

Dear Mr. Matthies,

Roger Duncan and The Plug-In Partners national program has been nominated by the Rocky Mountain Institute for a World Clean Energy Award in the categories “NGO’s and Initiatives” and Transport and Mobility”. On behalf of Roger Duncan and the Partners Project the following information is provided as background for the jury members about this program:

The national Plug-In Partners program was started by Austin Energy which is the electric utility of the City of Austin and is a department within the local government of the City of Austin. The program is aimed at persuading automakers to manufacture plug-in electric hybrid vehicles (PHEVs). The national campaign commenced on January 24, 2006 in Washington D.C. with a coalition of national security advocates, representatives of renewable energy groups, and public power representatives. Speakers included: former CIA Director James Woolsey; Frank Gaffney, president of the Center for National Security Policy; Kateri Callahan of the Alliance to Save Energy; Alan Richardson, head of the American Public Power Association; and Andy Frank, the University of California - Davis professor who is widely credited with being the inventor of plug-in hybrids.

In the months since then over 500 entities in 41 states, cities and businesses, large and small, all across the nation have become partners. Some examples are: Austin, Baltimore, Boston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Denver, Kansas City, Memphis, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Hartford, New York, Colorado Springs, Detroit, Honolulu and Seattle. We are also pleased to have large businesses such as Google and small businesses such as ABC Pest Control join as partners.

The City of Austin and Austin Energy have sponsored this effort for the following key reasons:

1. Plug-in hybrids are an advance on popular current hybrids. The difference is that they have more powerful batteries and can be charged in a standard electric socket. The vehicles can then have a range of 20 to 60 gasoline free miles. Plug-in vehicles are particularly good for fleet vehicles that have a short start/stop duty cycle in urban areas.
2. At the same time PHEVs do not have the range limitations of all electric vehicles. Instead, when the charge is depleted in the battery the vehicle seamlessly switches to running on liquid fuel.
3. Plug-in hybrid vehicles have the potential to address three major issues facing cities and our country: reliance on imported oil; air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; and rising fuel costs.
4. Widespread use of plug-in hybrids would not just improve air quality, but would also improve national security by reducing dependence on foreign oil as well as lowering fuel costs for American consumers. Also of great importance to businesses is that lowering fuel costs will reduce operating costs.

In an effort to demonstrate the market for plug-ins and to work with our partners nationwide the program continues to focus on the following four areas:

- A. Coordination Efforts
- B. Soft Fleet Orders and Partners
- C. Government Policy Development
- D. Education/Events

We have provided attached to this e-mail memo documents representing our efforts in each of these four areas.

Coordination Efforts

1. State of the Movement and Strategy Development on Plug-In Hybrid Vehicles
Working with Google at their headquarters we met with several dozen of the leaders in the effort to develop PHEVs to lay out a strategy and blueprint for our activities over the next several years. This document is a first draft of that effort.
2. Press Release of our January 2007 Launch in Washington, DC
Working with the national environmental non-profit organization EESI, Plug-In Partners celebrated the one year anniversary of its campaign to build public and private support for the mass production of an EPHV.
3. PG&E Insert
California utility giant Pacific Gas and Electric shared this insert with its customers to help Plug-In Partners publicize its national campaign.

Soft Fleet Orders and Partners

4. Soft Fleet Order Form
We have used this form to gather over 8000 soft fleet orders from partners around the country
5. Partners List
The current list of partners includes members from 41 States dispersed geographically over the entire United States including both large and small cities, public and investor owned utilities, national safety organizations, environmental organizations and businesses.
6. AutoNation Press Release
National retailer AutoNation joined the Plug-In Partner campaign in October, 2006, lending a formidable voice to the case for EPHV.

Government Policy Development

7. Congressional Testimony of Roger Duncan
Deputy General Manager of Austin Energy, Roger Duncan, provided testimony about the EPHV to the Energy Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science in May, 2006.

8. Hearing Proposal

This document provides an overview of the goals and structure of a congressional committee hearing on the development of an EPHV.

Education/Events

9. Conferences and Convention Schedule

Plug-In Partners presents at national conferences and conventions to educate the public on the economic and environmental benefits of bringing an EPHV to market. This spreadsheet offers an overview of upcoming events where Plug-In Partners will be.

10. 4-Page Brochure

This brochure is a standard item in the materials we offer to educate the public.

11. Technical Q &A Document

Developed in response to the barrage of questions Plug-In Partners receives on EPHV technology, this Q&A document succinctly addresses the issues and questions asked most.

We believe that the attached information listed above provides a good overall statement of the breadth and depth of this program. We would be happy to provide the jury with more detailed information as necessary to elaborate on any of the areas we have mentioned.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Director, Emerging Transportation Technologies

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