

12 November 2018

Tasmanian Climate Change Office
Department of Premier and Cabinet

Feedback: SUPPORTING A STATEWIDE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING NETWORK,
Consultation Paper, October 2018

A great initiative may benefit electric bike support

I am writing in complete support of a wonderful concept for the increased coverage of charging networks in Tasmania. Globally, governments are moving quickly in support of these types technologies and initiatives, as the public demand for action on climate change grows. There is a unique opportunity for Tasmania due to the largely renewable grid to build on its green ethos and become a leader in Australia. With the added benefit health benefits of conserving what is considered to be globes cleanest air.

The diversification of the project to include electric bikes is that from the angle of a Tasmanian born start-up, of which I am a co-founder, and write on behalf of. The concept of PowerTree is to facilitate and encourage the use of bikes as transport, particularly electric bikes. E-bikes present as a key infrastructure in reducing global climate emissions. Tasmania can become a world leader in integrated vehicle charging networks including E-bike support. Hobart City Council lists traffic congestion and e-bike encouragement in the top priorities, and we believe, we can provide new, innovative, world class solutions to these difficult problems. Far undercutting the current multi-billion dollar solutions proposed for traffic congestion.

Our start-up is in its infancy, but has received significant support and encouragement from industry engagements. Our concept follows demands from e-bike users, and was developed with users in mind. The excitement in our concept of providing safe, secure, solar-powered charging facilities for e-bikes has been very promising. E-bike sales and participation rates are growing, following global trends. We wish to continue to grow our idea, with Tasmania kick starting a multi-solution scalable model to expand globally.

The Tasmanian governments continued and renewed investment and support of a state-wide vehicle network will encourage electric vehicle ownership. I would encourage regular and continued investment over a 5-10 year period for businesses and consumers to be confident of future charging facilities. Once adoption reaches a critical mass, the network will become critical infrastructure and can be monetized to reward the early investment from the Tasmanian Government.

We are more than happy to further detail our concept and work with the consultation panel to achieve common goals.

Thanks for your consideration,

Angus Henderson

Co-founder PowerTree