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Report: Greater Adoption of Electric Vehicles Would Lower Colorado Utility Bills

DENVER (April 25, 2017) - If more Colorado residents drove more electric vehicles (EVs), the cumulative value to the state stemming from avoided fuel and vehicle expenses, reduced utility bills, and reduced pollution would be between \$7 billion to \$43 billion by 2050, according to a [recent analysis](#) by The M.J. Bradley & Associates and commissioned by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). The national, nonpartisan business group Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), is a project of NRDC.

The study outlines the ways Colorado would benefit from a mainstream EV market. It includes both moderate and high EV adoption scenarios and concludes the following cumulative dollars saved by 2050:

- Avoided fuel & vehicle expenses are \$6.3b (moderate) and \$29b (high)
- Reduced electric bills due to improved utilization of the electric grid are \$300m (moderate) and \$4.1b (high)
- Societal benefits from reduced pollution \$1.1b (moderate) and \$9.7b (high)

Susan Nedell, Rocky Mountains Advocate E2 said:

“As next generation EVs with longer ranges and affordable prices begin to hit the streets, it good to know mass adoption of EVs and increased charging on the grid will lower utility bills for all customers – up to \$77 per household, annually, as the study shows.” [See Susan's blog on the report here.](#)

“Electric vehicle charging provides a unique opportunity whereby all members can benefit,” said Mike McBride, CEO of Gunnison County Electric Association, a nonprofit rural electric cooperative located in western Colorado. **“Additional off-peak kilowatt-hour sales, from any source, can help us keep our rates down for all members and electric vehicles can provide those sales. Additional revenue in excess of expenses results in lower retail rates for all consumers.”**

“With the state and federal tax incentives, Colorado is a great place to purchase a vehicle.” said Jim Burness, CEO of National Car Charging, a national provider of EV charging equipment, based in Colorado, **“but drivers need access to better charging infrastructure to accelerate EV adoption and reap the associated benefits. An alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure bill, is currently in the state legislature and will remove the barrier for investor owned utilities from investing in alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure. It will stimulate investment and spur job growth for this market sector.”**

As the study demonstrates, Colorado is well positioned to benefit from this electric vehicle revolution, but the state needs to do more to ensure its citizens have access to electricity as a transportation fuel where they live, work, and play.

For information about Clean Energy jobs in Colorado, see E2’s [Clean Jobs Colorado](#), a report that reveals Colorado’s clean energy industry is significant and growing, employing more than 62,000 workers in 2015.

E2 also released “[Clean Jobs America](#),” a report that tallied 2.5 million jobs in clean energy sectors nationwide. E2 also recently released two Colorado-specific reports: “[Winds of Change](#)” and “[Colorado’s Clean Energy Future](#),” which was released in October with an event at the Alliance Center in downtown Denver featuring business and civic leaders from across Colorado.

All these reports and more are compiled at www.e2.org/cleanjobscolorado. Follow Colorado clean energy jobs news via [#CleanJobsCO](#).

For more information, or to speak with clean energy business leaders or policy experts in Colorado, please contact E2 Rocky Mountains advocate Susan Nedell at susan@e2.org.

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Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors, and professionals from every sector of the economy who advocate for smart policies that are good for the economy and good for the environment. Our members have founded or funded more than 2,500 companies, created more than 600,000 jobs, and manage more than \$100 billion in venture and private equity capital. For more information, see www.e2.org or follow us on Twitter at [@e2org](#).