REPORT

Coda shelves plans for Ohio battery plant because of DOE inaction



By Danny King Posted Mar 29th 2012 4:08PM

In this case, the federal government sneezes, and central Ohio catches a cold.

That's the take from the Columbus Dispatch on the decision by electric-vehicle maker Coda Automotive to shelve plans to build a Columbus, OH, battery factory.

Coda said about two years ago that it would build the factory, which would've supported more than 1,000 jobs in the area. It said at the time that "Construction of the facility is contingent upon finalizing an incentive package with the state of Ohio and the approval of an application for a Department of Energy (DOE) Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan (ATVM)." Guess what didn't happen?

Los Angeles-based Coda has been hamstrung on the proposed investment because the DOE has not yet responded to the loan request, which was filed around two years ago. Parts for the Coda Sedan are made in China, while the EV is assembled in Northern California.

Earlier this month, Coda sold its first models to California buyers. The company, which opened its Los Angeles headquarters late last year, sold its first Sedan ten days ago and was recently given an official range of 88 miles from the EPA.

News Source: Columbus Dispatch via Green Car Congress

Category: EV/Plug-in, Manufacturing/Plants, Coda Automotive

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