



Media release

For immediate release

New Vehicle Efficiency Standard is Working - AEVA

Australia's key EV consumer group, the Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) has called on the next Federal Government to maintain and strengthen the New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (NVES). The NVES compels vehicle importers to meet a fleetwide annual average emissions target of 141 gCO₂/km for passenger cars, and 210 gCO₂/km for commercial vehicles, or cop penalties. These modest 2025 targets are more lenient than the targets that applied in the EU ten years ago.

"This is Australia's only supply-side initiative to clean up Australia's new vehicle fleet. It's already driving change in model offerings, and we're seeing many EVs priced for less than the petrol or diesel equivalent - it's working as intended" said Dr Chris Jones, AEVA National President.

The Federal Opposition has stated it intends to further weaken NVES, by removing financial penalties for importers of vehicles which exceed the targets. This will prove challenging as the penalties would need the support of both houses of parliament.

Dr Jones says the scheme is doing its job. "The scheme only impacts new vehicles which remain on the road for up to 15 years, so the cleaner they are in the showroom, the less pollution they will emit over their lifetime" he said. "Claims that the NVES will unfairly impact low-income families are spurious because these households do not generally buy new cars. Households are already realising that an affordable, used EV will save over \$3000 per year in fuel and maintenance"

The AEVA has also reiterated calls to extend the NVES through to 2035, when all new vehicles should be zero-emissions in operation. A similar scheme for heavy vehicles is also recommended.

Dr Jones says policy certainty is essential. "The scheme has been in place for three months and there's already talk of dismantling it. They importers just complain then comply; smart importers have already been charting their pathway to zero-emissions fleets" he said. "They know the only way to fully decarbonise road transport by 2050 is through full electrification."

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About AEVA

The Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) LTD is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the cause of switching Australia's transport networks to electric drive as quickly as possible. Formed after the oil price shocks of 1973, the AEVA is the longest continuously running EV society in the world. We represent all EV users and enthusiasts; current and prospective.

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