

# DOE News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2001

## DOE Reduces Petroleum Use and Exhaust Emissions by Promoting Electric Vehicle Use in Federal Fleets

The U.S. Department of Energy has provided incremental funding to 37 Federal fleets to support the leasing and use of 220 electric Chrysler EPIC minivans and electric Ford Rangers. The 37 Federal fleets are driving the 75 EPICs and 145 Rangers a total of 537,000 miles per year.

The use of these vehicles lowers the Federal fleets' consumption of petroleum by 30,000 gallons per year. Another benefit is the avoidance of more than 1,100 pounds of smog forming emissions annually.

Under Executive Order 13031, DOE provided \$1 million dollars in incremental funding to 37 Federal fleets to help buy down the cost of the electric vehicles. Seventy-six percent of the vehicles have been used as replacement vehicles, replacing vehicles powered by internal combustion engines. The vehicles are being used in 15 states and the District of Columbia, in diverse applications that include national parks and forests, DOE laboratories, and mail delivery routes.

For more information, the Incremental Funding Program report is available on the Field Operations Program's WebPage at <http://ev.inel.gov/fop>

The Field Operations Program is actively supporting the demonstration and deployment of advanced technology vehicles in real-world applications and environments through its testing activities by providing unbiased operations and performance testing information to fleet managers and others considering purchasing or leasing advanced technology vehicles.

These elements of the Field Operations Program are managed for the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory in Idaho Falls, Idaho. For more information, visit the Field Operations Program's web page <http://ev.inel.gov/fop> or contact Jim Francfort at [francfje@inel.gov](mailto:francfje@inel.gov) (208) 526-6787.

-- INEEL --

Media contact: Steve Zollinger, 208-526-9590, [gaz@inel.gov](mailto:gaz@inel.gov)

01-23

Visit our Web site at <http://www.inel.gov>