



A  Sempra Energy utility®

Power Your Drive *for Fleets*

Case Study: Outdoor Outreach

As part of the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) was tasked with improving air quality and economic conditions in communities identified as “disadvantaged.” Disadvantaged communities are areas throughout the state that suffer from a combination of economic, health, and environmental burdens, including air and water pollution, presence of hazardous waste, and an increased prevalence of the resulting health issues. These communities are often located in areas with a high volume of heavy vehicle traffic, which creates large amounts of air pollutants. Moving towards zero-emission vehicle technologies can remove these carbon-emitting, fossil-fueled trucks and substitute them with cleaner electric vehicles.



Founded in 1999, **Outdoor Outreach** provides adventure-based youth development programs to approximately 1,700 vulnerable and at-risk youth in and around the San Diego area every year. Part of their mission is to teach children to not only look after each other, but the environment in which they grow, live, and breathe. In an effort to continue their lessons on environmental stewardship, the leadership team at Outdoor Outreach worked with **San Diego Gas & Electric's Power Your Drive for Fleets** program to transition their travel vans to electric vehicles (EVs), and install charging infrastructure at their headquarters.

Want to learn more? Visit sdge.com/evfleets



The Beginning of an Electric Collaboration

To start, SDG&E connected Outdoor Outreach to Citizens Energy Corporation, a non-profit organization which provided funding for Outdoor Outreach to purchase a pair of Lightning Electric Zero-Emission Transit passenger vans. The utility eased some of the concerns of purchasing EVs, including range anxiety around long distance trips to Joshua Tree National Park and Big Bear, by creating the load profile and helping to identify the appropriate chargers. SDG&E managed much of the complex project details, from the site walk, design, and permitting, to securing approval from Outdoor Outreach's landlord for the construction and installation of the infrastructure. The teamwork between the youth group and the utility will continue, as training and discussions about both the vehicles and the charging process will be part of the ongoing educational aspect of the program.

Prioritizing People and Planet

Sustainability is not a new concept to Outdoor Outreach, as the group teaches its young leaders about sustainability by integrating lessons on environmental issues, climate change, and how they can better steward the environment into its activities. Through its Outdoor Voices program, youth members are given the opportunity to express their thoughts on environmental issues that matter most to them and affect their communities. Adding this pair of battery-electric transit vans to their fleet is another way for Outdoor Outreach to further communicate their sustainability message. This is the beginning of their electrification journey, and there are hopes for expansion in the future.



Power Your Drive *for* Fleets

SDG&E's Power Your Drive *for* Fleets program helps fleet managers reduce operating costs and eliminate emissions by transitioning to electric vehicles, with financial incentives to easily and cost-effectively install the charging infrastructure.

For more information on the program, visit: sdge.com/evfleets