



Media Release

Monday 22 June 2015

RAC Electric Highway® an Australian first

RAC today unveiled the nation's first Electric Highway, which will connect Perth with Western Australia's south west through a series of fast charging stations.

Executive General Manager, Pat Walker, said the RAC Electric Highway® will provide the opportunity for owners of electric vehicles to now travel between Perth and Augusta.

"This is Australia's first Electric Highway, and it builds on RAC's history of opening up the state to new transport options," Mr Walker said.

"RAC was formed in 1905 when motor vehicles were very rare in Western Australia. Today we see the RAC Electric Highway® as a positive and real contribution toward the growth of this new form of vehicle technology, namely electric vehicles.

"It will provide the infrastructure required to help eliminate the issues currently facing owners of electric vehicles, including 'range anxiety', and for the first time, it will also provide the opportunity for electric vehicles to now visit the State's South West.

The RAC Electric Highway® will also benefit the South West region by attracting electric vehicle drivers to destinations along the route, helping to support the region's tourism industry.

"RAC is committed to promoting environmentally friendly transport options and reducing CO₂ emissions. The RAC Electric Highway® is another step on the road to a sustainable future.

"Electric vehicle owners will be able to charge their cars for free until the end of 2015. This is part of our commitment to give back to the WA community and support sustainable transport options."

In total, eleven fast charging and publicly accessible stations will be installed along the route, with the first six located in Perth, Mandurah, Bunbury, Busselton, Margaret River and Augusta.

The remaining five fast charging stations will be installed in the next few months in Dunsborough, Nannup, Bridgetown, Donnybrook and Harvey. A further charging station in Fremantle will be installed before the end of the year.

The charging stations have been purchased and installed by RAC, while the day to day maintenance will be the responsibilities of local governments.

The RAC Electric Highway® builds on an idea by a WA community-based committee and supports the RAC's sustainable mobility agenda.

"As a member based organisation and a mutual serving more than 800,000 members, including approximately 160,000 in regional WA, the RAC has proudly reinvested its profits to benefit members and the community for 110 years."

Media contact: Kirsty Petrides 0402 781 742

rac.com.au/media