Fleet Transition Planning

Why think about fleet electrification now?
Thanks to financial incentives, zero emission goals and TCO savings opportunities, fleet operators are more motivated than ever to electrify. But they also don’t want to make an uninformed decision. That’s why many will seek outside support from a trusted advisor: their utility.
EV Fleets are coming next: The challenge for utilities

Responding to inquiries at scale. Until now, the standard approach for developing a fleet transition plan was to do a one-off consulting engagement. But these are expensive, time consuming, and only offer analysis at a single point in time. Is a utility supposed to hire a consultant for every fleet operator every time one of them wants to update a plan? And will fleet operators seek advice from other parties if their utility can’t offer timely support?

Staying engaged with fleet operators to enable proper grid planning. Left to their own devices, fleet operators may not involve their utility in the planning process and work with consultants who have limited understanding of grid constraints, one day surprising the utility with sudden interconnection upgrade requests. How can a utility get continual visibility into its customers’ fleet transition plans to enable proper grid planning?

Itron’s Fleet Transition Planning solution enables you to help fleet operators at scale and stay engaged as fleets electrify over time, giving appropriate notification about forthcoming demand to inform grid planning. This SaaS-based solution can be implemented for multiple fleet operators for the same cost as a single consulting engagement, which would be specific to one fleet operator.

Delivering value that:
- Provides an intuitive online experience
- Covers EV route suitability, charging system composition planning and electricity load control, including providing advice on:
  - EV battery sizing
  - Length of daily charging cycles
  - Charging stations’ minimum power ratings
- Guides fleet operators through a plan/procure/build and operate decision process including:
  - Capital costs
  - Operational expenses
  - Potential benefits from demand response and vehicle-to-grid programs

Fleet electrification is a process, with plans evolving over time. Our Fleet Planning solution is flexible and dynamic, to accommodate updates and changes. As energy and other costs change, vehicle routes change, grant and financing options present themselves and the fleet itself begins to electrify, fleet operators can adjust the variables—in real time—and refresh their transition plan.

A few recent deployments include:
- Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (the “T”) for modeling, simulation and optimization for 100+ transit bus fleet
- Hazelwood School District: transition planning for 100+ school bus fleet
- Via Mobility Services: integrated fleet electrification and microgrid planning