



# Effective Expansion of EV Infrastructure is Paramount

As America transitions to an electrified transportation sector, effective EV infrastructure deployment is of utmost importance. Public policy should incentivize investments by those who can build out a robust and accessible charging network. With millions of Americans visiting refueling locations every day, fuel retailers are poised to rapidly replicate today's fueling experience – both in terms of location convenience and the provision of “secondary services” such as food and beverage, restrooms, and stores – for EV refueling. With 58% of Americans citing “range anxiety” - the concern of needing to refuel prior to reaching the next fueling location - as a major barrier to purchasing an EV, the more than 150,000 existing fuel stations are primed to give consumers the peace of mind they need to transition to electric vehicles. The only thing that is missing is **public policy that promotes a fair, competitive landscape which offers a path for financially-sound private sector investment**. Current public policy stunts private investment in EV infrastructure by economically favoring incumbent utilities that use their monopoly position in the market to extract guaranteed rates of return and impose demand charges on potential competitors that make the development of a competitive market for EV charging impossible.

Before the U.S. reaches a “critical mass” for EVs, a transformative overhaul is required of our already strained and outdated electric generation and transmission system. In fact, studies have found an all-electric light-duty vehicle fleet in the United States would require more than 1,100 TWh of electricity, equivalent to a nearly 29% increase in electricity consumption across the entire country – with some regions needing to generate 50% more electricity.

**To electrify the transportation industry, major stakeholders need to focus on their core competencies.** The most efficient, cost-effective path to a nationwide network of electric vehicle charging stations is for fuel retailers and power companies to work in partnership with each focused on their specific areas of expertise. Utilities can focus on their core competency of generating and transmitting electricity while fuel retailers can deliver the electricity to consumers in a price-competitive, convenient and familiar way. With refueling stations already occupying the most accessible real estate across the nation, the industry is poised to quickly and efficiently provide the necessary EV network that will give consumers the comfort needed to make the switch to EVs.



**Utilities should focus on preparing the grid for 21st century demands and partner with fuel retailers to develop EV charging infrastructure**

It is well understood that much of America's electric grid has needed refurbishment for years. Power companies have understandably been advocating for additional funding to help repair, rebuild, renew, and protect our grid as deadly blackouts in California, Texas, and the Northeast as well as recent cyber-attacks have evidenced the need to reinvest in our energy infrastructure. To further complicate matters, experts are concerned that the added stress on the system from the electrification of America could continue to overwhelm the grid. To reach climate change mitigation goals and renewable energy portfolios put into place by state legislatures, the generation side of the grid will also need billions of dollars of investment for the construction and connection of new energy generation resources such as wind and solar.

With these massive projects on the horizon, utilities must focus on ensuring that the electric generation and transmission systems are ready for the rapid growth of electricity usage across the country and allow the refueling industry to deploy the necessary EV charging infrastructure to accomplish the ambitious EV goals set out by policymakers. Public policy that incentivizes this partnership structure will be the most efficient, cost-effective, and timely method to encourage consumers to adopt EV vehicles and meet climate change goals.

