



Media Contact:

Sue Markgraf
GreenMark
847-970-9160, office
847-917-9654, mobile
smarkgraf@greenmarkpr.com

For Immediate Release

**Electric Vehicle Plug-In Charging Stations
Coming to GreenChoice Bank Branches in Cicero and Lockport**
Stations Now Available for Customer Use

CHICAGO (Oct. 31, 2011) – Electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are being installed this month at [GreenChoice Bank](#) branch locations in Cicero (5225 W. 25th St.) and Lockport (838 S. State St.). The EV stations are the first to be installed in each community.

Drivers, residents and community public officials will get a demonstration and first-hand look at how they work during “plug in” events at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8 in Cicero and at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10 in Lockport. In Cicero, schoolchildren from Wilson School K-6 are joining the movement by participating in an environmentally-friendly project that will be displayed in the bank branch through November. Students’ artwork represents what the world might be like if we continue to use fuel vs. a world where we all use electric vehicles.

The charging units from [Plug-In Vehicle Solutions](#) (PIVS) and DBT USA, Inc., both Illinois-based companies, provide GreenChoice Bank clients with the convenience of charging up while they do their GreenChoice banking. The units are a free service to bank customers in each location.

“With unstable fuel prices and drivers becoming increasingly interested in environmentally-friendly options to meet their commuting needs, EVs provide a more sustainable option to internal combustion engine vehicles,” says Steve Sherman, GreenChoice Bank’s chief operating officer. “We’re excited that our branches will provide EV drivers west of the loop and south of the city with a destination to ‘charge up’ along their route.”

While only a handful of electric vehicles are on Chicago-area roadways, experts predict the number will grow over the coming years as demand and availability increase. PIVS cites a January 2011 report* by IBM’s Institute for Business Value, which surveyed 1,716 U.S. drivers and 123 auto industry executives about electric vehicles. According to the report, one-fifth of

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American consumers (19 percent) are either “very likely” or “likely” to consider an EV for their next purchase. Fifty-one percent of drivers say higher oil prices would motivate them to switch to an electric-only vehicle.

Electric vehicles aren't new:

- Between 1832 and 1839, Robert Anderson of Scotland invented the first crude electric carriage.
- In 1835, Professor Stratingh of Groningen, Holland, and his assistant, Christopher Becker, designed a small-scale electric car.
- Around 1842, Thomas Davenport, an American, and Scotsman Robert Davidson invented practical and more successful electric road vehicles.
- In 1865, Frenchman Gaston Plante invented a better storage battery and his countryman, Camille Faure, improved it in 1881.
- Peak years for electric cars in America were from 1899 to 1900, when they outsold all other types of cars on our country's not-very-sophisticated road systems.

The pendulum swung to gas combustion engine vehicles once the price was driven down by mass production and improvements were made to make them more a more comfortable (and less smelly and noisy) ride. By 1935, electric vehicles had practically vanished from the roadways but began re-emerging in the 1960s. For more information on EVs, including a white paper, “Dispelling the Confusion About Electric Vehicles,” please visit PIVS online at www.getplugging.com.

GreenChoice Bank is the first community bank of its kind in the Midwest, implementing core values designed to enhance the environmental, social and financial well-being of our communities and the planet. In addition to its branches in Cicero and Lockport, GreenChoice Bank's flagship location is at the Green Exchange building, 2545 W. Diversey Ave. in Chicago. For more information about GreenChoice Bank, including its online banking opportunities and incentives for consumers and businesses making sustainable choices, please visit www.greenchoicebank.com.

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GreenChoice Bank is one of the only community banks in the country and the first in the Midwest that offers a values-based choice in banking to consumers and businesses. GreenChoice Bank implements core values that are designed to enhance the environmental, social and financial well-being of our communities and the planet. Conscious about more than your money, GreenChoice Bank marries sustainable business principles with a relationship-driven approach to provide financial products and services to individuals and businesses. GreenChoice Bank is located in Chicago at the Green Exchange building. Branch facilities are located in Cicero and Lockport, Ill. For information about GreenChoice Bank's products and services, please visit www.greenchoicebank.com

**Source: “Knowledge is Power: Dispelling the Confusion About Electric Vehicles,” by Bruce Lanzerotti, chief executive officer, Plug-In Vehicle Solutions. @2011, Plug-In Vehicle Solutions*