.

## Vision

A future where everyone can ride and drive electric.

# BIL Programs Supported by the Joint Office

The Joint Office provides unifying **guidance**, **technical assistance**, and **analysis** to support the following programs:



## **National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program (U.S. DOT)**

**\$5 billion** for states to build a national electric vehicle (EV) charging network along corridors, including **\$148 million** awarded to repair and replace non-operational chargers.



## **Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (U.S. DOT)**

**\$2.5 billion** in community and corridor grants for EV charging, as well as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane fueling infrastructure



## **Low-No Emissions Grants Program for Transit (U.S. DOT)**

**\$5.6 billion** in support of low- and no-emission transit bus deployments



## **Clean School Bus Program (U.S. EPA)**

**\$5 billion** in support of clean school bus deployments

# Clean Bus Planning Awards (CBPA) Program

[Learn more and apply](#)



**Free technical assistance for comprehensive and customized fleet electrification transition plans.**

- Fleets eligible for FTA Low or No Emission Grant Program funding, with some exceptions, can apply now for CBPA assistance.
- Deployment assistance also available at the completion of the plan.
- Funded by the Joint Office and managed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).
- Applications open on a rolling basis.

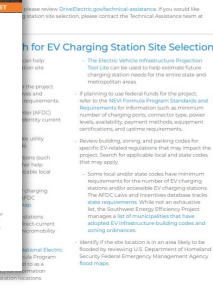
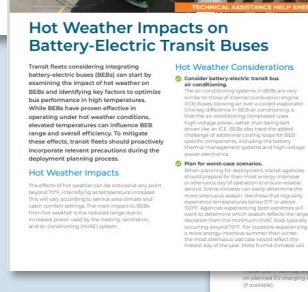
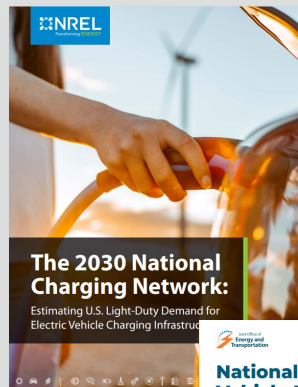
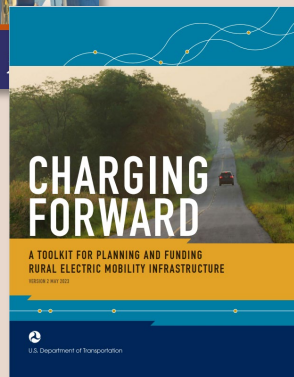
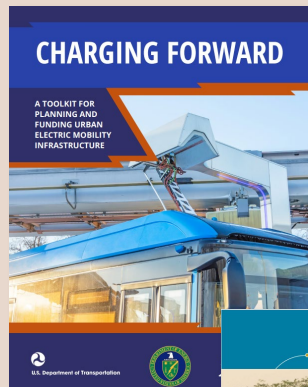


[\*driveelectric.gov/clean-bus-planning-awards\*](https://driveelectric.gov/clean-bus-planning-awards)

# Rural and Urban EV Toolkits

# Forecasts and Reports

# Help Sheets and Checklists



[driveelectric.gov/resources](https://driveelectric.gov/resources)



# Battery Buffered Case Study

 Joint Office of  
Energy and  
Transportation



Technical Assistance Help Sheet

## Battery Energy Storage for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

### Introduction

This help sheet provides information on how battery energy storage systems can support electric vehicle (EV) fast charging infrastructure. It is an informative resource that may help states, communities, and other stakeholders plan for EV infrastructure deployment, but it is not intended to be used as guidance, set policy, or establish or replace any standards under state or federal law.

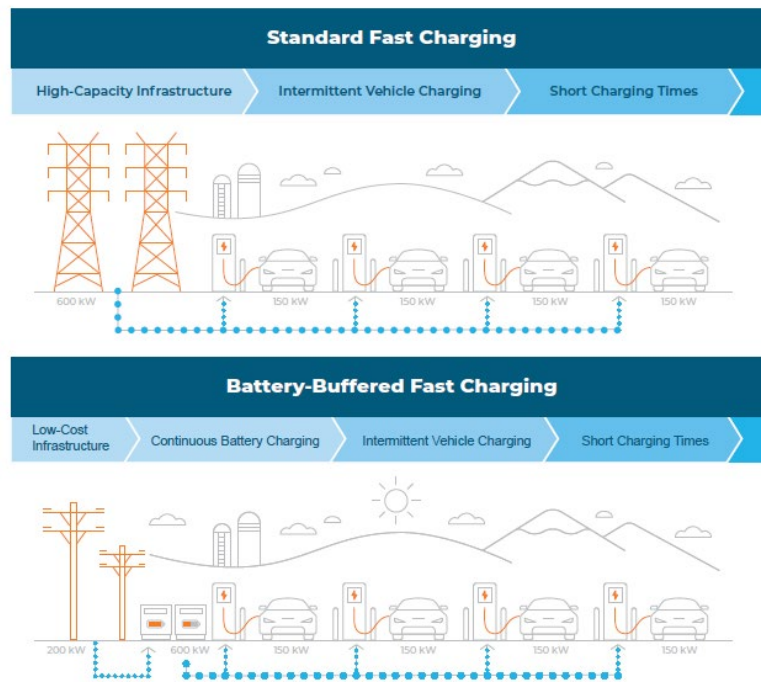
Battery energy storage systems can enable EV fast charging build-out in areas with limited power grid capacity, reduce charging and utility costs through peak shaving, and boost energy storage capacity to allow for EV charging in the event of a power grid disruption or outage. Adding battery energy

storage systems will also increase capital costs for a deployment of EV charging stations, which should be weighed against potential benefits before implementation.

### What Is Battery-Buffered Fast Charging?

A battery energy storage system can store up electricity by drawing energy from the power grid at a continuous, moderate rate. When an EV requests power from a battery-buffered direct current fast charging (DCFC) station, the battery energy storage system can discharge stored energy rapidly, providing EV charging at a rate far greater than the rate at which it draws energy from the power grid.

1



Visit [Driveelectric.gov/publications](https://driveelectric.gov/publications)

- Request assistance via online form

- Initial response within 48 hours

- General questions and feedback welcome!

The screenshot shows the 'Contact Us' page of the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation. The header includes the US government logo, the agency name, and navigation links. The main heading is 'Contact Us', followed by a brief description of the form's purpose. A 'Find Us on Social' section features LinkedIn and YouTube icons. The form itself has a note about required fields and includes input boxes for 'Inquiry type', 'Name', 'Email', 'Subject', and a larger 'Message' box, each marked with an asterisk. A 'Send' button is at the bottom.

***driveelectric.gov/contact***

The screenshot shows the 'Subscribe to News and Updates' page. The header is identical to the contact page. The main heading is 'Subscribe to News and Updates', with a subtext about subscribing to news and updates. On the left, there are links for 'News', 'Webinars', and 'Subscribe'. The main form area has a 'Sign up for news alerts' section with an email input field (pre-filled with 'name@example.com') and a checkbox for consent to the 'data privacy policy'. A 'Next' button is at the bottom.

***driveelectric.gov/subscribe***



# Polling Questions

# Panelists



**Jennah Denney**

*National Rural Electric Cooperative  
Association*



**Chelsea Mead**

*Trico Electric Cooperative, AZ*



**Cyril Brunner**

*Vermont Electric Cooperative, VT*



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**FLATHEAD ELECTRIC**  
COOPERATIVE

