

DRIVING THE NATION PROGRAM 2022 FOCUS AREAS

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Australian Government
Australian Renewable
Energy Agency

ARENA

DRIVING THE NATION PROGRAM 2022 FOCUS AREAS

FOCUS AREA 1: SUPPORTING INTEGRATION OF BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLES (BEVs) INTO LIGHT VEHICLE FLEETS

- › We are seeking to help Australian businesses and other organisations move towards a decarbonised transport fleet, by helping to integrate BEV passenger vehicles, SUVs and light commercial vehicles (vans and utes) (Light Vehicles) into their fleets.
- › We are looking to support the following:
 - Charging infrastructure, electrical upgrades and installation costs to help reduce the current total cost gap of BEVs.
 - Integration of managed charging to optimise the integration of BEVs into the electricity system.
 - A mix of different innovative solutions and business models to BEV integration including depot smart charging upgrades, home smart charging for employees and contractors, and other hardware and software solutions.
- › Funding support for the direct costs of Light Vehicles is not included in this Focus Area.
- › Projects must include:
 - The deployment of light BEVs, charging and electrical infrastructure into:
 - a single fleet; or
 - through the aggregation of multiple smaller fleets into a combined larger application for funding;
 - A commitment by Applicants and/or their partners to transition to BEVs as part of their proposal with larger commitments to be considered of higher merit; and
 - Commit to source renewable energy and / or green certificates to cover electricity usage for BEVs.
- › ARENA expects to fund grants of at least \$1 million.

FOCUS AREA 2: SUPPORTING INTEGRATION OF BEVs INTO HEAVY VEHICLE FLEETS

- › We are seeking to help Australian businesses and other organisations decarbonise their heavy transport fleet, by supporting the deployment and integration of heavy BEVs including trucks and buses.
- › We are looking to support the following:
 - Charging infrastructure, electrical upgrades and installation costs to overcome the current cost gap of BEVs.
 - A portion of the upfront vehicle costs to help overcome the initial cost premium of heavy BEVs where there is a justifiable economic gap.
 - Evidence of a firm supply commitment to securing and operating heavy BEVs in the proposed use case. Applicants must be able to demonstrate firm evidence (including from vehicle suppliers) of the ability to deliver compliant vehicles within 18 months of the award of ARENA funding.
 - Integration of managed charging to optimise the integration of BEVs into the electricity system.
 - A mix of different innovative solutions and business models to BEV integration including depot smart charging upgrades and other hardware and software solutions.
 - A range of industries to decarbonise, including transportation, agriculture and mining.
 - For bus fleets, demonstration of new innovative approaches to charging.
 - As part of a broader project with vehicles, ARENA may support the development of publicly available chargers that are suitable for freight and logistics customers, when they are helping to unlock greater use cases for Heavy BEVs.
- › Projects must include:
 - The deployment of heavy BEVs, charging and electrical infrastructure into:
 - a single fleet; or
 - through the aggregation of multiple smaller fleets into a combined larger application for funding; and
 - A commitment by Applicants and/or their partners to transition to BEVs as part of their proposal with larger commitments to be considered of higher merit; and
 - Commit to source renewable energy and / or green certificates to cover electricity usage for BEVs.
- › ARENA expects to fund grants of at least \$1 million.

FOCUS AREA 3: COMMERCIALISE HYDROGEN AS A TRANSPORT FUEL

- › Hydrogen is an emerging fuel source for transport. At present, there is a limited range of commercially available fuel cell electric vehicles. ARENA funding under Focus Area 3 will only be available to projects that demonstrate sufficient evidence of vehicles commercially available.
 - › We are helping Australian businesses and other organisations integrate the use of hydrogen into their transport fleet, by supporting the deployment of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and associated hydrogen infrastructure such as refueling stations.
 - › We are looking to support the following:
 - Hydrogen infrastructure such as electrolyzers, refuelers and storage.
 - A portion of the upfront heavy vehicle costs to help overcome the initial cost premium of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.
 - Demonstrations of either back-to-base hydrogen use cases or intra/interstate journey enablement.
 - › Projects must include:
 - The demonstration and deployment of integrated hydrogen transport solutions which include hydrogen fuel cell vehicles that underpin demand for hydrogen and supporting hydrogen refueling infrastructure (e.g. refuelers, storage);
 - Evidence of a firm supply commitment to securing and operating hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in the proposed use case. Applicants should be able to demonstrate firm evidence (including from vehicle suppliers) of the ability to deliver Australian Design Rule (ADR) compliant vehicles within 18 months of the award of ARENA funding;
 - A commitment by Applicants or their partners to transition to Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles as part of their proposal with larger commitments to be considered of higher merit; and
 - A firm commitment to use renewable hydrogen, produced by electrolysis, powered by renewables or Green Certificates to cover electricity usage.
 - › ARENA expects to fund grants of at least \$5 million.
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NOT CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION

ARENA will not consider support for projects that:

- › Do not include firm commitments to vehicles as part of an integrated project with recharging/refueling infrastructure.
- › Are predominantly public BEV charging and / or public hydrogen refueling without vehicles, which will be considered further in a later Targeted Round.
- › Support charging infrastructure for private individuals with ZEVs that are not owned, leased or otherwise utilised by a business, government agency or other organisation.
- › Are using bio-fuelled vehicles which will be considered in future stages of the Driving the Nation Program.
- › Feasibility or other studies.

Separate Targeted Rounds will be held at a later date to allocate funding to public charging or hydrogen refueling, and smart charger installations for private households. ARENA will provide details for these future rounds on the Driving the Nation Webpage.

Note: Projects that align with the Program Focus Areas of the Driving the Nation Program may not be considered under ARENA's Advancing Renewables Program unless otherwise agreed by ARENA.

Further information is available at
arena.gov.au

Australian Renewable Energy Agency

To explore potential for funding visit:
arena.gov.au/funding

Postal Address

GPO Box 643
Canberra ACT 2601

Location

2 Phillip Law Street
New Acton ACT 2601

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