



# TRANSPORTATION & CLIMATE INITIATIVE

Of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States

## Agreement of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States to Develop a Northeast Electric Vehicle Network and Promote Alternative Transportation Fuels

October 19, 2011

**Whereas**, the northeast region has consistently led the way in developing cleaner energy, encouraging private investment, and advocating the availability of cleaner vehicles and fuels; and

**Whereas**, we, the Principals of the environment, transportation, and energy agencies of the eleven Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states and the District of Columbia work collaboratively through the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI); and

**Whereas**, the TCI States recognize the many existing and emerging alternative fuels and vehicles that can build a clean-energy transportation system, including natural gas, biofuels and electric vehicles; and

**Whereas**, the TCI States understand that a diversity of transportation fuels in the region provides our citizens with the option to choose the technology that is best suited to their needs; and

**Whereas**, planning for development of infrastructure to support a diversity of fuel types is most effective when done at a regional level; and

**Whereas**, the first mass-produced electric vehicles are now available to consumers, and are expected to become widely available as soon as December 2011; and

**Whereas**, we believe that our region has an opportunity to take proactive steps to rapidly deploy electric vehicles and embrace their energy security, public health, and emission reduction benefits; and

**Whereas**, we have been awarded \$994,500 through the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Initiative to accelerate the introduction of a network of electric vehicle charging stations throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States; and

**Whereas**, electric vehicles reduce emissions from the transportation sector by shifting vehicles away from petroleum to cleaner, more efficient electricity that is increasingly produced by renewable resources in our region; and

**Whereas**, electric vehicles offer the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states an extraordinary opportunity to serve as an incubator for a new industry that can provide jobs and attract new business investments throughout the supply chain; and

**Whereas**, the establishment of an electric vehicle network is a necessary step in the effort to facilitate the use of electric vehicles in the region; and

**Whereas**, an electric vehicle network is part of an effort to expand the use of alternative transportation fuels, which has to date included building networks of CNG and biofuels stations; and

**Whereas**, the TCI States will pursue opportunities to develop other alternative fuels as they arise; and

**Whereas**, we have the opportunity to seek alternative funding mechanisms to replace the anticipated loss of gasoline tax revenues that will occur with a widespread deployment of electric and other alternative fueled vehicles;

***Therefore, be it resolved that:***

As part of a broader regional strategy to facilitate the deployment of a range of alternative fuels and vehicles, we agree to coordinate our efforts under the Transportation and Climate Initiative to develop a Northeast Regional Electric Vehicle Network and to support the transportation agencies in their effort to alleviate the impact of decreased funding and identify alternative options to fund state and local transportation infrastructure needs.

The Network is the anticipated result of TCI's coordination of electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure planning and deployment throughout the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic region. The Network refers to more than just physical infrastructure; the Network includes the partnerships and connections necessary for a successful transition to cleaner and more efficient EV transportation choices.

**A Northeast Regional Electric Vehicle Network will:**

- Enable travelers to drive electric vehicles with ease locally and region-wide – from northern New England to the District of Columbia and everywhere in between;

- Help our region to lead the nation in electric vehicle deployment. Based on the current federal goal, the region's contribution to the goal would be a minimum of 200,000 vehicles deployed by 2015;
- Assist the region in achieving significant reductions in greenhouse gas and other air pollutant emissions, resulting in improvements in air quality and related public health and increases in energy efficiency in the transportation sector in the region;
- Ensure that the region will benefit from economic activity associated with significant market penetration of electric vehicles; and
- Enable the region to become more energy independent and benefit from increased fuel diversity, leading to greater price stability.

**And to that end, we will:**

- Work collaboratively with utilities, the private sector, and other public agencies to ensure the installation of adequate and strategically located charging stations throughout the region, connecting sustainable communities and key transportation corridors;
- Ensure that the Network is customer friendly, with easy-to-use, reliable, consistently designed charging stations;
- Lead the way in communicating with and educating the public, other government entities, and the private sector in our region about electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure;
- Seek to attract and maximize private investment by streamlining the permitting and regulatory processes for the implementation and placement of new charging stations;
- Work with the federal government to ensure that the Northeast serves as a model for innovative and integrated clean energy use in the transportation sector and continue to pursue new funding opportunities to advance implementation of the Network;
- Work to identify the impacts of EV charging on the region's electrical grid and develop mitigating strategies;
- Work to mitigate the impacts of widespread use of electric and other alternative fueled vehicles on state and local transportation funding; and
- Work to ensure that federal transportation reauthorization efforts recognize transportation energy efficiency as an important factor in funding policies and allocations.