

POLB unveils North America's largest charging depot for zero-emissions trucks

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Photo caption: From left: David Thornburg, Principal, DW Thornburg, Inc.; Rachel Moses, Director of Electrify America; Rick Duncan, owner, Duncan and Son Lines; John Boesel, CEO, CALSTART; U.S. Rep. Nanette Barragan; U.S. Rep. Robert Garcia; David Duncan, CEO, 4 Gen Logistics; Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson; State Sen. Lena Gonzalez; Long Beach Harbor Commission Vice President Frank Colonna; Mario Cordero, CEO, Port of Long Beach; and Dr. Noel Hacegaba, COO, Port of Long Beach.

The Port of Long Beach (POLB) has inaugurated its largest heavy-duty vehicle charging depot in North America, catering to Class 8 zero-emissions (ZE) trucks.

Operated by 4 Gen Logistics LLC, the facility is equipped with 30 state-of-the-art hyper-fast chargers, each delivering up to 350 kilowatts of power.

This setup enables the swift recharging of 4 Gen's expanding fleet of 79 ZE trucks, with plans to eventually open the depot to all battery-electric big rigs serving the San Pedro Bay port complex.

"With each project, we move closer to becoming a zero-emissions port. Under the Green Port Policy and the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan, this Port and our industry partners are ensuring our economic and environmental sustainability for generations to come," stated Bonnie Lowenthal, Harbor Commission President at Port of Long Beach.

"The facility is the largest charging depot at any North American port to date. The infrastructure that supplies the clean energy zero-emissions trucks need to keep cargo moving has always been as much

of a priority as the trucks themselves. We're proud to work with companies like 4-Gen, WattEV and Forum Mobility to lead the way for greener trade and transportation operations at home and abroad," mentioned Mario Cordero, CEO at Port of Long Beach.

Located at 200 Pier S Ave., the depot was developed in partnership with Electrify America, the largest charging network in the United States. Additional support came from organizations such as the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Committee (MSRC), the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and the Port of Los Angeles.

MSRC, a clean transportation agency funded through California vehicle license fees, collaborated with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to invest in the project.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony in October marked the opening of the Long Beach facility and the completion of the first phase of a broader initiative by 4 Gen. This initiative includes a charging depot in Rialto, operational since August, featuring 14 hyper-fast chargers of 350 kW. The project's second phase will add 30 more chargers at Long Beach and 16 additional units at Rialto.

Strategically located along a key freight corridor between the San Pedro Bay ports and the Inland Empire, the depots aim to enhance sustainable goods movement. This corridor is central to 4 Gen's operations and those of its sister company, Duncan and Son Lines Inc., a family-run logistics firm with over 30 years of experience in port drayage services.

Furthermore, 4 Gen's ZE fleet comprises Volvo VNRs, Kenworth T680E battery-electric trucks, and Nikola hydrogen fuel cell models, with the latter refuelled at a separate site. The company's development of the Long Beach facility stems from a 10-year lease signed with the port in 2022, well ahead of CARB's mandate for all drayage trucks to achieve ZE status by 2035.

The ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles first set the 2035 ZE goal in their 2017 Clean Air Action Plan, laying the groundwork for CARB's Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, finalized in 2023.