



THE SENATE  
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Public Hearing – Brisbane 27 September 2018  
Questions Taken on Notice  
Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads

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**QUESTION**

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**ACTING CHAIR:** So, how do you make the preference for Queensland compliant with WTO?

**Ms Noonan:** That's probably an issue that's beyond my expertise in the Department of Transport and Main Roads with respect to this. As I have outlined, the Queensland Electric Vehicle Superhighway is a project that involves three partner organisations, including Economic Development Queensland and Energy Queensland. Energy Queensland's commercial arm, Yurika, is actually responsible for the installation and maintenance of the electric superhighway, and Yurika would have been required to be compliant under the Queensland procurement policy for the installation.

**ACTING CHAIR:** Would you be prepared to take that question on notice?

**Ms Noonan:** Sure, yes. I'm happy to do that.

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**ANSWER:**

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I thank the Senate Select Committee on Electric Vehicles for the question.

The Queensland Procurement Policy does not prevent suppliers tendering for its contracts. The Policy requires the application of a Local Benefits Test for all significant procurement. The Local Benefits Test focuses on the benefits that any supplier can bring to the local area.

Budget sector agencies, statutory bodies, government owned corporations and special purpose vehicles must comply with the Queensland Procurement Policy. These agencies are responsible for applying the Policy. This includes allocating weightings as part of tender evaluation processes.



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**Senator BUSHBY:** You have already partly answered this question, in an answer to Senator Rice. You mentioned that there had been a significant uptake in the purchase of electric vehicles since this strategy came into being. Have you got any evidence, or are you able to get any, that shows how Queensland's uptake has compared to other states since this has come in?

**Ms Noonan:** That's a question that I'm happy to take on notice.

**Senator BUSHBY:** I'd be interested to get some sort of feel for what impact that program has actually had. If you could take that on notice, that would be fantastic.

**Ms Noonan:** Yes.

**Senator BUSHBY:** Thank you.

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**ANSWER:**

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I thank the Senate Select Committee on Electric Vehicles for the question.

As at 30 June 2018, there were 798 full battery electric vehicles (EVs) registered in Queensland. This represents a 52 per cent increase from the previous financial year. The 2017–18 increase compares to a 42 per cent battery electric vehicle growth in financial year 2016–17.

Encouragingly, there has also been continued growth in the uptake of electric hybrid vehicles across Queensland during this period as well.

An evaluation to correlate the growth of EVs in Queensland has not been completed. However, during the 2017-18 period, *The Future is Electric: Queensland's Electric Vehicle Strategy* was released (October 2017) and the Queensland Electric Super Highway was completed (January 2018).

The Queensland Electric Super Highway has recorded 1883 uses as at 31 August 2018 and, as mentioned during the hearing, every site has recorded uses. This shows that there was a latent demand for charging infrastructure.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is not able to provide a comparison of EV uptake compared to other jurisdictions, as TMR does not collect or have immediate access to other state and territory registration data. It is difficult for a single jurisdiction to coordinate national registration data that would enable this comparison.