Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Company Accountability Act

Electric Vehicle Deployment and Infrastructure

Background

The single largest reason why the United States consumed 18.7 million barrels of oil per day in 2009 is because the nation's transportation sector is almost completely reliant on oil. In fact, the transportation sector accounts for approximately 70 percent (13.6 million barrels of oil per day) of the nation's total oil consumption.

Importance

The wide-spread deployment of electric vehicles and the corresponding charging infrastructure could profoundly decrease the nation's oil consumption. For instance, electric vehicles like the Chevy Volt or Ford Transit Connect allow consumers to travel without using any petroleum for up to 40 miles (Chevy Volt) or 80 miles (Ford Transit Connect). With average vehicle trip lengths around 10 miles and average commutes around 12 miles, these vehicles could meet the needs of most consumers. With the proper supporting infrastructure, most trips could be switched to electric power, which would have dramatic impacts on the nation's dependence on oil.

Legislation

The *Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Company Accountability Act* would take steps to help increase the wide-spread deployment of electric vehicles and the corresponding charging infrastructure by:

- Creating electric vehicle deployment communities that would help establish models for the rapid deployment of plug-in electric drive vehicles nationally with a goal of deploying hundreds of thousands of vehicles in the near future;
- Deploying charging infrastructure necessary for wide-spread use of electric vehicles that meets consumers' needs;
- Providing technical assistance, including workforce training, for communities to plan for electrification; and
- Increasing electric vehicle research and development to accelerate bringing new technologies to market.

The $500 million in funding for development, infrastructure, and purchase support for electric vehicles would be derived from any funds not otherwise appropriated on October 1, 2010.

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