



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Priority Group Announces Successful Bi-Directional Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) Integration in New York

FLANDERS, NJ--- December 10, 2020 — First Priority Group (FPG), a diversified manufacturer, dealer, upfitter and service provider of emergency and specialty vehicles is pleased to announce the company's bi-directional Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) integration has been successfully accomplished using electricity stored in batteries on electric-powered school buses to support grid services as part of the company's vehicle-to-grid (V2G) pilot deployment in White Plains, New York.

First Priority Group designed the V2G Demonstration project and was contracted by Con Edison and National Express to manage the project. "Our goal was to bring industry experts together in a collaborative fashion to design and install one of the first true bi-directional V2G solutions in the U.S.," said Chairman & CEO Alex Cherepakhov. "Vehicle-to-Grid integration is the next step in the evolution of EV fleet power technology and we are pleased to have collaborated with our partners in making this happen."

The project, which began in 2018 in partnership between First Priority Group, Lion Electric, Nuvve, White Plains School District and National Express represents the first time in New York state that electricity has successfully flowed from electric school buses back to the grid – marking a significant milestone in advancing V2G technology in North America. The five buses can each discharge 10 kilowatts. For the five buses, that's 50 kilowatts or 50,000 watts.

The buses are manufactured by Lion Electric in North America with vehicle-to-grid technology built in, and operated for the school district by National Express.

"V2G has been a trendy word in the EV industry for many years, but now we have proven that V2G is real thanks to our great partners at Con Edison, Nuvve, White Plains School District, National Express and First Priority. This amazing project is the result of exceptional teamwork and innovation between the partners," said Marc-Andre Page, Vice President of Commercial Operations at Lion Electric. "This important milestone for V2G outlines the cooperation required between utilities, fleet operators, school districts and regulatory organizations to successfully implement a project of this scale. Lion is very proud of this first successful V2G deployment and is fully equipped to support the rollout of similar projects throughout North America."



The fleet of five LionC buses are operated for the school district by National Express, who also pays the energy costs during the school year. Con Edison, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and National Express collaboratively contributed to the purchase of the electric bus fleet. First Priority Group designed the V2G demonstration project and was contracted by Con Edison and NELLC to manage the project.

“Our operators are dedicated to enabling the success of school bus electrification and V2G for the White Plains School District, with safety and reliability remaining as our top priorities,” said Charlie Bruce, senior vice president of Business Development for National.

“We think electric school buses may provide an opportunity to achieve two of our company’s goals, which are reducing carbon emissions, and maintaining our industry-leading reliability,” said Brian Ross, Con Edison’s manager for the project. “We are innovating to help our state and region achieve a clean energy future in which electric vehicles will have a big role.”

NELLC participated in the Project as a means of furthering its commitment to the safety and well-being of the children they transport. “As one of the largest student transport companies in the world, we are always looking for innovative ways to improve our services and contribute to the communities in which we operate. Both outcomes are achieved by this Project and we look forward to replicating the success elsewhere in our fleets,” said Keshav Ragunathan, Senior Director, Asset Management Fleet & Engineering.

Nuvve provided the charging infrastructure. Its V2G platform offers specialized aggregation services that pool together the energy stored in the electric buses for sales on energy markets. “V2G enables a more efficient use of energy on the site at which the vehicles are parked by intelligently managing the loads of energy. Customers can save money through reduced energy costs since EVs can be charged when electricity demand is low and costs are optimized,” commented Gregory Poilasne, CEO and chairman of Nuvve.

The V2G charging and discharging takes place at a depot in North White Plains, where the buses remain plugged into a charger when not in use. The batteries are charged when demand for power is low, and the chargers are programmed to reverse the flow of power – 10 kilowatts from each bus – into the grid at times when the buses are not transporting children. By charging when demand, and thus price, for electricity is low and discharging when demand is high, operators can save money on energy costs for their fleet.

Onboard charger/inverters were supplied by Current Ways Technologies, Santee, CA. Technical guidance was provided by ChargePoint, Campbell, CA.



About First Priority Group

First Priority Group (FPG) is a diversified manufacturer, dealer, upfitter and service provider of emergency and specialty vehicles. Established over 20 years ago, FPG's range of expertise encompasses design, manufacturing, service and sales to provide our customers with comprehensive one-stop solutions across their emergency and specialty vehicle needs. FPG's Conversion Division is one of the largest upfitters of emergency command and specialty vehicles, providing custom solutions to law enforcement, emergency and commercial customers throughout the US. FPG's EMS Division provides new and refurbished ambulances along with keeping a fleet of in-stock remounts available for immediate delivery. Our customer base includes a wide range of emergency response agencies across the United States.

FPG now offers fleet electric vehicle solutions to manage all aspects of fleet electrification from start to finish including charging infrastructure, V2G integration, energy management and vehicle selection. This division was launched to meet the market demand for clean transportation solutions and assist both government agencies and private transportation enterprises in significantly reducing their environmental footprint and effecting a more sustainable future.

###

Contact:

Peter Sciarra
First Priority Group
Marketing Manager
PSciarra@1FPG.com
848-221-8689