EEI
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Energy Talk **In Depth**

Focus on: Electric Transportation

TOP STORY

Committed to Transportation Electrification

EEI's member companies—America's investor-owned electric companies—are committed to taking an economy-wide approach to reducing carbon emissions. This means transitioning more of the U.S. economy to clean, efficient electric energy—starting with the industrial and transportation sectors, especially as the latter has been the leading source of carbon emissions in the United States since 2016. Driving adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) is a key piece of the transition to a resilient clean energy economy.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the clean energy tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act are providing new funding to states, local governments, and individual customers aimed at accelerating the electrification of the transportation sector. This critical funding is helping to drive deployment of EV charging infrastructure while improving air quality in communities across the United States.

Importantly, this funding complements the investments being made by EEI's member companies to build charging infrastructure and to develop programs that are helping customers of all sizes make the switch to EVs.

EEI's member companies also are focused on making sure that EV owners can drive with confidence along major U.S. travel corridors. Through the National Electric Highway Coalition (NEHC), more than 60 electric companies are collaborating to support the growing number of EVs on U.S. roads and to help ensure that the transition to EVs is seamless for drivers.

Read on for more information about EEI's and our member companies' work to enhance transportation electrification. You also can track the progress being made by NEHC members at **TheElectricGeneration.org**.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

Key Facts About Electric Transportation

EEI's member companies are electrifying the transportation sector and are driving the adoption of EVs across the country.

Here are three facts you should know about America's energy infrastructure:

1. Electric companies are investing more than $4.2 billion to deploy EV charging infrastructure and to develop programs aimed at accelerating electric transportation.
2. Today, there are more than 3 million EVs on U.S. roads, and EEI projects there will be more than 26 million EVs in 2030.
3. EEI estimates that 140,000 EV fast charging ports will be needed to support the projected growth of EV sales.

Elon Musk and EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, President and CEO, Edison International.

SPOTLIGHT ON EEI 2023

Elon Musk Talks Electric Transportation

At EEI 2023, our annual thought leadership conference, renowned technologist and engineer Elon Musk joined EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, for a dynamic keynote discussion on the future of transportation electrification.

"We should expect electrification of transport, especially passenger vehicles, quite quickly," said Musk. "Electric vehicles are growing exponentially. The larger point is that the need for electricity is going to be extremely high. It's going to take a tremendous effort to address this demand for electricity. I think this is good news for everyone who produces electricity. But it entails a tremendous amount of work ahead."

Pizarro also highlighted the "transformational" funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act dedicated to electric transportation, but stressed that there are still more pieces to be put in place. "Permitting and siting reform is one of the pieces," he said. "Another is the expanded partnership between electric companies and companies like Tesla."

Musk also spoke about Tesla's recent partnership with Ford and GM to share EV charging infrastructure, saying, "I think opening up the chargers is morally right, and it was something that will help power sustainability."

"We're really trying to do everything here," he continued. "We will support all electric vehicles on equal footing; we're not advocating for special treatment of Tesla. We're trying to clear a path for sustainability."

See the full conversation **on EEI's YouTube page**.

