

DOE News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOE conducts Urban Electric Vehicle demonstration program

The U.S. Department of Energy, through its Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity and in partnership with Ford/TH!NK and the New York Power Authority, is conducting a demonstration program of 340 Urban Electric Vehicles (EVs) in four states.

The goals of the demonstration program include:

- Enhancing public awareness of Urban EVs
- Defining the unique Urban EV market and niche applications
- Enhancing EV infrastructure
- Investigating the economic sustainability of Urban EVs.

This is the largest Urban EV demonstration program ever conducted in the United States, and the 340 Ford/TH!NK *city* EVs are located in California (185), Georgia (15), Michigan (40) and New York (100).

The TH!NK *city* EV is a two-seater hatchback, with a top speed of about 55 mph and a per-charge range of about 45 miles. They are being driven in urban applications that include a military base's shared-use vehicle system, as commuter vehicles to and from transit train stations and as private vehicles.

The TH!NK *city* EV Demonstration Program (TH!NK Mobility is a Ford Motor Company brand) will run for a total of three years while the Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity collects vehicle-use information, including miles driven, driver profiles, operations and maintenance requirements and energy use. The first year's activities are complete and an annual report describing the initial activities is available on the Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity's web page at <http://avt.inel.gov/uev/ThinkcityDemoReport.pdf>

The report describes extensive marketing efforts by TH!NK and the New York Power Authority to support the introduction of Urban EVs, and it examines the initial economic sustainability of Urban EVs. As the Demonstration Program progresses, petroleum savings and emissions reductions will be analyzed and the economics of operating Urban EVs will be re-evaluated.

DOE, through its Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity, conducts Baseline Performance, Accelerated Reliability and Fleet testing on advanced technology vehicles. (The Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity is a component of DOE's Office of FreedomCAR and Vehicle Technologies Program).

These elements of the Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity 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 on this and other testing activities, visit the Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity Web page at <http://avt.inel.gov> or contact Jim Francfort (francfje@inel.gov, 208-526-6787).

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Media contact: Steve Zollinger, 208-526-9590, gaz@inel.gov
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