Preliminary Analysis of Benefits From 5 Million Battery-Electric Passenger Vehicles in California

Prepared for: Commissioner David Hochschild
Prepared by: Isaac Sevier, Ignacio Mendez, Eesha Khare, and Ken Rider
California Energy Commission

Isaac Sevier
Ignacio Mendez
Eesha Khare
Ken Rider

Primary Authors

Prepared for:
Commissioner David Hochschild

Emilio Camacho
Ken Rider

Project Managers

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ABSTRACT

The transformation of the electricity sector toward renewable sources of energy in concert with fuel switching toward electricity in the transportation sector will provide numerous benefits to California. This report examines the relationship between 5 million battery-electric passenger vehicles, a robust charging infrastructure, and a renewable energy grid. Five million vehicles make up 20 percent of the 25 million automobiles registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The clean energy from renewable generation bolsters the electric-powered vehicles to significantly reduce emissions, while the charge profiles of the vehicles may allow integration of significant amounts of additional renewable generation. This relationship could be crucial to achieving the clean energy future envisioned for California.

The 5 million vehicle number characterizes an uptake of battery-electric vehicles that is feasible and substantial. However, the analysis is of a defined scenario and is not intended to represent any official forecast. This report is a measure of the benefits to California, as well as a qualitative description of other social and economic benefits. These estimated benefits are a preliminary view of what can be gained by pursuing a future with a significant number of battery-electric vehicles.

Keywords: Electric vehicle, battery electric vehicle, EV, renewable energy, renewable integration, grid integration, fuel switching, vehicle-to-grid, V2G, vehicle-to-building, V2B, greenhouse gas reduction, decarbonization, electric vehicle benefits

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of California has set an aggressive roadmap toward decarbonizing its economy. Senate Bill 32 (Pavley, Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016) sets a goal to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40 percent of 1990 levels. In addition, California is one of two original signatories of the “Under2 MOU,” an international agreement with other states and provinces to keep climate change within 2 degrees Celsius. Two of the major sectors that contribute to the state’s emissions are the electricity sector and the transportation sector, which combined made up 56.4 percent of the state’s GHG emissions in 2015. The electricity sector is transitioning to low-carbon resources. Decarbonization of the transportation sector can make use of this transition and realize deep emissions reductions through vehicle electrification. The intersection between transportation and electric generation is stronger now that mainstream, long-range, affordable battery electric vehicles are coming to market.

As battery packs replace fuel tanks in vehicles and as renewable energy resources replace fossil fuels on the electric grid, it is important to understand the broader effects of this transformation. The potential benefits are particularly important for low-income households as they spend 39 percent of annual income on transportation compared to an average household expenditure of 19 percent. Further, the emission reduction potential of electric vehicles (EV) is particularly important to disadvantaged communities as 69 percent are located in high air pollution regions.

California already has a goal to have 1.5 million electric vehicles by 2025, set forth by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in Executive Order B-16-12. This report looks at how an expanded EV fleet of 5 million passenger electric vehicles by 2030 could not only significantly contribute to decarbonization, but provide a host of grid, economic, and environmental benefits as well. These benefits help define the payback on societal investment in the market transformation toward these vehicles. Key findings are summarized in Table E-1.

This report estimates benefits but also intends to illustrate the value that further research could provide. These benefits are not meant to represent the comprehensive value of market transformation toward EVs. Significant further benefits exist in lower vehicle maintenance and in the energy storage sector from increased scale of battery manufacturing. While this report limits analysis to passenger battery-electric vehicles, there is substantial potential benefit in other battery-electric vehicles such as electric buses that are beyond this scope. The analysis is of a specified scenario to demonstrate possible benefits, but is not intended to represent any official forecast. The scenario analyzed includes 5 million battery-electric passenger vehicles, a robust charging infrastructure, and an electric grid powered mostly by renewable energy. This report seeks to illuminate a range of significant benefits, including those for disadvantaged communities, public health, water quality, air quality, and the electric grid itself from such a scenario.
Table E-1: Summary of Benefits From Achieving 5 Million Battery-Electric Vehicles by 2030

| Effects on Load                  | ■ 23,000 GWh per year of added load. This would be a 7.9% increase in California electricity consumption when compared to a 2016 baseline. |
|                                | ■ Between 2,000,000 (spring) and 83,000 (summer) EVs can be recharged using the forecasted curtailed renewable energy in 2025. |
| Grid Benefits                  | ■ $1.2 billion per year in savings through peak shaving with EVs participating in wholesale market |
|                                | ■ $33 million per year in savings of resource adequacy and regulation services |
| Oil / Gasoline                 | ■ 54.7 million barrels (9%) annual crude oil consumption avoided |
|                                | ■ 2.4 billion gallons (15%) annual gasoline consumption avoided |
| Emissions                      | ■ 15.8 MMTCO₂* of emissions avoided, 9.4% of transportation inventory |
|                                | ■ $640 million saved annually in air pollution related health costs |
| Water Quality                  | ■ 600,000 gallons of petroleum leaks from small gas station spills into environment in CA every year, EVs reduce the need for these stations. |
|                                | ■ $413 million saved in water pollution annually from reduced gasoline and heavy metal pollution |
| Consumer Savings               | ■ $440* – 1340** per car annually in fuel savings |
|                                | *low gasoline price & high fuel economy scenario  |
|                                | **high gasoline price & low fuel economy scenario  |
|                                | ■ $400 of annual savings per car through behind-the-meter storage services |

Source: These benefits are summaries from the chapters in this report.

*MMTCO₂ means million metric tons of carbon dioxide.
CHAPTER 1:
Benefits of Controlled Demand of Electric Vehicle Charging

The California electricity grid is evolving with higher penetration of renewable energy and the addition of new electric loads such as electric vehicles (EVs). With load flexibility growing in value, the ability for EVs to charge at designated times adds value to California’s grid. Therefore, this chapter assesses the benefits that controlled demand of electricity from EV charging brings to the State by (1) altering the net load shape and (2) making use of curtailed energy.

The results presented in this chapter assume a commercially implemented smart-charging infrastructure—one in which the grid optimizes the amount of energy that it delivers to EVs based on the time at which they are plugged in. Although improvements could be made to the existing infrastructure to allow this service, some of the necessities are already met by the current charging stations. According to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC):

Many [plug-in electric vehicles] PEVs and certain electric vehicle charging stations are equipped with on-board timers or remotely-controlled switches that are capable of starting, stopping, throttling, or delaying charging. This gives drivers the ability to schedule charging remotely. [In addition,] [Pacific Gas and Electric Company] PG&E and [Southern California Edison] SCE are already exploring how to communicate with PEVs via their Advanced Metering Infrastructure networks to provide demand response.¹

The study also assumes that most EVs will be plugged in from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. on weekdays, as well as from 11 p.m. to 11 a.m. on weekends, based on the results of PG&E-BMW’s i ChargeForward report on i3 drivers’ behavior.² Under many time-of-use rates, EV owners will be offered incentives to charge at those times to minimize their electricity costs. The analysis assumes that these rates will be optimized such that the time-of-use rates align with maximized grid benefits.

With respect to curtailment and demand response, the study assumes that at most one-third of EVs would be available to absorb curtailed electricity at a discounted price. Although the PG&E-BMW report concluded that “8 percent of the total vehicle pool” participated in demand response events, it identified that the small number of participants resulted from barriers to effective participation. Among those barriers, the study identified the small availability of charging stations

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and the number of vehicles that were parked at these stations without being plugged in. For this reason, this study assumes a more extensive and rich charging infrastructure, as outlined in Appendix C.

Furthermore, the results presented in this chapter assume that drivers would charge an average of 15 kilowatt-hours (kWh) every day, which is enough to drive 54 miles with an assumed efficiency of 3.6 miles per kWh. A 54-mile driving range is well above the average daily driving distance of 31 miles.3

To estimate the amount of energy potentially available for storage in the batteries of electric vehicles, a simple model was built as described in Appendix A. The figures presented in this chapter were calculated by using data from late 2016 and 2017, analyzing load curves for weekends and weekdays of each season. These data, along with 2025 curtailment forecasts made by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), were used to optimize the way in which 5 million EVs could be charged by increasing baseload generation during the aforementioned time windows, without rising above peak demand levels.4 Examples of this optimization for summer are shown in Figures 1 and 2, where the vehicle charging profile is optimized to avoid system peak load.

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3 For more information on these figures, refer to Appendix B.

Table 1 shows how 5 million EVs would be charged during the eight key periods analyzed in this chapter. For each key period, Table 1 shows the number of EVs that could be charged using three forms of energy: (1) **off-peak energy**, supplied from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. on weekdays and from 11 p.m. to 11 a.m. on weekends; (2) **medium-peak energy**, supplied from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekdays and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends; and (3) **curtailed energy**, using the average amount that was forecasted for each season.
The morning valley in electricity generation is deeper during the summer; therefore, greater numbers of EVs would be able to draw energy from the grid in summer mornings compared to other seasons. On the other hand, given that spring entails larger amounts of curtailed energy, more cars would be charged using curtailed electricity than in other seasons. This type of charging would be an effective way to use curtailed electricity.

This chapter concludes that 5 million electric vehicles could consume a maximum of 23,000 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of electricity generated by renewable energy sources in California. The way electric vehicles are charged today would particularly align with the output of wind farms. Price signals and policy could further alter this to match the profile of other renewable energy sources, such as solar. If so, 12,000 MW of solar would be needed to power a fleet of 5 million vehicles, based on a 22 percent capacity factor. In this case, the charge profile would be concentrated midday, and workplace charging would be significantly more important, as seen in Figure 5 in Chapter 2. Vehicle charging can also be used specifically to absorb curtailed energy. Figure 3 shows the use of otherwise-curtailed energy shown in Table 1 for spring.
If the otherwise-curtailed energy would be sold to EVs at typical wholesale prices, **$132 million per year of revenue would be added** to generators based on 2016 historical prices.\(^5\) Rates could be designed to share some of that benefit with vehicle owners to provide an incentive for their participation and availability for midday charging.

This additional load from EV charging represents a significant opportunity for decarbonizing the California economy if policies are put in place to ensure that the load from EVs is met by renewable, low-carbon resources. This new load **would increase California’s electricity consumption by 7.9 percent** with respect to 2016 electricity generation. The amount of GWh was calculated by modeling each month as having 30 days, 22 of which are weekdays.

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Figure 4: Opportunity to Increase In-State Renewable Generation

Source: Energy Commission's total system power for 2016. The energy mix after EV penetration is the 2016 system power adjusted by 23,000 GWh of additional renewable energy.
CHAPTER 2: Benefits of Vehicle-to-Grid Services

Background

Battery-electric vehicles have the potential to interact in the grid in ways beyond the respective charging profile. Vehicle design could be implemented where the vehicle equipment provides services to the grid, primarily through battery systems. This chapter presents the economic benefits that 5 million EVs could bring to California through vehicle-to-grid (V2G) and vehicle-to-building (V2B) services. In particular, it focuses on the savings to vehicle owners and utilities that arise from a more dynamic participation of EVs in the retail and wholesale markets, as well as in the provision of other grid support services.

