



ACCELERATING THE EV REVOLUTION

Building a pollution free transport future

Increasing the uptake of electric vehicles

The Greens are driving the transition from petroleum to electric vehicles, by providing incentives for Australian consumers, businesses and government to take up clean electric vehicle technologies. As a core element of our plan for a clean transport mix, EVs powered by renewables and battery storage will form a key part of our pollution-free future.

> KEY POINTS

The Greens will help to get 31,000 more electric vehicles on the road by 2021 and 330 more charging stations around the country by:

- Funding free registration for the first five years after purchase of a fully electric vehicle
- Providing \$151 million in grants to support local governments, state governments and car park operators to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Providing \$50 million in grants to support government and non-government organisations to meet the gap between the cost on electric vehicle and a conventional vehicle
- Increasing the luxury car tax to 50% for conventional fossil fuel vehicles over \$100,000 to drive consumer choices towards electric vehicles
- Including firms involved in electric vehicle manufacturing in the government's Automotive Transformation Scheme to grow the jobs and skills in the new electric vehicle industry.

> EVs HELPING TO SOLVE OUR GLOBAL WARMING CHALLENGE

Australia's transport sector accounts for 17.4% of our national greenhouse gas emissions¹. To be serious about tackling climate change, we need to move our vehicle fleet off fossil fuels and plug them into the electricity grid powered by renewable energy under our *RenewAustralia* package.

Our transport and electricity systems are merging, where the solar panels on our rooves and the batteries in our cars are all part of the one system. Linking these technologies means that

motorists will have access to free and clean fuel taking pressure off their budgets and the planet at the same time. Even using renewable energy through the electricity grid will improve its overall efficiency making good use of energy reserves to power up and clean up our transport system.

By beginning this transition now, in combination with investment in public transport and active transport infrastructure, we can build a clean, green transport future for Australia.

Evidence from other countries is that government has a crucial role to play in building the infrastructure and providing the incentives for early adoption of electric vehicles.

The Greens recognise that, like any new technology, the starting price for an electric vehicle is still above that for a comparative model of a conventional, fossil fuel powered vehicle. The good news is that operating costs for electric vehicles are a lot lower than for a conventional vehicle, both in fuel and maintenance.

The Greens propose a suite of policies that will make it cheaper for Australians to own their first electric vehicle, make it easier to recharge at locations across the country and help plant the seeds of an electric vehicle future for our struggling automotive industry.

> FREE REGISTRATION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The Greens propose the federal government cover the costs of state vehicle registration fees for new fully electric vehicles for the first five years. By covering registration costs, electric vehicles will become more price competitive and accessible for all new car purchasers.

¹ Department of the Environment (2016), Quarterly Update of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory: December 2015, Canberra.

> INVESTING IN EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

We would establish a \$151 million fund, which would be used to provide grants for the installation of EV charging infrastructure for local governments (such as pools, sporting ovals, parks, libraries, council buildings), private companies managing publically accessible parking (shopping centres) and state governments for public car parks (railway carparks). This program will subsidise the purchase and installation costs for a fast charge roadside station, up to a cap of \$45,000 per station, which could support the installation of approximately 3,500 charging stations².

In time the market would deliver these services, but this four-year fund will make it easier for people to charge EVs during the early-adoption stage of the next few years.

> ELECTRIC VEHICLE FLEET SUBSIDY

Fleet purchases of electric vehicles will get more electric cars on the road. To encourage governments and non-government organisations like community home care nursing agencies to invest in an EV fleet, \$50 million will be made available to pay for the price gap between electric and conventional vehicles for governments and NGOs. With a gap of approximately \$15,000 between conventional and electric vehicles, this would cover the price gap for nearly 3,500 new electric vehicles.

> CHANGES TO THE LUXURY CAR TAX

The Greens would increase the luxury car tax from 33% to 50% for fossil-fuel powered vehicles worth over \$100,000. This would raise \$280 million over the forward estimates.

Not only would this encourage the purchase of electric vehicles by making the comparative cost of luxury fossil fuel vehicles higher, but it would offset the cost of scrapping registration fees for new EVs.

> BUILDING THE AUSTRALIAN ELECTRIC VEHICLE INDUSTRY

Electric vehicles are forecast to make up over a third of new vehicle sales by 2040, with a total of over 40 million new electric vehicles being sold per year around the world³. EVs are one of the clean energy growth industries of the 21st century.

Yet Australian governments, both current and previous, have had no plan to tap into this potential. By changing eligibility requirements for the government's Automotive Transformation Scheme to include firms involved in the electric vehicle and alternative fuel supply chain, we can begin to plant the seeds of a new clean energy manufacturing industry right here in Australia while retaining the skills and knowledge of our current automotive workforce.

> AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE ROADMAP FOR AUSTRALIA

The Greens call on the Council of Australian Government's to immediately place on its agenda the development of a policy framework to drive the rapid adoption of electric vehicle to include:

- implementation of consumer incentives for electric vehicle ownership including, registration rebates or cash-backs, tax credits as well as significant targets for government fleets
- putting in place a regulatory environment that supports electric vehicles such as regulation of deployment and the setting of competition and policy standards
- maximising energy opportunities through appropriate regulation, such as requiring "smart" charging sourced through renewable energy
- industry policy that develops the electric vehicle sector in Australia, such as battery manufacturer and servicing, engineering and manufacturing of vehicles or parts in Australia.

The Prime Minister and the government, as in the US and Germany, should commit to a near term target for the take up of electric vehicles in Australia.

² Level 3 fast charge stations incur a cost of between \$25,000-\$50,000 for the charger itself, plus costs associated with installation:
<<http://reneweconomy.com.au/2014/pulling-back-veil-ev-charging-station-cost-39804>>

³ Bloomberg New Energy Finance (2016), Electric Vehicles to be 35% of Global New Car Sales by 2040, <<http://about.bnef.com/press-releases/electric-vehicles-to-be-35-of-global-new-car-sales-by-2040/>>