

NORTH BAY CHAPTER



Electric Auto Association
Promoting Electric Vehicles Since 1967

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THIS MONTH'S NBEAA MEETING

February 14th: We'll have an EV charging station etiquette workshop where we'll review the accepted etiquette and design handouts for EV drivers that can be used at public charging stations.

Also, John Parry of the Solar Works in Sebastopol and member of the Sonoma Clean Power Ratepayer Advisory Committee will present his ideas for Sonoma Clean Power programs that would expand benefits for solar and EV owners - using self-generated solar kilowatt-hours as currency.

FUTURE NBEAA MEETINGS

FUTURE MEETINGS:

March 14th: David Almeida of PG&E will discuss PG&E's EV initiatives that include their request to the CPUC to install and operate charging stations.

April 11th: Home Charging Station Installation planning and requirements.

UPDATE ON NBEAA COMMITTEES:

National Drive Electric Week:

The National Drive Electric Week Organizing Committee has scheduled NDEW for September 12-20. The date for the Drive Electric Day, Santa Rosa hasn't been officially adopted, yet, but it is looking like it will be September 12th. We are looking to receive funding from local organizations to pay for publicity for this year's event. Please contact Mike Newell (webmaster@nbeaa.org) if you would like to volunteer to help organize this event.

Sonoma Clean Power Committee:

The planning for two projects is well under way. One project involves analyzing whether EVs would be beneficial to low income drivers and if it found that it is beneficial, then providing information and training to assist the new EV drivers. The second project is encourage various applicable organizations to install DC Fast Chargers in Sonoma County to make driving EVs around the County more convenient.

UPDATE ON NBEAA COMMITTEES (CONT):

Education Committee:

The Education Committee is working on a “curriculum” to teach novice EV drivers the “ins and outs” of driving an EV. This program is originally intended for the low income drivers but could be used for any new EV driver.

Legislative Committee:

The Legislative Committee is monitoring the progress of the State Committee that is developing standards for public charging stations. In particular, we want to comment on the standards that are proposed to comply with the ADA. For anyone who would like to get on the email list for progress updates on these proceedings, please email Dennis Corelis, Deputy State Architect, at Dennis.Corelis@dgs.ca.gov.

EV NEWS

U.S. Plug-in Sales Increase 23% in 2014:

The 23% increase includes Nissan’s 30,200 units sold in the U.S. which is a record amount for any plug-in. BMW, Mercedes, Kia and VW each introduced new BEVs in 2014 which will add to the public’s choices for the style of EV they would prefer and shows that auto manufacturers are taking EVs seriously.

2014-US	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Nissan LEAF	1,252	1,425	2,507	2,088	3,117	2,347	3,019	3,186	2,881	2,589	2,687	3,102	30,200
Chevrolet Volt	918	1,210	1,478	1,548	1,684	1,777	2,020	2,511	1,394	1,439	1,336	1,490	18,805
Tesla Model S*	800	1,400	1,300	1,100	1,000	1,800	800	600	2,500	1,300	1,200	3,500	17,300*
Toyota Prius PHV	803	1,041	1,452	1,741	2,692	1,571	1,371	818	353	479	451	492	13,264
Ford Fusion Energi	533	779	899	743	1,342	1,939	1,226	1,222	640	686	752	789	11,550
Ford C-Max Energi	471	552	610	525	782	988	831	1,050	677	644	644	659	8,433
BMW i3	0	0	0	0	336	358	363	1,025	1,022	1,159	816	1,013	6,092
smart ED	97	122	186	203	206	278	298	208	182	150	313	351	2,594
Ford Focus Electric	100	129	177	116	177	197	198	264	176	186	191	53	1,964
Fiat 500e **	180*	185*	166	152	167	166	119	166	137	140	100	115	1,793**
Cadillac ELR	41	58	81	61	52	97	188	196	111	152	155	118	1,310
Toyota RAV4 EV	63	101	73	69	149	91	68	228	125	97	83	37	1,184
Chevrolet Spark EV	93	71	108	97	182	85	128	80	51	58	61	131	1,145
Porsche Panamera S-E	141	57	56	63	53	111	63	68	82	97	57	31	879
Mercedes B-Class ED	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	51	65	98	193	326	774
BMW i8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	58	204	126	158	555
Honda Accord PHV	27	24	18	37	46	28	41	46	42	34	43	63	449
Honda Fit EV	30	33	37	50	33	38	42	55	29	23	5	32	407
Kia Soul EV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	140	110	359
VW e-Golf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	119	237	357
Mitsubishi i-MiEV	1	3	24	12	35	22	17	20	15	17	18	12	196
Porsche Cayenne S-E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	55	100
InsideEVs	5,550	7,190	9,172	8,605	12,053	11,893	10,833	11,803	10,540	9,662	9,535	12,874	119,710
Worldwide*	14,512	18,528	24,267	23,153	25,016	31,162	27,304	29,804	33,611	29,020	26,825	37,511	320,713

EV NEWS (CONT.)

PG&E and BMW Team Up to Test V2G Services:

PG&E and BMW are working together to test the ability of EV batteries to provide services to the electrical grid. PG&E will manage a minimum of 100 kW of demand on PG&E's system as other industrial and commercial customers do, today, as part of the utility's demand response programs. The intent of the test program is to cut usage during periods of high peak demand. Eventually, the implementation of this program may also help utilities manage the intermittent flow of energy from renewable sources. BMW will create a large energy storage unit using batteries that had been installed in MINI E demonstration vehicles. BMW will also enlist up to 100 i3 drivers to take part in the program.

California Studying Plan to Replace Gas Tax With Usage Charge:

With more Californians driving EVs and gas cars getting better mileage, the revenues that pay for roads have been falling for a decade leaving shortfalls of as much as \$59 billion in funding for road repairs. In looking at solutions to this problem, state officials have begun to study a plan to replace the gas tax with a fee for each mile which motorists drive. The governor has set up a commission to study a "road usage charge" and establish a pilot program by January 1, 2017. Oregon is testing a program where 5,000 volunteers will pay 1.5 cents per mile driven and be reimbursed for the 30 cent per gallon gas tax (for gas drivers).

UPDATE ON NEW CHARGING STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY

ChargePoint Unveils Home Charging Station:

ChargePoint, the public charging station network operator, is entering the residential market with the launch of its new home EVSE (<http://www.chargepoint.com/home/>). The "ChargePoint Home" EVSE will have interchangeable cables so that the cost of the unit can be tailored to the customer's needs. Thus, if you have a low power charger in your plug-in and the EVSE is close to your charging port then you can order a short, low amperage cable and lower the overall cost of the unit. The ChargePoint Home will also be integrated with the Nest Smart Thermostat. Details of how this integration would work are not available, yet.

Future VW Plug-Ins Will All Have SAE CCS (Combo) Fast Charging:

The battle lines are being drawn as to what DC Fast Charging (DCFC) system will eventually become the standard for plug-ins. Most recently, VW announced that all of its plug-ins will use the SAE CCS system. With the CHAdeMO and Tesla systems already well entrenched, the other American and European hope to strengthen the case for a third system.

New Public Charging Stations. The list, below, shows the new charging stations in Sonoma and Marin Counties. I found only one new location, this month. Note, however, that I saw many new residential stations where the owners volunteer to let the public use their station. Be sure that you phone ahead to make sure that the charger is available.

(2) Level II (J1772) at Cotati Smart Station, 930 East Cotati Ave. (Chargepoint)