



Media Release

Mitsubishi invites KIC CEO to Japan for E-Mobility study tour

Thursday 28 April 2016: Council CEO Andrew Boardman will attend an Australian study tour to Japan examining the latest initiatives in electric vehicle (EV) and battery development with a focus on their integration into the home, office and power grid to best effect.

Hosted and funded by Mitsubishi Australia, the study tour includes senior executives from the energy, media, and battery manufacturing industries. The study tour will look at the latest in battery storage, smart grid and building technology. Members will also meet with executives from Mitsubishi Motors Corporation Japan and the Japanese Government and be given an overview of policy being developed to encourage uptake of EVs and associated technology in Japan.

Council has given its support to Mr Boardman taking the tour.

Mayor Peter Clements said: "This invitation presents a great opportunity for Council. It will provide us with some excellent insights into where the industry is headed, and what that might mean for Kangaroo Island in terms of forward planning for transport and power grid enhancement on the Island."

"The electric vehicle network on Kangaroo Island is one of the first regional networks established in the world, and it has been almost completely funded by the State Government. We need to be alive to opportunities to take it forward. While current electric vehicle and plug-in hybrid vehicle usage is not high, local, national and international interest is high, technology is rapidly changing, and our Community is well positioned to benefit from a well-equipped electric highway."

"We have seen incredible media attention as result of our work to date – it has even resulted in visitation to the Island from as far afield as the UK and USA specifically to utilise the infrastructure while enjoying the delights of our Island."

"Affordable EVs are about to be released with batteries that enable in excess of a 400km range between charges, which will make a big difference to use in a regional/rural context.

"Enabling our CEO to join the study tour will give us first hand exposure to the latest developments in EVs and the associated infrastructure, and insight into where that is heading and how it might be applied to the benefit of our community."

For further information contact:

Mayor Peter Clements

Kangaroo Island Council

P: 0488 552 510

