



# Electricity as Vehicle Fuel Working Group

Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
9:00 AM  
Room 120, State Capitol  
<https://www.lcc.mn.gov/evfwg/>

**Members Present:**

Sen. Johnson Stewart, Chair  
Rep. Elkins, Vice Chair  
Sen. Howe  
Rep. Murphy  
Anjali Bains  
Steve Barthel  
Carolyn Berninger  
Margaret Donahoe  
Amanda Duerr  
Justin Emmerich  
John Hausladen  
Tony Kwilas  
Nick Lardinois

Jeremy Neeck  
John Pollard  
Erik Rudeen  
John Thorson  
Brett Willhite  
Laura Ziegler

**Members Excused:**

Bentley Graves  
Joe Hoppe  
Emily Murray  
James Pearson  
Aurora Vautrin

## Meeting Minutes

Chair Johnson Stewart called the meeting of the Electricity as Vehicle Fuel Working Group to order at 9:01 AM.

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Tony Kwilas moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion prevailed.

### Recommendation Discussion

Sen. Johnson Stewart moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should establish the required federal purchase exemption for electricity sold as vehicle fuel to federally owned vehicles.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson  
Stewart  
Vice-Chair Elkins  
Anjali Bains  
Carolyn Berninger

Margaret Donahoe  
Amanda Duerr  
Justin Emmerich  
Gary Hansen  
Sen. Howe

Tony Kwilas  
Nick Lardinois  
Rep. Murphy  
John Pollard  
Erik Rudeen

John Thorson  
Brett Willhite  
Pong Xiong  
Laura Ziegler

Those who abstained were:

Steve Barthel                      Jeremy Neeck

Those who were absent were:

Bentley Graves                      Joe Hoppe                      James Pearson  
John Hausladen                      Emily Murray                      Aurora Vautrin

There were 18 ayes and 0 nays.

Tony Kwilas moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should modify the public charging excise tax such that public charging station operators will report and remit the tax on a quarterly basis, rather than on a monthly basis.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson                      Carolyn Berninger                      Gary Hansen                      John Pollard  
Stewart                      Margaret Donahoe                      Sen. Howe                      John Thorson  
Vice-Chair Elkins                      Amanda Duerr                      Tony Kwilas                      Laura Ziegler  
Anjali Bains                      Justin Emmerich                      Rep. Murphy

Those who abstained were:

Nick Lardinois                      Erik Rudeen                      Pong Xiong  
Jeremy Neeck                      Brett Willhite

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel                      Joe Hoppe                      James Pearson  
Bentley Graves                      Emily Murray                      Aurora Vautrin

There were 14 ayes and 0 nays.

Anjali Bains moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should eliminate the public electric vehicle charging excise tax.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Vice-Chair Elkins                      Carolyn Berninger                      Justin Emmerich  
Anjali Bains                      Amanda Duerr

Those who voted in the negative were:

Chair Johnson  
Stewart  
Margaret Donahoe

Gary Hansen  
John Hausladen  
Senator Howe

Nick Lardinois  
Rep. Murphy  
John Pollard

Erik Rudeen  
John Thorson  
Laura Ziegler

Those who abstained were:

Tony Kwilas

Jeremy Neeck

Brett Willhite

Pong Xiong

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel

Joe Hoppe

James Pearson

Bentley Graves

Emily Murray

Aurora Vautrin

There were 5 ayes and 11 nays.

John Pollard moved to adopt the following recommendation: Keep the excise tax on EV charging stations at the rate of 5 cents per kWh.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson

Gary Hansen

John Pollard

Stewart

John Hausladen

John Thorson

Margaret Donahoe

Senator Howe

Laura Ziegler

Those who voted in the negative were:

Vice-Chair Elkins

Anjali Bains

Carolyn Berninger

Justin Emmerich

Those who abstained were:

Amanda Duerr

Nick Lardinois

Jeremy Neeck

Brett Willhite

Tony Kwilas

Rep. Murphy

Erik Rudeen

Pong Xiong

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel

Joe Hoppe

James Pearson

Bentley Graves

Emily Murray

Aurora Vautrin

There were 8 ayes and 4 nays.

John Pollard moved to adopt the following recommendation: Increase the rate of the public charging excise tax at the rate of inflation.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson

Gary Hansen

Rep. Murphy

Laura Ziegler

Stewart

John Hausladen

John Pollard

Margaret Donahoe

Sen. Howe

John Thorson

Those who voted in the negative were:

Vice-Chair Elkins	Anjali Bains	Carolyn Berninger	Justin Emmerich
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Those who abstained were:

Amanda Duerr	Nick Lardinois	Erik Rudeen	Pong Xiong
Tony Kwilas	Jeremy Neeck	Brett Willhite	

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel	Joe Hoppe	James Pearson
Bentley Graves	Emily Murray	Aurora Vautrin

There were 9 ayes and 4 nays.

