



ELECTRIC VEHICLES REDUCE FUEL USE FOR ARGONNE FLEET

Argonne has driven more than 25,000 zero-emission miles and garnered positive reviews from participation in a pilot program offered by the General Services Administration (GSA) to reduce fuel consumption through green technologies.

Argonne’s diverse fleet includes passenger vehicles, utility vehicles, and light and heavy trucks. This fleet is predominately made of up leased vehicles supplied under an agreement through the GSA. Argonne pays a monthly fee to the GSA for the fixed costs associated with its leased vehicles.

To help federal agencies meet their sustainability goals and save costs, the GSA implements several programs to incorporate green fuel and technology into their program, including the Electric Vehicle Pilot Program (EV Program). The EV Program is a targeted investment to incorporate electric vehicles and charging infrastructure into the federal government’s vehicle and building portfolios as an important step toward growing the number of electric vehicles in the federal fleet over time. The EV Program supports federal agencies in achieving their sustainability goals around decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, decreasing petroleum consumption, and increasing use of zero-emission and hybrid electric vehicles.



Argonne Manager of Fleet and Custodial/ Grounds at the GSA-funded electric vehicle and charging station

As part of Argonne’s participation in the EV Program, two passenger vehicles were replaced with Chevy Volt plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. The Volt operates as a pure battery electric vehicle until its battery capacity drops to a predetermined threshold. From there, its internal combustion engine powers an electric generator to extend the vehicle’s range as needed. The approximate range of Argonne’s Chevy Volt vehicles is 38 miles on the electric battery. It has a combined electric/ gasoline rating of 62 miles per gallon.



SUCCESS STORY: **FLEET MANAGEMENT**

Argonne's Custodial and Grounds Manager and Safety Specialist are the primary users of the Chevy Volts provided through the EV Program. They were selected for the pilot because they travel around the laboratory every day and do not require a specialized vehicle for their work. A Level 2 electric vehicle charging station was installed at each of their primary workspaces to charge the vehicles.

The Volts rolled into Argonne in May of 2014 and became the first plug-in hybrid electric vehicles in the laboratory's fleet. Each vehicle is driven approximately 4,000 miles per year; in combination, they have avoided burning over 600 gallons of gasoline since their arrival.

Feedback about the EV Program has been positive from Argonne's participants. Staff were pleasantly surprised at how quiet the vehicles run. In addition, because the laboratory's footprint is only 3 square miles, staff can go many days without needing to recharge their vehicles. Argonne plans to continue working with GSA to evaluate opportunities for incorporating electric vehicles into the laboratory's fleet of leased vehicles.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL**

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