QUEENSLAND: POWERING SUPER TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS

Between 2020 and 2021, the transport (16%) and energy (42%) sectors accounted for 58% of Queensland’s total greenhouse gas emissions combined. To help Queensland lower emissions and foster a range of broad economic benefits, urgent and early intervention is needed to tackle emissions.

On 16 March 2022, the Queensland Government released Queensland’s Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy 2022-2032 and Action Plan 2022-2024. The ZEV Strategy set a vision for a cleaner, greener, integrated transport and energy network that encourages zero emission transport solutions. EVs play an important role in Queensland Government’s target of zero emissions by 2050. The Government also has an interim target of 50% of new passenger vehicle sales to be zero emission by 2030, moving to 100% by 2036.

To complement the Strategy, Queensland is delivering the Queensland Electric Super Highway (QESH) which connects EV drivers across the state and will, when completed, include public fast charging locations from Coolangatta to Port Douglas and Brisbane to Mt Isa (via the Dinosaur Trail locations), Goondiwindi to Emerald, Cunnamulla to Barcaldine and Longreach to Cairns.

The QESH network will consist of 54 fast charging locations delivered across multiple phases in partnership with Yurika, the delivery partner for the QESH.
The QESH is stretched over more than 6,500km, and as of November 2023:

49 sites of the 54 have opened.

30 sites have 1 x 50kW charger and 1 x 22kW charger (all sites opened)

1 site (Hamilton) has 2 x 50kW chargers and 1 x 22kW charger (site opened)

23 sites will have 1 x 75kW charger and 1 x 22kW charger (18 of these sites have opened).

Phase 3 of the Queensland Electric Super Highway will add 23 locations to the existing network to link more regional and rural locations. It will deliver further connections along the Queensland/New South Wales border with a charging site located at Stanthorpe, and another being delivered at Goondiwindi. Once completed, Phase 3 will enable Queenslanders and tourists to travel across the state and access a fast-charging infrastructure network at 54 locations.

QESH participates in the wider efforts to promote the uptake of ZEVs. Queensland Zero Emission Vehicle Rebate Scheme provides eligible Queenslanders rebates of up to $6,000 for eligible new Zero Emission Vehicles purchased from 21 April 2023. With already 29,422 passenger EVs registered in Queensland as of October 2023, the state aims for 200,000 passenger EVs by 2027.