

MARCH 22, 2016 • ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY

PG&E, Diverse Coalition Propose Huge Boost in EV Charging Stations in Underserved Communities

Settlement Proposal Will Increase Access to Clean Transport in Low-Income

Communities

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SAN FRANCISCO – The Greenlining Institute and a coalition of diverse groups representing electric vehicle service providers, environmentalists, electric vehicle drivers, automakers, community choice aggregators, and labor unions joined with Pacific Gas and Electric yesterday to submit a proposed settlement to the California Public Utilities Commission for a three-year pilot program to accelerate deployment of electric vehicle charging stations. Advocates expect the program to boost EV adoption in low-income communities and communities of color by making charging facilities accessible in these communities.

"With this settlement, PG&E becomes a national leader in increasing access to EV charging in low-income communities and communities of color, the communities that most need the clean air and cost savings from electric cars," said Joel Espino, Environmental Equity Legal Counsel at the Greenlining Institute. "We commend PG&E's commitment to making clean electric cars a reality for Californians of all income levels. This will add to progress already made by policies like the Charge Ahead California Initiative in making clean transportation available to all, regardless of income or ZIP code."

Key elements of the settlement, which still must be approved by the CPUC, include:

- The pilot program will target a deployment of 7,500 level 2 charging ports and 100 DC fast chargers.
- Charging stations will be deployed at multi-unit dwellings, workplaces, and destination locations such as shopping centers.
- The total budget is not to exceed \$160M and the cost to a typical residential customer would be approximately \$2.64 per year at its maximum, four percent less than the \$2.75 maximum single year cost approved in January in the <u>San Diego Gas & Electric EV charging infrastructure pilot program</u>, and that's before accounting for lower rates resulting from the electrical grid benefits of plugging in EVs.

- PG&E will set aside \$5 million for equity programs aimed at complementing
 <u>Charge Ahead</u> California Initiative (SB 1275, De León) programs and further increasing access to EVs in low-income communities and communities of color.
- PG&E will deploy at least 15 percent of its charging stations in the most disadvantaged communities in PG&E's service territory. In addition, the company agrees to a stretch goal of deploying an additional five percent of charging stations in the most disadvantaged communities in its territory or other areas with a high concentration of low-income <u>CARE</u> (California Alternate Rates for Energy Program) customers.

The full text of the proposed settlement can be <u>downloaded here</u>. For additional background on the connections between electric vehicles, California climate efforts, low-income communities and the Charge Ahead California Initiative, see Joel Espino's <u>blog post</u>.

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The Greenlining Institute works toward a future when communities of color can build wealth, live in healthy places filled with economic opportunity, and are ready to meet the challenges posed by climate change. To achieve this vision, Greenlining is committed to building a just economy by acting as an incubator of new policy ideas, a bridge builder between diverse partners, and an advocate to build momentum for transformative change. The Greenlining Institute is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit registered in the US under EIN: 94-3173571.

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