



Media release

For immediate release

An NVES without penalties is pointless - AEVA

The Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) - Australia's key EV consumer group, says the Federal Opposition's election promise to remove penalties for exceeding fleetwide emissions targets is misguided. The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (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 weaker than the targets which applied in the EU ten years ago.

AEVA says that penalties are only half the story, with credits on offer too - Importers who achieve a fleetwide emissions intensity below the target will accumulate credits, and these credits are sold to underperformers, as opposed to penalties paid directly to the government.

"The scheme is as much carrot as it is stick," says Dr Chris Jones, AEVA National President. "Removing penalties for underperformance also removes the reward for those doing the right thing."

The AEVA says describing the scheme as a 'tax on families' couldn't be further from the truth.

"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 the scheme offers pathways for importers to meet the targets without passing on costs; sell fewer inefficient models, sell more hybrids, and perhaps try to market EVs for a change. "They've spent a decade procrastinating on EVs. Maybe it's time they actually gave it a go?"

Ends

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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