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MMWEC, SELCO Host XL Fleet for Hybrid Electric Vehicle Demonstration

Shrewsbury, MA, July 29, 2021-To continue sustainability and energy efficiency efforts, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) and Shrewsbury Electric and Cable Operations (SELCO) held a green transportation ride and drive event featuring XL Fleet, a leading vehicle electrification company, on Thursday, July 29.

SELCO is one of the 20 municipal light plants (MLPs) that MMWEC serves. Employees from all 20 MMWEC Member utilities were invited to the demonstration to learn more about the XL Fleet commercial vehicle electrification technology and test drive a pickup truck equipped with the XLP™ plug-in hybrid electric drive system.

XL Fleet is a leading provider of fleet electrification solutions for Class 2-6 commercial and municipal vehicles designed to increase their fuel efficiency and reduce emissions. The company has pioneered a technology that converts standard gas-powered commercial vehicles, such as pickup trucks, cargo and passenger vans, buses and shuttles, box trucks, and delivery vans, into hybrid and plug-in hybrid versions of those vehicles. Since the company was founded in 2009, XL Fleet has equipped thousands of vehicles with its electrification technologies and its customers have driven over 150 million miles on its systems, saving customers more than three million gallons of fuel and eliminating over 26,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions during that time.

The event featured a 2021 GMC Sierra 3500 HD pickup truck equipped with an XLP plug-in hybrid electric drive system featuring regenerative braking and a high efficiency lithium-ion battery pack that is compatible with standard Level 1 and Level 2 charging stations. The plug-in hybrid system can increase the fuel economy of the truck by up to 50%, while reducing fuel consumption and carbon emissions by up to 33%. A representative from XL Fleet was on site to give a presentation and answer questions about the company's technology and the vehicle conversion process.

The demonstration was timely as the Commonwealth recently released its Decarbonization Roadmap with the goal of reaching net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

"MMWEC is pleased to partner with SELCO in today's event to showcase an innovative technology that can increase the fuel efficiency of existing fleets to reduce carbon emissions in an impactful and cost-effective manner," said MMWEC Sustainable Energy Policy & Program Senior Manager Bill Bullock. "We are committed to making carbon reduction pathways accessible to all of the communities we serve."

Since 2017, MMWEC and its Member MLPs have offered incentives for driving electric. The Scheduled Charging Program, offered as part of MMWEC's Home Energy Loss Prevention Services (HELPS) Program, allows participating light departments to offer their customers a free or discounted electric vehicle (EV)



or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) charger if they enroll the charger into the Scheduled Charging Program. Through the WiFi connection enabled in the charger, participating MLPs can reduce the charging level during periods of peak energy usage to help manage the department's energy load. Customers who already own EV or PHEV chargers, or have participated in the Scheduled Charging Program for three years, can enroll them into the HELPS Connected Homes Program, which offers monthly rewards in exchange for making brief, limited adjustments to the chargers during times of peak electric demand.

SELCO participates in both the Scheduled Charging and Connected Homes programs. More than 50 SELCO customers have EV chargers enrolled in the two programs. SELCO is leading the charge in promoting EVs as an alternative to fossil fuel vehicles. In fact, Shrewsbury has the largest number of EV rebates issued through the Massachusetts MOR-EV program in Worcester County, accounting for 11.5% of all MOR-EV rebates issued county-wide. SELCO's Integrated Resources team is currently working to develop a rebate program to further incentivize the purchase of new and used EVs to accelerate adoption within the Shrewsbury community.

"The road to net-zero will require creative and innovative strategies to reduce carbon emissions across all sectors," said SELCO Director of Integrated Resources and Communications Jackie Pratt. "The XL Fleet demonstration is just one example of how the MMWEC team works to connect members with potential next generation solutions covering both customer-facing programs as well internal operations and vehicle fleets. This approach will be instrumental in achieving overall emissions goals."

For more information about XL Fleet, visit <https://xlfleet.com/>.

About MMWEC

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation that provides a variety of electric power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the Commonwealth's consumer-owned municipal utilities. MMWEC is the operator and principal owner of the Stony Brook power plant on Moody Street and has been a corporate resident of Ludlow for over 40 years. For more information about MMWEC, visit www.mmwec.org. For more information on MMWEC's EV program, visit www.munihelps.org.

About SELCO

SELCO is a community owned and operated utility serving Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. SELCO provides high-quality electric, cable, telephone, and internet services at competitive prices to residential and commercial customers within the Town of Shrewsbury.

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