

**From:** AdvancedBiofuelsUS [info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2009 3:39 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Subject:** Batteries Drive Everything

Thank you for giving readers a glimpse of what an electric car-based future might look like (Batteries Drive Everything, Sat. Jan 31, 2009); however, I think the glimpse left much to be desired.

The funniest omission was lack of a reality check of Shai Agassi's proposal that motorists could "exchange a depleted battery for one fully charged" when on a long trip. I can see trying to find an open service station on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as I drive to Cleveland in the middle of the West Virginia or Pennsylvania mountains—one that can switch out the \$8000 400-pound battery pack that "squeeze(s) into the body of the compact Chevy Volt." While that is being worked on—for a significant price, I'm sure—I can amuse myself watching the coal being stripped off the top of a local mountain to provide the electricity to recharge that battery.

I hope to read a fuller, more realistic view in future installments, one that includes truly sustainable, renewable, Made In America options for getting me over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house for the holidays.

Joanne M. Ivancic  
Executive Director  
**Advanced Biofuels USA**  
507 North Bentz Street  
Frederick, MD 21701  
301-644-1395  
[www.advancedbiofuelsUSA.org](http://www.advancedbiofuelsUSA.org)

**Advanced Biofuels USA** is a nonprofit organization. Its purpose is to promote public understanding, acceptance, and use of advanced biofuels; to promote research, development and improvement of production, marketing and delivery of advanced biofuels; and to improve advanced biofuels crops and products.