



From left: Alysa Brimacombe; Colleen Crowninshield of Tucson Regional Clean Cities Coalition; Bill Sheaffer of Valley of the Sun Clean Cities Coalition; Paul Bessent of GoE3; GoE3 founder Bruce Brimacombe and Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett with scissors, cutting the ribbon; Colin Tetreault, Senior Policy Advisor, Sustainability, to Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton; Sean Hegna of Eaton Company; and Cyndi Brimacombe.

Arizona's Electric Highway

Phoenix-Tucson route gains halfway station

A brand new, key electric vehicle charging station at Picacho Peak completes a series of stations on Interstate 10 between Phoenix and Tucson. The Electric Highway creates the opportunity for all-electric vehicles to make the trip between Arizona's two largest cities without any concern of charging availability.

A ribbon-cutting event on December 8, 2012, turned out a crowd of electric car enthusiasts from all over the state, who arrived in a variety of electric vehicles: two Chevrolet Volts, two Mitsubishi i-MiEVs, one all-electric VW conversion, a Nissan Leaf, two Tesla roadsters and two Tesla sedans.

Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett arrived as a passenger in one of the new 2013 Tesla Model S sedans (see our feature on Tesla's new Design Studios and the



Model S in the September/October 2012 issue).

"This is just the beginning of the emergence of the electric vehicle as an element in breaking our addiction to oil," stated Secretary of State Bennett.

Presentations during the ceremony touted advantages of the all-electric car: quicker acceleration and braking, longer brake life, reduced maintenance (with no transmission to service)—and of course no oil changes, no issues with fuel injectors or fuel pumps—

and no exhaust equipment, along with zero tailpipe emissions.

In fact, there are typically only five moving parts in the entire drivetrain to be serviced, compared to the many hundreds of serviceable parts in an internal combustion vehicle.

The completed Electric Highway now has charging stations in Phoenix, Casa Grande, Picacho Peak, Marana and Tucson. ■

