Partnership Models & Strategies for Working with Utilities

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Since 1986

reducing the economic and environmental costs of energy use



Presentation Outline

Utility Benefits & Interest in Electric Transit

Vermont Utility and Transit partnerships

- Lessons & Opportunities
- ➢ Ways to Engage with Your Utility



Utility Benefits & Interest in Electric Transit

What are common interests?



Mutually Beneficial Relationship





Shared Goals

- Climate and Air Quality: emissions reductions
- Cost-Effectiveness and Efficiency
- Serve same
 audience



VT Utility & Transit Partnerships

Incentives Financing Battery Storage



Vermont Energy-Related CO2 Emissions by Sector (2013)



Source: http://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/state/analysis/pdf/stateanalysis.pdf (p.12)



Additional Vermont Context

- Growth in renewable generation overcapacity for solar in some parts of the state
- Utility transmission challenges to export renewables
- Efficiency Vermont statewide EEU reducing demand for electricity





Vermont Policy



Comprehensive Energy Plan

Climate Goals (state and municipal)

Renewable Energy Standard (Tier III)



Burlington Electric Department



- Municipal utility: ~ 19,500 customers
- BED leading efforts on Burlington Net Zero
- 100% renewable power generation (hydro, wind, solar)
- Operate efficiency programs
- Vermont Gas provides NG for heating/cooling



Green Mountain Transit



- State's largest transit authority
- 2.5 million riders
- Serves state's most populous county as well as many rural areas
- 129 vehicles in their fleet
- Interested in low emission vehicles
 - Considered CNG, but now focused on electric





BED - GMT Partnership



Tier III Incentive - \$65K/bus

- Portion paid upon delivery of bus
- Remainder paid after 12 months

 contingent on total miles
 driven

Technical Support



BED - GMT Partnership - Phase 2



LoNo and other funding

Net metering support

Financing

Operational decisions and support



VEIC Role

Facilitate Stakeholder Engagement: VTrans, GMT, BED

Build Awareness & Confidence in Technology

- Cost/Benefit Analysis and State of the Technology
- Demonstrate technology





Green Mountain Power

- State's largest IOU
- Track record with programs to advance EVs (EVSE, Nissan Fleetail, Tesla Powerwalls)
- Interested in bus batteries as storage









Lessons and Opportunities



Lessons Learned

Utilities have as much, or more, to gain from electrifying transit as transit agencies





What Should Transit Agencies Ask For From Utilities

- Incentives for charging infrastructure
- Incentives for vehicle purchase
- Financing; Battery Purchase and Leasing
- Managing Fuel Costs
- Understanding current energy use



Ways to Work with Your Utility

- Identify utility staff responsible for EV/transportation programs (or efficiency program) and nurture relationships
- Seek utility input in procurement decisions & technical assistance for installation of EVSE
- Engage utility to identify charging strategies to maximize fuel savings



