

**Acadia Center • Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES) •
ChargePoint • Conservation Law Foundation •
Consolidated Edison Co. of New York • General Motors • Environment America •
Environment New York • Greater New York Electric Auto Association •
National Grid • Plug In America • Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter • TechNet •
Union of Concerned Scientists • Volkswagen Group of America**

March 22, 2016

Joint Industry/NGO Letter re Proposed Electric Vehicle Rebate Program in State Budget

Governor Andrew
Cuomo
New York State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Senate President John
Flanagan
Room 330, State Capitol
Building
Albany, NY 12247

Assembly Speaker Carl
Heastie
LOB 932
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Governor Cuomo, Assembly Speaker Heastie, and Senate President Flanagan:

We, the undersigned companies and public interest groups, are writing to support the electric vehicle rebate proposed in recent New York Assembly and Senate budget bills now before you for consideration. As we have seen in other states, a consumer rebate for the purchase or lease of electric vehicles – including plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, battery electric vehicles, and fuel cell electric vehicles – is a critical way to accelerate the market for this clean technology.

We believe electric vehicles (EVs) are important for achieving a cleaner transportation future for New York. Even using today's sources of electricity, EVs are much lower in emissions than conventional vehicles. As we shift to cleaner sources of power, EVs become even cleaner over time. New York is one of eight states that have pledged to put a combined 3.3 million electric vehicles on the road by 2025, and since vehicle incentives are highly valued by consumers, they represent the best opportunity to meet that commitment.

A successful vehicle incentive program must be flexible and have the largest possible appeal to consumers. Greater consumer choice for electric vehicles, including plug-in hybrid and battery electric vehicles, gives New Yorkers the opportunity to electrify their daily commutes and the range they need for longer trips. And EV incentives should reach all consumers – from first-time car buyers to returning EV customers – every EV purchase or lease is important.

The other key to unlocking growth in the EV market is a robust network of charging infrastructure. Efforts like the ChargeNY program make EVs more convenient with thousands of public EV charging stations throughout the state. An EV consumer rebate

will reduce upfront consumer costs, providing the critical pairing of reduced cost and increased access to charging necessary to significantly ramp up the number of EVs on New York's roads.

Additionally, EVs provide an economic opportunity for New York. EVs rely on domestic electricity and reduce reliance on oil while increasing opportunities for domestic jobs in this industry – that is, increased EV ownership will help keep New York dollars in New York.

We look forward to working with you to advance a strong EV rebate program as well as other opportunities to electrify transportation in New York. We thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Mark LeBel
Staff Attorney
Acadia Center

Bob Perciasepe
President
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions
(C2ES)

Colleen Quinn
Vice President, Government Relations
and Public Policy
ChargePoint

Greg Cunningham
Vice President and Program Director,
Clean Energy and Climate Change
Conservation Law Foundation

Kyle Kimball
Vice President, Government Relations
Consolidated Edison Co. of New York

Aminah Zaghab
Clean Cars Advocate
Environment America

Heather Leibowitz
Director
Environment New York

Britta Gross
Director, Advanced Vehicle
Commercialization Policy
General Motors

Carl Vogel
President
Greater New York Electric Auto
Association

Edward White, Jr.
Vice President, New Energy Solutions
National Grid

Joel Levin
Executive Director
Plug In America

Roger Downs
Conservation Director
Sierra Club – Atlantic Chapter

Matt Mincieli
Executive Director, Northeast Region
TechNet

Continued on next page

Michelle Robinson
Director, Clean Vehicles Program
Union of Concerned Scientists

Nicole Barranco
Director State Government Relations
Volkswagen Group of America

cc: Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, IDC Leader Jeff Klein,
Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb, and Chair of NYSERDA Board and Chairman of
Energy & Finance for New York Richard Kauffman