**John Goroski**

*Flathead Electric Cooperative, MT*



**Jennah Denney**

*National Rural Electric Cooperative  
Association*

May 14, 2024

# Landscape of rural utilities in transportation electrification

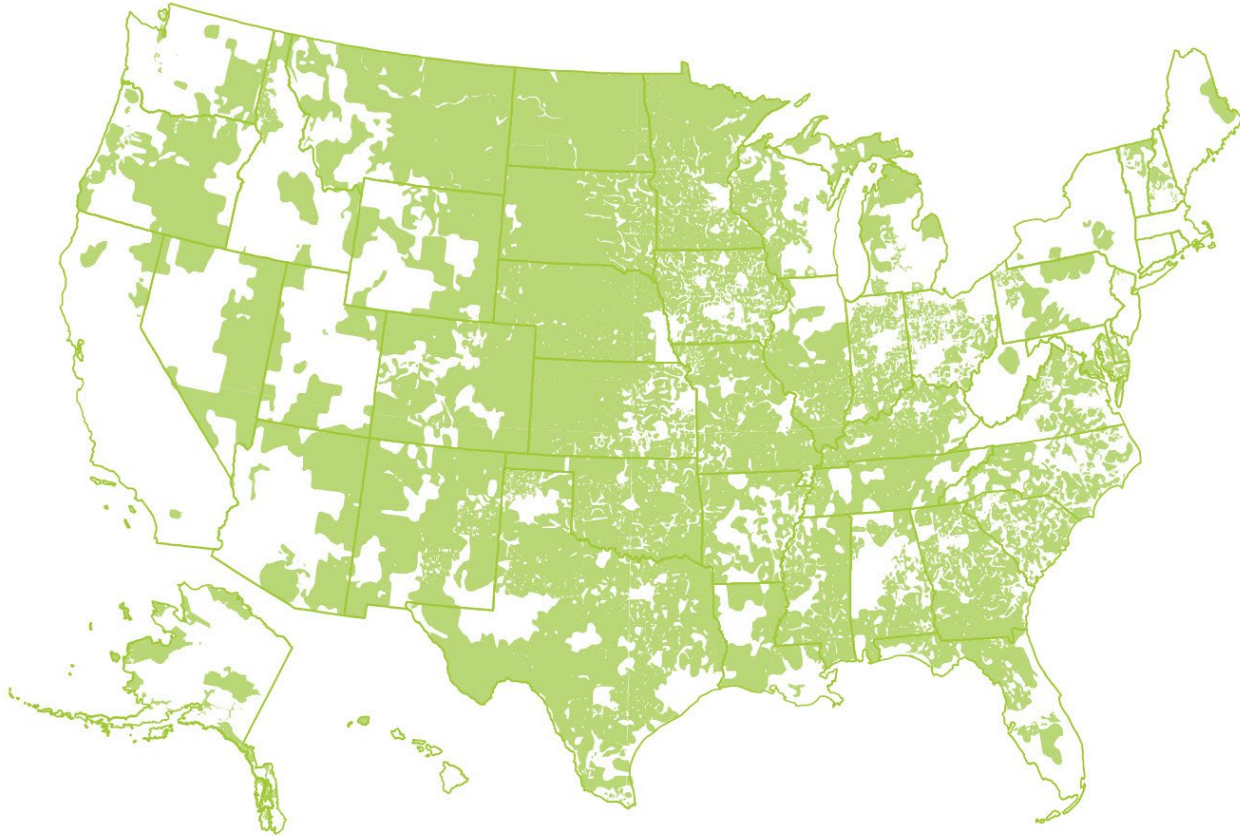
Joint Office of Energy and Transportation



# Cooperatives Focused on their Consumer-Members



# Cooperatives Power 56% of the Nation's Landmass





# Predict, Plan and Mitigate Impacts with Members at the Front of Mind

What are cooperatives doing?

## Outreach



- ☐ Education
- ☐ Identification

## Planning



- ☐ Grid Impacts
- ☐ Affordability & Reliability

## Management



- ☐ Rates
- ☐ Curtailment

# Cooperative Approach to Vehicle Electrification

**Mission:** The Cooperative Approach to Vehicle Electrification (CAVE) is a network of electric cooperatives that have implemented or are planning to implement a variety of electric transportation programs.

**Goal 1:** Focus on charging infrastructure in rural and low-income communities.

**Goal 2:** Create education-based programs to inform consumers, dealers, and policymakers on the value of electric transportation.

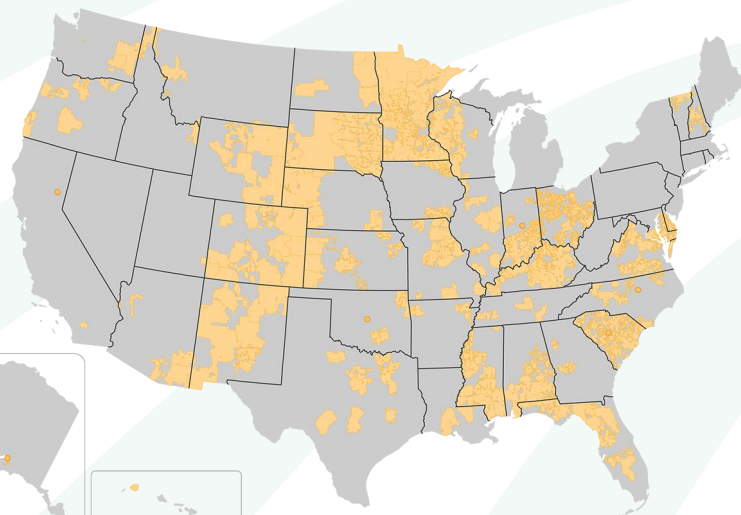
**Goal 3:** Explore options for fleets, transit bus, school bus, and medium/heavy-duty truck adoption and charging solutions

**Goal 4:** Demonstrate unique programs that utilize technologies to improve grid reliability.

**216 Individuals**

**131 Unique Coops**

**38 States Represented**



# REWIRED: Rural Electric Utility Workflow Improvements for Rapid EVSE Deployment

## Fiscal Year 2023 Vehicle Technologies Office Program Wide Funding Opportunity Announcement

FOA # DE-FOA-0002893

Name	Location (city, state)	Project Description	Federal Share
AOI 11 - Reducing Soft Costs of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure to Enable Widespread Deployment			
Electric Power Research Institute, Inc.	Palo Alto, CA	GridFAST Express: Roadmap and Actions to Address Key Challenges to the Utility Interconnection Process and Supporting Supply Chain	\$6,243,941
Interstate Renewable Energy Council	Albany, NY	A Comprehensive Nationwide EV Charging Recognition and Technical Assistance Program	\$6,934,952
NRECA Research	Arlington, VA	REWIRED: Rural Electric Utility Workflow Improvements for Rapid EVSE Deployment	\$2,294,576

\*Currently in pre-award negotiations

## Preliminary - Overview

- The Project will support EVSE development and result in reduced soft costs for new EV charging installations that are scalable, replicable, and can be implemented across the nation by analyzing current and needed utility workflow improvements through peer-to-peer learning and lesson exchange amongst rural electric cooperatives.
- Soft costs are non-hardware expenses, such as preliminary studies, paperwork, approval delays, communication inefficiencies, and inadequate assessment of distribution grid capacity.

# Questions?

**Jennah Denney - NRECA**  
**EV Strategies & Solutions Manager**  
**(501) 400-5548**  
**JENNAH.DENNEY@NRECA.COOP**



**Chelsea Mead**

*Trico Electric Cooperative, AZ*

# EV ROADMAP



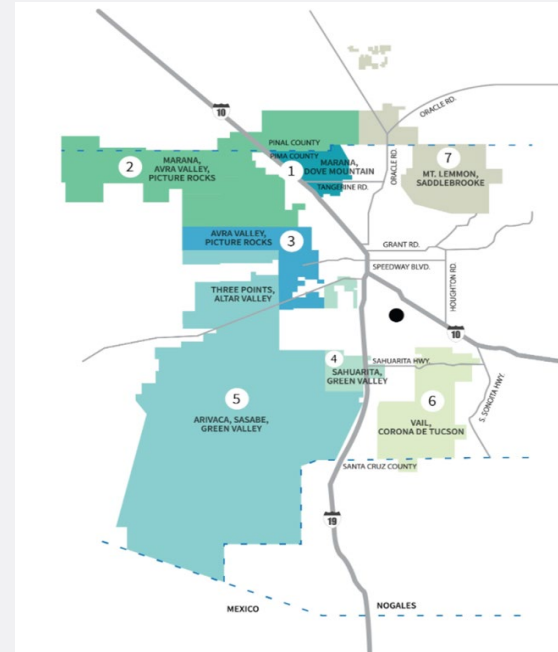
**TRICO**

AN ENERGY COOPERATIVE

**POWERED WITH PURPOSE**

# ABOUT US

- Trico surrounds Tucson, AZ
- 50,000 members
- 140 employees
- 4,000 miles of line
- Fully regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission
- 255 mW summer peak  
< 100 mW winter





# Strategic Direction



## Preparing for a competitive future where members will demand innovation and great value

Power Supply: Ensure ample resources, incorporating traditional, distributed, and member-owned assets.

Member Satisfaction: Engage with Members to understand and exceed their expectations.

Reliability: Delivering for Members by enhancing trust and empowering progress.



**TRICO**  
AN ENERGY COOPERATIVE

**CO**  
OPERATIVE



# EV Roadmap



- **Strategic Approach: Develop a five-year roadmap**
  - Research other cooperative's home charging programs that include having the objective being to ensure continued purchase of cooperative-provided power.
  - Research charging stations, including pricing, warranty, NISC integration, metering and installation aspects.
  - Determine retail pricing and/or incentives, including considering a subscription-based model for the home charging unit.
  - The project may need to include a determination if a subsidiary needs to be established if the co-op is to own level 2 chargers.

