APRIL 2024 EV/EVSE NEWSLETTER

US Army Corps of Engineers

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HQUSACE appreciates the hard work and progress to install electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). This month's newsletter highlights questions raised by the field during the April Sustainability 101 Training, recent installs, charging at General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Buildings, and how cold temperatures affect electric vehicle (EV) range.

CHEATHAM LOCK AND DAM INSTALLS EVSE UNDER GSA BPA

Progress alert! Great Lakes and Ohio Rivers Division (LRD) continues trailblazing EVSE installation via the GSA Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) at Civil Works (CW) Operations & Maintenance (O&M) locations. Last month, the newsletter highlighted the first GSA BPA EVSE install at Barkley Power Plant. This month, Cheatham Lock and Dam kept up the good work with the second CW O&M install via the GSA BPA. Great work, LRD!

For questions about or interest in using the GSA BPA in your District or at your site, please contact Scot Dahms (scot.h.dahms@usace.army.mil) for more information!

FEDERAL BUILDING CHARGING STATIONS

Will GSA Federal Buildings occupied by USACE receive Chargers?
Yes! GSA will be installing charging ports at the following GSA Federal Buildings occupied by USACE, starting with the list below. More information will be provided as soon as the construction contracts are awarded.

GSA Region 1:
- Winston Prouty Federal Building (VT)

GSA Region 2:
- Jacob K. Javits Federal Building (NY)

GSA Region 3:
- William S. Moorhead Federal Building (PA)
- Poff Federal Building (VA)

GSA Region 4
- Mobile Federal Building Deck (AL)
- Julliete Gordon Low Parking (GA)
- Atlanta Federal Center (GA)
- Gene Snyder U.S. Courthouse & Customhouse and Romano Mazzoli Federal Building Parking Lot (KY)
- Odell Horton Federal Building (TN)

GSA Region 5:
- Detroit Federal Parking Facility (MI)
- John W. Peck Federal Building (OH)

GSA Region 6:
- Robert A. Young Federal Building (MO)
- Richard Bolling Federal Building (MO)

GSA Region 7:
- Little Rock FOB and Courthouse Parking Lot (AR)
- Harold L. Runnels Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse (NM)
- Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building (TX)
- Fort Worth Federal Parking Garage (TX)

GSA Region 8:
- Denver U.S. Custom House (CO)

GSA Region 9:
- Philip Burton Federal Building (CA)
- C. Clifton Young Federal Building (NV)

GSA Region 10:
- Eugene Federal Building (OR)

For more information on EVSE at GSA Federal Buildings, please contact Marti Sedgwick.

VEHICLE RANGE IN COLD CLIMATES

EV range – or how long the vehicle can go on a single charge – can vary.
EV batteries list *the maximum possible range for that battery under ideal conditions*. However, your EV may not actually operate on this range in colder climates.

Why is my EV range shorter in cold climates?
EVs use *resistive heating* for climate control within the vehicle cabin and battery temperature management, as opposed to conventional heat pumps. Resistive heaters are less expensive but require considerably more power. Driving an EV that has a resistive heater with the vehicle's climate control on can therefore reduce the battery's efficiency and lower its estimated range, sometimes by half.

How do I stop this from impacting operations?
As a first step, make sure your vehicle is fully charged before you set out for a longer trip. Even if that trip is within your EV's range according to the battery's estimate, use the Plugshare app. As highlighted in past newsletters, PlugShare is a free app that helps EV drivers find charging stations, leave reviews, and connect with other drivers. It can tell you both where chargers are along your route, and what Level chargers are available. If you need to recharge your vehicle during your trip, use Level 3 chargers (also known as DC Fast chargers or Superchargers) whenever possible to save time.

QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

This month's Questions from the Field were sourced from the April Sustainability 101 Training hosted by LRD and NAD. If you have questions you'd like to see highlighted here, send them to the POCs below.

How do I turn on telematics for new vehicles?

Instructions on how to turn on telematics for newly acquired vehicles are in the Telematics OPORD, available on the USACE SharePoint, or you can reach out to your Fleet Service Representative for guidance. The person ordering the vehicle is responsible for turning on telematics and updating the settings as needed.

Can anyone use USACE charging stations?

No. Only USACE Government-owned Vehicles (GOVs) may use the EVSE. Due to funding prohibitions, privately-owned vehicles (POVs) may not charge at USACE EVSE without a Power Purchase Agreement or an enhanced use lease. For more information, reach out to the POCs below.

How much do charging stations cost to install?

Many factors influence overall cost for EVSE installation – reach out to the POCs listed below for support to determine the most appropriate approach for your site.

If you have any questions on EVs, EVSEs, or related subject areas, please reach to one of the names listed below. For questions related to CW sites, contact Mr. Scot Dahms. For Revolving Funds sites, contact Ms. Marti Sedgwick.

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