



COMMISSION POLICY

Electric Vehicle Charging

Category: Electric	Subcategory:	Policy Number:
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Section 1 - Introduction

This policy was developed to be used as a guide by Grand Rapids Public Utilities (GRPU) personnel and to provide GRPU customers the greatest practicable latitude in the use of utilities services consistent with reliable, economical, and safe service to all customers. The result of using this policy should be consistent, logical, and fair treatment of GRPU customers regarding electricity delivery and infrastructure integrity.

The legal ramifications of these policies are addressed in various parts of the Municipal Code.

Section 2 – Policy

It is the responsibility of the customer or property owner to apply to GRPU when they are adding an additional large electric vehicle (EV) charging load to their service. This load was not an anticipated part of the service size estimate when the original request for service was submitted. Every level 2 (or higher) charger will require a service size verification that is started via the EV application. The verification is used to check transformer and external wire size for possible overloading that may cause reliability concerns. The service size is done by GRPU and does not cover the customer's electrical panel.

With Level 2 or higher charger customers have different rate alternatives available. Time of Use (Off-peak) is an option for users to save money by shifting their EV charging to evenings. Rates for this program can be found online at [electric_vehicle_rate_schedule.pdf](#). Customers can also choose to have the load remain on their general service meter.

EVs are new to most customers, and we encourage people to research charging options online or with the vehicle dealer. [Drive Electric Minnesota - Drive Forward \(driveelectricmn.org\)](#) is a nonprofit website with great information. Not all vehicles can charge at the same rate or use the same chargers. Remember to have a qualified person review your electrical panel, whether it's a garage, home, or business. EV chargers cannot be placed into a load management panel. Below is basic charger information and how they pertain to GRPU customers:

- **Level 1** charging happens when you charge an electric vehicle (EV) using the charger included with the car. These chargers can be plugged with one end into any standard 120V outlet, with the other end being plugged directly into the car. (<https://chargehub.com>)
 - No GRPUC Requirements but we can add you to a list of future programs offering, if you choose.
- **Level 2** chargers are sold separately from the car, although they're often purchased at the same time. These chargers require a slightly more complicated setup, as they are plugged into a 240V outlet which allows charging 3 to 7 times faster depending on the electric car and the charger. They usually must be installed by an electrician. (<https://chargehub.com>)
 - Requires EV Application ([EV load_management_program_application_fillable.pdf](#))
 - TOU option requires another meter. The meter base and wiring must be installed by the customer or electrician. The TOU meter measures the power that flows to your vehicle and transmits that data for billing purposes.
- **Level 3** high power commercial DC chargers.
 - Requires EV Application ([EV load_management_program_application_fillable.pdf](#))
- **Bidirectional** chargers can provide backup power to buildings or specific loads. Not all vehicles can support this type of charging and additional hardware is required to not back feed on to the electrical grid during an outage.

The application information will allow utility infrastructure planners to properly align the grid to handle the additional load. It may also help incentivize users to adjust usage for the overall benefit of the system.

What to expect next: GRPU will review the application and evaluate the local system that supplies power to your neighborhood. If it is found to be insufficient, changes will be made to accommodate the new load. You should expect information within 1-2 weeks.

If you or your electrician need more information on how to properly prep your property, please review our website for FAQ or call the office during regular business hours.

GRPUC President

GRPUC Member

POLICY HISTORY:

Adopted:

Revised: