

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
New Technology Research & Development (NTRD) Program  
Monthly Project Status Report**

**Contract Number:** 582-11-11141-3264

**Grantee:** GRIDbot, LLC

**Report for the** **Date**  
**Monthly period:** 12/09/2011 – 1/06/2011 **Submitted:** 1/09/11

**Section I. Accomplishments**

*Provide a bulleted list of project accomplishments as well as a description of their importance to the project.*

- In December the November monthly Progress Report and Financial Status Report were prepared and submitted.
- Information sharing and project coordination continues with representatives from City of Houston (COH), Good Company, Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC), GRIDbot, and TCEQ to provide input on data collection and assessment.
- Staff continues to report any questions or issues with either the charging stations or the vehicles to Good Company. GRIDbot has followed up with solutions or answers on each occasion.
- COH maintenance staff plan on installing the restricted parking and electric charging signs for installation for the Phase 2 location, as the additional fleet cars arrive.
- Interim data collection was completed and monthly reporting of the vehicle charging has continued, and will continue through the duration of this project. Monthly data continues to be analyzed by HARC, including compiling summary data on charging activity by station and by vehicle.
- Good Company continues to interact with COH staff to obtain information and feedback on the user experience. Fleet Management continues to send user information by email to the various drivers through a user-group for direct communication with this group of employees. We are anticipating a change in the COH Fleet Management staff in January, so will work with the new staff to get them up to speed on the project, as soon as they are identified.
- Good Company has begun the market research for the final report.
- Additional units have been installed at an apartment complex in Houston, for the utility in Dallas, and for an individual business in Austin. Various responses to Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and Requests for Queries (RFQs) have been submitted, distribution networks are being identified, and Gridbot continues to work toward the full commercialization of this product.
- GRIDbot has continued to develop back-office support, including an on-line reporting system that is accessible through a secure login, for the fleet manager. This site is being reviewed by COH Fleet Management Staff, to provide user feedback.
- COH purchasing department has selected a dealership to provide the additional electric vehicles. Part of their proposal required a 60-90 day lead time, which has further delayed delivery. They have agreed to work with COH to provide 6-8 of the 23 vehicles no later than January 31, 2012, and the remaining vehicles no later than February 29, 2012.

- Due to the delay in obtaining vehicles, which will require another delay in our final reporting, we have decided not to go ahead with the installation of two additional charging stations at the City's Green Building Resource Center.

*Indicate which part of the Grant Activities as defined in the grant agreement, the above accomplishments are related to:*

- Task 1: Planning and Design – all activities under Task 1 have been completed.
- Task 2: Site Installation and Data Collection – all activities under Task 2 have been completed.
- Task 3: Interim Evaluation of Site all activities under Task 3 have been completed.
- Task 4: Site installation and Data Collection of Site 2 –
  - 2.4.1 the second site was included into one permit with one site plan,
  - 2.4.2 Phase 2 installation has been completed, adding another 14 chargers to make a total of 28. The Request for Amendment was approved to install the final 2 stations budgeted in this grant for the City at an additional site.
  - 2.4.3 The city has completed the selection of the vendors for the additional vehicles and is completing their purchasing negotiations.
  - 2.4.4 The data collection and analysis is developed and will continue monthly during the demonstration.
  - 2.4.5 The project participants are collecting feedback, providing educational materials. An initial survey is being developed for customer/driver feedback. Online access to reporting for fleet managers is finalized.
- Task 5: Data Collection and Analysis –
  - 2.5.1 project participants continue to monitor and collect data on the usage and performance of the charging stations and vehicles, producing a report to the Fleet Management Department on a monthly basis.
- Reporting continues to meet the requirements under Task 6.

## **Section II: Problems/Solutions**

*Problem(s) Identified: Report anticipated or unanticipated problem(s) encountered and its effect on the progress of the project*

- a) Additional delay in the vehicle delivery of vehicles has been approved by the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO)/Department of Energy (DOE) who is providing matching funds for the vehicles, to be delivered no later than February 2012.

*Proposed Solution(s): Report any possible solution(s) to the problem(s) that were considered/encountered*

- a) We will work to confirm the procurement schedule and propose any necessary amendment to our timeline.

**Action(s) Conducted and Results:** Describe the action(s) taken to resolve the problem(s) and its effect

- a) This procurement is still expected to be completed and we will be able to collect significant data for our project with the first vehicles in February and additional data when the final shipment is delivered. We will work with TCEQ to see that this is completed.

### **Section III. Goals and Issues for Succeeding Period:**

*Provide a brief description of the goal(s) you hope to realize in the coming period and identify any notable challenges that can be foreseen*

- COH has contracted with a dealership for the purchase and delivery of 23 more electric vehicles. Agreement with the dealership assures 6-8 vehicles by January 31, 2012, and the balance by February 29, 2012.
- Data collection will continue on all vehicles with access to GRIDbot chargers.
- HARC will provide internal monthly analysis of vehicle charging, vehicle use and emissions modeling, which will be compiled and become part of the final report.
- Monthly Fleet Manager Reports will be produced by GRIDbot, to report vehicle charging sessions, including length of time charging, electrical consumption, and time of day.
- A User On-line Survey being developed and will be distributed to the drivers to get user feedback from the various participants. This will enable a broader reach for feedback once the additional cars are delivered and drivers assigned.
- Good Company is compiling market data to include in the final report.
- Final work will be completed to provide secure online access to reporting for Fleet Managers.
- Good Company will work with TCEQ to submit another proposed amendment to the project timeline, to allow for adequate time to collect data from the vehicles once they are delivered.
- Continued reporting of progress on this project.

Date: 1/09/2011

---

*Authorized Project Representative's Signature*

**NOTE:** *Please attach any additional information that you feel should be a part of your report or that may be required to meet the deliverable requirements for tasks completed during this reporting period.*