

March 1, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
Chairman, House Corporations Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

**RE: H-7353 – House Resolution on Electric Vehicle Programming**

Dear Chairman Solomon:

On behalf of Rhode Island Energy, I write regarding H-7353, a House Resolution requesting that our company submit a proposal for new, multi-year electric vehicle (EV) programming. Rhode Island Energy has discussed this matter in detail with the bill sponsor and thanks Representative McGaw for her clean energy leadership and willingness to engage.

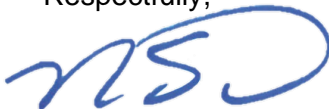
Rhode Island Energy provides essential energy services to more than 770,000 customers across the Ocean State through the delivery of electricity and natural gas. Our team of 1,300 union and non-union employees is dedicated to helping Rhode Island customers and communities thrive, while supporting the transition to a cleaner energy future – in a safe, reliable, and affordable manner.

Rhode Island Energy is actively supporting programs and investments that facilitate EV charging and infrastructure expansion in a manner that balances ratepayer affordability and cost impacts. Most recently, in February 2024, Rhode Island Energy filed with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) an Electric Vehicle Demand Response (EVDR) pathway through its ConnectedSolutions initiative. This program proposes to incentivize residential and small business customers who drive electric vehicles to curtail charging during peak demand periods. In addition, Rhode Island Energy is actively working on a separate proposal to expand its off-peak EV charging rebate pilot program. Our company is also developing a residential “make-ready” offering targeting residential customers, inclusive of expanded incentives for households in environmental justice communities.

Importantly, electric ratepayers alone cannot meet all the state’s EV charging infrastructure needs. That is why Rhode Island Energy is committed to working with its regulators and stakeholders to innovate and propose limited solutions that fill gaps in the marketplace, while leveraging and layering other available funding streams wherever possible. For example, Rhode Island Energy is collaborating with state agencies to support deployment of the \$23 million being made available to the state through the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,



Nicholas S. Ucci  
Director of Government Affairs

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee