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Driving Electric in Tennessee Just Got Easier

Paris, TN will soon connect to Fast Charge TN and regional Fast Charge Network

Paris, TN. – As automakers retool their factories to build electric vehicles (EVs), many more EVs will be on the roadways in the next decade. Paris BPU is helping to make sure that our Community is ready with charging infrastructure.

On September 12, 2023, Paris BP announced that it has installed two fast chargers at 109 South Fentress as part of Fast Charge TN, a partnership between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), and Seven States Power Corporation. This Fast Charge TN installation is part of the regional Fast Charge Network that will cover major travel corridors across TVA’s seven-state service area and will complement the broader efforts of the [National Electric Highway Coalition](#), which seeks to enable long-distance EV travel by placing fast chargers along interstates and major highways throughout the United States.

“We moved quickly to participate in Fast Charge TN because we wanted to put Paris, TN on the EV charging map,” said Terry Wimberley, Paris BPU President & CEO. “The 80% funding from TVA and TDEC makes it possible to add fast chargers in our community that will attract EV drivers to visit our town.”

TVA and TDEC have brought together local power companies, state and local government partners, and others to pave the way for over 200,000 EVs on Tennessee Valley roads by 2028. The benefits that these EVs bring to the Tennessee Valley region are significant:

- Attracting good jobs -- \$13.8 billion in EV and battery manufacturing have helped create over 10,000 EV-related jobs.
- Reducing carbon emissions from gasoline vehicles by almost 1 million metric tons per year or the equivalent of the carbon sequestered by 1 million acres of US forests in one year.
- Reinvesting \$120 million in the local economy every year from electric refueling.
- Saving drivers up to \$1,000 in fuel and maintenance costs every year.

“At TVA we’ve moved far beyond connecting communities with power lines,” said Monika Beckner, vice president of TVA EnergyRight. “Today, EVs use our clean, low-cost, reliable electricity to connect communities and commerce across our region. Taking a leadership role in EV charging infrastructure allows TVA to save drivers money and attract good jobs and tourism—all powered by electricity from TVA and your local power company.”

“Tennessee’s air is cleaner as measured by federal air quality standards than it has been in generations, and a clean environment helps drive economic development,” TDEC Deputy Commissioner Greg Young said. “TDEC is partnering with TVA and Paris BPU on the development of this station to continue Tennessee’s environmental and economic momentum while further entrenching our state as the epicenter of the electric vehicle transition.”

“Seven States is trusted by local power companies across the Tennessee Valley to deliver EV charging technology for their consumers,” said Betsey Kirk McCall, President and CEO of Seven States Power Corporation. “Impactful partnerships like this benefit the local community, regional economy and global environment for years to come.”

“We are excited to add Paris, TN to the Fast Charge Network and to play an important role in putting our region on the leading edge of the new electric economy,” said Wimberley.

To learn more about the Fast Charge Network, calculate how much money an EV could save you or locate EV charging stations on your travel route, check out <https://energyright.com/ev/>.

Learn more about Fast Charge TN here: www.tn.gov/EVFastCharge.

About Paris BPU: Established in 1938, Paris BPU is a municipal utility that provides electric, water and wastewater services to residents of Paris and Henry County as a means of promoting economic development and enhancing quality of life in the community. Serving over 21,000 homes and businesses, Paris BPU strives to provide reliable, safe and affordable services to our community.

Digital media assets can be accessed at <https://energyright.com/ev/press-kit/>.

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