The combination of two factors makes EVs desirable in the V2G and V2B markets: the storage capacity of the vehicle batteries and the fact that at least 90 percent of them are parked at any given time of the day. This, in turn, means that 270 million kWh of energy storage could be connected to the grid at any given time, ready to provide services by either absorbing or releasing electricity.6 Figure 5, produced by the CPUC in its 2014 Vehicle-Grid Integration Report,7 shows the average distribution of cars in California in terms of whether they are being driven or parked at home, work, or other facilities.

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6 This chapter carries on the assumptions made in Chapter 1 that the average EV battery size is 60 kWh.
According to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s (MIT) Lincoln Laboratory, the economics of the EV batteries “are enhanced if the battery state of charge (SOC) during long parked periods [...] is maintained at 80% rather than [at] full charge.”8 This means that, ideally, EVs should always have 12 kWh of battery space unused. This battery space, in turn, would be available to store energy when the price of electricity is low (or negative) to then use it or sell it in the event of price rises. The extent of price fluctuations is best exemplified by the two extremes of 2016: while the price of wholesale electricity went as high as $1,470/MWh on August 31, it was as low as -$180/MWh on September 25.9 The battery capacity from a single participant needed to maximize grid benefits, as a percentage, could decrease as vehicle battery overall size increases and with an overall larger EV fleet.

The energy transaction mechanisms can work somewhat flexibly but also depend on available charging infrastructure and driving patterns of EV owners. The Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers argues that the “optimum strategy might be to charge the battery fully, including equalization, and then bring it down to 80% charge for most of the day – to leave room for peak shaving in to the building’s electricity grid, but also to optimize battery lifetime.”10

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Recently, the University of Warwick developed an algorithm that found that discharging a vehicle battery to provide local storage could reduce degradation of lithium-ion batteries, thus improving the lifetime of usable energy and capacity in the vehicle battery.\textsuperscript{11} Well-designed participation strategies can reduce battery cycling degradation and maximize overall benefit.

The findings of this chapter are based on the assumption that the necessary charging infrastructure will be in place when the 5 million vehicles are deployed, making the described bidirectional transactions technologically feasible. (See Appendix B for more detail.) Moreover, the calculations assumed that Level 2 chargers are available in both the residential and commercial sectors, allowing the EVs to exchange electricity at a rate of 6.6 kW in most parking places.

\textbf{Benefits}

V2B allows EV owners to decrease their electricity bill by buying electricity when prices are cheaper in the retail market, storing it in the EV battery, and then dispatching it to satisfy their own demand during expensive peak hours under a time-of-use rate. To compute V2B benefits, the study modeled two daily load curves per season for the average household: one for weekdays and one for weekends. This computation was done by scaling down the statewide electricity consumption via a proportionality constant, expressed as the ratio of average daily statewide electricity consumption over average daily household electricity consumption. Furthermore, retail prices were determined by looking at average retail prices per hour for each season, and a cost of $0.0201/kWh was assigned to battery degradation for every energy transaction.\textsuperscript{12}

Through this model, it was found that EV owners can save up to $400 per year on their electric utility bill. Furthermore, this shift in demand from peak to off-peak hours would allow utilities to save up to $185 million dollars in wholesale transactions.\textsuperscript{13} The benefit can be even higher when using cheaper, excess on-site renewable energy to defray retail sales and enhance distributed energy integration. To the extent that off-peak power and inexpensive energy coincide with renewable energy production, this improves renewable energy integration.

In terms of V2G, economic benefits were analyzed from two perspectives: (1) that of bulk storage and peak shifting and (2) that of dynamic participation of EVs in the wholesale electricity market. For bulk, large-scale peak shifting, the model used in this study assumes that 80 percent of the 5 million EVs are parked at all times during the day. Although this is reasonable, as Figure 5 shows that 90 percent of cars are parked, the model then degrades this number to account for cars parked and without connection to the grid. Moreover, it assumes that EVs can lend up to 5


\textsuperscript{13} All benefit calculations assume an efficiency factor of 90\% for every energy transaction between the grid and the EVs.
percent of the respective storage capacity to the utilities—equivalent to around 3 kWh per car—to store electricity generated during off-peak hours and retrieve it later during peak time. With respect to pricing, off-peak and peak prices were determined by computing two averages per season: one for weekends and one for weekdays. This was done from 5-minute data for 2016, published by California ISO.14

By storing around 10,000 MWh per day in the EV batteries (5-7 percent of daily peak load), **utilities could save up to $80 million** by replacing higher-cost peak bulk electricity purchases to lower-cost off-peak bulk electricity purchases in the wholesale market.

However, by dynamically participating in the wholesale market, EV owners or a grid services aggregator could directly buy and sell electricity wholesale. The model used for this scenario differs significantly from that used for bulk storage and peak shifting. For wholesale participation, the model considers three prices: the wholesale market, a baseline price, and the reselling price set by EV owners. To emulate this activity, wholesale market prices were assigned hourly and were calculated by averaging hourly prices from California ISO’s 5-minute market data for 2016 into a single hourly price. Secondly, the baseline price was defined as the median price of electricity for a period of 161 hours: the 80 hours preceding the one being analyzed, the hour being analyzed, and the 80 hours following the one being analyzed. This way, the baseline price serves as a relatively unbiased, “normal” hourly price at which EVs would buy electricity in the wholesale market to then resell it when prices increase. To finalize the scenario, the reselling price is defined as twice the baseline price, and it constitutes the price at which EV owners would sell the electricity they bought at “normal” price. The lower the reselling price, the more frequently EVs interact with the market and the more battery capacity is needed to participate. Twice the normal price was chosen as a level that had moderate participation while providing good benefits. The graphs below illustrate these three prices alongside the load associated with each of those prices.

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Figure 6: Actual Load and Wholesale Price With Estimated Baseline “Normal” Price in California for 2016 by Hour

Source: Analysis of California ISO data; see footnote 12

Figure 7: Actual Load and Wholesale Price With Modeled EV Sale Price in California for 2016 by Hour

Source: Analysis of California ISO data; see Figure 12
Three things are worth noting from the graphs above. First, the x-axis represents the hours that have spanned since January 1 at 12:00 a.m. Then, although the reselling price is shown for all hours, cars sell only when the market wholesale price is more than twice the baseline price, as mentioned. The “new” reselling price never exceeds twice the “baseline” price, given that this guarantees that the EVs would win the wholesale market bid. Finally, the model assumes that the amount of load that is purchased and resold depends on the wholesale market price. For instance, at times when the wholesale market price is 30 times higher than the baseline price, it is assumed that EVs would absorb enough electricity to satisfy all the expensive load due to the huge difference in price and the competitiveness of the reselling price. In other words, a large price increase is associated with a large system power deficit. As an example on the other end of the spectrum, when the wholesale market price is only around two or three times higher than the normal price, it is assumed that EVs would sell less than the entire amount of electricity required to satisfy the expensive peak demand.

From this model, it was found that EVs can absorb and resell around 1.7 percent of the total year electricity generation by storing it in the batteries. This storage accounts for around 3.9 million MWh of energy transactions throughout the year, which take place in a period of 470 hours. Furthermore, due to greater volatility than in bulk peak-shifting, this model assumes that only 75 percent of cars would be parked and plugged in at all times. Therefore, the amount of energy transactions accounts for 2.21 kWh per car per hour of participation (around 4 percent of the EV battery capacity). This, on average, accounts for a transaction of 0.12 kWh per car per day throughout the year.

The participation of EVs in the wholesale market can provide total combined revenue of $280 million dollars per year, which translates to $70 dollars per car per year. Accounting for the battery degradation costs, wholesale participation can provide a net profit of $50 dollars per car per year. In terms of dollars per kilowatt-hour per year, wholesale participation profits ($1.14/kWh-year) are higher than those of V2B ($0.24/kWh-year). Moreover, the participation of EVs in the wholesale markets would represent savings of $1.2 billion for utilities. These savings are from the competition EVs bring to the wholesale market, capping the most expensive prices to merely double the normal price. Therefore, the combination of these two values presents a net combined benefit of $1.5 billion for California.

EVs could also be used as load to avoid negative wholesale prices. At $0 per MWh wholesale price, EVs could top off the batteries in exchange for discounted electricity rates. This would create up to $80 million per year savings in the wholesale market from avoided negative prices. In this case, the benefit is achieved using charging profiles alone, and the ability to export energy from the EVs battery is not necessary.

Lastly, this study analyzed the economic benefits that EVs can provide through other grid services. In particular, it examined the savings that arise if the EVs perform voltage and frequency
regulation services and are available for resource adequacy.\textsuperscript{15} To compute these benefits, the study modeled cars as being able to provide contracts of 2.75 kW-months for services.

After optimizing for the maximum benefit, it was found that if 22 percent of parked EVs provide ancillary services worth \textbf{up to $5.3 million per year to utilities}. Similarly, if 66 percent of parked EVs can provide resource adequacy services, \textbf{utilities could save up to $28.3 million per year}, which would otherwise go to contracting power plants. Combined, this represents \textbf{a net combined benefit of $33.6 million per year} for utilities and Californians.

Overall, the two major benefits drawn from EVs are the combined savings of V2B and the peak shaving of EVs participating in the wholesale market. Figure 8 represents the progression of these benefits as EVs penetrate the transportation sector in California.

\textbf{Figure 8: V2B and V2G Benefits by Year}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure8.png}
\caption{V2B and V2G Benefits by Year}
\end{figure}

\textbf{Source:} V2G and V2B benefits from Chapter 2 for 5 million cars, scaled to different levels of EV penetration

\textsuperscript{15} \textit{Resource adequacy} is a grid requirement for reliability. A certain amount of extra capacity is maintained on the grid to handle contingencies such as the sudden loss of power from another power plant.
Figure 9: Summary of EV Fleet Savings Calculations

V2G: Peak Shaving (5M)

$1.2 Billion in Utility Savings + $300 Million in Revenue for EV Owners = $1.5 Billion in Combined Benefits

V2B: Net Owner Savings (5M)

Savings of $400/Year per Car × 5 Million EVs = $2 Billion in Net Benefit

Ancillary Services (5M)

$28 Million in Resource Adequacy Savings + $5 Million Savings in Regulation Services = $33 Million in Combined Benefits

Source: Visual representation of the math to reach benefit numbers in this report
CHAPTER 3:
Air Emission Impacts

EVs produce zero direct emissions through tailpipes, which contribute to smog and health problems. EVs also reduce marginal well-to-wheel emissions, which include electric utility and manufacturing emissions. Despite strong efforts to reduce air pollution, California still contains 7 of the 10 most polluted metropolitan areas and 11 of the worst 25 in the country. California also has the second largest energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in the country, and transportation accounts for 39 percent of these GHG emissions in the State. Electrification of transportation can reduce California’s emissions impact. EVs also significantly reduce air pollution burdens. This section presents and quantifies air quality benefits, including lifetime GHG emissions, human health, smog, haze, as well as other benefits to noise pollution and the urban island heat effect.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

Five million EVs would release 20.8 million metric tons (MMT) of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) less each year than present-day conventional vehicles with 24.3 miles per gallon (MPG) fuel economy according to figures from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Alternative Fuels Data Center. This calculation factors in well-to-wheel emissions and the current California grid composition. Figure 10 shows that 20.8 million metric tons of CO2 amounts to 5 percent of total GHG emissions and 12 percent of the total transportation emissions in California.

