

November 2024

Featured Article



How EVs Can Help in Hard Times **Maxwell Goble, Palmetto Clean Fuels Intern**

Electric Vehicles (EVs) may provide benefits to EV owners during extreme weather events such as Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. These events resulted in approximately 47% of South Carolinians being left without power, some of these outages lasting for days. Many EVs are now equipped with bidirectional charging, which allows the vehicle to be used as a generator. During a power

outage, a charged bidirectional capable EV can provide electricity to in home essentials such as refrigerators, fans, and other items necessary during emergencies. For example, the Ford F-150 Lightning offers 9.6 kW of power through 11 outlets, including a 240 V outlet for the more energy-intensive appliances. This capability can significantly alleviate the hardships endured during extended outages by providing a reliable source of power when its needed most.

Program Announcements



EV Stakeholder Initiative Updates

In September 2022, the State Energy Office submitted its [South Carolina Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Initiative](#) (EV Stakeholder Initiative) Report, which included initial recommendations from SC's EV stakeholders. SC Code of Laws §58-27-270(D) requires the State Energy Office to continue its EV stakeholder initiatives and report recommendations to the SC General Assembly every two years.

Earlier this year, the State Energy Office distributed a 2024 EV Stakeholder Initiative Survey to collect data regarding the challenges, opportunities, and ongoing efforts related to transportation electrification in SC since September 2022. Using the data collected, State Energy Office staff developed the 2024 EV Stakeholder Initiative Update. [Click here to review the findings.](#)

Palmetto Clean Fuels in Action



On September 28th, Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition (PCF) hosted a table alongside the Central Midlands Council of Government at Soda City Market in Downtown Columbia for National Drive Electric Week. Visitors had an opportunity to see approximately 20 electric vehicles (EVs) lining the corner of Main St. and Washington St. The PCF team answered questions and promoted alternative fuel vehicles while introducing attendees to a variety of EV makes and models. Notable EV advocates in attendance included

Aptera Motos, a solar-powered EV manufacturer; Scout Motors, a vehicle manufacturer from the 1960s establishing its new EV brand to be produced in Blythewood, SC; and the SC Department of Education with one of its electric school buses. The Energy Office's own Chevy Bolt was also showcased. After such a successful event, PCF hopes to coordinate similar events in other South Carolina cities.

Training and Events

DOT Resilient Transportation Infrastructure Climate Adaption Plan

November 14, 2024 | 2:00 PM | US Department of Transportation

[Learn more and register here](#)

Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance's 2024 Southeast Energy Summit

November 20-22, 2024 | Nashville, TN

[Learn more and register here](#)

Articles

[Carolina rail group lobbies SC to invest in passenger rail](#)

[USPS debuts long-awaited new mail truck](#)

[Evolving Clean Transportation: PG&E Celebrates National Drive Electric Week](#)

[AAA adds cost of electricity to weekly fuel pricing](#)

About Palmetto Clean Fuels

Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition (PCF) is an initiative of the Office of Regulatory Staff - Energy Office. PCF works to increase the use of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies in South Carolina. PCF strives to help public and private entities, as well as individuals, lower fuel costs, improve air quality, and reduce petroleum consumption. PCF also promotes idle reduction, fuel economy measures, vehicle miles traveled reductions, and bicycle and pedestrian efforts.



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