

Air Quality

Zero Emission and Electric Vehicle Rebate Program Rules



Jan. 24, 2020
EQC Action Item

Background

- House Bill 2017 (2017) directed DEQ to implement a zero emission electric vehicle rebate program in Oregon
 - EQC adopted rules in May 2018
- House Bill 4059 (2018) clarified rebate requirements
 - EQC adopted rules in January 2019
- House Bill 2592 (2019) made additional revisions to increase access to rebates
 - EQC adopted temporary rules in September 2019



Types of rebates

Standard rebates

- \$750-\$2500 rebates
- Anyone can purchase or lease a new electric vehicle or motorcycle



Charge Ahead rebates

- \$2500 rebate
- Low and moderate income households only
- Purchase or lease of new or used electric vehicle
- Can be combined with Standard rebate



Program status

- As of Jan. 16, 2020, DEQ has awarded 3,808 rebates for a total of \$9.15 million
- The Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) was awarded the contract in September 2019 to implement the program
 - CSE will take over processing of rebates no later than February 2020
 - Charge Ahead rebates will be processed and issued
 - In Summer 2020, CSE will launch a prequalification program for Charge Ahead
 - Makes it easier to receive rebates at the time of purchase



Proposed rule changes

Charge Ahead Rebate Program

- Allow plug-in hybrid electric vehicles to qualify for the Charge Ahead rebate
- Request information that the person has not previously owned or leased the vehicle for which it is now requesting a Charge Ahead rebate
- Definition of “household” for income verification purposes



Vehicle Ownership Provision

- If car is sold or has lease terminated prior to 24 months, the rebate recipient must reimburse DEQ for a prorated amount
 - DEQ may waive the reimbursement requirement

Proposed rule changes

Additional six-month window for certain program participants to apply for a rebate

- Allows people who purchased or leased an eligible vehicle between Jan. 1, 2018, and Aug. 2, 2018, to apply for and receive a rebate.

Application Review Process

- Allows DEQ to process dealer applications on a priority basis

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying an Esri Story Map. The browser's address bar shows a URL starting with 'https://open-canvas-arcgis.com/...'. The page title is 'Participating Electric Vehicle Dealers Statewide'. The main content area on the left contains the following text:

Participating Electric Vehicle Dealers Statewide

The Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program offers a cash rebate for Oregon drivers who purchase or lease electric vehicles. It is not a tax credit. DEQ designed the program to reduce vehicle emissions by encouraging more Oregonians to purchase or lease electric vehicles rather than gas vehicles.

Scroll down to view participating dealers by region. For information on a dealership, click on the map point.

Portland Metro Area Dealerships

Below this heading, there is a list of dealership names, including 'Spokane, Spokane', 'Portland, Oregon', 'Eugene, Oregon', 'Medford, Oregon', and 'Astoria, Oregon'. The right side of the page features a map of Oregon with several colored dots representing dealership locations. The map includes a search bar and navigation controls. The Esri logo is visible in the top right corner of the map area.

Stakeholder involvement

- Advisory Committee meeting Sept. 10, 2019
- Public comment period Oct. 15 – Nov. 22, 2019
 - Public hearing in Portland
 - Outreach via Facebook, Twitter, GovDelivery, coordinated with stakeholders to reach out to various affected communities
- Received 18 public comments



Public comment – Key issue



- Definition of household
 - Proposed definition: “Household” means all individuals who reside in the place of residence, including all family members and roommates who are not related and not part of a separate lease agreement.
 - Revised definition: “Household” means an individual living alone, a family with or without children, or a group of individuals who are living together as one economic unit.

Requested EQC Action

- DEQ recommends that the Environmental Quality Commission adopt the proposed rules in Attachment A as part of Chapter 340, Division 270 of the Oregon Administrative Rules.

