



Cabinet Committee Background Information and Talking Points

Cabinet Committee: *Legislation (LEG)*

Paper Title: *Electric Vehicles - Subordinate Legislation to support Energy Innovation Bill*

Portfolio: *Transport*

Officials Attending:

- *David Bowden, Chief Legal Adviser, Transport*
 - [REDACTED], *Principal Adviser, Transport*
- Withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982

Background Information:

- *On 21 March 2016, Cabinet agreed to a package of measures to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) [CAB-16-MIN-0108.01 refers]. These included exempting electric vehicles from Road User Charges and allowing them to use special vehicle lanes.*
- *These instruments implement those policy decisions at subordinate legislation level. They are consequential on the passage of the Energy Innovation (Electric Vehicles and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2017, which made the necessary changes to the primary legislation, and amend the:*
 - *Land Transport Act 1998 to make it clear that bylaws can be made allowing EV's in special vehicle lanes*
 - *Road User Charges Act 2012 to Orders in Council being made to exempt heavy electric vehicles from payment of RUC (that Act already contains a power to exempt light EV's).*
- *The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Ministry of Justice, the New Zealand Police, the Parliamentary Counsel Office and The Treasury were consulted on this paper. DPMC were informed.*

Talking Points:

- *This paper seeks approval to submit two land transport amendment rules and a road user charges exemption order to the Executive Council.*
- *The two land transport rules will be made under the Order in Council procedure in the Land Transport Act, as opposed to being made at ministerial level. This is to expedite the process and the statutory consultation requirement, given consultation occurred at select committee.*

- *The Land Transport (Road User) Amendment Rule 2017 amends the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 to make it lawful for electric vehicles to be driven in bus lanes and high occupancy vehicle lanes (subject to the road controlling authority making a bylaw permitting this).*
- *Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices Amendment 2017 amends Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices 2004 to prescribe road signs and markings relating to the use of electric vehicles.*
- *The Road User Charges (Exemption Period for Heavy Electric RUC Vehicles) Order 2017, made under the Road User Charges Act 2012, exempts heavy electric RUC vehicles from the payment of road user charges until the end of 2025.*
- *The instruments will come into force on 1 September 2017.*

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