Increasing fuel prices, concerns about energy security, and air quality improvement goals have spurred an interest in pairing automotive technology with renewable energy sources. Plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) offer this opportunity.

To learn more, visit: [http://www.wmich.edu/sustainability/projects/electric-vehicles](http://www.wmich.edu/sustainability/projects/electric-vehicles)

**LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT**

In April 2013, the Lansing Board of Water and Light (LBWL) installed a solar carport as a demonstration project to study charging electric vehicles via a solar array. The carport consists of a 5-kW grid-tied solar array with two publicly available electric vehicle charging stations. The carport, located at the riverside City Market, is a modular aluminum structure designed to be waterproof and fully wind, snow and seismic code compliant. The project was funded through the U.S. Department of Energy. LBWL will study the data from the project after a year of use to determine if the PV system produces enough electricity to offset the electricity consumed by the PEVs using the parking spaces.

To learn more, contact Tim Rowden at tjr@lbwl.com.

**USEFUL LINKS AND FURTHER READING**


As the electrical grid in Michigan becomes cleaner, so will the miles driven by a PEV.