



6th March 2026

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA)
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SUBMISSION FOR 2026/2027 LEVY FUNDING CONSULTATION

Drive Electric is New Zealand's leading electric mobility industry organisation, representing micro-mobility through to heavy transport. We work with government, businesses, and communities to accelerate the country's transition to electric transport. A substantial part of our role is ensuring sustainable transport is safe, responsible, and builds public confidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed levy funding for the 2026/27 financial year. We respect the significant work completed to date and acknowledge EECA's ongoing commitment to supporting a lower-emissions fleet for New Zealand.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCED PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY

While we support the overarching strategic objectives, we believe there is a vital need for a more robust promotional focus in the following areas;

- Smart and Home-Based Charging:

To protect grid resilience, we urge EECA to lead more intensive promotional work on the benefits of "smart" chargers and the installation of dedicated home and work-based charging solutions.

- Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Transparency:



Given that the unknown TCO is a primary barrier to adoption, we recommend EECA develop authoritative campaigns that clearly demonstrate the long-term savings of electric mobility over traditional internal combustion engine vehicles.

- Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF) Expansion:

We support the intent of the LEHVF to offset the high upfront costs of heavy vehicles. However, we recommend expanding the fund's scope. We would, however, like to see the fund expanded to include light commercial vehicles, specifically courier vans and other "last-mile" delivery vehicles. These vehicles are high-utilisation assets, and incentivising their transition would deliver significant immediate benefits for urban decarbonisation and air quality.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

To further these objectives, we propose a more integrated partnership model that leverages Drive Electric's unique position at the intersection of industry and policy. We are eager to co-host targeted webinars to amplify EECA's key initiatives, providing a platform for technical experts to engage directly with market stakeholders. Additionally, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate on joint white papers and research projects, combining EECA's technical data with our real-world industry insights. To ensure these critical messages reach the right audience, we are also prepared to offer EECA direct access to our extensive membership base through our regular communications and monthly newsletter, facilitating a more seamless flow of information to those driving the transition on the ground

CONCLUSION:

We value our relationship with the Authority and would love to continue to work closely with EECA on these projects. By combining our industry insights with EECA's



technical expertise, we can ensure that these funds are deployed effectively to meet the evolving needs of the New Zealand market.

We look forward to seeing these priorities reflected in the final funding plan and remain committed to supporting New Zealand's transition to a more efficient and sustainable transport system.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kirsten".

Board Chair
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