

19 April 2023

RACQ welcomes commitment to fuel efficiency standards

Queensland's peak motoring body has welcomed the Federal Government's commitment to introduce a Fuel Efficiency Standard (FES), saying it will help bring Australia in line with the rest of the developed world.

RACQ's Head of Public Policy Dr Michael Kane said the Government's National Electric Vehicle Strategy, announced today, would make the country's transition to electric vehicles more achievable and fairer for consumers.

"A fuel efficiency standard is important to increase the supply of electric vehicles and other fuel-efficient cars into Australia to meet consumer demand," Dr Kane said.

"Australia is one of only two OECD countries still without a fuel efficiency standard which is causing our nation to become a dumping ground for high emission vehicles.

"If we were to continue without any standards, there would likely be a lack of supply and competition for cleaner cars and as a result, higher EV prices.

"Some of our members tell us that they are thinking of buying an EV in the next few years but a number of roadblocks are in the way, particularly when it comes to affordability and supply. A well-designed standard will help address this.

"The quicker we can increase the number of cleaner vehicles on the new-car market, the faster they will become available on the second-hand market, and that's where we will see the real improvement on affordability and uptake."

Dr Kane said the Club also welcomed the Government's recognition that any new standards will need to address the diversity of transport needs across Australia, to ensure motorists have access to the vehicles they need for both work and leisure.

"We need to think about the technology, innovations and opportunities that could reduce the emissions in our light-commercial and 4wd fleet. This will need leadership to change what works for Australia," he said.

RACQ looks forward to working with the Federal Government during the consultation phase and development of the Fuel Efficiency Standard.

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of more than 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.

To read RACQ's submission to the National Electric Vehicle Strategy click [here](#).

Media enquiries: Principal Communications Advisor Lauren Cooney 0418 829 646

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of more than 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.