



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

PDR ID: MC21-005833

Mr David Nash
Secretary
Institute of Transportation Engineers
Australia and New Zealand Section Inc.

Mr Shalendra Ram
Chair
Transport Australia Society

Via secretary@ite.org.au

Dear Mr Nash and Mr Ram

Thank you for your email of 20 August 2021 to the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, and your previous letter of 6 May 2021 to the former Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Michael McCormack MP, regarding mandatory vehicle emission standards for CO₂ emissions. The Deputy Prime Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

To support the uptake of low emission vehicles, the Government announced the Future Fuels Package on 17 September 2020, which will support jobs, strengthen our economy and reduce emissions through investments in new and emerging vehicle technologies.

The Future Fuels Package is a \$74.5 million investment to help consumers, businesses and communities take advantage of opportunities offered by new technologies, including hybrid vehicles, battery electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. It includes \$16.5 million to support battery electric vehicle fast-charging stations across capital cities and key regional centres. This is in addition to the \$21 million already invested by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency for two major electric vehicle charging networks across Australia.

With regard to your concerns about CO₂ emission standards not being considered in the recent Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) *Light Vehicle Emissions Standards for Cleaner Air*, I note the purpose of the RIS was to determine the costs and benefits of adopting the latest international standards to regulate noxious emissions, which cause smog and impact on human health. The Euro 6 standards are not intended to address to greenhouse gas emissions, such as CO₂. This mirrors the approach adopted in the European Union and other major vehicle markets.

In addition to new vehicle standards, improved fuel quality standards are also needed to support the adoption of cleaner and more fuel efficient engines. The Government is also reviewing fuel quality standards to improve Australia's access to the latest fuel saving technologies for petrol and diesel vehicles, many of which are hybrid vehicles.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Paula Stagg

Paula Stagg
Assistant Secretary
Land Transport Policy

14 September 2021