16 Well-to-wheel emissions include all emissions related to fuel production, processing, distribution, and use.


The impacts of 5 million electric vehicles as described in this report align well with the targets set by the California Air Resources Board and SB 32. Its *2017 Scoping Plan Update* proposes to achieve 40 percent greenhouse gas reductions in 2030 compared to 1990 levels through a suite of policy proposals that include a pathway for 4.2 million ZEVs. In Figure 11 below, the emissions reductions achieved by 5 million EVs (red) are projected into the total transportation emissions reductions (darker red) proposed by the CARB’s scoping plan to achieve the 2030 target (teal).

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23 CARB’s target of ZEV includes additional types of vehicles other than battery-electric vehicles discussed in this report and includes plug-in hybrid and fuel cell electric vehicles.
Emissions savings due to a clean grid can be even larger, upward of 24 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents, as demonstrated by the State of Washington.\(^{24}\) While the initial pollution produced in manufacturing an EV may be 15 percent higher than a gasoline conventional vehicle, EVs can recover these higher manufacturing emissions within 4,900 miles of driving and reduce overall emissions by 51 percent over the life of the car.\(^{25}\)

Even with increasingly stringent standards for combustion vehicle efficiency, EVs still present significant emissions benefits over traditional combustion engines. The annual direct\(^{26}\) vehicle emissions savings of 5 million EVs is 9.8 million metric tons of CO₂ over a baseline that includes future impacts of Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE standards, assuming 11,327 miles are driven annually per car\(^{27}\) and 8.6 kilograms (kg) CO₂ are emitted per gallon of E10 gasoline.\(^{28, 29}\)

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\(^{24}\) Ibid. Washington’s electricity mix: 68 percent hydroelectric, 10 percent natural gas, 8.5 percent nuclear. Sourced July 20, 2017.

\(^{25}\) Nealer, Rachael, David Reichmuth, and Don Anair. 2015. *Cleaner Cars From Cradle To Grave*. Union of Concerned Scientists.

\(^{26}\) These are direct emissions and do not include well-to-wheel emissions.


\(^{28}\) *E10* gasoline is a fuel that contains a blend of 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline.
In other words, EVs achieve a 78 percent reduction in CO2 emissions from existing combustion engine light-duty vehicles (LDVs), whereas CAFE standards would achieve only a 30 percent reduction. About 7.7 million metric tons of direct CO2 emissions are projected to be saved over existing CARB Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV III) standards for vehicles in 2025 and beyond. These values are summarized in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savings Over</th>
<th>Emissions</th>
<th>Amount Saved Annually</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015 combustion vehicles using a CA grid</td>
<td>Well-to-wheel</td>
<td>20.8 million</td>
<td>Metric tons CO2 equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 combustion vehicles using a cleaner grid (WA)</td>
<td>Well-to-wheel</td>
<td>24 million</td>
<td>Metric tons CO2 equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 CAFE standards</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>9.8 million</td>
<td>Metric tons CO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025 CARB LEV III standard</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>7.7 million</td>
<td>Metric tons CO2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Summary of CO2e reduction figures from this chapter.

**Health Benefits From Improved Air Quality**

Road transportation is a large contributor to particulate matter (PM) and ozone-related health impacts, which include premature death, hospitalizations, lung health, and asthma attacks. Together, these contribute to economic damages in the form of medical expenses and lost productivity due to illness. EVs present significant health benefits over conventional vehicles due to improvements in air quality. Unlike conventional vehicles that operate through combustion, EVs operate through electric motors and do not emit criteria pollutants (for example, nitrogen oxides, combustion particulate matter, carbon monoxide, and formaldehyde) from a tailpipe. Further, emissions from electric utilities used to charge EVs are relatively small and will continue decreasing with increased renewable integration.

Understanding the specific contribution of EVs to air quality health benefits is complex and requires detailed air quality modeling that includes geographic distribution of particles and air

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patterns, among other criteria. Because of these challenges, this report presents a simplified estimate of the health benefits from reduced air pollution emissions in Table 3. The amount in metric tons of direct emissions saved by 5 million EVs is compared to CARB’s LEV III LEV 160 fuel economy standards. For particulate matter 2.5 microns or smaller (PM2.5), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the health monetization values and premature mortality estimates are derived from an American Lung Association study, which assumes uniform exposure without applying geographic or population density. The health monetization evaluation includes hospitalizations, emergency room visits, lost work days, and respiratory symptoms. Annual deaths avoided by carbon monoxide (CO) direct emissions savings are calculated based on a method by Dedoussi et al., and the corresponding premature mortality valuation ($8.9 million per premature death) is assigned from the economic valuations in EPA Clean Air Act analysis.


Table 3: Annual Emissions and Health Savings From 5 Million EVs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant</th>
<th>Metric Tons Saved Over LEV160</th>
<th>$ Health Monetization Saved</th>
<th>Cases of Premature Mortality Avoided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>248,304</td>
<td>$ 6,939,103</td>
<td>0.77967456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5*</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>$ 480,579,386</td>
<td>40.26072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOx</td>
<td>9459</td>
<td>$ 152,349,875</td>
<td>13.24288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOC</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>$ 606,808</td>
<td>0.0567552</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CARB specifies standards for PM, but PM 2.5 is the main constituent of combustion PM 10.37

The total health valuation saved by implementing 5 million EVs over LEV160 standards is $640 million annually.

These emissions reductions also translate into smog and haze reduction and increased visibility. Motor vehicles are the primary source of smog (a combination of smoke, particulates, ozone, hydrocarbons, NOx, and other chemically reactive compounds38) and haze (composed of particulate matter39) in California.

Looking forward, if EV penetration is raised to 65 percent of the passenger fleet in 2050, the American Lung Association reports $13.5 billion savings in health and GHG benefits.40

Other Benefits

In addition to the GHG and air quality emissions data presented above, EVs help reduce noise pollution in urban settings and cool cities affected by the “urban heat island”41 effect. EVs have an electric motor that is relatively quieter than conventional vehicle engines. They are particularly quieter at the low–speeds frequently seen in urban driving where engine propulsion noise dominates road/tire noise (Figure 12).42 However, the benefits due to quieter electric engines

37 Chico, Tom and James Koizumi. Final – Methodology to Calculate Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 and PM 2.5 Significant Thresholds, South Coast Air Quality Management District (October 2006).


41 The urban heat island effect describes the localized increase in temperature within urban centers in contrast to surrounding rural areas caused by human activity.

42 Marbjerg, Gerd. 2013. Noise From Electric Vehicles - xA Literature Survey. COMPETT.
may be diminished due to new federal regulations requiring vehicles to make noise when traveling under 19 mph.43

Figure 12: Noise Reduction of EV Versus Combustion Engine Vehicle as a Function of Speed


In addition, electric cars may have the potential to reduce the “urban island heat effect,” in which cities are often hotter than surrounding rural areas and consequently increase energy consumption, elevate emissions, and impair water quality.44 This effect is especially prevalent in Los Angeles,45 and EVs have been included in the city’s climate plan to address the urban island effect.46 EVs emit only 19.8 percent of the heat that conventional vehicles emit over the same mileage.47 An initial case study with Beijing found that a switch to electric cars would reduce Beijing’s summer urban heat island intensity by 1.7 degrees Fahrenheit, reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emissions by 10,686 tons, and lower electricity consumed by air conditioners by 14.44 million kWh.48 However, the potential for EVs to cool cities has not been fully characterized.


48 Ibid.
CHAPTER 4:
Water Quality Impacts

Leaks, spills, and emissions from vehicles pollute waterways and drinking water supplies and negatively affect the environment. Forty-six percent of all vehicles in the United States leak hazardous fluids, including oil, transmission, brake fluid, and antifreeze, resulting in oil spots and rainbow sheens on roads and parking lots.⁴⁹ These fluids do not easily dissolve in water and contain heavy metals that are toxic to humans and wildlife. Used oil, such as motor oil, is a significant pollutant in stormwater runoff, with an estimated 6.1 million gallons of oil flowing through California waterways on an average runoff year.⁵⁰ These leaking pollutants are particularly potent when combined with the increase in impervious (for example, paved) surfaces, which increase the likelihood of flooding and carrying pollutants away from streets and parking lots and worsen water quality.⁵¹

A study by the Washington State Department of Ecology evaluated the amount of toxic chemicals entering Puget Sound based on source and method of entry.⁵² The pollutants due to vehicles are presented in Table 4. These chemicals have hazardous consequences for aquatic life and human health. Because they do not degrade quickly, they can affect fishing and tourism industries and water supply. The effects of these pollutants, while directly measured in Puget Sound, can be generalized to California waterways as well.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit/Year</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Brake pad wear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Brake pad wear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Brake pad wear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>0.0003</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Gasoline and diesel combustion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons</td>
<td>29,200</td>
<td>Kg</td>
<td>Light-duty gasoline and diesel vehicle emissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Petroleum spills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td></td>
<td>Petroleum refineries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gas station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCDD/F</td>
<td>0.116</td>
<td>Grams Toxic Equivalents</td>
<td>Light duty gasoline and diesel vehicle emissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Petroleum refineries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum</td>
<td>6,100</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Motor oil drips + leaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td></td>
<td>Minor gas spills from fueling equipment and non-road equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>960</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improper disposal of used oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>228</td>
<td></td>
<td>Large petroleum spills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zinc</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Motor oil leaks and improper disposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brake pad wear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: State of Washington, Department of Ecology.

