



Media release

For immediate release

ACT public fast charging gets another A-minus

On Friday 12 December, the ACT branch of the Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) conducted an audit of every public DC fast charger in the ACT ahead of the Christmas and New Year holiday period. The first audit was completed earlier this year, before Easter, and AEVA gave an A-minus grade for the condition of the charging network at the time.

Audits are completed by a small team of volunteers who simultaneously test EV chargers around Canberra. Each station is checked for physical condition, whether it is in service, charging speed and whether the charging apps give correct information.

There has been a welcome increase in charger availability. A total of 140 plugs were checked across all 34 sites, a 37% increase since last Easter. Six plugs were out of service including one that was damaged. One site had three of its four plugs out of service, but the density of charging stations in Canberra now gives EV users other options close by. "AEVA considers this to be a satisfactory result ahead of the holiday period", said Dr Peter Campbell, AEVA spokesperson.

Charging speeds were tested on charging stations where no other vehicles were present. "This gives us confidence that ample electrical power is being provided to the charging station, although drivers may see slower charging rates when stations are close to fully occupied", said Dr Campbell.

Other findings from the audit included a display screen on a charger that was difficult to read in daylight, several instances of poor directional signage to guide drivers, and a broken kerb restricting access to a charging bay. AEVA has reported these problems to the relevant operators.

AEVA conducts EV charger audits periodically on behalf of EV drivers to ensure that charging stations are being kept in good operational order. "While many local EV drivers only use public charging on trips away from Canberra, those without home charging rely on it heavily, as do visitors to Canberra", said Dr Campbell.

Ends

About AEVA

The Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) LTD is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the cause of switching Australia's transport networks to electric drive as quickly as possible. Formed after the oil price shocks of 1973, the AEVA is the longest continuously running EV society in the world.

We represent all EV users and enthusiasts, current and prospective.

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