Electric Vehicle Battery Pack Leasing: The Merits of a Battery Pack Leasing Company

Primary and Secondary Market Opportunities

June 2011

The Challenge of Commercial EVs

- Barriers to commercial electric vehicle investments include
 - It's the MSRP, stupid!
 - Typical medium duty conventional fuel truck ~\$45,000 versus
 - Medium-duty EV with battery back ~\$140,000
 - Battery pack alone can cost upwards of 55k
 - Rapid technological change and concerns about dynamism of battery market

The Opportunity

- Create a "LeaseCo" to separate the battery from the vehicle and lease the battery separately
 - Fleet owner owns or leases the truck and leases the battery
- Battery leasing reduces the MSRP of a medium duty EV by 30 – 50%
 - Brings cost of vehicle in line with traditional vehicles
 - Monthly lease payment plus electricity costs in line with monthly fuel costs for comparable ICE vehicle

The Opportunity con't.

- A fixed monthly lease payment, when combined with electricity costs, is **lower and less volatile** than fuel costs for a comparable vehicle
 - Current fuel costs for a typical medium duty ICE truck in major urban markets are approximately \$1,000/ month* and are likely to increase (see next slide)

* Based on 70 miles/day and \$4 per gallon for fuel



The Context

- Four OEMs have entered the US commercial EV market
- Two of four entrants source battery packs from one manufacturer
 - A third entrant is in discussions with this manufacturer
- Separating the battery from the truck lowers the MSRP of a medium-duty EV to a price point that is 5% - 30% higher than that of an internal combustion engine vehicle
 - This represents a much smaller "green premium" for a fleet operator
- Secondary market partners report 500 mW pipeline for LI ion packs and high comfort level deploying depreciated traction batteries

The LeaseCo Model

- LeaseCo provides an EV battery to one fleet customer for a 3-4 year period and then to a secondary market user for a second 7-8 year period
- Projected monthly lease payments are \$150 lower than typical monthly fueling costs for same ICE vehicle
- LeaseCo will leverage pre-existing dealer networks for service, battery swap-outs, and temporary warehousing
 - LeaseCo will also operate warehouse space and facilitate battery transfers between primary and secondary users
- Five year battery pack warranty will be honored by manufacturer in secondary market deployment

The LeaseCo Model cont.



Contours of Joint Venture

- LeaseCo structured as joint venture between grid services company and equipment leasing entity
- LeaseCo will enter into supplier agreements with makers of commercial EVs
- Battery maker will enter into a preferential purchasing agreement with LeaseCo
- Grid services company will act as the secondary lessee and take possession of depreciated battery packs at the end of primary user's lease term (3 or 4 years)
- NYS pilot will target 250 battery pack leases in Year 1

LeaseCo Financial Fundamentals

- The projections for a LeaseCo business are highly profitable
 - Beginning with 250 batteries year 1 and growing at reasonable annual rates (10%–25% per year)
- Initial start-up capital of \$1.25 mm required
 Covers LeaseCo operations in year 1
- Bank loan to finance batteries upfront required
- Return on investment (ROI) ranges from 9% - 30% annually

Includes initial capital repayment after 3 – 5 years