Chair Johnson Stewart moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should eliminate the sales tax on electricity at public electric vehicle charging stations.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson	Margaret Donahoe	John Hausladen	John Pollard
Stewart	Amanda Duerr	Sen. Howe	Laura Ziegler
Anjali Bains	Justin Emmerich	Tony Kwilas	
Carolyn Berninger	Gary Hansen	Rep. Murphy	

Those who abstained were:

Vice Chair Elkins	Jeremy Neeck	John Thorson	Pong Xiong
Nick Lardinois	Erik Rudeen	Brett Willhite	

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel	Joe Hoppe	James Pearson
Bentley Graves	Emily Murray	Aurora Vautrin

There were 13 ayes and 0 nays.

Margaret Donahoe moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should broaden the public electric vehicle excise tax to include level 2 (charging capacity of 3 kilowatts to 50 kilowatts) electric vehicle charging stations. The current law will begin a public charging tax at level 3 charging stations (charging capacity exceeding 50 kilowatts) on July 1, 2027.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson  
Stewart  
Margaret Donahoe

Amanda Duerr  
Gary Hansen  
John Hausladen

Senator Howe  
Tony Kwilas  
Rep. Murphy

John Pollard  
John Thorson  
Laura Ziegler

Those who voted in the negative were:

Anjali Bains

Carolyn Berninger

Justin Emmerich

Those who abstained were:

Vice Chair Elkins  
Nick Lardinois

Jeremy Neeck  
Erick Rudeen

Brett Willhite  
Pong Xiong

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel  
Bentley Graves

Joe Hoppe  
Emily Murray

James Pearson  
Aurora Vautrin

There were 11 ayes and 3 nays.

Margaret Donahoe moved to adopt the following recommendation: The legislature should clarify the definition of public charging station to include any station where a fee is charged that is available to the general public and should consider using a different term than “public” to reduce confusion.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson  
Stewart  
Margaret Donahoe

Amanda Duerr  
Gary Hansen  
John Hausladen

Sen. Howe  
Tony Kwilas  
John Pollard

John Thorson  
Laura Ziegler

Those who abstained were:

Vice Chair Elkins  
Anjali Bains  
Carolyn Berninger

Justin Emmerich  
Nick Lardinois  
Rep. Murphy

Jeremy Neeck  
Erik Rudeen  
Brett Willhite

Pong Xiong

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel  
Bentley Graves

Joe Hoppe  
Emily Murray

James Pearson  
Aurora Vautrin

There were 10 ayes and 0 nays.

Chair Johnson Stewart moved to approve the following recommendation: The state should implement a mileage-based road user charge where:

- EV owners would pay a rate-per-mile tax calculated to be the equivalent tax amount to the gas tax amount for a similar internal combustion vehicle drive the same number of miles,
- The road user charge would be a voluntary program allowing drivers to opt in to replace their electric vehicle surcharge, and

- The road user charge program would be based on odometer readings and not require tracking of trip or location data.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson	Vice Chair Elkins	Margaret Donahoe	Justin Emmerich
Stewart	Anjali Bains	Amanda Duerr	Gary Hansen

Those who voted in the negative were:

John Hausladen	Sen. Howe
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Those who abstained were:

Carolyn Berninger	Jeremy Neeck	Brett Willhite
Tony Kwilas	John Pollard	Pong Xiong
Nick Lardinois	Erik Rudeen	Laura Ziegler
Rep. Murphy	John Thorson	

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel	Joe Hoppe	James Pearson
Bentley Graves	Emily Murray	Aurora Vautrin

There were 7 ayes and 2 nays.

Chair Johnson Stewart moved to approve the following recommendation: Continue state support for building out a network of electric vehicle charging facilities.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson	Carolyn Berninger	Gary Hansen	Erik Rudeen
Stewart	Margaret Donahoe	John Hausladen	John Thorson
Vice Chair Elkins	Amanda Duerr	Tony Kwilas	Laura Ziegler
Anjali Bains	Justin Emmerich	John Pollard	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Rep. Murphy

Those who abstained were:

Sen. Howe	Jeremy Neeck	Pong Xiong
Nick Lardinois	Brett Willhite	

Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel	Joe Hoppe	James Pearson
Bentley Graves	Emily Murray	Aurora Vautrin

There were 14 ayes and 1 nay.

Chair Johnson Stewart moved to approve the following recommendation: The legislature should establish a similar task force in 5 years to study the changes to the policy landscape and available technologies at that time.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Chair Johnson	Margaret Donahoe	Tony Kwilas	Brett Willhite
Stewart	Amanda Duerr	Nick Lardinois	Laura Ziegler
Vice Chair Elkins	Justin Emmerich	John Pollard	
Anjali Bains	Gary Hansen	Erik Rudeen	
Carolyn Berninger	John Hausladen	John Thorson	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Sen. Howe

Those who abstained were:

Rep. Murphy	Jeremy Neeck	Pong Xiong
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Those who were absent were:

Steve Barthel	Joe Hoppe	James Pearson
Bentley Graves	Emily Murray	Aurora Vautrin

There were 16 ayes and 1 nay.