



## COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Electric Vehicle Product Commission  
Conference Rooms 1&2  
Indiana Government Center South Conference Center  
302 W Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Friday, February 25, 2022

1. Pursuant to IC 9-13-3, the Electric Vehicle Product Commission (the Commission) meeting was called to order by Chairman Ben Wrightsman at 8:30 a.m. EST on Friday, February 25, 2022. The meeting was conducted in person and virtually.

- a. Commission members physically present at the meeting:

David	Dukes	Stellantis
Mike	Maten	GM
Danny	Ernstes	UAW
Paul	Mitchell	Energy Systems Network
Ben	Wrightsmen	Battery Innovation Center
Craig	Kelle	Toyota
Rep. Mike	Karickhoff	State Representative
Rep. Carey	Hamilton	State Representative
Sen. J.D.	Ford	State Senator

- b. Commission members absent from the meeting:

Sen. Jim	Buck	State Senator
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- c. The following staff were physically present during the meeting:

Mark Wasky, Senior Vice-President, Community Affairs

- d. Ben Wrightsman: I plan for this meeting to adjourn at 10:30 AM, but we will see based on the discussion and public comment. And Mark if you would please introduce yourself at this time.

Mark Wasky: I am the Senior Vice President of Community Affairs with the IEDC.



e. The Commission approved the previous meeting minutes.

2. Commission Purpose's update:

The update began with a progress report from Commission members, the conversation centered around the annual report. Members updated the Commission and the public on the status of their research into one of the assigned Commission purposes. The conversation started with a talk about tabulating and identifying automotive manufacturers based on their specialization and capabilities. After this discussion, the group focused its dialog on involving employers and academics in studying the workforce, explicitly defining skilled and unskilled labor. Concerning labor, the group discussed the capabilities of Indiana's labor force, considering the number of automotive workers and if those employees can transition into working on electric vehicle production rather than a traditional automobile. After discussing Indiana's auto manufacturing capabilities, David Dukes presented a slideshow on the Commission's 5<sup>th</sup> purpose.

During his presentation, Dukes highlighted the innovation and workforce proficiencies of Stellantis; he also mentioned that other legacy automotive manufacturers in the state have similar potential in their personnel. He proceeds by describing the differences between the competencies needed for manufacturing the propulsion system versus an electric vehicle. Next, common components required to produce a traditional transmission propulsion system and the four competencies needed in the casting process; Dukes notes that the largest high-pressure die casting facility in North America is in Indiana. Dukes proceeds to talk about whether experts and businesses have the capital equipment and capacity to support EV production operations, followed up with dialog about engines, batteries, and gearboxes. Using Dukes' presentation as a starting point, Ben Wrightsman leads a discussion about breaking down manufacturing competencies and how to help manufacturers report about their abilities.

After the presentation and discussion, the group discussed methods to collect information from manufacturers across the state. Some proposed categories to collect data included retooling for the future, mechanical, chassis, electronics & electrical, powertrain, final assembly, support infrastructure, and materials. The Commission then discussed how to best recruit and retain talent in Indiana. Dialog focused on retooling employees to work on EVs and industries of the future, such as chip manufacturing which is a critical component of EV production, while also discussing a need and opportunity for batteries to be produced here. Another aspect of batteries, recycling, and reuse, was discussed, concentrating on the location and infrastructure needs.



Next, Commission members chatted about policies to increase investment from legacy and new companies in Indiana, using the Toyota deal in North Carolina as an example. Members wanted to understand how North Carolina outbid us and what the General Assembly could do to help the state compete for and win major projects.

The sixth purpose of the Commission was then brought up, discussing the goal of the purpose and where to collect relevant data on the EV market. The commission discussed collecting data from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) who have commitments to electrification. Another aspect of the sixth purpose, critical supply, was discussed, focusing on an opportunity to attract investment from companies who produce EV components that also fulfill the government's desire for increased production of specific critical components, including the necessary infrastructure. In an offshoot conversation of components, Commission members talked about supporting the energy grid as its load increases and how to modernize utilities, noting an opportunity to work with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Task Force on energy issues. Representative Hamilton pledged to talk with the Utilities Committee chair and see if he would speak with the commission.

Last, the commission discussed the Commission's eighth purpose; Ben Wrightsman first talked about research and development conversations with Purdue, Indiana, Notre Dame, Evansville, and several other institutions. One of the significant aspects of R&D iterated by these institutions was materials, which encompasses battery materials, fuel cells, components, and many more.

3. Legislative Update:

Representative Hamilton then gave an update on legislation from the General Assembly. Rep. Hamilton highlighted HB 1221 and SB 361 while also mentioning legislation to improve roads, lower fees on EVs, and the possible need to lower the gas tax.

4. New Business:

None

5. Public Comment:

Kerri Garvin – Indiana Clean Cities

Our nonprofit has been serving Indiana helping fuel transportation and technologies get developed and deployed, and we would like to offer our assistance if needed. Kerri noted a need for technicians, so there are people to work on it when you get people to



adopt this technology.

Chris Prauda – Applied Engineering Services

Chris's testimony started by describing his company's ability to do studies, citing a project they did for Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation. The corporation was considering an investment in alternative fuels for their busses. He then talked about the need for infrastructure to support EV markets.

6. Closing Remarks:

Ben Wrightsman thanks all the members for their time and will reach out to members to work on the next steps for the annual report and remind members to work on their parts of the report and think about new action items from today.

7. Scheduling of Future Meetings:

The Commission discussed meeting again on March 17 or 18, with the 18 being the more likely date.

8. Adjournment:

Chairman Wrightsman adjourned the meeting.