# Home



- Member-owned
  - Experimental Off-Peak EV Charging Plan
    - 6.5 cents during the charging period of (10:00 pm to 5:00 am)
    - 45% reduced rate from standard retail rate
    - Maximum of 400 kWhs per month
    - Not sub metered – using interval data to calculate

# Home



- Trico-owned
  - Unlimited EV Charging Plan
    - Unlimited off-peak charging
    - \$64 per month for 7.7 kW charger
    - \$69 per month for 11.5 kW charger
    - \$71 per month for 15.4 kW charger
    - Off-peak is 6:00 am to 9:00 am and 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm
    - \$0.25 cents per kWh charged during on-peak
    - Sub meter built into charger



# Home



- Trico-owned
  - Unlimited EV Charging Plan
    - Unlimited off-peak charging
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    - \$69 per month for 11.5 kW charger
    - \$71 per month for 15.4 kW charger
    - Off-peak is 6:00 am to 9:00 am and 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm
    - \$.25 cents per kWh charged during on-peak
    - Sub meter built into charger
  - Trico installs, owns and maintains the unit
    - Trico conducted an RFP process
    - Defined a standard installation
      - 240-volt circuit within 20 feet of the charger



# Home



- EV Readiness Assessments
  - Trico hired an inhouse Journeyman Electrician to complete assessments, installs, and maintenance
  - Trico will assess Member service to determine its readiness for an EV charger
  - If upgrades are needed, Trico will provide an estimate
  - Member can choose to use Trico or select a 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor to complete work

# Home



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- Future

- Managed Charging – 2025
- V2X Charging – 2025/2026



# Public



- Third-Party or Member-Owned
  - Serve on a demand and energy rate
- Trico-Owned (2024)
  - Trico determined we won't invest in public charging unless significant grant funds can be obtained to buy down the cost
  - NEVI Application with Pima County, Tucson, Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and Trico
    - 10 Trico-owned chargers in Pima County
    - Conducted an RFP in 2023
    - Includes 300 kW of storage per site

# Fleet



- Gauging interest
- Two models
  - Trico-owned
    - Managed charging
  - Member-owned
    - Passive Management: Rates for small, medium and large
    - Active Management

Financial assistance will be available from Trico to manage the charging

- Rebates
- Loans
- Separately metered/priced



# Contact Information

Chelsea Mead, Energy Solutions Program  
Manager

[cmead@trico.coop](mailto:cmead@trico.coop)

P: 520-744-2944, ext. 1754

[Trico.coop](http://Trico.coop)





**Cyril Brunner**

*Vermont Electric Cooperative, VT*

# JOET Rural Electric Cooperatives Deploying EV Charging

- Brief overview of VEC
- The challenges we face
- Why is HQ so important to VEC?
- Managing DER to defer infrastructure investment





**34,000** Members

**87 MW** Peak Demand

**100%** Renewable by 2030

**50 MW** of Distributed Renewables

**>4,000** Heat Pumps

**~600** EV's on system

**1.2** meters per transformer

**>8%** of VT Sales are EV's

**109** Employees

Lighting the path to affordable clean energy, *together.*

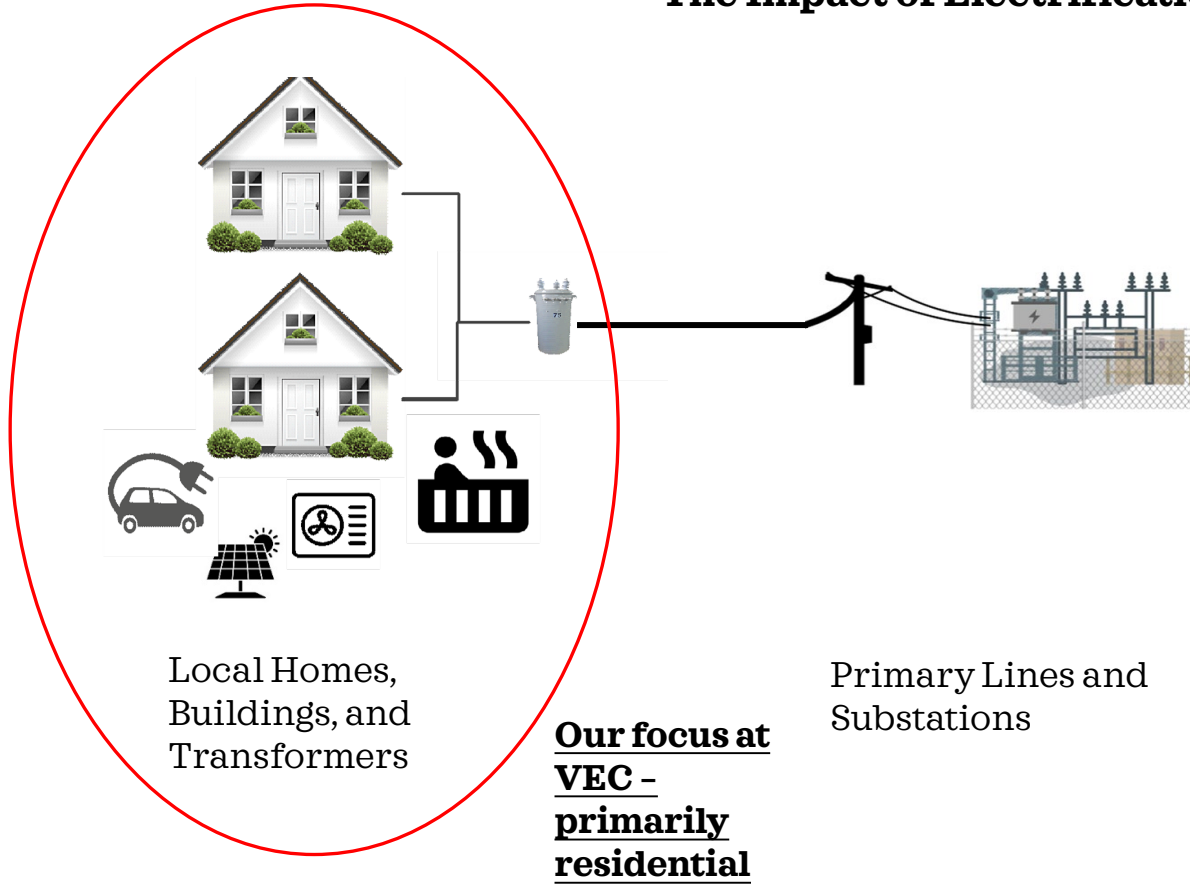
Where is VEC ???



VERMONT CO  
ELECTRIC CO



# The Impact of Electrification



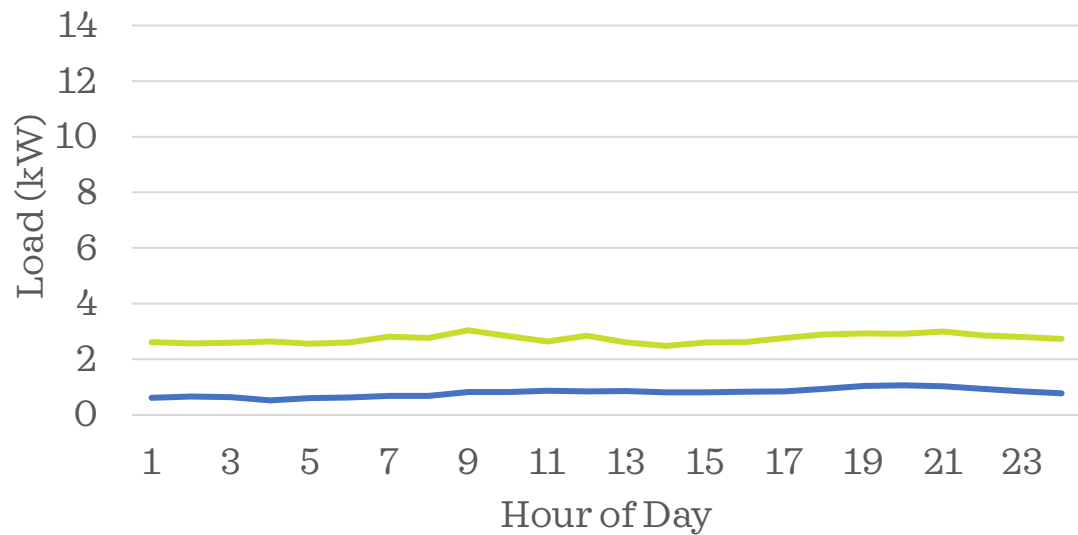
vermont electric power company  
**VELCO**

**ISO** new england

Transmission in VT and  
ISONE

## Residential Impact of Electrification - Locally

### Typical Winter Day with Heat Pump

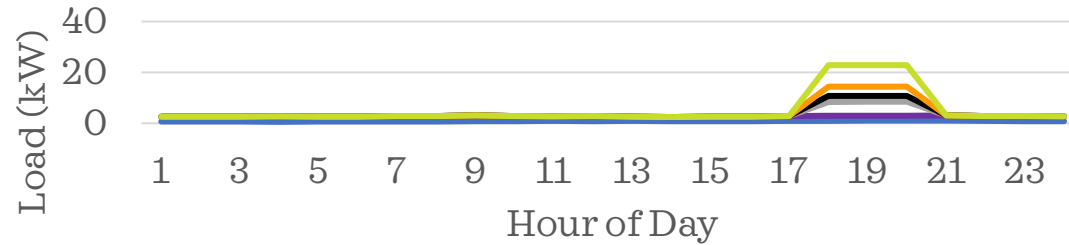


- Washer dryer
- Heat pumps today

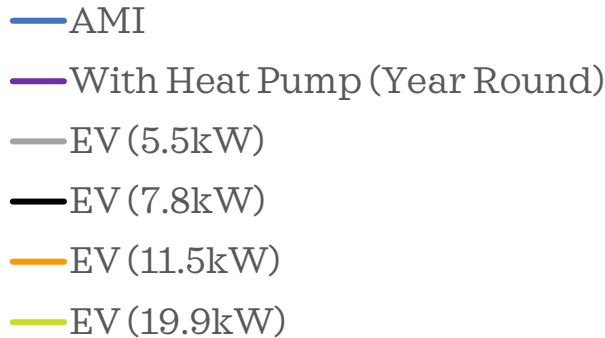
— AMI    — With Heat Pump (Year Round)

