



RIDEM's plug-in hybrid Chevrolet Volt- Charging at The Foundry Building



successstories

Success Story #5

Mobile Source Pollution Reduction

Acquisition of Alternative Fuel
Vehicles in the State Fleet



One area where the State has enjoyed success is in the use of Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFVs) to provide for State transportation needs. In addition to use by State officials, some municipalities, educational institutions, corporate fleets and individuals are using AFVs to meet transportation needs. The primary alternative fuels used in Rhode Island include natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas (propane), biodiesel, and electricity.

Federal laws mandate states incorporate AFVs into their existing fleets to reduce the negative impact transportation has on air quality. The passage of the Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) in 1992 established a timeline as well as targets that state fleets must meet.

The requirements outlined in EPAAct were designed to promote the use of non-petroleum fuels, such as ethanol, methanol, natural gas, propane, hydrogen, and electricity in order to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil. Aside from the substantial clean air benefits of these fuels, they are also produced domestically, strengthening America's energy independence.

In 2013, Governor Chafee announced that the State of Rhode Island will lead by example by transitioning the state fleet to alternative fuel vehicles.

State Agencies used Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) - State Energy Program dollars to pay for the differential costs between AFV and a comparably sized gas-powered car.

Through ARRA, a fleet of vehicles powered by electricity, bi-fuels, and compressed natural gas was procured for various State agencies. These vehicles are used as standard, State fleet vehicles while serving as educational tools that highlight and demonstrate clean transportation technology.

Date	Fuel Type		Hybrid Electric	Plug-Ins
	Compressed Natural Gas			
	Bi-Fuel	Dedicated CNG		
3/12/14	110	97	91	4

Leading the Way:

The State of Rhode Island is leading the way for fleet integration of alternative fuel vehicles. To date, 302 AFVs have been deployed into the State Fleet.

RIDEM's plug-in hybrid Chevrolet Volt. The vehicle travels 25 to 50 miles on electric power alone. After the battery is depleted, it switches to the extended range mode.

EPA estimates the average person will get 98 miles per gallon.



Installation:

- ★ 302 Alternative Fuel Vehicles integrated into the State Fleet. Over \$200,000 deployed to "lead by example" initiative.
- ★ Development of a clean & efficient transportation infrastructure for the future -- awarded \$789,391 ARRA grant for EVSE project.
- ★ Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions & other air pollutants.