

ELECTRIC VEHICLES — ROAD-USER CHARGE

1323. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer the minister to the decision reached yesterday in the High Court, ruling that Victoria's attempts to impose a per kilometre road-user charge for zero and low-emission vehicles was unlawful on the grounds that states do not have the right to impose such excise taxes on consumption.

- (1) How is this decision likely to impact upon the Cook government's plans to introduce its own road-user charges of 2.5¢ per kilometre for electric vehicle owners and 2¢ per kilometre for hybrid owners from 2027 onward?
- (2) Does the government anticipate any knock-on impacts from the ruling in areas such as car registration, for example, alongside many others that range across a variety of other portfolios?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the Minister for Emergency Services.

- (1)–(2) The government will need to examine the High Court's decision and seek advice to understand its potential implications. The High Court decision highlights the need for a national approach to this issue.