Hello, All — Remember to click on images and blue highlighted text for more information.

INAUGURAL TAOS ELECTRIC VEHICLE EXPO A BIG SUCCESS

MORE THAN 400 VISITORS EXPLORE THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF CLEAN-ENERGY TRANSPORTATION

Taoseños and visitors from around our region were treated to an unforgettable experience in modern transportation at the first Taos Electric Vehicle Expo on September 8th. Hosted by Renewable Taos and supported by the Town of Taos, UNM-Taos, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC), and Michael Hearne’s Big Barn Dance the Expo drew more than 400 people to Bataan Hall and Civic Plaza Drive.

Throughout the day visitors inspected all-electric cars (EVs), plug-in hybrid electric cars (PHEVs), bicycles, scooters, motorcycles, ATVs and golf carts. Visitors learned about electric vehicle (EV) charging at exhibit tables and a working charging station installed by KCEC just outside Bataan Hall. Many visitors took demo rides to experience a first-time thrill of the quality and performance of an EV.
Chevrolet Bolt all-electric car owned by Renewable Taos member Chuck Wright. Local EV owners offered their firsthand experiences to an audience eager to learn about the EV revolution.

Our guests learned from auto dealers exhibiting their new EV models and Taos-area EV owners eager to share their experiences. Speakers and exhibitors inside Bataan Hall explained EVs, powering them with clean energy, and clean energy growth in our local area.

“We had non-stop conversations, and probably sold 3 electric vehicles. We also had good side conversations on solar photovoltaics, energy, EV chargers, the New Mexico legislature, and other topics.”

— NM EMNRD representatives at Taos EV Expo

OUR EXPERT LOCAL SOLAR INSTALLERS WILL SHOW YOU HOW SOLAR POWER CAN CHARGE YOUR NEW EV AT HOME

Proud electric scooter riders show off their favorite mode of transportation at the Taos Electric Vehicle Expo. Exhibits included electric cars, motorcycles, bicycles, scooters, ATVs, golf carts, and EV charging stations.
We thank Daniel Prichard, our Event Coordinator, for his amazing and highly professional efforts in creating the Taos EV Expo and seeing it through many months of work to its successful fruition.

The EV revolution is well underway in the USA and worldwide. New and used EV prices are declining rapidly. Battery costs are dropping faster than predicted. EV maintenance costs are very low because their electric motors have only about 20 moving parts compared with more than 2,000 moving parts in an internal combustion engine (ICE).

EV lifespans can be five to ten times longer than those of ICE vehicles. EV performance is spectacular, and EV driving is pure fun. Fueling EVs with cleaner energy is very inexpensive, and solar and wind electricity costs are already lower than all other alternatives.

**HONDA CLARITY EV (WHITE) AND TESLA MODEL X (RED) OUTSIDE BATAAN HALL, TAOS**

“My favorite quote from the event was 'I've owned my (EV) for (X) years, and I'd NEVER go back to a gas-only vehicle’ – a quote that I heard from EVERY SINGLE EV or PHEV owner that day!”

— Steven Schliesman, Honda of Santa Fe, NM

**U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH & COLLEAGUES INTRODUCE THE ELECTRIC CARS ACT OF 2018.**

Earlier this month, U.S. Senators Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) announced the introduction of S. 3449, the Electric Cars Act of 2018, legislation to extend the electric vehicle tax credit for 10 years.

Current legislation provides a federal tax credit of up to $7,500 for purchase of EVs. However, this tax

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credit applies only to the first 200,000 EVs produced by each manufacturer. Some USA manufacturers are expected to reach this limit in 2018.

The Electric Cars Act intends to:

- Eliminate the per manufacturer cap, allowing consumers access to the tax credit for the next 10 years, regardless of the manufacturer from which they purchase their car.
- Allow buyers to use the tax credit over a 5-year period, or apply the credit at the point of sale, making the credit more applicable to those without large tax liability
- Provide a 10-year extension of tax credits for alternative fuel vehicles and charging infrastructure to incentivize the buildout of this important infrastructure around the country.

A [September 18, 2018 Press Release](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=8a2c42c89e&view=pt&search={...read-f%3A1612894167814946362&simp=...}) lists the members of the U.S. House of Representatives who also introduced the Electric Cars Act of 2018, plus co-sponsors of the Senate Bill. The PR also links to a copy of S. 3449.

Please send your appreciations to the U.S. House and Senate members who are seeking progress towards a cleaner transportation future.

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**OUR MISSION**

Renewable Taos is dedicated to promoting and facilitating a full transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Taos County and our surrounding region.

We advocate for local generation of renewable energy with an emphasis on local ownership.

We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects.

We recognize that energy efficiency is integral to the transition to renewable energy.

We also work with other organizations to change the political climate in the state and country to facilitate the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

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**Edited by:** William M. Brown, September 2018