



2026 EV Rebates

Advisory Committee Charter

Rulemaking Contact: Erica Timm

2025 - 2026



DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities.

For translation or alternate formats, visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).

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Objectives and scope

Policy objectives

The focus of this rulemaking is to adjust program rules for financial sustainability and clarity for the [Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate](#) and the [ZERO Fleet Rebate](#) programs.

Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program

OCVRP is a rebate program to incentivize the adoption of zero-emission passenger cars and light-duty trucks. It contains two elements. The first is the Standard Rebate, which provides money back for the purchase or lease of eligible new, zero-emission vehicles. The second is the Charge Ahead Rebate, which provides money back for the purchase or lease of qualifying new or used, zero-emission vehicles if the purchaser or lessee is from a low- or moderate-income household. To be eligible for the Charge Ahead Rebate, an applicant must be from a household with an income of less than 400% of the federal poverty guideline.

ZERO Fleet Rebate Program

The ZERO Fleet Rebate Program is a new incentive to support the adoption of zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles across the state. It is available to eligible businesses, non-profit organizations and public agencies operating in Oregon. Rebates are available for qualifying zero-emission vehicles ranging from Class 2b through Class 8. Rebate amounts vary based on the vehicle's weight class, with higher incentives available for larger vehicle categories to reflect their greater potential for emissions reductions and higher purchase costs.

This rulemaking proposes amendments that revise and clarify rules for both DEQ's OCVRP (light-duty electric vehicles) and ZERO Fleet Rebate Program (medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicles). The committee will consider the following for each program as noted below:

- Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program:
 - Adjustments to current Standard and Charge Ahead Rebate levels
 - Limiting the number of rebates an individual can receive
 - Clarifying definitions
 - Updating citations and program processes
- ZERO Fleet Program:
 - Adding eligibility details for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles
 - Clarifying rebate award decision-making process
 - Ensuring healthy price competition when spending public dollars

Policy guidance from Oregon Revised Statute will directly inform program rules. Rules may not conflict with statute.

Fiscal, economic and racial equity impacts

ORS 183.333 requires that DEQ ask the committee to consider the fiscal and economic impact of the proposed rules including:

- Whether the rules will have a fiscal impact, and if so, what the extent of that impact will be
- Whether the rules will have a significant adverse impact on small businesses, and if so, how DEQ can reduce the rules' negative fiscal impact on small businesses

ORS 183.333 (a)(F) requires agencies to provide a statement identifying how adoption of the rule(s) will affect racial equity in Oregon. To aide in crafting this statement DEQ will ask the committee to provide input on this question.

Roles

DEQ facilitator

The facilitator:

- Encourages open, candid and robust dialogue
- Starts and ends the meetings and agenda items on time
- Encourages innovation by listening to all ideas
- Tries not to lose good ideas to the consensus process
- Recognizes when the discussion is outside the scope of the meeting and steers the discussion back to the focus of the meeting

Committee members

Advisory committee members must attend each meeting to ensure continuity throughout the process. An alternate may be assigned if needed. However, it is each committee member's responsibility to fully brief their alternate on all relevant issues and prior committee discussions in order to meet the meeting objectives and keep the project on schedule. The primary and alternate members of the committee cannot participate in the same meeting. If a member's absence is unavoidable, please notify the DEQ project manager.

The committee member:

- Prepares for and sets aside time for the meetings
- Provides DEQ staff with copies of relevant research and documentation cited during the meeting
- Stays focused on the specific agenda topics for each meeting
- Comments constructively and in good faith
- Consults regularly with constituencies to inform them on the process and gather their input
- Treats everyone and his or her opinions with respect

- Allows one person to speak at a time
- Is courteous by not engaging in sidebar discussions
- Avoids representing to the public or media the views of any other committee member or the committee as a whole

Non-committee member attendees

Those who attend the committee meetings but are not members of the committee are there only to observe and not to actively participate. If non-committee members are present at a meeting, DEQ may allow time during the meeting for their comments.

