

408 Saint Peter Street, Suite 220 Saint Paul, MN 55102

# Benefits of driving electric:

- No breathing exhaust
- No oil changes
- No pumping gas
- No noise
- Lower maintenance costs
- Better acceleration, handling, and safety
- Fueled by homegrown energy at lower, more stable prices

#### High cost of oil and gas:

The transportation sector now contributes more carbon dioxide emissions than electricity generation. Transportation pollution disproportionately harms children, the elderly, people of color, and lowincome communities.

#### Learn more:



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## Electric Transportation: Clean, healthy, and affordable

Vehicle exhaust doesn't just stink, it kills. Pollution from cars, buses, and trucks causes serious harm to both public health and our climate. Electric vehicles have no tailpipe emissions and, thanks to decades of work by Fresh Energy and its partners, Minnesota's electricity mix is becoming increasingly clean.

For an Xcel Energy customer, an electric car will have one third of the greenhouse gas emissions of the average gasoline car. Electric cars that charge with all-renewable energy reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 95 percent. Electric transportation can also power change at scale. Fresh Energy's analysis shows that by shifting cars, trucks, and buses onto electricity, we can double our carbon reductions economy-wide while also improving the quality of life in communities currently burdened by air pollution.

Shifting to electric transportation is vitally important—but how we manage that transition is also crucial. When electric cars are charged at night, it creates an important new market for renewable wind power. With rates that spur people to charge their cars at night, utilities can invest in more renewables and make the grid stronger, and cheaper, for everyone.

Driving electric also saves money, with lower repair costs and fueling at one fifth the cost of gasoline. The average driver could save approximately \$1,000 per year on fuel and maintenance.

Thinking about driving electric? With more vehicles coming to market, you're sure to find an electric car that fits your needs. In 2008, there was only one electric vehicle model available. Now there are over 20. By 2020, there will be over 120 models.

### The inequities of emissions

According to a Pollution Control Agency report, "Life and Breath," in the Twin Cities, particulate matter and ozone pollution from road transportation emissions contribute to a significant number of premature deaths each year. Rates of premature death due to air pollution are 45 percent higher in high-poverty neighborhoods and 33 percent higher in neighborhoods in which the majority of residents are people of color.



## Fresh Energy: Practical policy. Brighter future.

Fresh Energy is an independent nonprofit organization working to speed the transition to a clean energy economy in Minnesota. Our team of scientists, attorneys, and economists is shaping and driving policies that benefit our communities and our future.



Fresh Energy is also home to a network of energy news publications with journalists providing accurate and fact-based coverage of clean energy issues in the Midwest and other regions.

Stay engaged with Fresh Energy by signing up for our free e-newsletter, Powering Progress. Sign up at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/PoweringProgress">bit.ly/PoweringProgress</a>

#### Fresh Energy works to:

- Create more clean and affordable transportation choices, including electric cars and buses, while reducing pollution and strengthening the grid.
- Increase wind, solar, and innovative renewable electricity solutions that create jobs and improve Minnesota communities.
- Harness opportunities for a modern, efficient energy system.
- Transition away from coal and other fossil fuels.
- Capture energy savings in our homes and commercial buildings.

## Fresh Energy's electric transportation experts



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