

Project Brief: Energy Infrastructure and Storage

APPLICATIONS FOR THE E-MOBILITY FIELD

- In recent years, New Zealand's share of electric transport has grown significantly due to a combination of Government subsidies for EVs and climate change objectives.
- The German-New Zealand Chamber of Commerce (GNZCC) is working together with German businesses (mostly SMEs) offering solutions and products for electric vehicle charging stations, traffic management software, energy efficiency and charging stations.
- The project facilitates effective knowledge exchange between Germany and New Zealand- helping New Zealand move forward with its decarbonisation objectives and to implement the fit-for-purpose e-mobility infrastructure.

Overview

The E-Mobility Project, a funded project through the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs' (BWRK) 'Energy Export Initiative' connects leading technologies in energy infrastructure and e-mobility solutions with New Zealand's needs for up-to-date electric transport infrastructure.

What's the issue?

Since 2017 New Zealand's light EV fleet has increased **significantly**. EVs now make up **11% of** New Zealand's market share. This growth is attributed to current subsidies for clean, low-emissions vehicle transport and the NZD\$100 million "Low Emissions Transport Fund" that seeks to increase the market share of electric transportation- including for heavy transport like buses and trucks.

Aspects of this package include a complete public transport decarbonisation, via electrification of rail, buses, and ferries. This means by 2025, the Government will only allow zero-emission public transport buses to be purchased. In Auckland, the local transport agency has 152 battery-powered buses on order. The push toward an e-mobility transition is gradual, however, works toward the zero-emission target cemented by the Climate Change Response Act 2002. It also accounts that transport is currently responsible for **20% of New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions**.

The problem is, with the growing EV usage throughout the country comes an increasing demand for supporting infrastructure such as charging stations or traffic management software. Currently, there is **one public charger for every 92 EVs** in New Zealand. This proportion is higher in rural areas, where E-Mobility infrastructure is minimal.

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New Zealand's Light EV Adoption Projections



Source: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority, 2023

How can the E-Mobility project help?

With surging demand for electric vehicles and carbon-free transport over the coming years, it is evident that E-Mobility infrastructure must meet New Zealand's needs. Particularly, since the current infrastructure is concentrated in urban areas, which may hinder inter-city transportation due to the lack of infrastructure in rural areas. This problem has been acknowledged by all echelons of government, and infrastructure plans are in the pipeline.

The E-Mobility Project will help connect German expertise and cutting-edge solutions from industry leaders to New Zealand's needs. These solutions are wide-ranging and useful in several different scenarios- from urban settings to heavy transport.

Benefits

The project presents bilateral benefits to the German manufacturers and New Zealand. From the German side, it gives manufacturers an opportunity to showcase supporting infrastructure and break into a new market where E-Mobility infrastructure is in strong demand.

For New Zealand it will enable greenhouse gas emission targets to be met and the supporting infrastructure to be established which meets future demand- especially in rural and heavy transport settings. This will smoothen the transition by filling an essential gap in energy saving systems and charging stations.

How will the E-Mobility project run?

The GNZCC, in collaboration with BMWK, is undertaking a target market analysis and developing a market entry strategy for German businesses providing solutions tailored to New Zealand's need. It will identify key needs and stakeholders in E-Mobility infrastructure. The analysis will be presented during an industry conference in Germany to German technology providers. We are now gathering several service/solutions providers to visit New Zealand in late-2023. The GNZCC will support all aspects of the market entry, including facilitating project procurement and business-to-business talks.

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