## Residential Impact of Electrification - Locally with EV's

Typical Winter Day with Heat Pump and EV

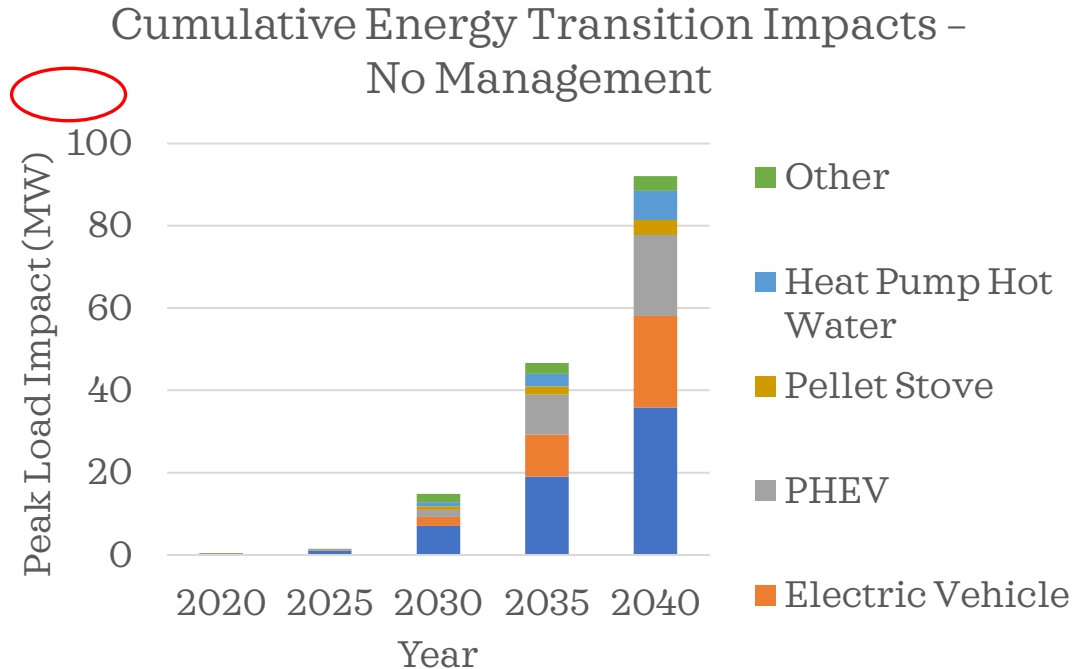


- Average EV 7.8kW
- Have seen several 19.9kW





## The Impact of Electrification - Systemwide

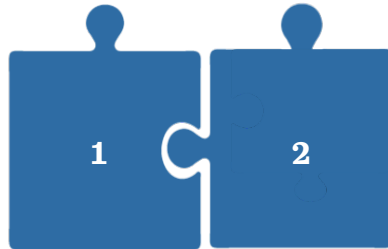


- 80 MW peak today
- Significant load growth expected by 2040
- kWh sales versus kW grid infrastructure impacts
- 30-40% of distribution transformers, lines and substations would be overloaded by 2040 without load management
- \$100 million in grid upgrades, even more at the transmission level

# Grid Infrastructure is the Foundation

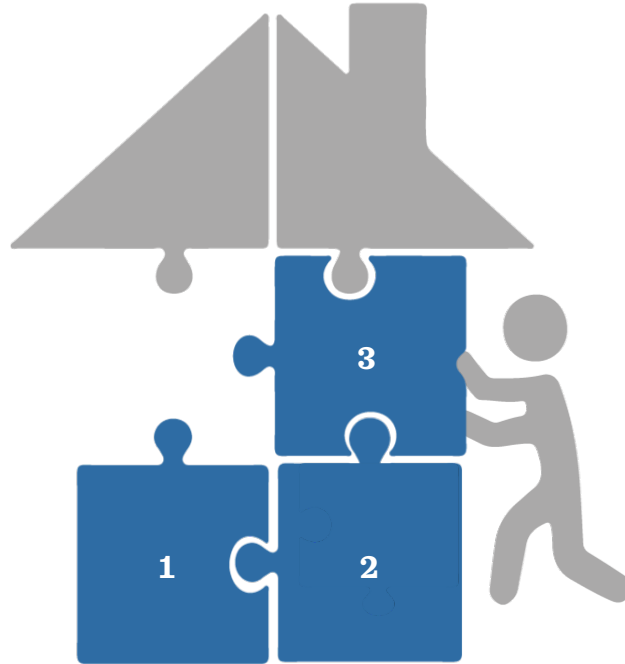
**1. Maintain** our existing infrastructure

**2. Upgrade** conditionally poor infrastructure to increase capacity and relocate or underground to improve reliability



- Annual maintenance plan to extend life of assets
- Increased standard distribution transformer from 10kVA to 15kVA
- Actively replacing 250 miles of legacy conductor (6 Steel, 8D, 6A). Currently replacing around 10 miles annually
- Seeking out grant funding to support investments (GRIP and others)

# Grid Infrastructure is the Foundation



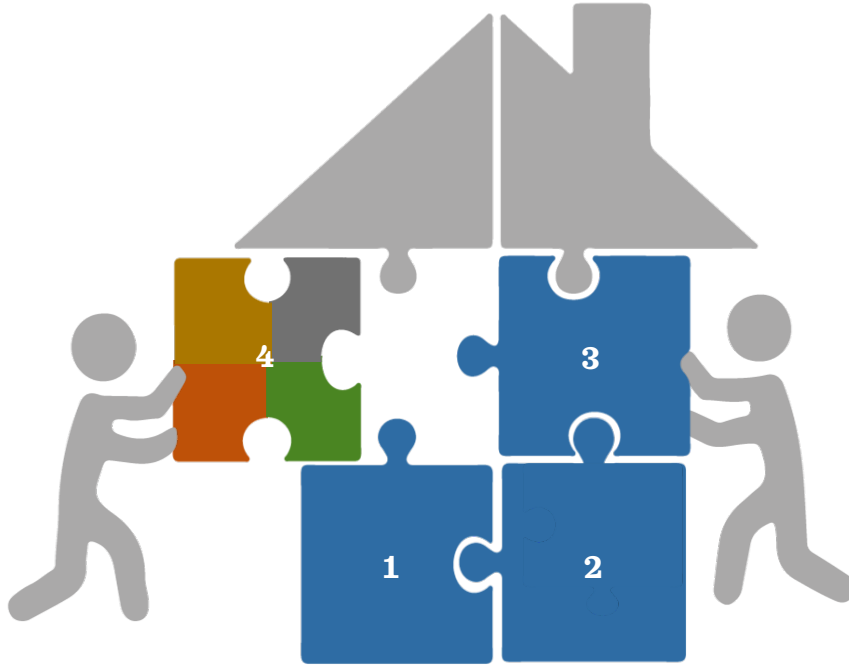
**1. Maintain** our existing infrastructure

**2. Upgrade** conditionally poor infrastructure to increase capacity and relocate or underground to improve reliability

**3. Leverage** existing distribution management systems (SCADA) and data sets (NISC, GIS and AMI)

- Existing data is foundational to enabling DER management for infrastructure
- Need accurate data

