



# CHARGE READY TRANSPORT

Case Study: Dependable Highway Express (DHE)



## How DHE is working towards a zero-emission logistics facility in California

### Yard Tractors: DHE's First Step Towards Zero-Emissions

As a division of Dependable Supply Chain Services, Dependable Highway Express (DHE) provides logistics services for less than load (LTL) and full truckload (FTL) transportation, Harbor Drayage, and Intermodal freight handling. DHE has set an ambitious goal of transforming their freight facility in Ontario, California to a fully zero-emission facility. The first step towards that goal was replacing two diesel yard tractors with two fully electric Orange EV yard tractors in 2019. DHE was able to use voucher funds from the California Air Resources Board to purchase the electric yard tractors. Troy Musgrave, the Director of Process Improvement, oversees DHE's transportation management system and serves as the point of contact for new transportation projects, like the electric yard tractors. One of the yard tractors is standard-duty, with a smaller battery pack, and the other is extended-duty, with a larger pack. Mr. Musgrave states that this enables DHE to "experience both firsthand and get data and knowledge to help determine what we (DHE) will need at other terminals".

### Forklifts: Expanding DHE's Electric Fleet

In July 2020, DHE's Ontario facility continued to make strides towards full zero-emission operations by replacing fourteen propane forklifts with Yale electric forklifts, making the entire facility's forklift fleet electric. DHE is pleased to see the electric forklifts supporting the Ontario facility's duty cycle. Additionally, DHE plans to add ten battery electric box trucks and three Class 8 electric tractors from Volvo to its fleet over the next 3-5 years.

### How SCE Can Help Business Fleets with Electric Vehicles (EV)

When asked about the main difference between electric trucks and conventional trucks operating at the fleet level, Mr. Musgrave points out that affordable, timely and appropriately located electrical infrastructure is a crucial part of electric truck project success. SCE's Charge Ready Transport Program is designed to support electric fleet vehicles by installing electrical infrastructure for fleet vehicle

charging at no or low cost, as well as providing rebates to qualifying businesses to help cover part of the cost of charging stations.

DHE initiated conversations with SCE early in the two-year process of adding the first electric vehicles to their fleet. SCE conducted numerous site walks and conference calls and was able to provide DHE with valuable advice to guide DHE through its infrastructure options, rate programs, incentives and renewable energy projects, all of which provided critical support for DHE as it pursued its zero-emission goal.

### Key Takeaways

- DHE's electric fleet demonstrates that distribution centers can adopt EV equipment while meeting operational needs.
- Operators can receive support from SCE to help develop infrastructure and charging options that work within their operations.
- SCE's Charge Ready Transport program can help EV fleet operators fund and construct EV charging infrastructure, as well as offer rebates on charging stations to properties that qualify.
- SCE's EV rates can provide very competitive pricing on energy to support operators' return on investment.
- SCE's Fleet Fuel Calculator can help fleet operators compare fueling costs and see cost savings by switching to an electric fleet. Learn more at <https://fleetfuelcalculator.sce.com>
- Mr. Musgrave and DHE recommend early coordination with your utility to ensure successful EV projects.

Warehouse and distribution centers have the opportunity to follow the lead of DHE through SCE's Charge Ready Transport program. Under the program, SCE builds charging infrastructure for customers deploying two or more EV trucks, buses or other medium- or heavy-duty vehicles. Learn more at [www.sce.com/crt](http://www.sce.com/crt).