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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FAA's Zero Emission Vehicles and Technology Provision Reflects Big Win for US Airport Air Quality

Atlanta, GA, October 2018 – The Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) commends the U.S. Congress for approving federal legislation for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which includes an amendment to allow for increased deployment of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) on airport grounds and encourages sustainable innovations.

On December 12, 2003, the Voluntary Airport Low Emissions (VALE) Program was signed into law to encourage airport sponsors to implement clean technology projects that improve air quality. Through VALE, airport sponsors can use [Airport Improvement Program \(AIP\)](#) funds and [Passenger Facility Charges \(PFCs\)](#) to finance low-emission vehicles, refueling and recharging stations, gate electrification, and other airport air quality improvements.

This amendment, originally offered in the U.S House of Representatives by Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL) and the U.S. Senate by Sen. Bill Nelson (FL), makes significant updates to the program that reflect the new zero-emission transportation technologies that have been developed in the United States over the past 15 years. It also makes improvements to the current FAA Zero Emission Airport Vehicles program through added provisions that facilitate increased adoption of ZEVs.

“CTE, working on behalf of the zero-emission technology industry, has been leading an advocacy effort this past Congress to put this legislation in place with the help of key Members of Congress. We are extremely grateful to Congressman Dan Lipinski for his leadership on this initiative and for his ongoing efforts in fostering zero-emission deployment in the transportation sector,” said Dan Raudebaugh, Executive Director of CTE.

“I also want to commend Senator Bill Nelson for his work on this amendment, particularly for recognizing the value of zero-emission technology in improving resiliency and emergency preparedness. His support of this amendment was critical to its passage.”

The amendment includes the following improvements:

- Grants may now be made to purchase ZEVs at airports that are not in nonattainment areas.

- Grants are now applicable to ZEVs used to carry passengers to off-airport locations on dedicated airport-only duty cycles.
- Creation of a pilot program for a minimum of 10 ZEV projects, similar to the 10-airport pilot program for low-emission vehicles in previous FAA reauthorization legislation.
- Creation of a program that authorizes the Department of Transportation to contract qualified nonprofit organizations to conduct research and demonstrate zero-emission technologies, provide 3rd party, independent evaluations of them, and make their findings available to the industry to help airports decide which technologies are the best fit for their facilities.

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ABOUT CTE

The Center for Transportation and the Environment is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization with a mission to develop and commercialize clean, efficient, and sustainable transportation and energy technologies that improve the health of our climate and communities. CTE collaborates with federal, state, and local governments, fleets, and vehicle technology manufacturers to complete our mission. Learn more at www.cte.tv