Shire of Exmouth

26 April 2024

SUMMARY

- Innovative Horizon Power Orchestration Trial explores how EV energy flow can be integrated into microgrids.
- Technology could help power homes, reduce power bills, and stabilise the electricity grid.
- Horizon Power allocated five bidirectional capable Electric Vehicles to key stakeholders in the community.

REVVING UP FOR CHANGE: EXMOUTH'S PIONEERING ROLE IN HORIZON POWER'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE TRIAL

The Shire of Exmouth has embarked on a groundbreaking 12-month Horizon Power Orchestration Trial, taking the first steps into the world of Electric Vehicles (EVs) and microgrids. This innovative trial explores how EV energy flow can be integrated into microgrids.

Horizon Power, the driving force behind this trial, is spearheading Western Australia's inaugural Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) capability experiment. If successful, V2G could help power homes, reduce power bills, and stabilise the electricity grid.

The primary objective is to evaluate the potential of its management system and explore the feasibility of leveraging EVs as mobile energy storage solutions. This cutting-edge approach holds the promise of reshaping the energy landscape, paving the way for a more resilient and adaptive power infrastructure. This is a remarkable leap towards sustainable energy solutions and a testament to the forward-thinking nature of all trial partners involved.

As energy consumption in Exmouth fluctuates significantly due to daily and seasonal demand, particularly during school holiday periods. The unique energy dynamics of the town make it an ideal candidate for this pioneering study, especially as the majority of participating partners will source solar energy to charge the cars during 'driving downtime'.

As part of this exciting initiative, five bidirectional capable Electric Vehicles have been allocated to key stakeholders in the community. The Shire of Exmouth, Gascoyne Development Commission, Exmouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and WA Country Health Service Exmouth are all set to be part of this trial. Their involvement underscores the collaborative spirit and shared commitment to embracing sustainable energy practices in the region.

COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO THE SHIRE -MATT NIIKKULA, SHIRE PRESIDENT

hailt for choice

"The initiative to incorporate Electric Vehicle (EV) energy flow into microgrids is not only innovative but also demonstrates a commitment to environmental consciousness. Council is looking forward to seeing the positive impact this trial will have on Exmouth's energy management and overall sustainability efforts. Kudos to all the organisations involved for leading the way in embracing new technologies for the benefit of the community and the environment!"



"The Shire of Exmouth's involvement in the 12-month Horizon Power Orchestration Trial is truly groundbreaking. The trial not only signifies a truly progressive way to find solutions suitable for remote regional towns but also demonstrates Council's commitment to sustainable energy solutions. This initiative will undoubtedly pave the way for a greener and more energy-efficient future for the entire com"

COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO WA GOVERNMENT – HON. REECE WHITBY, MINISTER FOR ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION

"This trial represents a significant milestone for WA's renewable energy uptake."

"The outcomes of this trial will allow Horizon Power to understand how two-way EV charging can contribute to a sustainable and efficient energy future for our State."

"This builds on the Cook Labor Government's commitment to delivering vital infrastructure to support the uptake of EVs throughout WA, including through the WA EV Network and the provision of Charge Up grants."

COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO HORIZON POWER – STEPHANIE UNWIN, CEO

"Horizon Power is committed to exploring this innovative technology to provide customers with more choice and to prepare for the anticipated increase in power supply in response to residential, fleet, and visitor EV charging needs within regional Western Australia."

"It is destinations such as Exmouth, with World Heritage listed Ningaloo Reef, that easily and visibly remind us all why the work we do towards reducing emissions is important."

------ ENDS ------

Sandra Flint, Coordinator Communications, Shire of Exmouth M: 0459 431 439 | E: sflint@exmouth.wa.gov.au

hailt for choice