DEQ staff

DEQ is committed to making the most effective use of committee member's time by:

- Establishing clear committee goals, meeting objectives and agendas
- Giving committee members reasonable access to staff
- Encouraging all members to take part in discussions
- Providing a clear description of members' roles, the committee timeline, the level of agreement expected and feedback on how members' input is used

DEQ support and website

DEQ will post agenda and meeting materials on the advisory committee website at least one week in advance. DEQ administrative staff will provide meeting summaries that highlight committee discussions, different perspectives and input of committee members. DEQ will not prepare a formal committee report. DEQ will send draft meeting summaries to the advisory committee for review and input. Final meeting minutes will be posted to the advisory committee website and will be part of the public record.

The advisory committee charter, a full roster of the committee, meeting agendas and minutes, and background materials will all be located on the [advisory committee web page](#).

Committee meetings

1. All committee meetings will be:
 - Open to the public, although the committee can choose whether the public can actively participate in committee meetings
 - Advertised on DEQ's [Event Calendar](#) two weeks before the meeting.
 - Noticed by email to the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program GovDelivery list
 - Held virtually
 - Accessible via a call-in number or webinar

2. The committee is expected to meet 2-3 times virtually. The meeting duration times above may vary depending on topics and committee progress.
3. Meeting materials and agenda will be posted to the advisory committee webpage

Decision making

The committee's discussions will be used by DEQ in forming its draft rule, which will then be proposed for broader public review and comment as part of DEQ's rulemaking process.

When DEQ shares information with the group, DEQ will allow a reasonable timeframe for comments.

Membership

In convening this committee, DEQ selected members that reflect the range of stakeholders the proposed rules affect, both directly and indirectly. Representatives should be able to consider the policy, fiscal and economic impact of the proposed standard on the business or organization they represent.

Committee members

Name	Affiliation
Steve Douglas	Alliance of Automotive Innovation
Ingrid Fish	City of Portland, BPS
Brett Morgan	Climate Solutions
Chris Chandler	Emerald Valley Electric Vehicle Association
Don Emerson	FMI Trucks
Stu Green	Forth
Michael Scheloske	GM
Sandra Jones	Metropolitan Family Services
Greg Remensperger	Oregon Auto Dealers Association
Kristopher Fortin	Oregon Environmental Council
Ken Hoffman	Oregon EV Association
Diane Sparks	Oregon Independent Auto Dealers Association
Mark Gibson	Oregon Trucking Association
Eric Anderson	Pride Disposal
Edgar Sánchez	Private Citizen
Michael Graham	Sapien
Wayne Hammond	TEC
Neil Baunsgard	The Environmental Center

Travel expenses

DEQ is able to reimburse any in state, out-of-town committee members for travel expenses, if DEQ approves them in advance.

Public records and confidentiality

Committee communications and records, such as formal documents, discussion drafts, meeting summaries and exhibits are public records and are available for public inspection and copying. DEQ does not assume responsibility for protecting proprietary or confidential business information shared during committee or subcommittee meetings. However, the private documents of individual committee members generally are not considered public records if DEQ does not have copies.

Information exchange

Committee members will provide information as much in advance as possible of the meeting at which such information is used. The members will also share all relevant information with DEQ to the maximum extent possible which DEQ will then share with the rest of the committee members where appropriate. If a member believes the relevant information is proprietary in nature, the member will provide a general description of the information and the reason for not providing it. Committee members should only send emails (and other communications) to DEQ and not the committee because including all members on an email could constitute a violation of Oregon's Public Meetings Law.

Public involvement

All meetings will be open to the public. The committee can choose whether to allow public input during a committee meeting. DEQ may set aside time for the public to speak.

Once the committee process is complete, DEQ will develop draft rules and conduct a public rulemaking process. That process will include a specified period during which the public can submit comments on the proposed rules. DEQ will also hold a public hearing during which any member of the public can submit written or verbal comments. Individual committee members may provide comments to DEQ on the full draft rule at this time. DEQ may modify the final proposed rules based on public comment. DEQ intends to take a final proposed rule to the EQC for consideration at its meeting.

DEQ contacts

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