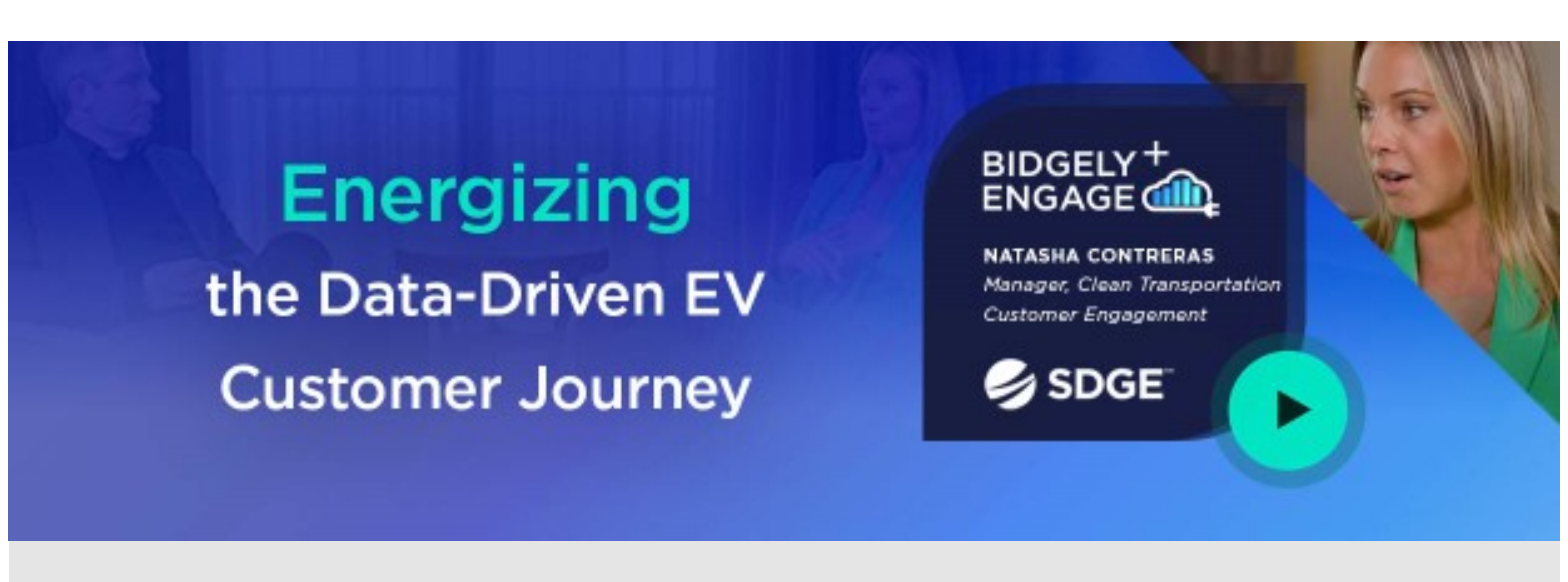
CUSTOMERS FIRST

EEI Launches New Website to Link Customers to IRA Tax Credits

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provides several clean energy tax credits and rebates to customers looking to make energy-saving upgrades. Customers interested in purchasing an EV may be eligible to take advantage of the new tax credits offered under the law.

The Clean Vehicle Credit saves eligible customers up to $7,500 when purchasing a qualifying new battery electric, plug-in hybrid, or fuel cell EV. For eligible customers looking to buy a used EV, the Previously Owned Clean Vehicles Credit can save them up to $4,000 off the purchase price.

EEI has created a website dedicated to helping customers understand the potential tax credits and rebate programs available to them through the IRA, including the Clean Vehicle Credits. Visit **FindEnergySavings.org**—announced during EEI 2023 earlier this month—to learn how to save money while also saving energy.



POLICY PERSPECTIVES

EEI Member Companies Support EPA's Clean School Bus Program

EEI has partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Beneficial Electrification League (BEL), a nonprofit organization that works closely with electric cooperatives and public power utilities on electrification initiatives, to pledge our support for electric school bus deployment and the implementation of **EPA's Clean School Bus Program**.

The Clean School Bus Program is an effort by EPA to replace diesel school buses with cleaner electric and lower-emissions models, supported by a $5 billion investment from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The first round of rebates, announced in October of last year, made $965 million available to fund more than 2,400 clean school buses—95 percent of which will be electric. The application window for the next round of rebates is open until August 22, 2023.

EEI's partnership with EPA and BEL will foster collaboration among school districts, electric companies, and third-party vendors to ensure school bus depots and parking lots are equipped with the proper electric charging infrastructure. EEI will help connect member companies with school districts to provide assistance throughout the electrification process, including technical support and guidance. EEI also will work with EPA and BEL to increase funding for and deployment of electric school buses.

L to R: Phil Dion, Senior Vice President, Customer Solutions, EEI; Chelle Izzi, Vice President of Energy Transportation, Walmart; Calvin Butler, President and CEO, Exelon; Alex Schroeder, Chief Technology Officer, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation; and Dan Belmont, Managing Partner, Energy and Utilities, West Monroe.

During EEI 2023, EEI Senior Vice President of Customer Solutions Phil Dion led a breakout session focused on how electric companies and their partners are ensuring that EV charging is accessible, affordable, and reliable. Exelon President and CEO Calvin Butler highlighted Exelon's efforts to support the Clean School Bus Program.

"Under the Clean School Bus Program, Exelon partnered with our jurisdictions to understand where they wanted to get to [in terms of emissions]," said Butler. "When you look at fleet electrification, this is a great way to impact the air quality in lower-income and minority communities. ...What the federal government has done is allow electric companies to partner in ways and to access dollars that have never been there before."

Throughout that afternoon at EEI 2023, The Hub was host to a series of deep-dive programming on the future of electric transportation and EV adoption and integration, including a discussion with WeaveGrid CEO and Co-Founder Apoorv Bhargava on the company's innovative software that facilitates EV-energy grid integration.

Read more EEI 2023 highlights.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Gabe Klein on the Future of Electric Transportation

Gabe Klein, executive director of the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, recently spoke with *Electric Perspectives* on the work his office is doing to expand EV charging infrastructure across the United States.

"The development of a foundational charging network would be a game changer for both current EV owners and prospective ones," said Klein. "As EV sales increase year-over-year, having easy access to a reliable charger will be of utmost importance."

Read more in *Electric Perspectives*.

COMPANY SPOTLIGHT

Duke Energy Announces Microgrid-Integrated Fleet Electrification Depot

Duke Energy recently announced plans to build a first-of-its-kind fleet electrification site that will provide a commercial-grade charging experience and serve as a model for fleet customers evaluating or launching their own electrification strategies. The site will help accelerate the development, testing, and deployment of fleet operators' zero-emissions light-, medium-, and heavy-duty EVs. It's expected to be completed and operational by the end of 2023.

Read more in *Electric Perspectives*.

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