## Grid Infrastructure is the Foundation, VPP's Will Enable More



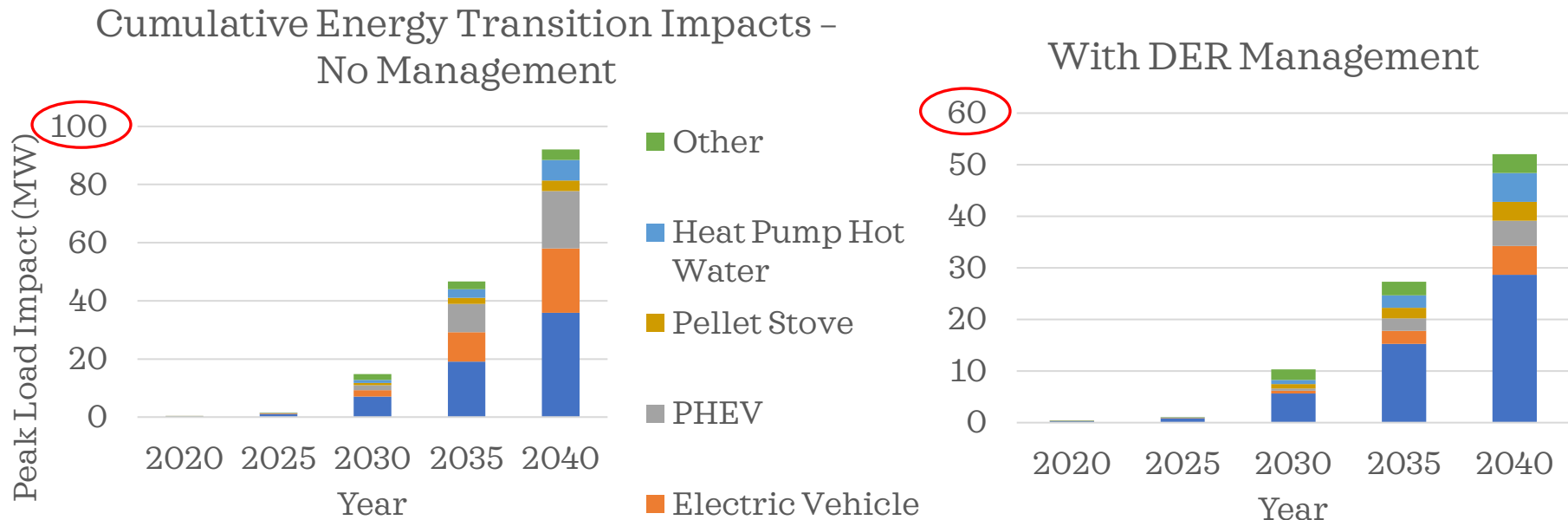
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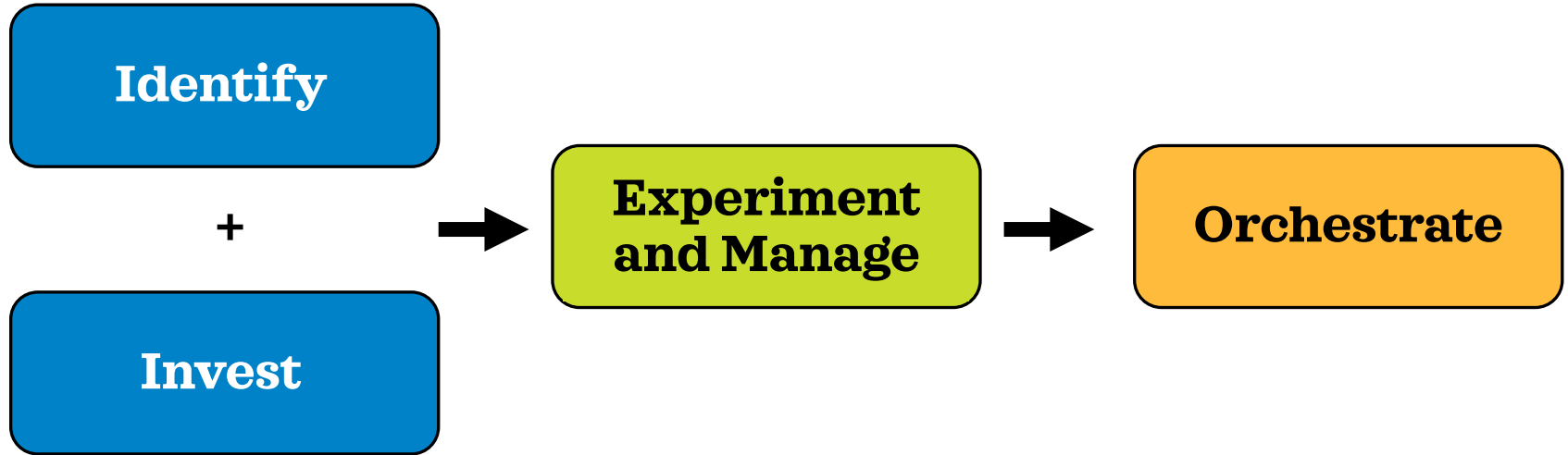
**4. Create** VPP's by **integrating** existing data with DER OEM's, **modeling** DER impacts, **experimenting** with pilots, and **orchestrating** devices through technology solutions built on AI

## Why will VPP's and DER management help?



- We can save ~\$50 million in Grid Investment with DER Management

## VEC Flexible Load Program Focus



## Identify

	<b>Vermont Tier 3 VEC Energy Transformation Program</b>	<b>EV Detection</b>
	<p>Mandates utilities reduce carbon through increased electric sales</p> <p>Numerous incentive offerings (EV's, chargers, heat pumps)</p> <p>VEC maintains a record of vehicles, heating, locations and other details</p>	<p>Through Camus</p> <p>Identified over 600 potential chargers</p> <p>Currently run annually, looking to update frequency</p> <p>Cross reference with EV list</p> <p>Helpful to identify charging speed</p>

## Invest

	Free Level 2 Charger	Free Distribution Transformer Upgrade
<b>Program Launch</b>	Jan 2023	Jan 2020
<b>Device Quantities</b>	180+ (Emporia)	55 upgrades since 2020
<b>Items of Note</b>	<p>(650+ EVs on system)</p> <p>Originally focused on ChargePoint and Flo and recently transition to Emporia (lower cost)</p>	<p>10% of reviewed transformers need an upgrade</p> <p>VEC Utility Designers review every incentive application</p> <p>Justified through Tier 3 mandate and additional sales</p>



## Manage - Electric Vehicles

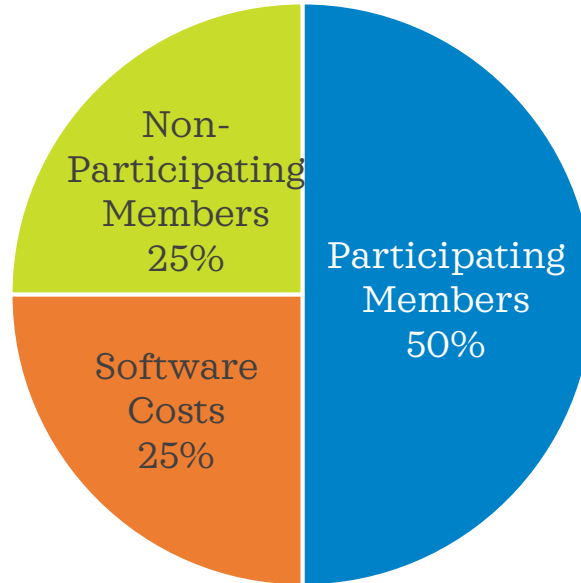
	EV Charger Bill Credit	FlexCharging Telematics	Additional Grid Services	Vehicle to X
Monthly Bill Credit	\$8/month	\$8/month	TBD	\$6.40/month/kW
Devices Enrolled	300 (~300kW)	~60 (~60kW) Launched in March 2024	Targeting 10 locations	Targeting 1-2 locations
OEM's Targeted	Flo, ChargePoint and Emporia	"Free" communications OEMs (Tesla, Rivian, Ford, Kia, Hyundai)	ChargePoint and FlexCharging	Fermata Energy with VW ID4
Dispatch Frequency	4hrs, 4-6 times per month	4hrs, 4-6 times per month	TBD	4hrs, 4-6 times per month
Items of Note	45% of EV's managed (78% in 2023)  <b>&lt; 10 opt outs</b> since program began in 2019	Targeted at Tesla's and OEM's with free chargers  Lower cost option to EVSE	Pilot for 2024  Manage for distribution transformer upgrades	Pilot for 2024  Residential bidirectional pilot

## The Value of Our Flexible Load Management Program

	Number of Peaks	Approximate Dispatch Hours to Hit Peak	Annual Transmission Savings for 1 MW Peak Reduction	Success % – 4 Hour Resource
VT Monthly RNS (Regional Network Service)	12	340	\$175,000	~75%
ISONE Yearly FCM (Forward Capacity Market)	1	60	\$29,000	~75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>~\$204,000/year</b>	

