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Annotated Bibliography Issue: Should public entities, including municipal and governments, fund electric charging stations for vehicles, in order to build support among the car-buying public for electric vehicles?
Thesis: In the interest of protecting the environment and moving the American economy away from dependency on fossil fuels, government entities should fund charging stations to help expand the market for electric vehicles.
Adner, Ron. “ Can Electric Cars Crack the Mass Market?” Wall Street Journal 30 May 2012. http://blogs. wsj. com/drivers-seat/2012/05/30/opinion-can-electric-cars-crack-the-mass-market/? KEYWORDS= electric+car
This op-ed piece talks about challenges facing the electric cars future. The Chevy Volt – the European Car of the Year for 2012 – is declining in sales, as is the Nissan Leaf. According to the author, the main problem is the swift depreciation of the cars most expensive part – the battery. They wear out over time, making resale value tricky. This article indicates that even with more charging stations, the whole business model of car sales needs reworking for the electric version, and would be useful as a counterpoint.
Bunkley, Nick. “ Nissan Says Electric Car is Sold Out for This Year.” New York Times 25 May 2010. http://www. nytimes. com/2010/05/26/business/26auto. html
This 2010 article shows the initial popularity that greeted the Nissan Leaf, one of the first all-electric cars available in the United States. This article shows that there was significant initial interest in the electric car. One might infer that an available network of available charging stations would keep this type of cars popularity high. Because of limited availability of charging stations, even now, electric car manufacturers are limiting production. The implication is that, with greater access to electric charging, more consumers would move to electric vehicles.
“ Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations.” Power2Charlotte. http://www. power2charlotte. com/energy-initiatives/catalyst-projects/electric-vehicle-charging-stations. aspx. Web.
This article comes from the city website of Charlotte, North Carolina. The purpose is to describe the deployment of charging stations throughout the city. The information includes locations for charging, as well as changes in the citys fleet as far as the addition of electric vehicles. This article would be useful as an example for government entities supporting charging stations. This would be a strong primary source for the subsidization of charging stations.
Stenquist, Paul. “ How Green Are Electric Cars? Depends on Where You Plug In.” New York Times 13 April 2012. http://www. nytimes. com/2012/04/15/automobiles/how-green-are-electric-cars-depends-on-where-you-plug-in. html? \_r= 1&pagewanted= all
This article compares the “ green” potential for electric cars in different parts of the country. Because some regions have cleaner sources of electricity than others, the creation of power for the charging stations has different effects on the environment. This article would support the main thesis, but it would insert qualifications for consumers living in areas where electricity comes primarily from the burning of coal. The purpose is to help potential electric car drivers make an informed comparison. This would serve the paper well – and would also argue for getting away from fossil fuels in terms of power production as well.
Trabish, Herman K. “ NRG Settlement Funds Californias Electric Expressway EV Charger Network.” Greentech Media 26 March 2012. http://www. greentechmedia. com/articles/read/NRG-Settlement-Funds-Californias-Electric-Expressway-EV-Charger-Network/. Web.
This article discusses the settlement between the California Public Utilities Commission and NRG Energy that resulted from the 2001 energy crisis. As a result, NRG will pay for at least 200 fast-charging public stations and at least 10, 000 plug-in stations. This will support Governor Browns order to have 1. 5 million vehicles with zero emissions in California by the year 2025. This article is informative in purpose. It is useful to suggest funding sources for public electric vehicle charging stations based on Californias precedent.