



October 5, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid
Office of the Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate

FAX: 202-224-7327

Dear Senator Reid:

Over our history our nation's ability to innovate has afforded us unforeseen economic growth and enviable job creation. The potential of introducing electric vehicles into the American automotive fleet holds the promise of permanently, and dramatically, altering the landscape of transportation technology.

In order to make this leap, it will require a sustained signal of commitment from our public policy stakeholders. It takes about 19 million barrels of oil per day to quench our country's oil thirst, from an estimated fleet of more than 250 million vehicles. It costs the country in excess of \$500 billion per year. Despite this, electric vehicles on American roads today remain in the low thousands, mostly attributable to high-income buyers and motor hobbyists.

The Obama Administration has pledged to usher 1 million electric vehicles onto American roads by 2015. The "Promoting Electric Vehicles Act of 2011," S. 948, would seek to leverage public and private stakeholders to create the infrastructure necessary to meet and exceed this goal to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign sources of energy, as well as rebuild our healing economy by creating new manufacturing jobs in emerging industries.

Therefore, we strongly urge you to support legislation that promotes the most promising technological innovation to the transportation industry since the combustion engine.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of 210,000 engineering, computing and technology professionals who are U.S. members of IEEE.
<http://www.ieeeusa.org>. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Williams in our Washington office at (202) 530-8331 or email at bill.williams@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Jensen
IEEE-USA President

RGJ/ww:mcs