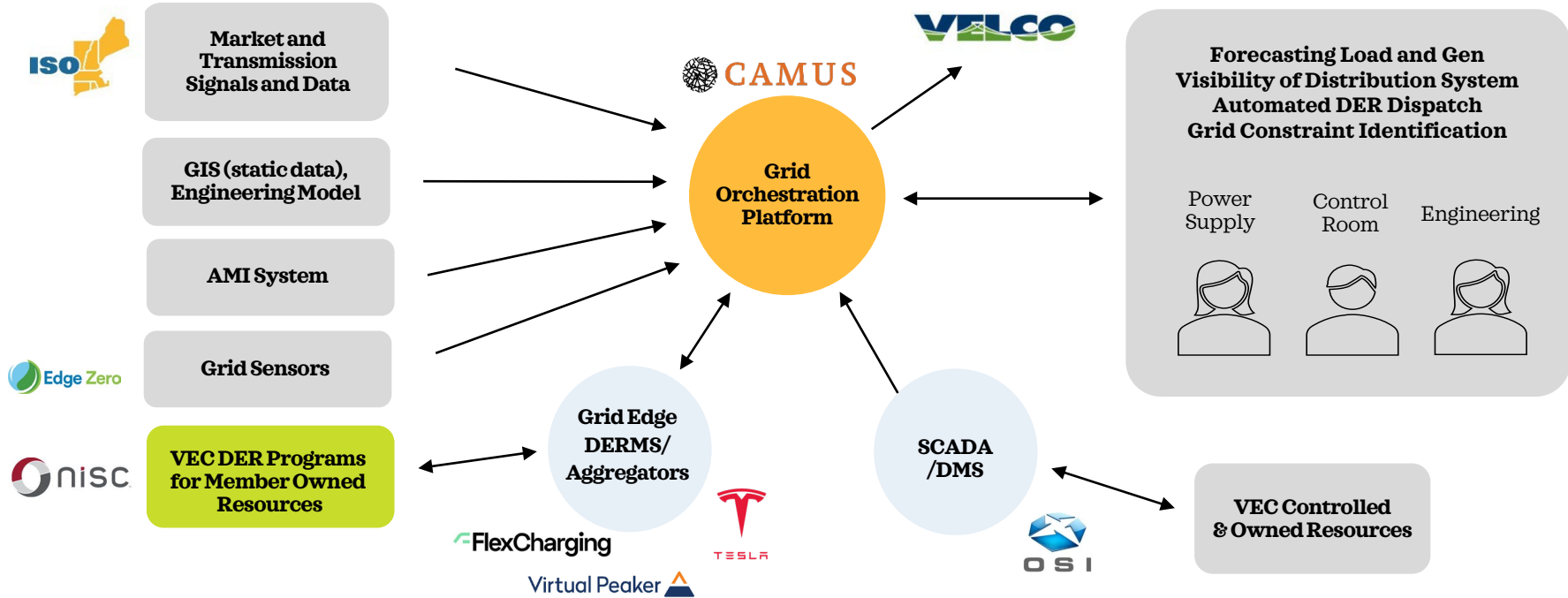
- 13 Total Peaks
- ~\$204/kW/year

## Program Value Pie



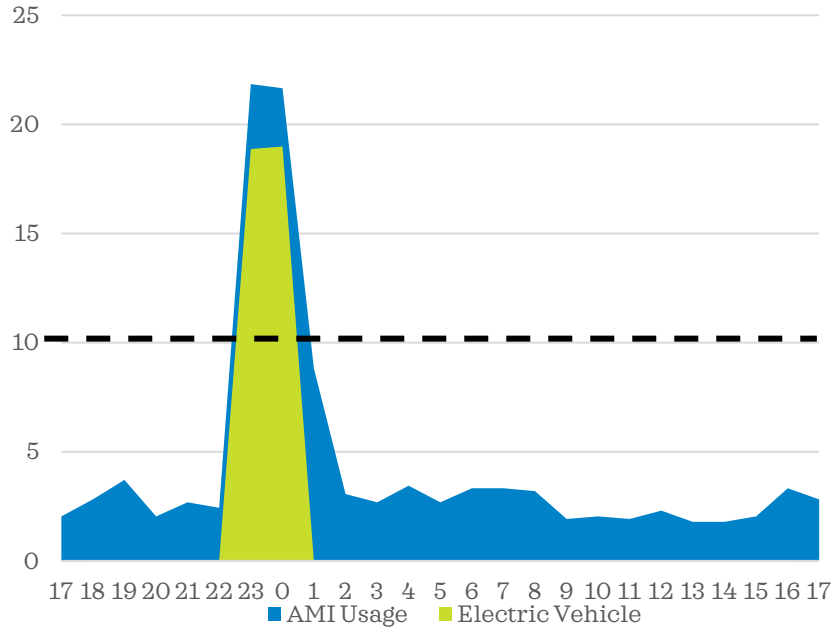
- Maximize non-participating members percentage = savings
- High enough incentive to enroll

# How do we Orchestrate our Virtual Power Plant (VPP)?

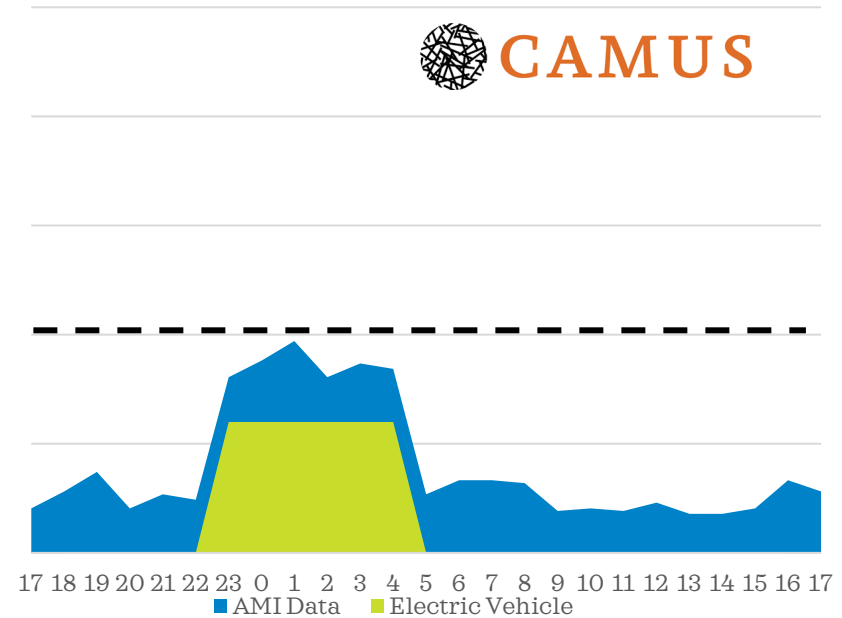


Together, these technologies enable VEC to **identify grid constraints** and **dispatch member and utility assets** to not only manage peak impacts but also **eliminate/defer infrastructure upgrades**

## 2024 Pilot on Distribution Transformers



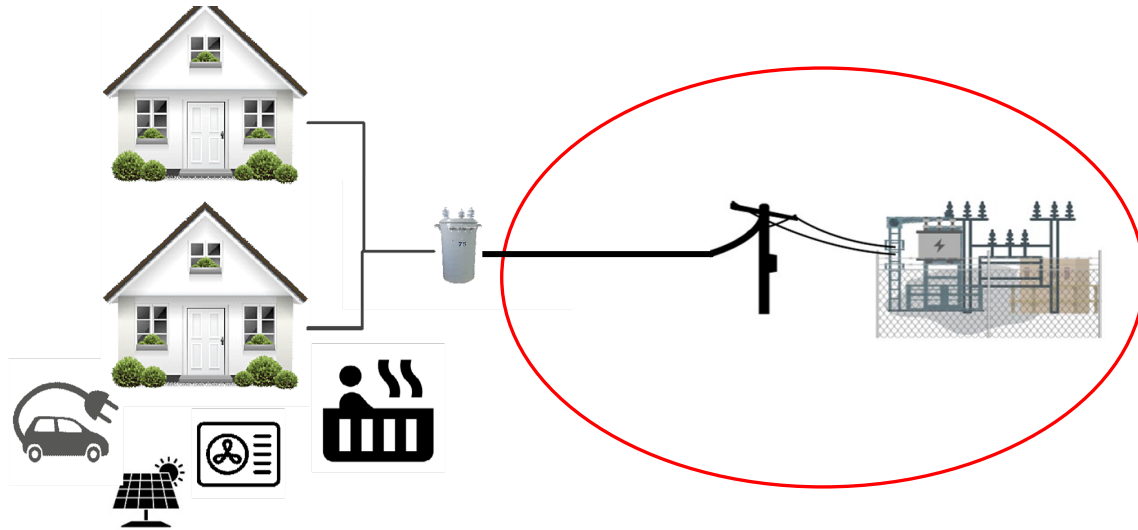
**Fixed Limit - 10kVA**



**Managed charging for Fixed Limit**  
(Fixed Operating Envelope)

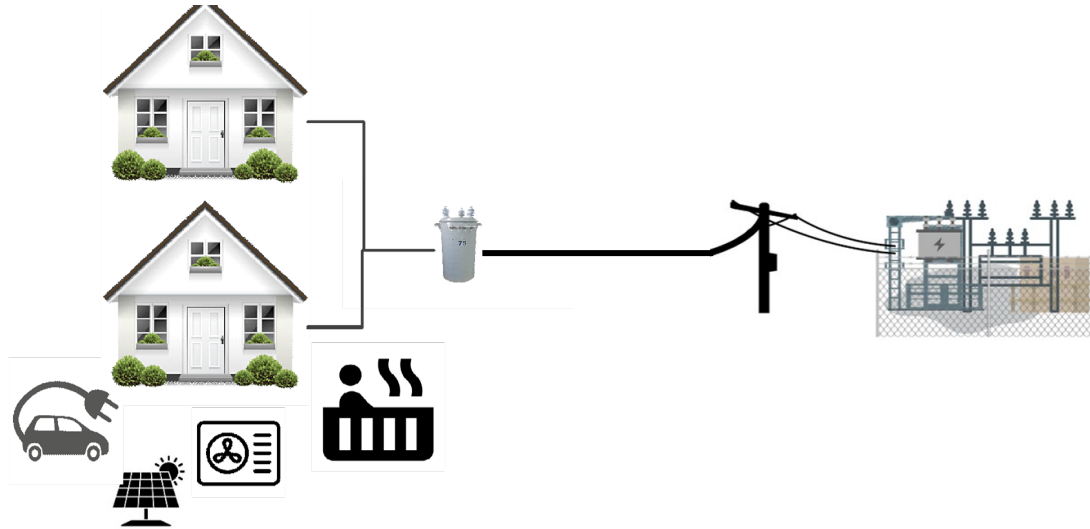


## Future - Primary Lines and Substations



Primary Lines and  
Substations

## Future - VT and Regional Transmission



Primary Lines and  
Substations



Transmission in VT and  
ISONE

## Future Program Design - Carrot and Stick

### Current Programs

- Credit for participation
- \$8/month for EV
- \$6.40/kw/month for battery



### Future

- Full residential TOU Rate
- Dynamic Rates
- “stick” for those who are hitting the peaks with electrification





**John Goroski**

*Flathead Electric Cooperative, MT*



**FLATHEAD ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE**  
Community. Innovation. Reliability.



# Flathead Electric Cooperative & Electric Vehicles



February 2023



# Flathead Electric Cooperative



**FLATHEAD ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE**  
Community. Innovation. Reliability.

- 58,477 Member Owners
- 75,519 Meters
- 163 Employees
- 5,124 Miles of Line
- Density = 15 Meters/Mile
- Wholesale Energy Providers:
  - BPA / PNGC
  - Basin Electric Power Cooperative
- Nine elected Board Members





# Flathead's EV History

- 2012: A Flathead Electric employee purchase a 2012 Chevy Volt.
- 2015: A second Flathead Electric employee purchase 2014 Chevy Volt.
- 4-22-2015 – Flathead installed a Level 2 ChargePoint Charging station in front of Flathead's main office. Free to public. Employees charged a monthly fee.
- Internal Questions:
  - Does it make sense for FEC to own a charging network?
  - Demand Response?
  - Time of Use Rates?
  - Impact to Flathead's distribution system and transmission coming into the valley
  - ??????????



# Flathead's EV History

- 2016: Flathead began focusing on workplace charging in Flathead's service territory
  - Third employee bought two plug-in hybrids for his family.
  - Workplace charging made sense for the limited range plug-in hybrids.
  - Cost of EV chargers
    - Level 2 Home - \$1,000
    - Level 2 Workplace - \$2,500
    - Level 3 - \$25,000

# Flathead's EV History



## ■ 2017: Electric Vehicle Project

### ■ Scope:

- To develop and implement an FEC Electric Vehicle (EV) program that includes the installation of EV charging stations, potential EV rate, promotion strategy, potential for renting home EV charging stations, and potential Demand Response opportunity in FEC's service territory.

### ■ Schedule:

- 2017 – Put together Employee/Member Committee.
  - 2017 – Installation of FEC workplace charging station for employees.
  - 2017 – Develop member workplace charger partnership/location criteria.
  - 2017 – Analyze collected project data, assess potential EV rates, assess potential to rent home vehicle chargers to members, and demand response opportunities.
  - 2018 – Present findings to FEC management and Board.
- FEC purchased a Chevy Bolt for the energy services team.

# Flathead's EV History



- 2017-2018: Residential Time of Day Demand Rate:
  - Given the increase in EVs and Net Metering services within the valley, began analyzing a Residential T.O.D. rate. (Treat all residential members the same regardless of their lifestyles.)
- 2018: Electric Vehicle Project
  - Installed two Level 2 Workplace charging stations with DRUs: (Whitefish City Hall parking structure and Whitefish North Valley Hospital's parking lot)
  - Purchased a Chevy Bolt for Flathead's energy service team
- FEC employee upgraded 2012 Chevy Volt to a Tesla Model 3.



# Flathead's EV History



- 2019: Electric Vehicle Experience (Loaner Program)
  - Leased a Nissan Leaf
  - Members were able to reserve the Nissan Leaf and Chevy Bolt for 3-4 days for an EV Experience
- 2019 EV Day
  - First EV Day - Save Your Gas for the Grill
  - Test Drives in the Nissan Leaf and Chevy Bolt



- Jun1 1, 2019: Residential T.O.D rates implemented.



# Flathead's EV History



- 2020: Electric Vehicle Project
  - Continued to install two more Level 2 Workplace charging stations: Bigfork Theater of the Performing Arts and Libby Chamber of Commerce
  - Project Team expanded Scope to Level 3 Charging with potential VW Settlement Funding through the State of Montana.
- 2021: EV Experience
  - Flathead purchased a Tesla Model Y.
  - Flathead was awarded VW Settlement Funding as did a member for other sites in Montana. Flathead declined to allow our member to get the funding for their gas station.
- A fourth FEC employee purchased an EV (Tesla Model Y). Charges at home and does not pay the monthly charging fee at Flathead.

# Flathead's EV History



- 2022:
  - Flathead ordered a Ford Lightning for distribution design.
  - Flathead ordered a Rivian for the EV Experience Program.
  - Second employee purchased a Model Y but kept the 2015 Chevy Volt.
  
- 2023:
  - Flathead ended the EV Experience Program due to vehicle damage to the Tesla and Rivian. The Bolt, Tesla, Rivian and Lightning became a part of Flathead's vehicle fleet used by energy services and distribution design.
  - State of Montana passed an annual EV Registration Fee to capture commuting miles and a \$0.03/kWh EV Tax on all charging stations greater than 25 kW to capture traveling miles. Electric utilities are now tax collectors.



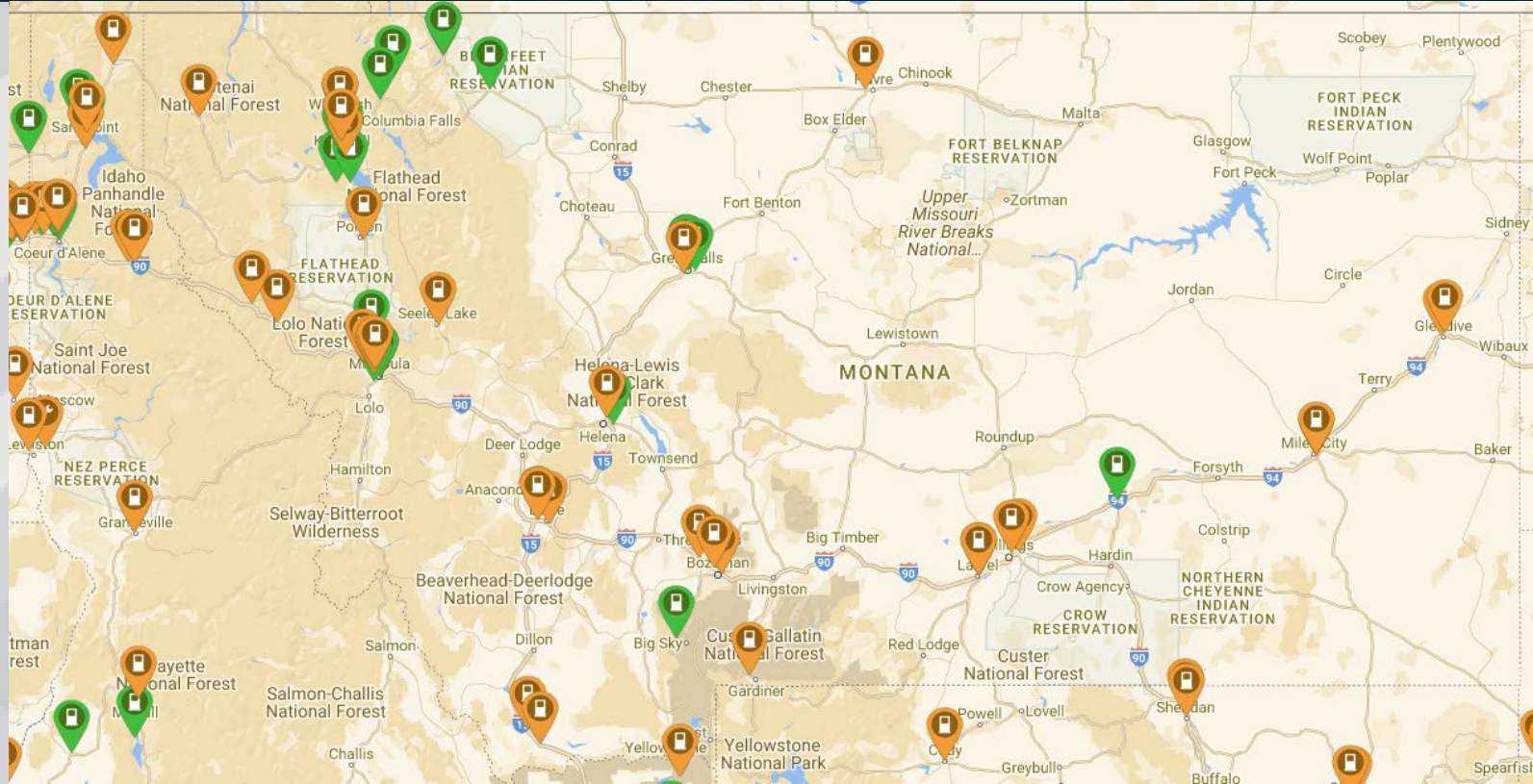
# Flathead's EV History

- 2024:
  - Installed two ZEF purchased Level 2/Level 3 stations in Kalispell and Libby using VW Funding from the State of Montana. These are only 50kW Level 3 chargers. No more free public charging.
  - Charging station rates include an energy charge and a prorated hourly connect fee (which turns into an idle fee if EV is left connected after battery reaches its charging limit). The separately metered Level 3 chargers include the 3 cent/kWh Montana EV Tax.
  - Flathead began collecting EV taxes from the Ford dealership's Level 3 charger.

