



## COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Electric Vehicle Product Commission  
Louks Conference Room  
Kokomo City Hall  
100 S Union Street  
Kokomo, IN 46901  
Friday, May 6, 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 9:35 a.m. EST on Friday, May 6, 2022. The meeting was conducted in person and virtually.

- a. Commission members physically present at the meeting:

Ben	Wrightsmen	Battery Innovation Center
Danny	Ernstes	UAW
Rep. Mike	Karickhoff	State Representative
Sen. J.D.	Ford	State Senator
Sen. Jim	Buck	State Senator

- b. Commission member virtually present at the meeting

Michael	Maten	General Motors
Paul	Mitchell	Energy Systems Network
Craig	Kelle	Toyota

- c. Commission members absent from the meeting:

Rep. Carey	Hamilton	State Representative
David	Dukes	Stellantis

- d. Special Guests

Steve Dunlop – Purdue University’s Krannert School  
Melissa Ryan – Stellantis

- e. The following staff were present during the meeting:

Dave Roberts, Chief Innovation Officer  
Eli Eckhart, Government Affairs Coordinator



- f. Ben Wrightsman:  
Thanks everyone for all your hard work and commitment. We need to keep thinking about our annual report and how to create the framework.
- g. The Commission approved the previous meeting minutes.

2. Commission Purpose's update:

*Purpose 1:*

Dave Roberts: The group will receive some information from the Center for Automotive Research (CAR), which they compiled. It is helpful information; however, it is not the complete picture. It will show the base of operations for several companies, but we still need to pull together more information.

Ben Wrightsman: Is this information that can be publicly available?

Dave Roberts: CAR is the leader on the data analytics around this sector. They are supportive of this request; this is generally available information. As others think of more data points, we can do a deeper dive and refine the data further.

*Purposes 2, 3, 4 & 7:*

Danny Ernstes: Several of us have proposed to meet on a weekly basis to draft this section of the report. There is a lot of support for our requested research, and Purdue has drafted a statement of work for us to review. We want to involve all 92 counties in the analysis so we can increase productivity and maximize growth. Ivy Tech is also very supportive of the research. Steve Dunlop from Purdue is here with me to answer any questions.

Paul Mitchell: As I look through the scope of work, I think it looks great and it is great to see collaboration between multiple institutions. When we further define the chapters and subsections of the analysis, I think we should circulate the draft for everyone to review.

Rep. Karickhoff: What is the principal source of data from the 14 counties in the report? Has Purdue felt any hesitation from companies to provide data and participate?

Steve Dunlop: We have done web scraping and have multiple databases; further, we have not received any hesitation from companies when requesting data. We have



supplier and material related data covered.

Sen. Buck: There will be a residual market for internal combustion vehicles, where do we fit in as a state with the residual market? Maybe this is something we should focus on in the report.

Ben Wrightsman: It is important to focus on the future of the industry while ensuring our older vehicles have parts and proper recycling.

Steve Dunlop: School starts August 15<sup>th</sup>, so we will have the analysis finished before that.

Sen. Buck: Will we have information from all manufacturers in the state regarding their plans to switch to electrification? I say this because there may be additional education needed to work on EVs.

Steve Dunlop: Our research will include all aspects. We want to range from recycling to new manufacturing needs. Please provide us lots of information, we want this report to reflect your needs.

*Purpose 5:*

Michael Maten: We got excellent information from Stellantis, and I am working with my team to compile similar data.

Craig Kelle: Our data will be different from the others because we focus on final assembly, but it is important to highlight the necessary changes in our manufacturing plant.

Danny Ernstes: I am hoping there will be social peer pressure so all manufacturers are willing to provide data.

Rep. Karickhoff: I am willing to reach out to members of the IGA to contact manufacturers in their district. I think this could persuade them to provide data.

Melissa Ryan \*Filling in for David Dukes\*: I have several manufacturing competencies we may need to examine. They include safety, environmental and energy; quality/customer experience; materials and logistics management; human resources/people development; engineering (facilities, electrical, tooling, industrial); and finance.



*Purposes 6 & 8:*

Paul Mitchell: There is an increased level of activity around battery lifecycle management and safety. There are unique opportunities for growth beyond manufacturing. I think we need to invest in a well-rounded approach to growing the industry. I think we should talk to manufacturers about the overall lifecycle of products.

Craig Kelle: I would like to sit down and talk about these other opportunities. There is much risk involved, I think we need to refine our approach and thoughts.

Ben Wrightsman: I will get with you guys and draft a framework. We will circulate it with the group.

Ben Wrightsman: Who would be willing to work on the report format?

Rep. Karickhoff: I will help.

Paul Mitchell: I can help; however, I think Ben and I will have similar viewpoints.

Craig Kelle: I will help.

Paul Mitchell: We need to ensure the report is professional and articulates our thoughts. I think we should follow up with the IEDC about this.

Ben Wrightsman: Dave and the IEDC can spearhead this effort and report back to the group.

3. Legislative Update:

Rep. Karickhoff: It is important that our report can detail some legislative changes. The report needs to be meaningful and impact the ecosystem.

Ben Wrightsman: I have seen reports go wrong. This report must lead to change.

Danny Ernstes: We need to align our organizations so that we can have some legislative priorities.

Paul Mitchell: It is important to have the report focus on the legislative requirements. If we want to include legislative changes, we will need help from members of the IGA. I think this goes back to our formatting conversation.



Rep. Karickhoff: We have seen legislation that will improve our manufacturing capabilities. We need to ensure that our approach encompasses the whole ecosystem.

Sen. Buck: If we are going to impact this industry, maybe we should focus on grouping industries together in a geographic area to improve efficiency.

Sen. Ford: I just finished a report for a different group. I will share that with the group to spur ideas for our end product.

Sen. Buck: I hope there is an effort to standardize some of the infrastructure related to charging.

Craig Kelle: For the most part, the industry is standardized except for Tesla. It is not just the connector, there are taxing mechanisms that needed to be created. I compare this to the early days of the cell phone.

Paul Mitchell: States need to focus on the power supply while the infrastructure develops. Utilities, manufacturers, and the legislature need to be on the same page. We could meet with Soliday's commission to align thoughts on utilities and power supply.

#### 4. New Business:

Sen. Ford: I have been contacted by the media to comment on our work. Does the group have any thoughts on who should comment?

Rep. Karickhoff: I think our Ben should comment as he is the leader of the group.

Ben Wrightsman: It is nice to see that our commission is in the media. People are putting a spotlight on our work. Does everyone feel like we are in a good spot?

Sen. Buck: The industry changes quickly, we are keeping up the best we can.

#### 5. Public Comment:

Kerri Garvin – Greater Indiana Clean Cities

Carrying on the infrastructure conversation, chargers being placed across the city, surrounding area, and power supply is being evaluated. There will be funding for INDOT and other agencies to implement EV policies. We are always happy to support



and formulate policy ideas.

6. Closing Remarks:

Ben Wrightsman: I appreciate the continued momentum of the group. It is exciting to visit new locations and spread the word.

7. Scheduling of Future Meetings:

Tentatively May 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> at Purdue University.

8. Adjournment:

Chairman Wrightsman adjourned the meeting at 11:35.