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Contact: Emily Norton

(617) 423-5775; emily.norton@sierraclub.org

Mass. Renews \$2,500 Consumer Rebate for Electric Vehicles

[BOSTON, MA April 3, 2015] The Baker Administration announced yesterday an additional \$2 million in rebate funding is being made available to Massachusetts residents who purchase or lease an electric vehicle (EV).

This funding is in addition to the \$2 million allocated in June 2014. The state rebate -\$2,500 for full battery electric vehicles and \$1,500 for plug-in hybrids- on top of the up to \$7,500 existing federal tax credit for EVs, has helped more than 700 Massachusetts drivers make the switch from petroleum-powered vehicles to vehicles powered by cleaner-burning electricity.

"Electric vehicles have off-the-charts customer satisfaction ratings because they are fun to drive, and people love zooming right past the gas station," said Sierra Club's Director of Electric Vehicles Initiative Gina Coplton-Newfield, who is a Massachusetts-based plug-in driver herself. "We applaud this example of the Baker Administration's investment in cleaner cars, healthier air, and a safer planet."

Electrifying the transportation fleet is a key element to reaching the Commonwealth's aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals. Transportation represents approximately one third of the region's carbon emissions, and passenger cars and light duty trucks account for over 60% of total transportation sector emissions. Electric vehicles emit no tailpipe emissions, and 50-70% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than a comparable conventional gasoline-only vehicle after factoring in the emissions from the electricity used to charge plug-in cars.

"We strongly encourage people to walk, bike and take public transit," said Emily Norton, Director of the Massachusetts chapter. "But the reality is many people require a vehicle for travel, and this program makes it possible for carbuyers to choose a cleaner electric vehicle."

Massachusetts is part of an 8-state coalition that has pledged to identify and implement policies leading to at least 3.3 million ZEVs on the road collectively in their states by 2025.

For more information about the rebate program, visit MOR-EV.org.

ABOUT Massachusetts Sierra Club

Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and most effective grassroots environmental group. The Massachusetts Chapter was established nearly fifty years ago and has a strong track record of enabling Bay Staters to "enjoy, explore and protect the planet." For more information visit us at masssierraclub.org.

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