EVs have the potential to address the hazards caused by gasoline and vehicle-related pollutants. EVs do not require the regular oil changes that combustion vehicles do. Among the listed pollutants, petroleum, which causes air and water pollution harmful to the environment and health, can greatly be impacted by replacing the oil infrastructure with an electric one. Aside from major oil spills, 600,000 gallons of petroleum leak into the environment per year through...
small spills at gas stations in California. Further, 3,905 underground storage tanks in California are leaking, and the large backlog on cleanup results in the average age of contaminated sites of 20 years. These leaks have affected 334 wells, of which 56 have been treated and 156 remained active but untreated. These spills and leaks constitute a significant health impact because groundwater supplies 30 to 46 percent of California’s total water supply. The oxygenate additive MTBE was not studied in this report because it was banned by California at the end of 2003.

Quantifying the costs of vehicle-related water pollution is challenging because impacts are diffuse. A 2015 Victoria Transport Policy Institute survey report estimates that the runoff, oil spill, and road salting water pollution costs 1.4¢ per average vehicle mile and 0.7¢ per electric vehicle mile. Assuming 11,824 annual miles are driven per vehicle in California, 5 million electric vehicles can save $413 million in vehicle water pollution costs each year compared to average combustion vehicles.

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57 Ibid.


CHAPTER 5:
Fuel Switching Benefits

California’s Economy and Oil
Transportation plays a critical part in the California economy, and switching from gasoline-powered cars to electric vehicles will increase the economy’s resilience because of fuel diversification while reducing emissions. In 2016, 335 billion miles were traveled in California by a fleet of more than 25 million personal vehicles, and miles are projected to continue to grow.\(^{60}\) Today, most vehicles rely on diesel or gasoline for fuel, which are both refined from crude oil. Fossil fuel combustion for transportation is responsible for 39 percent of the state’s greenhouse gas emissions and heavily impacts air quality in the State, as discussed in Chapter 3. Shifting a fraction of gasoline-based vehicles to using renewable electricity will have significant impact throughout the fuel supply chain and help create a healthier California.

The California economy relies on oil and associated products as a source of energy. The Legislative Analyst’s Office estimates that the California economic output behaves much like the national economy in the presence of lower oil prices, possibly growing by 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent for every drop in prices of $10, as observed in 2014.\(^{61}\) The move to electric vehicles will decouple the health of the state’s economy from the volatility of oil prices. California operates at the limit of its production capacity for gasoline, and small changes in the supply of crude oil or in the production of gasoline have a record of creating immediate price volatility for consumers, which is felt throughout the economy.

Fuel diversification reduces the exposure to oil price volatility and creates surplus capacity in the supply chain, which will only continue to strengthen California’s economy. Electricity is a cleaner fuel than gasoline and will continue to get cleaner, which, in turn, means that investment today in clean energy vehicles will create larger dividends as time goes on.

Fossil Fuel Market Exposure Poses Risk
California is not alone in trending toward an increasingly diverse transportation sector, as discussed in Chapter 6. The change in oil demand in California will occur alongside other reductions globally if other decarbonization policies are successful. This change has the potential to increase market volatility in the short term as the fossil fuel industry attempts to adapt to changing market conditions. A recent study shows that a glut of 2 million barrels per day (b/d) in the oil market caused an imbalance that shifted the price downward dramatically.\(^{62}\)

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\(^{60}\) California Transportation Quick Facts, Caltrans.


exposure to these market conditions can be reduced by decreasing the prominence of oil as an energy source.

The state’s demand for gasoline threatens to outpace the ability to supply all the feedstocks required. Without the ability to import fuel easily from elsewhere, California has looked to oil imports to meet the demand for refined products. In 2016 California relied on foreign imports for 54 percent of its oil consumption and imported more than 328 million barrels of crude oil annually, largely from Saudi Arabia (34 percent), Ecuador (23 percent), and Colombia (14 percent). Switching to electricity as a fuel for 5 million vehicles could reduce crude oil demand by as much as 54.7 million barrels per year (17 percent). At a price of $50 per barrel and oil sources similar to those seen in 2016, this amounts to a $2.74 billion reduction in spending on foreign oil.

California is part of a larger gasoline market that includes Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Hawaii, and Alaska. Due to the region’s geographic distance from other crude oil and refined product sources, small disruptions in the crude oil or fuels supply chains can cause sharp increases in the gasoline spot market in the six states. California has the largest refining capacity in the market and exports to Nevada and Arizona. Therefore, changes to California’s fuel demand will have regional impacts. As electricity displaces gasoline in a fleet of 5 million EVs, California would reduce the amount of gasoline used per day by 2.4 billion gallons per year (15 percent).

In 2016, refineries in California produced around 45 million gallons per day of gasoline but still did not meet all the demands of drivers in the state.63 There are multiple dynamics that lead to this problem, including the physical disconnection of the Northern and Southern California markets. Although Northern California often produces a surplus of gasoline that could be used in-state, it still falls about 2 million gallons per day short of being able to supply Southern California, and gasoline shipments between the two require cumbersome transport by marine barge. This leaves the southern region importing from other states in the regional market and from the global fuels market.

The overall reduction in gasoline demand could allow California to end imports of gasoline from the global market and shift the State to having a surplus capacity of 3.5 million gallons per day. Other states in the regional market import around 1.5 million gallons per day of gasoline from other parts of the United States or the global market, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA) analysis.64 California could supply some of that demand while increasing supply reliability through a net surplus of 2 million gallons per day.

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64 Ibid.
Consumer Savings Grow With Electric Vehicles

Fuel economy standards are a critical measure that help Californians save money by reducing the fuel required to deliver the same transportation benefits. As discussed above, gasoline prices are subject to factors that cause high uncertainty about prices, including global oil prices and constrained fuels supply. In contrast, electricity is domestically produced and has established regulation to protect ratepayers. Offering incentives to Californians to switch to electric vehicles will save additional money as a complementary policy to increased fuel economy standards, while creating additional economic and environmental benefits.

The average American purchases about 470 gallons of fuel each year if his or her car has a fuel economy of 24 miles per gallon. In 2016, the CAFE standard for new passenger vehicles will require a 10-miles-per-gallon increase in efficiency, saving more than $400 a year per vehicle at $3 per gallon gas prices. Moreover, switching to higher fuel economy cars would remove 2,600 lbs. of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere per vehicle each year.

However, buying a vehicle that meets the fuel economy standards leaves 70 percent of the fuel and emissions savings on the table compared to an EV. Replacing an average American fossil-fueled vehicle with an EV eliminates the direct tailpipe emissions and dramatically reduces the fuel cost to consumers. For example, an average gasoline vehicle consumes $1,422 of fuel each year. An EV replacement would consume just $552 of electricity, producing $870 in fuel savings each year. Fuel savings alone represent a $5 billion savings to California consumers when 5 million EVs are on the road.

California utility companies provide specific rates for EV owners, creating an even larger potential savings for consumers who take advantage of these rates. The average rate for electricity in California is 17.4 cents per kWh. Each large, investor-owned utility company in the State has a time-of-use rate for EVs that adjusts the rate used for the home charger depending on the time of day. This flexibility accounts for the times that electricity is being produced cheaply by renewables on the California grid, as the authors elaborate in Chapter 1. For example, PG&E customers could see their fuel savings increase from $858 to $1,031 annually if they took advantage of the off-peak scheduled pricing for EVs at the yearly average of 12.3 cents per kWh.

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Increasing Trade Strength on Ethanol

Every gallon of gasoline in California is 10 percent ethanol, and that proportion is scheduled to increase to meet the state’s emissions targets. Ethanol use in fuel has become standard nationwide, and other countries have adopted ethanol as a lower-carbon blending agent to meet octane requirements. This has led to the United States becoming the largest producer of ethanol and the largest exporter of ethanol in the world.

The adoption of 5 million EVs in California will reduce overall ethanol demand in the United States and create additional capacity for exporting to other countries. The total demand for ethanol in California reached 1.52 billion gallons in 2016, and the State produced just 218 million gallons. The annual reduction in ethanol from a fleet of 5 million EVs will be nearly 237 million gallons per year, freeing up 23 percent more capacity for national export should ethanol producers choose to maintain current production levels from 2016.

Extrapolating further, the reduction of demand for ethanol in the United States due to electric vehicles could have a variety of outcomes. In a scenario where the increased ethanol export is infeasible or uneconomic, it can be supposed that the price of ethanol then drops due to demand changes and slows the production of ethanol to meet the new price curve. In a separate scenario where the United States expands its export ethanol, it could be that the surplus bolsters the world’s fuel supply with a cheap source of octane.

Changes to ethanol or oil supply don’t occur in a vacuum, however, but instead have correlated price impacts. The use of ethanol in fuel to meet carbon emission standards has also contributed to slowing the consumption of oil. It is understood that decreasing oil prices leads to lower gasoline prices, which in turn leads to lower ethanol prices. Today’s forecasts for oil take into account that there are significant oil resources ready to drill that would easily rise to meet any upward shifts in demand, effectively dampening price increases. In addition, the United States regularly realizes increased efficiency in corn production. The overall effect of EVs on ethanol, oil, and gasoline prices are difficult to predict as it depends on market conditions.

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71 Ten percent of the reduction in gasoline volume shown on page 27 of this report.
The Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Action Plan\textsuperscript{72} has provided excellent vision and leadership for California, but there is more potential to lead the world in the future of personal transportation with higher targets based on the industry today. In 2012, when Governor Brown issued the executive order to create the ZEV Action Plan, there were fewer than 30,000 ZEVs on the road in California. Setting a target of 1.5 million was ambitious, and the associated planning and stability were needed to encourage this new, cutting-edge industry to grow. At the end of 2017, there will be more than 400,000 ZEVs in California. If current growth rates continue, California could reach its 1.5 million target by as early as 2021, four years ahead of the current timeline.

California is home to several world-class research facilities that contribute to its status as a leader on electric vehicles and mobility research. Combined with California's ambitious climate targets, its status has contributed to an environment that produces real results in transportation innovation and is responsible for more than 10,000 manufacturing jobs.\textsuperscript{73} There are several transportation research centers throughout the State, including the METRANS Transportation Center in Los Angeles; the University of California Institutes of Transportation Studies, with members from across six UC campuses; and the Stanford Center for Automotive Research. Thirteen automakers and major suppliers have research and innovation labs in Silicon Valley, including Toyota, Daimler, and SAIC, China's largest automaker. Increasingly major technology companies such as Lyft, Uber, Google, and Apple are getting involved with vehicle development. Policy leadership to promote investment in the market is crucial to keep California's automotive industry and related research, manufacturing, and development jobs competitive in the global marketplace.

