

# Minnesota's electric cooperatives support the continued buildout of the public electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in rural Minnesota.



EV owners must have confidence that they can charge their EVs when needed anywhere in the state. To effectively address range anxiety associated with EVs, the vast majority of funding for the public EV charging network in Minnesota must:

- 1) be directed to rural Minnesota
- 2) cover the utility make-ready costs that would otherwise be borne by co-op members
- 3) be coordinated with electric cooperatives

► **Combatting range anxiety**

Although most EV charging will be done at home, ideally off-peak through a charging program administered by the local utility, a critical obstacle to increasing EV adoption is **easing consumer range anxiety**.

► **Rural charging infrastructure is key to EV adoption**

Rural infrastructure is vital to meeting EV goals made by government and auto manufacturers. **Consumers must have confidence** that they can take a road trip anywhere in the state without worrying about running out of battery. Range anxiety can be eased with widespread fast-charging available across the state. Rural electric cooperatives are obvious partners in ensuring adequate statewide charging infrastructure.

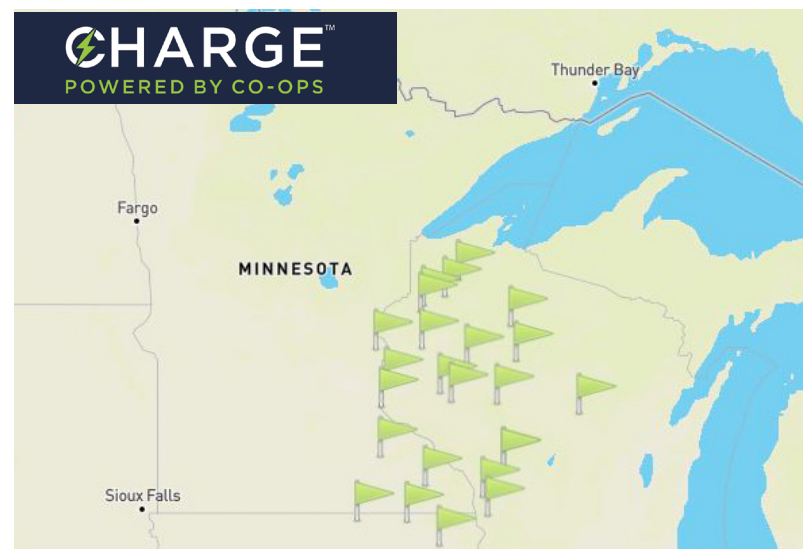
► **Funding must cover utility infrastructure necessary to support EVs**

The "make-ready" infrastructure costs of design, engineering, permitting, and construction, must be considered in funding in addition to the EV chargers themselves. Utilities and their rural electric cooperative members cannot bear the infrastructure costs needed to support EV charging. This **requires coordination with the utility** that serves that territory. In rural and suburban Minnesota, that's likely to be an electric cooperative.

Electric vehicles are part of a strategy to decarbonize the economy through the use of **beneficial electrification** – shifting from using fossil fuels to using electricity at a net carbon reduction – saving customers money and saving energy.

► **CHARGE EV**

Electric cooperatives are already working to deploy charging infrastructure. CHARGE EV is a coalition of **nearly 70 co-ops that have joined forces** to build a thriving rural ecosystem for electric vehicle adoption.



Minnesota Rural Electric Association

## Who is MREA?

The Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) is the statewide organization representing the electric cooperatives in the state of Minnesota. We foster unity among and provide service to all of Minnesota's 50 electric cooperatives. Our mission is serving our members through collaborative leadership and expertise.