



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 38]

Redirected to: N/A

In relation to: Consultation with Calwell management

Hearing Date: 24 July 2024

QTON lodgement date: 24 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 30 July 2024

MS LEE: But in this case they did and then you guys came along and just sort of put one in 50 metres down the track. Did you say five years they first approached—they said to government five years ago. I mean, it is fair enough a few months I think Mr Rutledge said, but five years that is just getting beyond a joke, is it not?

Mr Rattenbury: What do you mean, Ms Lee?

MS LEE: Five years ago that the Calwell Centre approached the government to talk about getting the chargers on ACT government land, getting access to it, and they got no response for five years.

Mr Rattenbury: I do not know if they got no response. I would need to check the records on that.

Shane Rattenbury MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Communication between Calwell Shopping Centre (Tsoulias Group) and ACT Government regarding electric vehicle charging stations began prior to the ACT Government starting a competitive grants program to assist the installation of EV chargers.

- In December 2015 – Mr Con Tsoulias of the Group wrote to Minister Gentleman to raise the idea of hosting public electric vehicle (EV) chargers at a location near Calwell Shopping Centre. In Minister Gentleman's reply he stated that whilst supportive in principle, installation of EV chargers was a commercial decision for operators and that should ACT Government support the use of parking for this purpose, then we would seek assurance of the commercial viability and interoperability of the infrastructure for the widest group of

users. Minister Gentlemen also provided a summary of talks with Tesla's proposal to install EV chargers in the ACT. Minister Gentleman also offered to contact Tesla to explore charging at Calwell and provided details for the relevant public servant.

- The issue was again raised during official level discussions in 2016 as part of discussion for the Calwell Group Centre Master Plan.

Recent consultation between Evie Networks and Calwell Shopping Centre Businesses

- Evie Networks began their investigation of the Calwell site in June 2023 and submitted their EPSDD licence application on 18th September 2023. Evie Networks stated in their licence application that they had conducted consultation via a mail-out to all nearby businesses in August 2023, and no responses were received.
- In an email received on 24 July 2024, Adrian Bell, Site Acquisition Manager at Evie Networks confirmed to EPSDD that "the attached PDF shows the notification area and letter. I can confirm that the properties within the area defined by the red boundary were included in the notification. The Calwell Shopping Centre at 7 Webber Crescent, Calwell was included in the mailout. I can confirm that the notifications were posted on the 11th of August with the response period open to the 28th of August." The notification area and letter provided by Evie Networks is attached below.
- The chargers installed by Evie Networks offer a different service than those installed by the shopping centre. Evie's two 150kW DC chargers enabling charging in four bays provide fast charging for drivers who cannot charge at home, have limited time, or are travelling on the Monaro Highway. These chargers will come online in August 2024. The two 22kW AC chargers and single 40kW DC charger installed by the shopping centre and made operational in October 2023, will offer a less-expensive, competitive alternative likely to be favoured by shoppers spending an hour or more at the site. Combined, the two sets of chargers will provide a choice of charging solutions, making Calwell Shopping Centre a particularly attractive location for EV drivers.



ANNEXURE B – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Stakeholders within the area shown below were notified by mail about the proposal between the XX August and 28 August.

No feedback or responses were received.

A copy of the notification letter is shown below.

Calwell



PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE – CALWELL SHOPPING CENTRE CAR PARK, WEBBER CRESCENT

Background:

The Australian electric vehicle (EV) industry is in the early stages of development. In cities and regional centres, charging blackspots (areas that do not have convenient access to public fast-charging stations) are an issue. Expanding the charging network will reduce barriers to uptake and support the growing number of Australian individuals and businesses that want to purchase an EV.

In 2022, the ACT Government published the Zero Emissions Vehicles Strategy 2022 – 2030 setting out a vision for the ACT to be a leading jurisdiction in the adoption of zero emissions vehicle technologies. To help implement the strategy, the ACT Government has now published the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Operational Policy. The policy provides guidance about the use of public land for EV charging infrastructure.

Evie Networks is an Australian EV charge point operator, and we are building a nation-wide network of 100% green energy fast chargers to help facilitate the transition to a zero-emission transport sector. Evie Networks is working with the ACT as well as the Commonwealth to provide the infrastructure needed to support the strategies aims and our customers.

Proposal:

Subject to feasibility reviews and application approval from the ACT Government, Evie Networks proposes to install and operate EV chargers in Calwell to provide charging opportunities for residents and visitors.

Evie proposes to install 2 x fast chargers in the Calwell Shopping Centre car park near Domino's Pizza and the Grand Court Chinese restaurant. An indicative depiction of the proposal is shown on the following page.

Key points about the proposal:

- Evie Networks proposes to install 2 x fast chargers and ancillary infrastructure.
- 8 x car parks will be converted to Electric Vehicle Charging Only bays. Charging bays will be designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.
- Evie Networks chargers use 100% Green Power.
- The chargers will be operated and maintained by Evie Networks by Evie's dedicated operations team.
- The usage cost of charging sessions for customers will be based on kWh consumed.

Feedback:

The purpose of this notification is to inform you about the proposal and seek your feedback.

Your feedback about the proposal would be appreciated. If you wish to comment on the proposal, please do so by responding to:

Adrian Bell
Site Acquisition Manager
adrian.bell@govie.com.au
0424 561 831

Feedback is requested by 28 August 2023.

All feedback provided will be reviewed and incorporated into the application and final design process.



Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:

Date:

30/7/24

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Shane Rattenbury MLA