

In addition, Connecticut joined seven other states this October in a bold initiative to work together to put 3.3 million zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. Zero-emission vehicles include battery-electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel-cell-electric vehicles.

“Expanding the number of publically available charging stations in Connecticut is critical to meeting the goals of the eight-state agreement to increase consumer awareness and demand for alternative vehicles,” Commissioner Klee said. “Building people’s confidence in the availability of charging stations will help spark sales and use of plug-in hybrids and electric vehicles.

“Electric vehicles are also a ‘win-win’ for our state because they can cut costs for motorists while improving our environment and public health,” said Klee. “Cars and trucks burning gasoline and diesel are one of the largest sources of harmful air pollution and greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.”

“Electric vehicles are becoming a more and more attractive option for motorists to consider,” Fleming said. “They are stylish, feature great performance, and prices are becoming competitive with conventional vehicles – especially when you factor in savings achieved through reduced costs for fuel. The DEEP/CARA sales competition will encourage our sales force to highlight these features and put more drivers in Connecticut behind the wheel of an EV.”

Background on Electric Vehicles

For more information on this awards program and DEEP’s other efforts to support the roll out of EVs, please visit [EVConnecticut](#). Electric cars (often referred to as electric vehicles or EVs) are powered entirely by an electric motor supplied by a large battery. Unlike traditional hybrid cars, electric cars do not have a gasoline engine; they are “fueled” by plugging into an electric charging station. A plug-in hybrid electric vehicle has an electric motor, an internal combustion engine and a plug to connect to the electrical grid.

Electric cars do not emit pollution when you drive them because they do not have a tailpipe. Because Connecticut has one of the cleanest electricity-production portfolios in the United States, electric cars driven in our state will be responsible for significantly less air pollution than gasoline or diesel fuel-powered cars.

Electric vehicles are also cheaper to operate than conventionally-fueled vehicles. A recent federal Department of Energy study shows that the cost of operating an electric vehicle in

Connecticut is the equivalent of purchasing gasoline in the range of \$1.60 - \$2.00/gallon. Other cost savers of electric cars are that they are virtually maintenance-free and are exempt from Connecticut's emissions testing program if they do not use range extending gasoline engines.

Background on The Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association (CARA)

The Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association is a statewide trade association representing over 250 franchised new car and truck dealerships primarily engaged in the retail sale of new and used motor vehicles, both foreign and domestically produced.

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