

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## NSW Focus On Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Welcomed

The <u>Australian Logistics Council</u> (ALC) has welcomed details of the NSW Government's plan for electric and hybrid vehicles released today, saying the rollout of reliable charging infrastructure on key routes will be essential to encourage the uptake of electric freight vehicles.

"If freight logistics operators are going to make the switch to electric vehicles, they must have confidence they will be able to charge those vehicles when and where they need to," said ALC CEO, Kirk Coningham.

"The ALC Electric Vehicles Working Group has clearly identified a lack of confidence in the availability of charging infrastructure as a barrier to greater uptake of electric vehicles in the industry."

"This point was heavily emphasised in the <u>submission</u> ALC made to Transport for NSW last year, as the plan released today was being developed."

"ALC is pleased that today's announcement addresses this issue and specifically commits to the installation of fast-charging points for electric and hybrid vehicles on key regional routes, including the Newell, Great Western, New England, Pacific and Princes Highways and the Hume Motorway."

"Given the centrality of these corridors to the safe and efficient movement of freight throughout NSW, it is crucial that the NSW Government involves the freight logistics industry when considering the design and location of this charging infrastructure, so that it delivers the right outcomes for industry participants."

"ALC also notes the release of the NSW Government's plan for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs) today."

"As the plan makes clear, governments need to act now to establish the right regulatory frameworks to allow CAVs to operate safely on Australian roads. In particular, it is important that clear protocols are established regarding the use of data, so that the productivity and safety benefits of CAVs can be realised."

"Above all, it will be imperative for NSW to ensure it works cooperatively with other jurisdictions and the Commonwealth as both these plans are rolled out, so that cross-border regulatory inconsistencies do not impede national supply chain efficiency."

"ALC looks forward to engaging further with the NSW Government to ensure that the freight logistics industry is fully involved in the implementation of the plans announced today."

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