

New Vehicle Efficiency Standard—Cleaner, Cheaper to run Cars for Australia

ITS Australia Submission

March 2024



ITS Australia is the peak body for the transport technology sector and many of our 150+ member organisations play a role at the leading edge of new and emerging technologies to improve safety, sustainability, and efficiency on our transport networks.

ITS Australia commends the Federal Government and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, regional Development, Communications, and the Arts, in pursuing 'Cleaner, Cheaper to Run Cars through the Australian New Vehicle Efficiency Standard' and developing the Consultation Impact Analysis for stakeholder input. We share a common interest in the potential emissions reductions as well as the wider efficiencies and safety benefits these technologies could offer.

As part of a coordinated approach to reduce the emissions from light vehicles, bringing Australia into line with other peer nations, ITS Australia is supportive of the federal government's consultation on the proposed New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (NVES).

Development of a transport technology ecosystem is critical for ITS Australia's members. ITS Australia endorses the governments expansion of policies and legislation that underpin these opportunities to build awareness and development of transport technologies resulting in safer, more efficient, and more sustainable journeys. Many activities underway to develop this ecosystem are outlined in the Commonwealth Government CAV Action Plan (ADD REF). We note that increased vehicle connectivity, including cooperative Intelligent transport system (C-ITS) as outlined in the C-ITS Principles recently endorsed by state and federal government ministers as a positive foundation to the ongoing development of these technologies. These technologies have the potential to support the efficiency outcomes sought by the New Vehicle Efficiency Standard .

As noted in the Consultation Impact Analysis, over 85 percent of cars sold worldwide are covered by a new vehicle efficiency standard, but in contrast, the one million new cars sold in Australia each year are not currently required to meet any level of fuel efficiency. Because of this, Australian new cars use significantly more fuel than new cars on the road in Europe and the United States.

This advancement also enables Australians to lean into the innovation strengths of the automotive industry and encourages vehicle manufacturers to innovate and offer affordable low emission vehicles that are attractive to Australian consumers.

Emissions standards are an important part of an organised approach to decarbonisation, but beyond the efficiency benefits there are potential wider impacts including the sustainability and safety benefits of these new vehicles.

Australian governments have the shared targets of halving road deaths by 2030 and achieving zero road deaths by 2050, as well as reaching a target of net-zero emissions by 2050. Connected and automated vehicles technology has very real potential to assist in these endeavours.

ITS Australia also strongly support alignment with the EU and other international design rules and safety interventions and support additional Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS) and automated driving system (ADS) functionalities as international vehicle regulations are developed and foster collaboration across the Commonwealth, states and territories to deliver an integrated national AV regulatory framework.

Building on the existing regulatory frameworks that have been developed over the past five years by state and federal governments, ITS Australia strongly endorse a harmonised approach and alignment with the EU and international design rules and safety metrics to minimise barriers to entry and deployment of these important vehicle technologies while acknowledging and responding to any unique Australian characteristics.

Emerging and future technologies will provide enhanced in-vehicle and network safety, sustainability and efficiency; however the deployment of these technologies needs government consideration and oversight. Industry is keen to work with government to best deliver these technologies, and ITS Australia is well placed to help facilitate these discussions and activities.

To facilitate any future engagement, ITS Australia Policy Manager Stacey Ryan can be contacted at Stacey.ryan@its-australia.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Harris
Chief Executive Officer

itsaustralia

Intelligent Transport Systems

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER

