

**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:** 3/7/2012 – 4/6/2012 **Date Submitted:** 4/6/2012

**Section I. Accomplishments**

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

- The City of Houston (COH) has received all the 25 Nissan LEAFs to enable this demonstration to be completed! GRIDbot filed for another extension of the project to June 2012 to enable adequate time to collect data for the final report.
- Purchase/procurement of vehicles has been completed with full delivery on March 15, 2012.
- Data loggers were installed and the vehicles were registered into the CARWINGS program on March 20, 2012.
- The VIN numbers and Fleet numbers reported to GRIDbot so that all vehicle charging is recorded and tracked.
- GRIDkeys were provided for the additional cars.
- COH Maintenance Staff worked with the Fleet Management Staff installing the restricted parking and electric charging signs for installation for the Phase 2 location, known as Row G.
- Monthly data continues to be analyzed by the Houston Advanced Research Center (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.
- 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 opportunity for more of the 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.
- In March 2012, the February monthly Progress Report and Financial Status Report were prepared and submitted.
- Information sharing and project coordination continues with representatives from the COH, Good Company, the HARC, GRIDbot, and the 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.

*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.
  - 2.4.3 The delivery of the 25 vehicles is now complete.
  - 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 has been 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. GRIDbot is producing a downloadable 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*

- Staff turnover in the Fleet Management Division required us to bring several new folks up to speed on the project.

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

- Review of all activities and plans were needed.

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

- We scheduled a Project Meeting in Houston as soon as the staff was in place, to go over the project deliverables, status, and expectations of each of the partners. Since that time, a key member from the initial project implementation has been reassigned to the project, to see that this grant receives the attention needed to fulfill all our requirements.

### **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 now has 25 LEAFs and three PRIUS operating on our charging stations in March 2012, so we will begin to see significantly more use of the infrastructure and will introduce more drivers into the demonstration.
- 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 continue to be produced by GRIDbot, to report vehicle charging sessions, including length of time charging, electrical consumption, and time of day. This is in addition to the online “look-up” option we have provided the Fleet Management Staff.
- A User On-line Survey will be distributed to the drivers to get user feedback from the various participants.
- Good Company is compiling market data to include in the final report.
- Continued reporting of progress on this project.

Date: 04/06/2011

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*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.*