



**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**OFFICE OF AIR RESOURCES**

**235 PROMENADE STREET**

**PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02908**

January 31, 2026

VW Diesel Emissions Environmental Mitigation Trust for State Beneficiaries, PR and DC

Mr. Mike Bochanski Jr., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

c/o Wilmington Trust, N.A. as Trustee

Rodney Square North

110 North Market Street

Wilmington, Delaware 19890

Re: State of Rhode Island VW Settlement- 14th Semiannual Report  
Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

Dear Mr. Bochanski,

On January 29, 2018, Wilmington Trust (the "Trustee") filed a Notice of Beneficiary Designation with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the "Court"), designating Rhode Island as a Beneficiary of the State Trust. Rhode Island's [funding requests](#) were approved by the Trustee prior to this submission.

On December 6, 2018, Rhode Island's first disbursement of Trust Assets occurred, beginning Rhode Island's Reporting Obligations to the Trustee. As required by paragraph 5.3 the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement for State Beneficiaries (VW State Trust) we provide this report on the status of each Eligible Mitigation Action approved for funding through Rhode Island's allotment of VW State Trust funds. Specifically, Rhode Island's Reporting Obligations include:

1. A description on progress implementing each Eligible Mitigation Action during the period leading up to the reporting date;
2. A complete description of the status (including actual or projected termination date), development, implementation, and any modifications of each approved Eligible Mitigation Action.

Rhode Island is grouping all updates on our approved Eligible Mitigation Actions into this submittal.

This information is true and correct and the submission is made under penalty of perjury. Please feel free to contact me at 401-537-4378 or by email at [laurie.grandchamp@dem.ri.gov](mailto:laurie.grandchamp@dem.ri.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laurie Grandchamp, P.E. Chief

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Air Resources

<b>Payee Recipient:</b>	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)
<b>Action Title:</b>	Administrative Costs
<b>Reporting Period Covered:</b>	June 29, 2025 – 12/13/2025

<b>Workplan Budget</b>	<b>RIDEM</b>
Running Total of VW Settlement Funds Received:	\$215,532.87
Total VW Funds Obligated:	\$215,532.87
Total VW Funds Expended:	\$ 211,330.83
Total VW Funds On Hand:	\$4,202.04

<b>Summary of Total VW Funds Expended</b> <b>*Administrative costs include all personnel and fringe benefits.</b> <b>Covering RIDEM Payroll: February 9, 2018 – Dec 14, 2024</b>		
	<b>Total Funds Expended</b>	
	<b>RIDEM Payroll 2/9/18 – 12/13/25</b>	<b>RIDEM Payroll 06/29/25 – 12/13/25</b>
Chief, Office of Air Resources	\$80,420.54	\$0
Supervising Air Quality Specialist	\$111,684.64	\$0
Senior Air Quality Specialist	\$18,641.56	\$0
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$210,746.74</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>Projected Future Administrative Expenses</b>
<b>Total VW Funds On Hand</b>
\$4,202.04

This information is true and correct and the submission is made under penalty of perjury.



Laurie Grandchamp, P.E. Chief  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Air Resources

1/29/2026  
Date

VW Settlement Decree - Semi-Annual report document

Payee Recipient: Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

Action Title: Electrify RI

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Workplan Budget

Total VW Funds Received \$ 1,867,952  
Interest Earned \$ -  
Total VW Funds Expended \$ 1,677,058  
Total VW Funds On Hand \$ 190,894

Summary of Costs						
	Totals		EVSE Funds		Administrative Costs	
	Eligible Mitigation Actions	Total Funds Received	Total Funds Expended	Obligated	Expended	Notes
Electrify RI		\$ 1,867,952	\$ 1,677,058	\$ 20,037	\$ 1,416,963	\$ 260,095
		\$ 1,867,952	\$ 1,677,058	\$ 20,037	\$ 1,416,963	\$ 260,095

Project Narrative	
Electrify RI	
Electrify RI is an electric vehicle (EV) charging station incentive program, administered by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER), that seeks to make more charging stations accessible to Rhode Island drivers. The increased availability of charging stations will encourage state residents and business to make the switch to electric vehicles in order to reduce transportation-related carbon emissions and pollutants.	
This \$1.4 million incentive program is funding the installation of new EV charging stations – including Level II and Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) – at Rhode Island workplaces, multi-unit dwellings, and publicly-accessible locations. Incentives are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.	
As of December 31, 2025:	
Level II EVSE:	
Publicly- Accessible Program	
52 Charging Stations projects completed	
3 Charging Stations projects currently in process	
Workplace Program	
10 Charging Stations projects completed	
Multi-Unit Dwellings Program	
14 Charging Stations projects completed	
DCFC:	
21 Charging Stations projects completed	

Terri Brooks, Chief Financial Officer II  
Office of Energy Resources

Chris Kearns  
Christopher Kearns, Interim Commissioner  
Office of Energy Resources

Jamie O. Gendreau, P.E., Chief  
RIDEM Office of Air Resources  
1/29/2026

VW Settlement Decree - Semi-Annual report document

Payee Recipient: Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

Action Title: Public Transit Bus Replacement Project

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Workplan Budget

Total VW Funds Received \$ 11,854,308

Interest Earned \$ 130,018

Total VW Funds Expended \$ 11,679,740

Total VW Funds On Hand \$ 304,586

Summary of Costs							
Eligible Mitigation Actions	Totals		Vehicle Replacement Funds		Administrative Costs		Notes
	Total Funds Received	Total Funds Expended	Obligated	Expended	Obligated	Expended	
RIPTA Electric Bus Program	\$ 11,854,308	\$ 11,679,740	\$ 10,776,644	\$ 11,541,419	\$ 1,077,664	\$ 138,321	
	\$ 11,854,308	\$ 11,679,740	\$ 10,776,644	\$ 11,541,419	\$ 1,077,664	\$ 138,321	\$ -

Project Narrative	
Eligible Mitigation Actions	Public Transit Bus Replacement Project
Three vehicle pilot electric bus program and purchase of up to 20 electric buses	<p>Revenue electric bus operations on the R-Line, running between downtown Pawtucket and Broad/City Line via downtown Providence began on January 22, 2024. Service started with 4 vehicles on the road and were progressively put into service as they met operational readiness requirements and acceptable thresholds for performance. The full electric fleet was deployed in June 2024, making public transportation in Rhode Island even greener. RIPTA will continue to monitor vehicles through all seasons to determine if any scheduling or other operational changes need to be made. Maintenance will be reviewing vehicle performance and engaging with New Flyer on a regular basis to address software or vehicle-related issues. RIPTA staff meet regularly to discuss service performance with the change in vehicles.</p> <p>The charging station powers RIPTA's first electric fleet – fourteen (14) New Flyer Xcelsior XE40 battery electric buses, all of which exclusively serve the R-Line. Electrifying this route will lower emissions on a key corridor, where many low-income and diverse communities have been affected by air pollution and experience high asthma rates.</p>

  
[Christopher Durand \(Jan 26, 2026 13:40:55 EST\)](#)  
 Christopher Durand, Chief Executive Officer  
 Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

01/26/2026

Date

  
 Laurie Grandchamp, P.E. Chief  
 RI Department of Environmental Management, Office of Air Resources

  
 Date