The global momentum on EVs has prompted other countries to set new targets that surpass California's existing targets, and this has begun to shift innovation centers accordingly. Last year, China registered more new ZEVs than have been registered in all of California to date. China's 2025 target for EV sales is 7 million new vehicles, equivalent to the total U.S. new car sales in 2016.\textsuperscript{74} In terms of market share, Norway leads the world in ZEV market share at 29 percent, whereas the United States and China are still at about 1-2 percent.\textsuperscript{75} In addition, the Netherlands


and Norway have committed to ending sale of combustion engine vehicles by 2025. India and
Germany follow in 2030, and France and the United Kingdom have committed to the same by
2040. With regard to global automakers, in June 2017 Volvo was the first to announce it will sell
only vehicles with electric motors by 2019. Global partnerships among BMW, Daimler,
Volkswagen, and Chinese manufacturers to produce EVs have been announced, responding to the
rapidly expanding Chinese market demand for this new technology.76

California has the unique resources to maintain a global leadership role in the electric vehicle
space due to its status as a technology innovation capital and rich natural resources. Nevada,
Wyoming, and California possess large, undeveloped volumes of lithium, one of the key
components in battery manufacturing. The United States is estimated to have 5.5 million tons of
lithium reserves, with as much as 14 percent estimated to be recoverable in the Salton Sea in
Southern California. Alongside the engine technology transformation is the issue of vehicle
automation. Automakers have relied on Silicon Valley’s expertise to drive research in this area,
and many project that automation could become mainstream on a parallel timeline to vehicle
electrification. Combining this software-driven technology with the battery manufacturing
capacity emerging in the United States and California’s port access, California can play an integral
part in meeting global smart EV demand going forward.

76 Madrigal, Alexis C. “All the Promises Automakers Have Made About the Future of Cars,” The Atlantic,
CHAPTER 7: 
Impacts to Disadvantaged Communities

Significant market transformation of EVs will affect disadvantaged communities. In this report, disadvantaged communities are defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) using the criteria of Senate Bill 535 (De León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012) and based on a combination of pollution and population indicators in the CalEnviroScreen mapping tool. CalEPA identifies the top 25 percent scoring areas (census tracts) in California as disadvantaged communities. These communities often lack access to safe and reliable public transportation or require a long commute to work. Further, they spend a larger portion of their income on transportation and face a larger air pollution burden. Clean vehicles offer several benefits to these communities but need to be strategically implemented to avoid negative consequences.

The barriers to transportation for low-income communities are larger than can be fully captured in this report, and needs for different disadvantaged communities can vary widely. Senate Bill 350 (De León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015) requires the further investigation of low-income customer barriers to zero-emission and near-zero emission vehicles. These barriers, along with recommendations, are being studied by the CARB in consultation of the Energy Commission and will be released in a final report at the end of 2017.

Need for Improved Transit Mechanisms

The average household spends 19 percent of its annual income on transportation, whereas lower-income families spend 39 percent. Further, low-income families often drive among the highest-polluting and least-efficient vehicles with 23.9 MPG compared to the 27 MPG vehicles of their high-income counterparts.

Despite increased travel expenditures, shared transportation is not a viable option for several disadvantaged communities because of access, reliability, and transit behavior. Even as transit opportunities are developed, housing costs tend to increase in transit neighborhoods, thereby displacing low-income households. The geography of poverty is changing, and because

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77 California Environmental Protection Agency. 2017. Designation Of Disadvantaged Communities Pursuant to Senate Bill 535 (De León). Sacramento.
gentrification pushes disadvantaged communities out of workplace hubs, they often have to commute farther to jobs, especially in metropolitan areas.84 Rural and small communities categorized as disadvantaged also face significant access issues because of their geographic spread. Unlike in more densely populated regions of the Bay Area or Los Angeles, the primary method of transportation for San Joaquin Valley residents is personal vehicles.85 Ride-sharing services also do not present a viable option because of longer wait times, more frequent cancellations for people of color,86 and lack of shared vehicle drivers, access to technology, or prohibitively expensive costs.87 Further, individuals in poverty often have unique transit behavior patterns to get to work and take three times as many trips as their higher-income counterparts.88

83 Federal Highway Administration: National Household Travel Survey 2009. 2014. FHWA NHTS BRIEF: Mobility Challenges For Households In Poverty.

84 Ibid.

85 San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. 2014. San Joaquin Valley Plug-In Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan.

86 Cohen, Stuart, and Sahar Shirazi. 2017. Can We Advance Social Equity With Shared, Autonomous and Electric Vehicles?. UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies.

87 Huron, a rural city with high air pollution, was highlighted in CARB’s Barriers report and relies on costly informal ride sharing.

88 Federal Highway Administration: National Household Travel Survey 2009. 2014. FHWA NHTS BRIEF: Mobility Challenges For Households In Poverty.
Figure 15: Geographic Demographics of Transit Access and Household Income

(a) Transit Access Score

(b) Median Household Income

(a) Housing + Transportation index map of transit access scores, which evaluates fixed route public transportation connectivity, access to land area and jobs, frequency of service, and median household income in California. A low transit score indicates lack of access.

(b) Compares transit access, a holistic public transit access score defined by the H&T, with median household income. According to the map, communities in rural areas or with lower income backgrounds have among the lowest transit access scores. This data indicates the continuing fit of personal vehicular travel to disadvantaged communities’ transit. Therefore, enabling access to clean personal vehicles would not only meet the transit needs of this population but also offer them significant health benefits presented in the next section.

Health Effects of EV Adoption

Transportation electrification offers significant health benefits to disadvantaged communities specifically. Vehicle emissions are large contributors to air and ozone pollution, as discussed in Chapter 3. Further, disadvantaged communities often live near major transit corridors (Figure 16a). Figures 16b-e illustrate the disproportionately large air pollution health burden disadvantaged communities face compared to nondisadvantaged communities. Compared to 18 percent and 23 percent of non-SB 535 communities in the highest air pollution and ozone pollution percentiles respectively, 69 percent and 36 percent of SB 535 communities are in these high pollution levels, indicating an uneven pollution burden. Improving vehicle emissions through EVs would enable several pollution-burdened communities to live and breathe in less polluted areas. Further, because the definition of SB 535 factors in pollution burden, improving

air quality in these communities would potentially enable them to no longer be classified as disadvantaged or at least have several improvements in quality of life.

**Figure 16: Location of SB 535 Communities Relative to Air Pollution and Major Transportation Corridors**

The map overlays primary transit corridors in California (red lines) with SB 535 communities (red shading). The term “air pollution” in this chart specifically refers high levels of PM 2.5.

Source: Left -California Energy Commission, Right –Author analysis.

**Expanding Access of EVs**

Enabling access to EVs is a key step in making the transition to clean electrification equitable and decreasing the disproportionate health burdens disadvantaged communities face. Some of the benefits mentioned here apply more broadly to megacommuters as a whole.

Additional mechanisms to drive equitable access to EVs are needed. A report on the secondary EV market suggests that a secondary EV market may displace less efficient combustion vehicles and encourage greater EV adoption in low-income households.\(^90\) In addition, in CARB’s Enhanced Fleet Modernization Program, 14.5 percent of the total vehicles replaced were EVs,\(^91\) and in the Clean Vehicle Rebate Program, 55.3 percent, or 7,325, of the rebates issued for disadvantaged communities were for EVs.\(^92\) Participation in these programs indicates that low-income customers also hope to be involved the clean transportation transition.

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CHAPTER 8:
Impacts to Resource and Waste Stream

This chapter analyzes the impact that 5 million BEVs would have on the resource stream of the key materials used in vehicle batteries. Moreover, it examines the recycling potential of these batteries to minimize the effect on the materials waste stream.

Recycling, Reusing, and the Impact on Waste Stream

As outlined in a study by Arthur D. Little on the toxicity of EVs, replacing lithium-ion batteries without recycling processes might increase manufacturing emissions and make EVs more toxic to human beings than the internal combustion engine (ICE) counterparts.93 However, if effective recycling is mandated by the State to reduce wasteful supply practices, EVs could result in the GHG emission reduction and health benefits outlined in Chapters 3, 4, and 7. Moreover, recycling present benefits for manufacturers, who could get lower prices for their raw materials in the face of supply fluctuations and price volatility.

According to the Union of Concerned Scientist’s (UCS) report Cleaner Cars From Cradle to Grave, there is a market gap in California for businesses that focus on energy recycling, presenting opportunities for investments in California’s economy.94 There are only two major companies that provide lithium-ion battery recycling services: Umicore (Belgium) and Retriev Technologies (United States and Canada).

UCS concluded that if recycling would be mandated in State, energy consumption from battery manufacturing could be reduced by 10 percent to 17 percent.95 Furthermore, it states that switching from the use of virgin to recycled materials would result in a net decrease of 15 percent to 20 percent in greenhouse gas emissions.96 Moreover, a study performed by the Argonne National Laboratory concluded that the using any of the three main battery recycling methods results in significant oxides of sulfur (SOx) emission reductions: pyrometallurgical, hydrometallurgical, and direct recycling result in almost 70 percent, 88 percent, and 92 percent reductions in SOx emissions, respectively.97

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95 Ibid (Appendix C).

96 Ibid.

Apart from recycling, reusing the batteries from EVs could present opportunities for utilities in terms of energy storage. According to the UCS report, “The lithium-ion battery at the end of the vehicle application is assumed to have 75% of its original capacity to store energy.”98 Therefore, reused EV batteries could provide storage for intermittent renewable generation, and this “second life for BEV batteries on the grid [...] could offset fossil fuel–related global warming emissions by displacing coal- or natural gas–based electricity generation.”99

Adapting a global EV penetration model from the Minerals journal to California, it was found that nearly 300,000 vehicles manufactured after 2016 would have reached the end of life by 2030. Assuming that these vehicles have 60 kWh batteries and that the batteries have 75 percent of the original storage capacity when the cars retire, the retired fleet would be equivalent to a 13,000 MWh energy storage resource for California.

