



March 8, 2023

Dear Chair Koegel, Vice Chair Curran, Republican Lead Franson, and members of the House Sustainable Infrastructure Policy Committee,

Drive Electric Minnesota appreciates the opportunity to submit this letter for your consideration. Funding opportunities through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Inflation Reduction Act, and other federal programs present an unprecedented opportunity to invest in Minnesota's electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. Coordination and investment on behalf of the state will help ensure Minnesotans benefit fully from federal grant programs.

Drive Electric Minnesota is a partnership of EV champions—including automakers and auto dealers, electric utilities and cooperatives, local and state government, corporations, and nongovernmental organizations—who are working to accelerate EV adoption in Minnesota. Drive Electric Minnesota is dedicated to encouraging the deployment of EVs and the establishment of EV charging infrastructure through public-private partnerships, financial incentives, education, technical support, and public policy.

We believe EVs are an important component of energy efficiency and cleaner transportation in Minnesota that is both financially and environmentally sustainable. Advancing EV deployment will have many benefits to Minnesotans, including reduced transportation costs, cleaner air, and energy independence. It will also help the state meet its statutory greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Funding programs through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act will provide an unprecedented opportunity to invest in Minnesota's infrastructure, including its EV charging network. Building out EV charging stations is critical to reducing range anxiety and accelerating EV adoption in the state. It is important to ensure Minnesota is poised to maximize its share of federal formula grants and to compete with other states for competitive grants. We appreciate the effort by this committee to add the needed capacity and coordination to do so.

Drive Electric Minnesota appreciates this committee's consideration of these important issues. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Berninger
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Great Plains Institute (Drive Electric Minnesota facilitator)