Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality Announces Initiation of Rebate Program

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The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") announced a program to provide rebates for the installation of Level 2 electric vehicle ("EV") charging stations ("Stations").

The program is administered by DEQ's Energy Office.

Level 2 Stations are described as those that can charge vehicles in eight hours or less using a 250-volt output. The program is stated to be open to both public and private Arkansas applicants.

EVs currently account for approximately two percent of the American vehicle market. However, Arkansas is among a number of states that are attempting to spur the construction of EV charging infrastructure. Such charging infrastructure is being targeted in various states for personal, commercial, fleet and public transit use. The cost of installing charging infrastructure is a potential barrier to the expansion of EVs into the marketplace.

Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Becky Keogh is quoted in DEQ's new release as stating:

We want to support electric vehicle owners, as well as encourage higher electric vehicle adoption in our state . . . Arkansas is the Natural State for a reason. We want to continue to provide some of the cleanest air in America. This infrastructure helps us achieve that.

DEQ states it has allocated $215,563 for annual funding towards Level 2 EV charging supply rebates during the years 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. The program is funded by the State Environmental Mitigation Trust established pursuant to the Volkswagen Settlement.

DEQ will issue rebates on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations will be accepted.

Linked documents to the news release include:

- Level 2 EV supply equipment rebate program
- Application
- Level 2 EV Supply Equipment Rebate Program Slides/Webinar

A link to the DEQ news release can be found here.