According to the Journal of Industrial Engineering and Management, lithium-ion batteries present better opportunities in remanufacturing and repurposing than in recycling. The findings indicate that remanufacturing (or refurbishing) saves roughly 40 percent in costs over a new battery, which could make EVs even more affordable. Furthermore, researchers found that repurposing is economically feasible if the “research and development costs are less than $82.65 per kWh.”100

Finally, research indicates that, given the increased costs associated with recycling, making component separation easier by having manufacturers label battery components “by means of bar codes, RFID chips, or delegated paint color or type (for example, visible under black light)” could improve the process.101 Furthermore, the authors of an article published in the Sustainable Materials and Technologies journal suggest incorporating “incentives for good recycling practices, and penalties for bad ones.”102 In their opinion, the goal of the policy and legislation should be to ensure that batteries are designed with sustainability in mind, having industry standards that allow them to be reused and recycled to produce high-quality products.103

98 Idem Cleaner Cars from Cradle to Grave. page 20.

99 Ibid.


102 Ibid.

103 Idem.
Supply of Battery Materials

Cobalt

Rather than lithium, cobalt appears to be the weak link in the supply chain for battery manufacturing. While only a third of lithium production is destined to battery manufacturing, around half of cobalt production is destined to the battery sector.\(^{104}\) Although this is more the case for the lithium cobalt oxide (LCO) batteries used in portable electronics—for which cobalt accounts for more than half the battery weight—it is also the case for the lithium nickel cobalt aluminum oxide (NCA) batteries used in Tesla’s Model S, which are 80 percent nickel and 15 percent cobalt.\(^{105,106}\) In general, EV batteries require around 15-20 kg of cobalt each, and even Tesla’s Chief Technology Officer JB Straubel claims to be more worried about cobalt than lithium, given the rarity of the former.\(^{107,108}\)

Furthermore, according to an article published in Benchmark Minerals, 75 percent of batteries will contain some form of cobalt by 2020.\(^{109}\)

There are two major problems with the dependency on cobalt for battery manufacturing. The first is that most of the cobalt used in lithium-ion batteries is sourced from “poorly regulated and heavily polluted mines in [the Democratic Republic of] Congo (DRC).”\(^{110}\) According to Macquarie Research, these mines rely on child labor and present geopolitical risks associated with an upcoming transfer of presidential power, “a process which has not gone smoothly over history.”\(^{111}\)


\(^{110}\) Idem. Battery Electric Vehicles vs. Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles

\(^{111}\) Ibid.
Thus, the challenge is to extract reserves from less volatile places than the DRC. Currently, the situation is not optimistic. According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), while 4 percent of the world’s cobalt supply is produced in the United States and Canada, just half a million units of Tesla’s Model 3 would be equivalent to 7,800 tons of cobalt (out of 124,000 worldwide), equivalent to 6 percent of the annual cobalt mining output worldwide. However, given that battery manufacturers will most likely feel uncomfortable relying on such a volatile supplier, it is likely that either cobalt extraction and refining markets will grow in more stable countries (like Australia or Canada) or EV manufacturers will switch to other lithium-ion battery technologies, such as lithium manganese oxide, LMO.

112 Idem.
113 Idem.
The second problem with cobalt is that the associated “demand growth is expected to outpace [its] supply growth […], setting the stage for persistent material shortages and far higher prices.” According to the Cobalt Development Institute, this stems from the fact that, while 94 percent of the global cobalt supply comes as a by-product of nickel and copper extractions, only 6 percent of the supply comes from mines that can directly increase production in the face of growing demand. Moreover, as noted by Macquarie Research, while cobalt demand has been steadily increasing, the supply from DRC mines has remained stagnant.

If the current trend continues, the market for refined cobalt might experience a growing deficit in the near future. According to Macquarie Research, political volatility in the DRC coupled with a rising demand for EVs in China and the United States will lead to a four-year-long cobalt shortage. This shortage, in turn, could impact EV prices by increasing the lithium-ion battery costs. Figure 20 illustrates the current outlook of the cobalt market.

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Although the dependence on DRC exacerbates this problem, David Stinger’s article in Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) notes that there are “more than 370 undeveloped discoveries and at least a dozen viable projects outside of the Congo that could come online by 2023.”\(^{117}\)

Furthermore, according to the Cobalt Development Institute (CDI), “There seems to be enough known land sources of cobalt to last for at least 100 years and for many, many more years if speculative and hypothetical resources.”\(^{118}\)

Moreover, experts in minerals note that the dependence of cobalt on nickel prices can be as much of a blessing as it is a curse. As long as there is demand for nickel, there will be supply for cobalt; and, given that Tesla’s batteries are 80 percent nickel and 15 percent cobalt, “increased demand for nickel may spur nickel production and, as a consequence, cobalt product.”\(^{119}\)

Furthermore, recycling could be vital for meeting cobalt supply at cheaper prices. The UCS notes that “cobalt and nickel are today’s biggest economic drivers for recycling because the market

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prices of these metals are relatively high; recycling them not only reduces cost but decreases the amounts of virgin materials extract.”  

Furthermore, according to the CDI, cobalt is fully recyclable given that, for most of the related applications, the metal is used but not consumed. If anything, all these challenges highlight the importance of having effective legislation and regulatory frameworks that track batteries through all stages of production, ensuring that EVs can deliver net positive results both in California and the world. Certainly, the cobalt challenge presents great opportunity for North American markets to invest in cobalt extraction, refining, and recycling.

Canada and the United States combined hold 291 kilotons of cobalt in reserves. If the authors assume that EVs have NCA batteries with 15 kg of cobalt, on average, then the penetration of 5 million EVs will result in a cumulative demand of 72,000 tons of cobalt through the next 10 years. On average, the EV penetration would require around 7.2 kilotons of cobalt production per year for the next 10 years. When considered next to the current regional output of 8 kilotons per year, this allows the opportunity to grow the market by 90 percent.

While cobalt could be a limitation in battery manufacturing, the DOE recently awarded research and development grants as part of its “Battery500” initiative, to investigate new novel materials and production methods for cathodes. These include composite materials using graphene, sulfur, carbon, and iron. If this research is successful in increasing energy density and reducing cost, innovation can alleviate materials constraints and further reduce barriers to electrification.

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120 Idem (page 20).

121 Idem “No Cobalt, No Tesla?”

Global Lithium

Lithium supply presents less of a challenge when compared to cobalt. According to UCS, although there were early signs that lithium demand would exceed supply, more recent studies “have quantified that supply and concluded there is enough lithium for large increases in BEV manufacturing.”\(^ {123}\) Not only are the global lithium reserves enough to support the predicted growth in the BEV market, current predictions estimate that the increase in lithium supply will drive down costs and alleviate the “tension associated with the current scramble for lithium.”\(^ {124}\)

Figure 22: Geographic Distribution of Global Lithium Resources


California Lithium
Just like with global supply, there are enough lithium reserves in California—let alone in the American West—to sustain the growth of EVs to 5 million by 2025.

To compute the results for this section, this study adapted a global EV penetration model used in Minerals’ “Lithium Resource and Productions: Critical Assessment and Global Projections” to California. In turn, the model predicts that to reach 5 million EVs in California, demand for lithium will be, on average, 43 kilotons for the next 10 years. Per year, this represents an average of 4.3 kilotons of lithium demand. This number takes into account EVs that are already on the road, as well as those that will need to be replaced.

This level of demand is low enough that California can meet it using in-state supply. According to a study performed by the Idaho National Laboratory, California possesses 20 kilotons of yearly recoverable lithium. In the Salton Sea alone, there are around 800 kilotons of lithium reserves and 19 kilotons that are recoverable per year. Even if only 30 percent of that yearly extraction would go to battery manufacturing—as is the case in the global lithium market—California still has enough reserves to sustain the 43-kiloton increase in demand for the next 10 years. Furthermore, the amount of lithium that would be extracted solely for EVs represents a market value of $1.5 billion and a resource depletion of only 5.4 percent.
CHAPTER 9: Impacts to Fuel Independence and Security

Distributed Energy Supply Is More Resilient Than Oil Supply

Much of California’s energy history has been shaped by the reaction to the 1973 OPEC oil embargo, the ensuing emphasis on nuclear fuel, and the shift in the power sector away from coal to natural gas and renewables. Given the current demand for gasoline, which is the largest remaining sector in California that relies on foreign oil imports, electrification of vehicle fleets presents a direct opportunity to take advantage of domestically sourced fuel in the form of renewable electricity. (The fuel system for vehicles was briefly covered in the context of well-to-wheel supply chains in Chapter 5.) This diversification will reduce the state’s exposure to volatile oil prices that are outside the state’s control and have the added benefit of being available locally.

The distributed generation of electricity, which increasingly has a larger share of renewable energy in California, creates supply security. Take the current model for producing gasoline for cars: Oil is produced in very few locations around the world or in the State, which is then shipped to a small number of refineries, located mostly on the coast, then distributed via pipeline and trucks to retail gas stations throughout the State. In stark contrast, EVs can be powered directly from solar panels that can be constructed nearly anywhere, completely eliminating the supply points that affect millions of drivers when they are interrupted. As of 2016, nearly 19 GW of distributed energy resources have been installed in California, powering 4.89 million homes. California can take advantage of this distributed supply and avoid industrial failures like the one that occurred in 2015 when an explosion at the ExxonMobil refinery in Southern California shut down production there, pushing California gas prices to nearly 80 cents higher than the national average.

The capabilities of EVs to store and discharge energy can also reduce threats to the state’s natural gas supply. In May 2017, 800 MW of electricity was needed to ensure the smooth functioning of the California grid. This otherwise rare event – the first in a decade – was caused by a shortage of natural gas supply due to the disaster at Aliso Canyon, a natural gas storage facility shutdown by significant leakage. Without that gas supply, a Southern California gas-fired power plant was not fully operational, and imports from other plants could not meet the gap in demand.125 Just 122,000 EVs could have served that demand at 7-9 p.m., a time when many people are at home and off the road.

Electric Vehicles Can Supply Energy During Emergencies

The benefits of vehicle-to-grid (V2G) services were explored in Chapter 2, discussing the everyday use of connected EVs for the grid. In addition, California is at high risk for low-probability events that may cause substantial disruption to the state’s economy and put millions of lives at risk. Investment in electric vehicles alongside investment in next-generation inverter technology will create unprecedented resiliency of the state’s energy system in the event of large-scale disasters.

Today, small weather events can down trees, causing neighborhood and sometimes citywide power outages. Storage, in the form of electric vehicles, paired with distributed energy resources, allows more Californians to access electricity during these grid outages. After the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, EV owners were able to use their car batteries to power critical electronic devices.126 With full use of the battery that is possible with advanced bidirectional inverters, a 60 kWh battery in a vehicle could power an American home for up to two days without being recharged from a solar panel. With a typical home solar system on the roof, the battery could be used to fully power the home for at least three days before needing to reduce home energy consumption to be self-sufficient.127 Auto manufacturers Nissan, Mitsubishi, Toyota, Hyundai, and the PSA Groupe have implemented V2G technology in various models already, and research in this area continues to develop more reliable and economical solutions for V2G integration at a consumer level.

Electric Vehicles Bolster National Security Plans

A major variable in national security is oil supply and price volatility, as mentioned earlier in this report. The U.S. government has placed an emphasis on reducing its exposure to these volatilities through several measures. The U.S. Department of Energy operates the Clean Cities initiative to help reduce the reliance of cities on petroleum products, and 12 cities, including Bakersfield, San Luis Obispo, Long Beach, Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose, and Los Angeles, participate in this program. The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has carried out pilot tests to determine the efficacy of using EVs as grid backup at four locations across the United States.128 In California, one of those locations was the Los Angeles Air Force Base, which replaced its entire nontactical fleet with EVs to provide frequency regulation services to the California ISO energy market and to reduce demand charges.129


127 Analysis using 29.6 kWh/d of home energy consumption (EIA) and 17.2 kWh/d of generation from a 4 kW system in Palo Alto, California, according to NREL’s PV Watts tool.