# EV Charging Stations in Montana



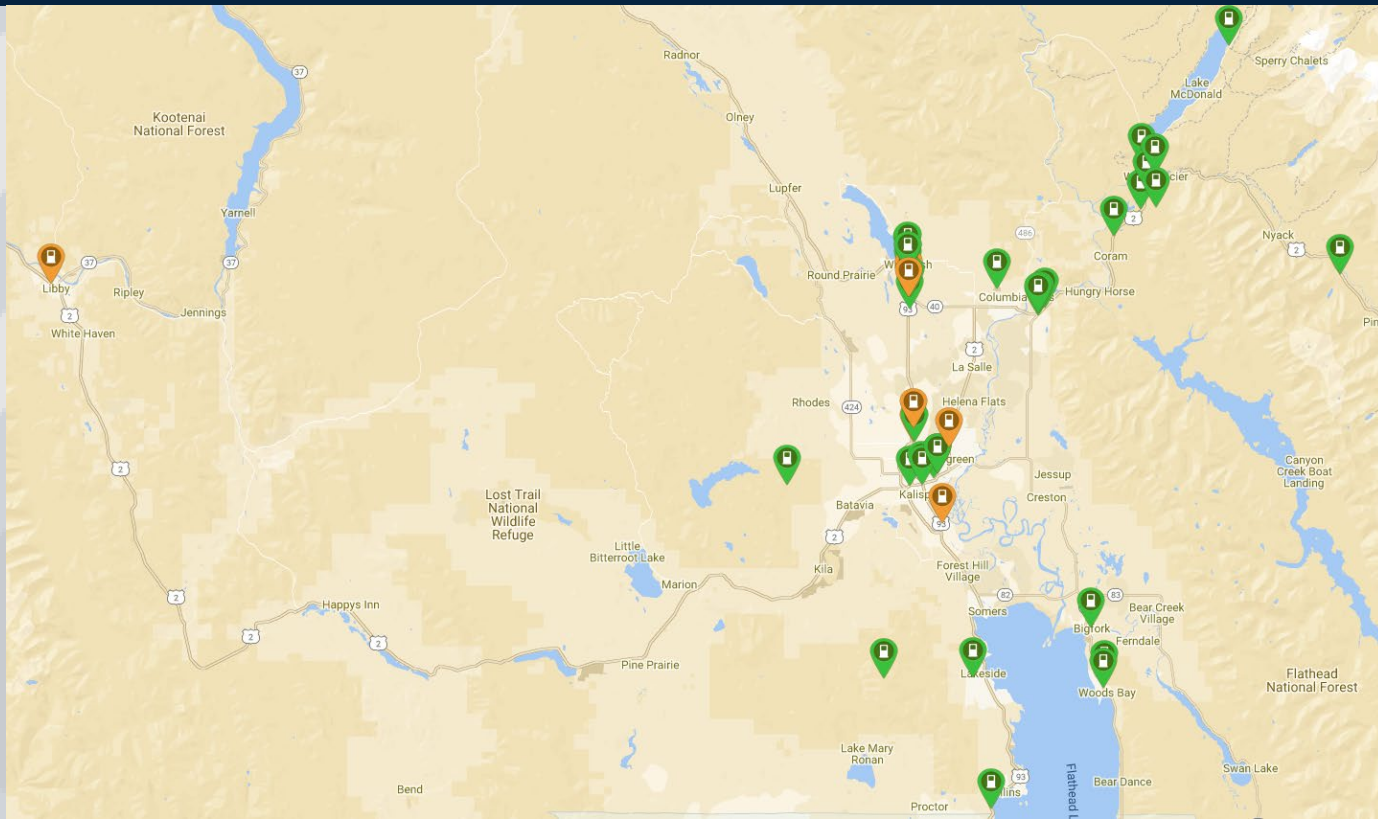
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COOPERATIVE  
Community. Innovation. Reliability.



# EV Charging Stations in FEC



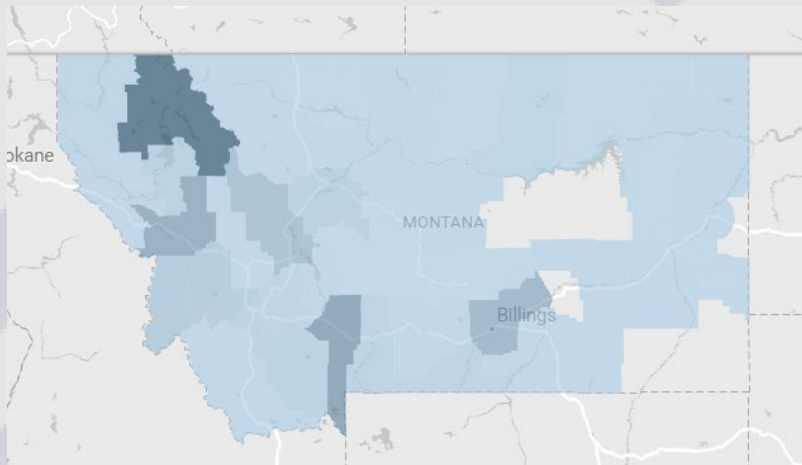
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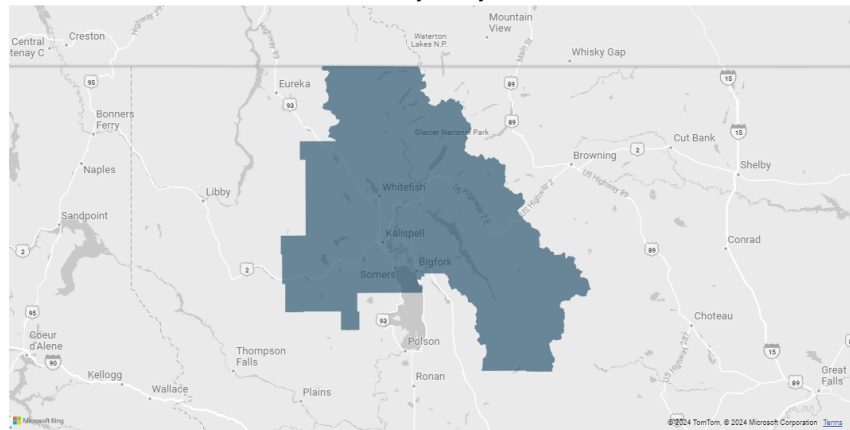
# EVs in FEC



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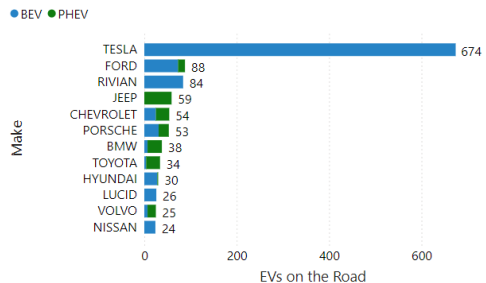
**EVs on the Road by County and ZIP Code**



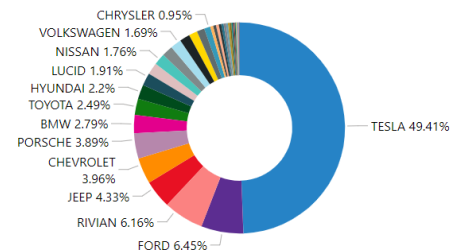
**Key Statistics**

1,364  
EVs on the Road  
1,097  
BEVs on the Road  
267  
PHEVs on the Road  
10.55  
BEVs per 1k People  
2.57  
PHEVs per 1k People  
109.70  
BEVs per DCFC Ports  
42.63  
EVs per Level 2 Port  
6514  
Vehicle Makes  
13891  
Vehicle Models

**EVs on the Road by Vehicle Make and Model**



**Market Share by Vehicle Make**







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# **Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**



# Resources

[The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association](#)

[Home - Trico Electric Coop](#)

[Lighting the path to affordable clean energy, together — Vermont Electric Coop](#)

[Electric Vehicles - Flathead Electric Cooperative](#)

[Grid-Constrained Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Sites: Battery-Buffered Options \(driveelectric.gov\)](#)

[Battery Energy Storage for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations \(driveelectric.gov\)](#)



Joint Office of  
Energy and  
Transportation



Technical Assistance Case Study

## Grid-Constrained Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Sites: Battery-Buffered Options

### Introduction

As the build-out of America's electric vehicle (EV) charging network continues, states and other government agencies are learning how to successfully deploy chargers in locations where electric grid capacity is limited. This case study summarizes recent Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office) technical assistance work performed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). This assistance involved helping a state department of transportation (DOT) analyze the feasibility of a battery energy storage system solution at a grid-constrained EV charging location.

The Joint Office provides technical assistance to stakeholders and programs that seek to deploy a network of EV chargers, zero-emission fueling infrastructure, and zero-emission transit and school buses. For example, Joint Office technical assistance can help evaluate whether a battery-buffered system is appropriate for a proposed EV charging station.

For more information, reach out to [DriveElectric.gov/contact](mailto:DriveElectric.gov/contact).

This case study can help inform states and other stakeholders interested in battery-buffered options to support direct-current fast charging (DCFC) stations in grid-constrained areas. For additional information on battery energy storage systems for EV charging, review the technical assistance help sheet [Battery Energy Storage for EV Charging Stations](#).

### Technical Assistance Case Study

#### Feasibility of a Battery-Buffered Energy Storage System at a Proposed EV Charging Site

A state DOT requested assistance from the Joint Office with evaluating whether the addition of energy storage could make DCFC feasible at a particular site. This site is in an area with significant grid constraints along a designated alternative fuel corridor. The Joint Office connected the state with a subject matter expert at NREL, who performed an analysis evaluating the feasibility of deploying a battery-buffered DCFC to support EV charging at this rural site.

The NREL subject matter expert met with the state DOT leads to better understand the site grid constraints, developed a method for an energy design specification for that site, and provided options for the state to consider when planning for EV charging at

# Thank you!

*Today's Presentation:*  
Engaging Utilities: Rural Cooperatives  
Working to Deploy EV Charging

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