Session 7: PEV Charging Infrastructure Lessons Learned

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Level 2 EVSE Charging & Installation Costs



Level 2 EVSE Installation Costs

- Installation cost data for analysis is available for 2,479 units
- Average installation cost per EVSE, for publicly accessible Level 2 in EV Project markets, was \$3,108
- The five most expensive geographic markets had per unit installation costs over \$4,000 (\$4,004 to \$4,588)
- The five least expensive geographic markets had per unit installation costs under \$2,600 (\$2,088 to \$2,609)
- Similar to residential EVSE and direct current (DC) fast charger installation costs, AC Level 2 EVSE installed in California were the most expensive installations





Idaho National Laboratory

Public Level 2 EVSE Installation Costs





Level 2 EVSE Installation Costs

- The largest installation site conditions cost drivers were:
 - Distance between EVSE and power distribution panel
 - The nature of the surface needing restoration as a result of the EVSE installation
- Labor cost is primary geographic differentiator of EVSE installation cost
 - Labor costs can be mitigated by wall mount versus pedestal installation







Level 2 EVSE Installation Costs

• The distance and surface condition variations had more impact on installation cost than the number of units installed per site









Level 2 EVSE Installation Cost Drivers



Pedestal EVSE installed on decorative paving; removal and replacement required for underground conduit





Pedestal EVSE installed on concrete pad, with underground boring for conduit





Level 2 EVSE Installation Cost Savings



Wall-mounted EVSE installed in parking garage with overhead surface-mounted conduit



Wall-mounted EVSE installed on block divider wall with surface mounted conduit



Wall-mount EVSE installed on building pillar with backing plate and overhead surface mounting for conduit



Utility Demand Charges on AC Level 2 EVSE

- Some electric utilities impose demand charges on the highest power delivered to a customer in a month
- Simultaneously charging plug-in electric vehicles via multiple AC Level 2 EVSE can create significant increases in power demand

- 4 EVSE x 6.6 kW = 26.4 kW

- Many utilities start demand charges at 20 kW
- Demand charge can exceed \$1,000 per month
- The increased charging rate allowed by many newer plug-in-electric vehicles (PEVs) will exacerbate this impact







DCFC Charging & Installation Costs





DC Fast Charger Installation Costs for 111 Units

- By the end of 2013, the EV Project had installed 111 DCFCs
 - Installation costs varied widely from \$8,500 to over \$50,000
 - Declined \$75,000 installation estimate
- The median cost to install the Blink dual-port DCFC in the EV Project was \$22,626. Does NOT include DCFC unit cost
- The addition of new electrical service at the site was the single largest differentiator of installation costs
- The surface on or under which the wiring and conduit were installed was second largest cost driver
- Cooperation from the electric utility and/or the local permitting authority is key to minimizing installation costs (both money and time) for DCFCs
- Presenter aware of:
 - British Columbia installation costs of \$100,000+ per site
 - New York City \$350,000 estimate for one installation
 - Required approval from 29 departments/commissions



Characteristics of Most Expensive DCFC Installations

- Primary characteristic of the more expensive installations can be simply identified as those that had a new electric service installed to accommodate the DCFC
- In some cases, the increased cost for new service was compounded by long underground conduits and surface conditions that were expensive to restore (e.g., concrete or asphalt)
- Another consideration for the DCFC site hosts is installation time:
 - Contractors installing equipment
 - Contractors waiting to start
 - Contractors waiting to finish
- When things went smoothly <u>the installation took from 30 to 60 days</u> from the agreement to proceed
- When there were delays in administration and materials the duration of the <u>installation from start to finish often exceeded 90 days</u>



Characteristics of Least Expensive DCFC Installations

- The very lowest cost installations (Sears) had sufficient power and a simple installation with either short underground conduit runs (i.e., hand-shoveled) or surface-mounted conduit
- Of the three installations that cost less than \$9,000, the sites had sufficient existing power at the site and they used surface-mounted electrical conduit





Workplace EVSE Installation Cost Drivers

- Wall-Mounted Installations
 - Greater freedom as to the installation location at a site led to more wall-mounted installations
 - Wall-mounted EVSE were typically less expensive to install, because they did not require underground conduit to supply power, which is typical for a pedestal unit
 - The average cost to install a wall-mount AC Level 2 EVSE was \$2,035
 - The average cost to install a pedestal AC Level 2 was \$3,209







Installation Cost Drivers











Installation Cost Savings











Signage and To Bollard or Not?













Installation Considerations - Level 2 vs. DCFC

- Installing Level 2 EVSE cost on average 1/7th the cost of DCFC
- Level 2 hardware costs from ~\$1,500 to ~\$7,000
- DCFC hardware costs from \$20,000 to \$45,000 (quoted to INL)
 - INL quote for duel DCFC technologies in one box, 2 ports
- For both DCFC and Level 2
 - Data collection intended?
 - Annual back office and maintenance fee costs
 - Level 2 EVSE from \$0 to \$1,000 annually
 - DCFC about \$5,000 (assumes \$250 / month demand charge)









General Installation Considerations

- Establishing EV charging infrastructure has unique challenges in that drivers are not used to seeing electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and may be unfamiliar with its purpose and use
- Without specific signage to the contrary, internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle drivers may park in spaces equipped with an EVSE because they are convenient and vacant
- When a plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) arrives, the driver finds the space occupied and is unable to recharge







ADA Cost Driver Installation Costs

- Another factor that affected installation costs in different markets was implementation of Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements as understood by the local permitting authority having jurisdiction
 - In general, for every 25 parking spaces, one parking space should be accessible. For every six parking spaces that are accessible, one parking space should be van accessible







Workplace Cost Savings

- Flexibility of workplace installations gives the ability to install EVSE with fewer accessibility requirements:
 - Typically there were few, if any, parking signage or striping requirements
 - ADA accessibility, including an accessible pathway to the workplace building, was only necessary if an employee was a PEV driver and required this accessibility
 - Units did not need to be in conspicuous locations





Recommendations

- Fleet Charging
 - Support the installation of Level 2 EVSE while mitigating potential demand charges
- DC Fast Chargers
 - Minimize installation costs via site selection
 - Install limited numbers of DC fast chargers in locations with high PEV population densities to support DCFC charge events
 - If possible, choose high PEV density areas with travel corridor access
- Data collection to understand infrastructure use patterns and vehicle missions
 - Requires minimally smart EVSE and DCFC
- Site selection is critical to control installation costs
- Plan EVSE and DCFC for next generation of PEVs with larger batteries



Questions?