In addition to the backup grid services that EVs provide, the effect of EVs on the overall oil and refining supply chain deserves additional research. In previous sections, it was proposed that the reduction of demand for gasoline would affect the fuels market. The potential reduction of demand for gasoline could imply an opportunity for the use of California refinery capacity to produce distillates needed for military use. Additional access to supply of these distillates provides defense systems access to less expensive fuels, the cost of which make up a significant portion of the risk to military budgets.\textsuperscript{130}

APPENDIX A: Electric Vehicle Battery Characteristics

Appendix A examines the characteristics of lithium-ion batteries used and predicted to be used in electric vehicles (EVs). More specifically, a cost forecast model is created that considers the range and storage capacity of batteries in the EV market.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has a target of $125/kWh for electric batteries by 2022. This appendix evaluates this target and other information to evaluate different battery cost scenarios. To determine the price per kilowatt-hour of the lithium-ion batteries used in EVs, this appendix examines forecasts of experts, researchers, and consulting firms.

McKinsey predicts that the price of lithium-ion batteries will be $200/kWh in 2020, $160/kWh in 2025, and below $100/kWh by 2030.131 Similarly, UBS expects the price to go down to $200/kWh by 2020 and $100/kWh by 2025.132 In Figure A-1, the authors show the historical and forecasted prices per kilowatt hour of lithium-ion batteries as estimated by these two firms.


Moreover, Bloomberg’s forecast agrees with what is predicted by McKinsey and UBS. Figure A-2 shows Bloomberg’s estimates and forecast for the price per kilowatt-hour of lithium-ion batteries.
Within the realm of research, the work of Dr. Björn Nykvist and Dr. Måns Nilsson at the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI) gathers data from industry, market leaders, and scientific journals to give a comprehensive forecast of the trend in battery prices, as seen in Figure A-3.
From Figure A-3, it is evident that the estimates and predictions made by market leaders do not tend to agree with those made by consulting firms. For instance, Tesla argues that prices for its lithium ion batteries are at $190/kWh, and it expects this price to drop to $100/kWh by 2020. Trends in component cost of their components are the key to better understanding the trends in cost of lithium-ion batteries. Figure A-4, produced by UBS, characterizes these trends.


Forecasting the cost of lithium-ion batteries is important to determine the extent to which EVs can penetrate the automobile market. The cost of lithium-ion batteries alone, however, does not suffice to determine the success of EVs in the market. Figure A-5, produced by UBS, shows the frontiers and conditions that would benefit different vehicles, taking into account not only the cost per kilowatt-hour of lithium-ion batteries, but the price of a gallon of oil. It also conveys the importance of the price of batteries in determining the market penetration of EVs. A cross indicates the market situation as of 6/29, considering Tesla’s nearly $200/kWh lithium-ion battery cost and taking around $2.5/gallon as the price for oil.

The storage capacity of the batteries used in EVs is important to market transformation as well, determining vehicle range. The specifications of the electric vehicles that are available in the
market are characterized in Figure A-6, using data collected by the *Journal of the Electrochemical Society* in 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Battery Size (kWh)</th>
<th>Battery Chemistry</th>
<th>Battery Supplier</th>
<th>Vehicle Range (mi)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tesla</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>60-100</td>
<td>C/NCA</td>
<td>Panasonic/Tesla</td>
<td>208-315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesla</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>60-100</td>
<td>C/NCA</td>
<td>Panasonic/Tesla</td>
<td>208-315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMW</td>
<td>I3</td>
<td>22.33</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>Samsung/Bosch</td>
<td>80, 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nissan</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>24,30</td>
<td>C/LMO (C/NMC)</td>
<td>AESC and LG Chem.</td>
<td>84, 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volkswagen</td>
<td>e-Golf</td>
<td>24, 35.8</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>Panasonic (Sanyo div.)</td>
<td>83, 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevrolet</td>
<td>Spark</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>C/LFP</td>
<td>A123</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiat</td>
<td>500e</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>Samsung/Bosch</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kia</td>
<td>Soul EV</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>SK Innovation</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smart</td>
<td>Fortwo EV</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>LG Chem.</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford</td>
<td>Focus EV</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>C/NMC</td>
<td>LG Chem.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes</td>
<td>B-Class Electric</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>C/NCA (C/NMC)</td>
<td>Panasonic/Tesla and SK Innovation</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitsubishi</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>LTO/LMO</td>
<td>Toshiba</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honda</td>
<td>Fit EV</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>LTO/LMO</td>
<td>Toshiba</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota</td>
<td>RAV4 EV</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>C/NCA</td>
<td>Panasonic/Tesla</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data from Table A-1 are plotted in Figure A-6. The correlation between the storage size of lithium-ion batteries and the associated driving range in miles is, as expected, very strong. The required battery size for a desired range is, therefore, easily determinable from this linear correlation and can be configured to match consumers’ driving range preferences.
By combining the forecasted cost per kWh of a battery, the relationship between size and range, and consumer preferences, the cost of future electric vehicles can be estimated. This study estimates the total EV cost by assuming that the cost of the lithium-ion battery accounts for less than a quarter of the cost of the EV, as explained by JB Straubel of Tesla.  

The battery cost curve of this report is based on the historical data estimated by McKinsey. These data are then combined with the trend in decreasing costs presented in the SEI research, which estimates that the cost of lithium-ion batteries has been decreasing at a rate of $14 \pm 6$ percent annually. Thus, using the McKinsey values from 2010 to 2016, Figure A-7 presents three possible annual cost decrease scenarios: 8 percent, 14 percent, and 20 percent.

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The 20 percent annual decrease rate scenario generates a highly optimistic, if not unrealistic, cost of $10/kWh by 2030. On the other hand, the 8 percent annual decrease rate scenario is highly conservative, given that Tesla claims that its battery prices will already be below $100/kWh by 2020. Therefore, the battery vehicle benefit report uses what appears to be a realistic scenario with a 14 percent annual decrease rate. However, this scenario also predicts highly optimistic costs for 2030, mainly because it assumes that the annual decreasing rate is constant. For this reason, adjustments were made by halving the annual rate of decrease every five years, as seen in Figure A-8.
Once again, the 14 percent initial annual decrease rate scenario seems more realistic than the 8 percent and 20 percent scenarios. However, as previously discussed, lower costs are expected by 2020 than what is shown in Figure A-8. To understand this, it is important to consider that consulting firms and energy agencies have historically overestimated battery costs in their forecasts. For instance, in 2012, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) predicted a cost of around $750/kWh (2010 U.S.) by 2014 for lithium-ion batteries; in 2013, the same agency projected the 2014 cost to be around $550/kWh (2010 U.S.).\footnote{The Economics of Grid Defection. February 2014. Rocky Mountain Institute. \url{https://www.rmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RMI Grid Defection Full_2014-05-1-1.pdf}} That is, the EIA decreased its
estimate by 26.6 percent in just a year. Furthermore, if one considers the cost of a lithium-ion battery in 2014 as estimated by UBS, the figure would be even lower: $360/kWh. In turn, this means that the 2012 and 2013 figures overestimated the cost by 52 percent and 35 percent, respectively.

If this trend of overestimation is accounted for when it comes to lithium-ion battery costs, a more realistic cost curve can be used for analysis. This report focuses on the 14 percent initial annual decrease rate where the rate is halved every five years to account for the fact that lithium-ion technology would be approaching diminishing advancement with maturity. Finally, the forecasted values are decreased by 15 percent to account for the historical errors in cost overestimation and presented as the primary scenario evaluated in the report and shown as Figure A-9.

**Figure A-9: Adjusted Forecasted Cost of Lithium-Ion Batteries, Halving the 14 Percent Annual Cost Decrease Every Five Years**

To produce yearly estimates of cost, a best-fit curve is created using the four predicted price points in Figure A-9 (years 2016, 2020, 2025, and 2030). The results, and final battery cost curve model are shown in Figure A-10.

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Using the resulting equation, the authors estimated the following cost per battery for the years 2018 onward and tabulated them in Table A-2.
### Table A-2: Tabulated Forecast of EV Lithium-Ion Battery Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cost ($/kWh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>186.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>170.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>155.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>142.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>130.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>119.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>109.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>99.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>91.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>83.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>76.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2027</td>
<td>69.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2028</td>
<td>63.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2029</td>
<td>58.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>53.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Author analysis

As a final remark, although lithium-ion batteries are assumed to remain the dominant battery technology in the future, emerging technologies might decrease the cost of EV batteries even further if commercially implemented. Two promising battery technologies that are not yet commercially available are lithium-sulfur and lithium-air batteries. The main advantage of lithium-air batteries lies in the high specific energy, which can result in lower costs due to lighter batteries—and lighter EVs—that have the same storage capacity and driving range. Concerning lithium-sulfur batteries, these have a much higher energy density than the lithium-ion counterpart, which means they can result in smaller batteries, more overall storage capacity, lower costs, and larger driving ranges.
APPENDIX B:  
Charging Infrastructure Characteristics

Appendix B discusses forecast predictions for the battery charging infrastructure required to support an increase in electric vehicles. This forecast focuses on the penetration and types of chargers in the EV market based on different EV use scenarios. These parameters specifically guide the authors’ calculations of the power output and geographic distribution of charging infrastructure with the goal of understanding vehicle-to-grid contributions and load shifting.

Current electrical vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) include the specifications for the power output of charging, denoted as Level 1, 2, or 3, based on the vehicle and electrical infrastructure capabilities. Level 1 is 110V and 1 kW, Level 2 is 120V and 3.3 kW or 6.6 kW depending on onboard charger of the vehicle, and Level 3 is a direct current fast charger (DCFC) with 60 kW. Vehicle charging locations are broken into residential, workplace, and public charging.

Current Infrastructure

Currently, 85 percent of all EV charging takes place at home after the work day.\textsuperscript{139,140} The most common type of residential charging infrastructure is a Level 1 wall socket charger, and publicly available charger is a Level 2. Of the 13,000 publicly available outlets, 84 percent are Level 2, and 12 percent are Level 3.\textsuperscript{141} The publicly available charging stations are geographically distributed primarily in coastal cities, as shown in Figure B-1; however, Energy Commission investments have targeted increased deployments, particularly of DC fast chargers, along major corridors to provide interconnectivity throughout California.


