

**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 Monthly period: 2/3/2012 – 3/7/2012 **Date Submitted:** 3/7/2012

Section I. Accomplishments

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

- In February the January 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 the TCEQ to provide input on data collection and assessment.
- COH 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.
- Good Company continued to work with the COH Fleet staff to get vehicles delivered as soon as possible.
- Purchase/procurement of vehicles has been confirmed, with the VIN numbers provided for the next 12 Nissan LEAFs. Vehicles were expected to arrive in February 2012, but they have just begun to arrive on March 1, 2012. Some processing is required before they are put into service. All vehicles must be purchased no later than March 31, 2012, under the grant agreement with the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO).
- 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.
- 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. Nissan has provided COH with training videos that prepare them for driving the LEAFs. We will provide supplementary information for user interaction with the GRIDbot stations.
- Final work is completed to provide secure online access to reporting for Fleet Managers.
- On the plus side, Fleet Management has reported that the insurance company has decided to allow more drivers to be assigned to each car and they are now allowing more flexibility to allow drivers to use various cars within the fleet. This flexibility means that there will be potential for greater use of the fleet cars, higher mileage per car, and more opportunities for staff to have access. This increased use of the electric vehicles will be greatly enhanced when the COH decides to purchase a fleet management tool and reservation system.

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 COH at an additional site.
 - 2.4.3 COH has completed the selection of the vendors for the additional vehicles and is scheduling the delivery – at least twelve will be delivered in March 2012.
 - 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 delays in the delivery of vehicles.

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

- a) We have confirmed the 12 LEAFs are purchased and COH staff has confirmed that 5 are delivered with the other 7 expected this week. Vehicles will be delivered to COH as soon as the inspections are cleared.

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

- a) We know that the full number of vehicles must be purchased by March 31, 2012.

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

- GridBOT anticipates a total of 14 LEAFs and three PRIUS will be operating on our charging stations in March 2012.
- Proof of purchase will be provided on the additional 12 LEAFs to report for match.
- 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.
- Continued reporting of progress on this project.

Date: 3/7/2012

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.*