

CitiPower, Powercor, and United Energy - Ring-fencing waiver - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Darebin Council submission

Darebin Council fully supports efforts to trial deployment of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure to the community.

We consider this will help increase the uptake of electric vehicles within the municipality, which supports Council goals of reducing the community's carbon footprint and addressing the Climate Emergency.

Darebin is a local government within the northern suburbs of Melbourne and is currently serviced by energy distributors CitiPower and Jemena. Within this diverse municipality there are many properties that do not have access to off street car parking. These properties exist predominantly in the southern part of the municipality, which is where CitiPower is the predominant energy distributor.

Darebin has committed to increasing uptake in Electric Vehicles (EVs) through its endorsed Climate Emergency Plan and the Darebin Electric Vehicle Charging Policy. There is concern within our community that the inability of prospective EV owners to access EV charging infrastructure is a major barrier to transitioning away from internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles.

Darebin is part of the Northern Council Alliance (NCA) and endorses the NCA's Community Electric Vehicles Transition Plan. As part of this, the NCA Councils continue to advocate nationally for distribution network service providers to:

- work with distribution network service providers to drive innovation in public charging, improve processes and deliver a public charging EV network in conjunction with the Victorian Government
- trial street EV charging for residential areas without resident access to off-street parking.

Darebin is interested in participated in a trial of EV charging infrastructure utilising energy distribution assets

Darebin City Council thanks the Australian Energy Regulator for the opportunity to be a part of the solution of addressing the complex challenges of on street EV Charging Infrastructure, and supports the progress in making distribution assets available for additional on street EV charging infrastructure.

Kind Regards

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