



SENSIBLE EV ROAD USER CHARGING REFORM DESERVES CALM CONSIDERATION

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Infrastructure Partnerships Australia Chief Executive, Adrian Dwyer has called on Members of South Australia's Parliament to not rush to negative judgement in considering the SA Government's decision to introduce a road user charge on electric vehicles (EVs).

"We owe it to future generations of South Australians to give this proposal a fair assessment," Mr Dwyer said.

"It would be premature to rule out a logical and sensible road user charge on EVs before the legislation has even been seen.

"We have long argued environmental sustainability and economic sustainability need to go hand in hand.

"It is both possible and desirable to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles and make sure they pay for the infrastructure they use.

"It is misleading to suggest this reform is a disincentive for EV uptake when the package that has been announced in South Australia is a net win for EV owners.

"The South Australian Government is investing \$18.3 million over the next four years into a state-wide electric vehicle charging network, which will far outweigh any cost borne by owners of EVs through a road user charge.

"Making a fair contribution to the infrastructure we rely on should not be a novel concept.

"We pay to use the network towers our mobile phones rely on, the wires that deliver our electricity, and the pipes that carry our water – this proposal is no different.

"Electric vehicles don't float. Somebody needs to pay for the roads they will use. It is only fair that electric vehicle owners make an equal contribution to that paid by petrol and diesel vehicle owners for the use of South Australia's road network.

"We encourage all members of the South Australian Parliament to consider the basic fairness of this proposal and calmly assess the merits of the reform before drawing any further conclusions," said Mr Dwyer.

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia is the nation's infrastructure think tank, providing independent policy research focused on excellence in social and economic infrastructure.

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