

11 August 2026

Hello,

I saw that you are actively seeking public feedback on EV incentives and grid integration, so I wanted to forward my initial proposal along with the response I received from Director General Alistair Jones.

As an EV owner with solar panels and a home battery installed, my main feedback is that roughly 80% of charging happens at home where energy is virtually free. Public charging only serves the minority without home charging options or drivers on regional transit between work sites across WA.

Because public chargers have to compete with near-free home charging, private enterprise faces marginal profit margins and high management overhead, leaving little financial incentive for businesses to invest heavily in public networks.

I believe policy needs to recognize that home charging is the true engine room of EV adoption, and supporting smart residential setups is the most cost-effective way to manage grid demand.

Regarding the public infrastructure we do have, the current user experience has too much friction. Forcing drivers to download and create separate accounts across a multitude of apps is a major barrier. Standardizing direct PayWave payments on public chargers would be far superior for daily convenience. Alternatively, introducing a centralized subscription model tied to a vehicle's license plate and a PIN code would create a seamless "plug and charge" experience across the state.

Finally, at locations like Transperth commuter parking bays, the government has a great opportunity to build overhead solar shade canopies directly over the charging spaces. Feeding that daytime solar power directly into the charger itself or buffering it into a site battery for excess energy to supply to surrounding suburbs would significantly drive down operational costs as well as energy costs for all residents, further welcoming the transition to EV adoption.

This would in turn lower the price to charge the vehicle and give commuters a genuine incentive to "park and charge" while taking public transport to their destination.

I have attached my previous correspondence with the Department below for your reference. Thank you for taking the time to consider this feedback, and I would be happy to discuss these ideas further as part of the consultation.

Kind regards,

Matthew Burn
Alkimos / Eglinton, WA