\textsuperscript{141} U.S. Department of Energy’s Alternative Fuel Data Center (AFDC) https://www.afdc.energy.gov/fuels/electricity_locations.html.
Charging Infrastructure Projections for 5 Million EVs

Projections of the future of EV charging infrastructure are widely varying and rely heavily on constantly changing assumptions. For example, to meet California’s goal to deploy 1.5 million zero-emission vehicles by 2025, the Energy Commission estimates a need for a network consisting of around 500,000 electric vehicle chargers at or near apartments, workplaces, and public locations. This Level 2 and DC fast charging equipment will likely cost on the order of $2 billion.\textsuperscript{142} The Energy Commission developed a model to quantify how these chargers could be distributed across the state’s 58 counties, according to driver needs and expected improvements in battery range and charging speed.\textsuperscript{143} As a result, this report presents a summary of conclusions drawn from several charging infrastructure forecasts before presenting calculations of the amount of energy the infrastructure can deliver.

Forecasts that assume consumer behavior similar to that of early adopters today emphasize first transitioning to rapid EV adoption with workplace charging and then investing in strategically placed intraurban Level 3 chargers.\textsuperscript{144} A report by NREL outlines several scenarios of residential and workplace charging at different hours with different charging levels in Figure B-2. A combination of these charging profiles will be required to achieve the load-shifting and vehicle-to-grid benefits discussed in Chapter 2.

\textsuperscript{142} This estimate excludes chargers needed for the single family residential segment.

\textsuperscript{143} California Energy Commission forthcoming Fuels and Transportation Division analysis.

\textsuperscript{144} Idem \textit{EV Charging Infrastructure Roadmap}.
Calculations for the total power output by several charging infrastructure follow these key assumptions:

- Public and workplace charging: 274 chargers needed/1,000 EVs\textsuperscript{146, 147}
- Residential charging: Each EV has a corresponding residential charger.
- DCFC charging: 0.469 chargers needed/1,000 EVs\textsuperscript{148}
- All level 2 chargers have a 6.6 kW power capacity.\textsuperscript{149}

The following cases were developed in this study:

- Case 0: Current EV charging infrastructure capabilities. Assumes all EVs have access to L1 residential charging and that 30 percent of L2 public charging is 3.3 kW.
- Case 1: Level 1 workplace and residential charging is ubiquitous.\textsuperscript{150}


\textsuperscript{146} Cal ETC Assessment. The California Statewide Plug-In Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Assessments.

\textsuperscript{147} Idem \textit{National Economic Assessment of Plug-In Electric Vehicles Volume I.}

\textsuperscript{148} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{149} Current trends in EV development indicate that 3.3 kW onboard charging is being phased out in favor of higher power capabilities.

- Case 2: Level 2 residential charging for all EVs. No Level 2 public chargers.
- Case 3: Level 2 workplace and residential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Number</th>
<th>Total Power Output (MW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>293.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6515.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>33140.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>42215.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because the battery charging duration is a function of the battery size, distance travelled, geography, and driving habits, an average battery size, based on calculations from Appendix A (60 kWh), is assumed for charging time estimates.

APPENDIX C: Vehicle Market Forecasts

Market Path to 5 Million Electric Vehicles by 2030
Forecasting the future is inherently difficult due to a lack of perfect foresight. However, many industry analysts have attempted to build their own market forecasts for electric vehicles, drawing upon a multitude of data about consumer adoption rates, technology preferences and availability, and charging infrastructure. These forecasts are proprietary and lack sufficient transparency for replication.

To quantify the impact of 5 million electric vehicles throughout this report, a uniform set of assumptions was used. For greenhouse gas emissions, health impacts related to those emissions, and upstream impacts to fuel switching, the deterministic forecast used incorporates the best-available information about several variables. These include the emissions intensity of E10 gasoline, a projection of electricity grid emissions intensity, average miles driven per vehicle annually, and an exponential growth rate of 23.3 percent that reaches 5 million vehicles by 2030. It is not assumed that this is the only pathway to 5 million vehicles but is used to model a possible pathway. The associated benefits are then described under an assumption that electric vehicles replace vehicles that comply with 2016 CAFE standards rather than the 2016 fleet average fuel efficiency.

With additional time and resources, a more comprehensive forecast might incorporate several growth rate scenarios. Because net benefits for these vehicles depend on the rate of deployment, this probabilistic approach would refine the estimates presented herein and provide a better understanding of the impact of timing on deployment. However, additional research undertaken to compile this study suggests that the deterministic output included here is conservative based on current information.

Historical Data Suggests Possibility to Achieve 5 Million Vehicles Ahead of 2030
The remainder of this appendix describes a forecast that uses a small data set and simple assumptions to predict future growth in the plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) and battery-electric vehicle (BEV) markets, which estimates that 5 million vehicles could be sold in California as early as 2027 should current growth rates continue. This section will outline the data sources uses, the assumptions made in the analysis, and the results of this simplified forecast.

Data on California vehicle sales are tracked by the California New Car Dealers Association (CNCDA) and output in quarterly reports called the California Auto Outlook. The sale of new electric vehicles (NEVs) is broken down into three vehicle types: hybrid electric vehicles (HEV), PHEV, and BEV. These data are reported quarterly and reported on in yearly figures from 2009 to 2016. In addition to the raw sales figures, the CNCDA also estimates the share each type of vehicle
has in the overall market. The share data area used to estimate a cumulative total of all NEVs sold since availability on the market.

The seven-year historical data serve as the basis for projected growth rates going forward. In addition, a few assumptions are made about technology. First, it is assumed that technology for PHEV and BEV do not change dramatically before 2025. Lithium-ion batteries will continue to be the dominant technology choice for manufacturers due to the technology maturity and ongoing investment in scaling up production. Second, it is assumed that BEVs are seen by consumers as a substitute for HEVs and PHEVs once they achieve full cost parity. Data about the share of various hybrid and electric vehicle sales can be examined for trends in buying patterns, as noted in Figure C-1. The trends indicate that as the share for plug-in hybrid and battery electric vehicles grows, the share for hybrid vehicles will decrease, suggesting a substitution effect.

![Figure C-1: Share of New Vehicle Sales by Technology Type 2009 to 2016](source: CNCDA)
Table C-1: Sales of Plug-In Hybrid and Battery-Electric Vehicles From 2009 to 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>61,292</td>
<td>64,211</td>
<td>58,543</td>
<td>94,073</td>
<td>116,912</td>
<td>115,544</td>
<td>118,562</td>
<td>97,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plug-in hybrid</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>1,682</td>
<td>14,701</td>
<td>20,633</td>
<td>29,949</td>
<td>27,740</td>
<td>34,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5,302</td>
<td>6,197</td>
<td>21,912</td>
<td>29,536</td>
<td>34,477</td>
<td>40,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>8,153</td>
<td>29,051</td>
<td>71,596</td>
<td>131,081</td>
<td>193,298</td>
<td>268,463</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CNCDA

With the assumption that PHEV and BEV technology will be a substitute for hybrid vehicles, the forecast uses an overall growth rate for the entire NEV category using the combined sales of all three vehicle types: HEV, PHEV, and BEV. The exponential growth rate for all NEV from 2009 to 2016 is 14.6 percent. Similar analysis shows that PHEVs alone have an exponential growth rate of 98 percent, and BEVs have a growth rate of 56 percent. Like traditional hybrid vehicles, the plug-in hybrid vehicles are assumed to be pushed out of the market due to cost-competitiveness from BEV products. The forecast thus assumes that growth rates for each category continue until BEVs comprise 100 percent of all NEV sales. This forecast makes considerable assumptions about the technology capacity for BEV to adequately address consumer concerns about range and the required access to charging infrastructure. Given the current portfolio of electric vehicles as outlined in Appendix A, this seems reasonable.

These estimates are do not include potential impacts from converging technologies in the automotive sector like autonomous driving technology, changes to existing federal and state incentive structures, the ongoing evolution of vehicle policy mandated by countries like India and China with large global market shares, and the unknown changes in other technology pricing. Appendix A explains the report’s assumptions for the cost per kilowatt-hour of lithium-ion technology. With the assumptions outlined here, it is possible to construct an estimate that projects that by 2025, more than 3.7 million PHEVs and BEVs will be on the road in California, with 90 percent of those vehicles being BEV. By 2030, this projection estimates that an additional 5 million BEVs will be sold, reaching a total of 10.6 million combined HEVs, PHEVs, and BHEVs vehicles on the road.

California’s Electric Vehicle Market Is Leading the Way

The California market for new energy vehicles is one of the most developed in the world. This unique position adds a layer of complexity in forecasting future market growth, so the analysis for the forecast herein uses reputable sources against which to gauge the overall trend in the prediction being made. In the Annual Energy Outlook for 2017, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects that adoption of BEV, PHEV, and fuel cell vehicles (FCV) increases to 9 percent of total sales for light-duty vehicles by 2025. In 2016, the share of new light-duty vehicle sales achieved by NEV in California was 8.3 percent. This conclusion indicates that California as a market is much more developed for new energy vehicles than world forecasts.
Moreover, analysis done by Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) at a global scale predicts that global PHEV sales will peak in 2032 at a share of roughly 5 percent, as shown in Figure C-2. Likewise, this projection forecasts that California PHEV sales peak in 2019 at a share of 5.1 percent and are entirely replaced as a percentage of market share by BEVs in 2020. This rapid growth from 1.7 percent in 2016 to 5.1 percent in 2018 is supported by the historic rate of growth in the PHEV market over the last seven years.

**Figure C-2: Bloomberg New Energy Finance Forecast of Global LDV and EV Sales From 2015 to 2040**

APPENDIX D: Driver and Vehicle Usage and Duty-Cycle Statistics

The environmental, fuel-switching, and consumer savings benefits are quantified using the U.S. Energy Information Agency’s data set on Motor Vehicle Mileage. The nationwide mileage average for light-duty, short wheelbase vehicles was 11,327 miles.152 This average annual distance traveled can reasonably be used to estimate the effect of 5 million vehicles. While some individual vehicles will drive more, and some less, the average mileage is representative over the large quantity of vehicles analyzed in this report.

Other sources were reviewed to attempt building a more detailed model of vehicle usage as the underlying assumptions affect emissions estimates, charging patterns, and other outcomes described in this study. For example, pattern variations in charging behavior would affect emissions estimates due to the variation in the generation mix on an hourly basis. However, the literature review concluded insufficient data exist for this report to make more definitive assumptions about when cars are in use, but this is an area of emerging research.

The two useful pieces of information for creating more in-depth models would be trip distance and time of day the trip begins and ends. The U.S. Census Bureau publishes state-level statistics about transportation, focusing primarily on commuters’ physical flows and the average travel time to work, neither of which provides much information about actual distance. Similarly, the 2012 California Household Travel Survey153 goes a step further to report the average number of trips taken in a household per day, the average length of time traveling in each trip, and the average trip distance. However, the distribution data are not provided, and using these averages together produces an estimate of 18,804 miles traveled per person annually, more than 66 percent higher than the EIA national statistic. The annual average distance traveled per vehicle serves as a conservative input to estimate the impact of all vehicles in the authors’ model.
