



THE HON GARY GRAY AO MP
Special Minister of State
Minister for the Public Service and Integrity

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMCAR fleet humming with excitement at electric car trial

COMCAR made automotive history today as the first Australian fleet to welcome and trial an Australian fully-electric car designed with ground-breaking battery switch technology.

Developed by Melbourne-based consortium EV Engineering, the electric Holden Commodore has been designed with the capability to switch its depleted battery for a fully-charged one, which will eliminate long charging times when battery switch infrastructure is available in Australia.

The trial of this zero emissions vehicle will enable COMCAR to consider the viability of introducing electric vehicles into its fleet as older vehicles are decommissioned.

Special Minister of State Gary Gray spoke about the government's commitment to environmental sustainability initiatives as he stepped out of the new fully electric, battery-switchable Holden Commodore.

"A two-week trial around the clock will help COMCAR determine the suitability of electric cars for its 146-car fleet and how these vehicles meet government environmental objectives," Mr Gray said.

"EV Engineering is building seven proof-of-concept electric Holden Commodores with the assistance of a \$3.5 million grant from the Australian Government's *New Car Plan for Greener Future*. We're delighted to be part of this project and to have the chance to trial one of these innovative cars."

COMCAR will evaluate the vehicle across a range of measures including energy efficiency, Green Vehicle Guide rating, passenger comfort, practicality and luggage capacity.

"This car retains the safety of the standard Commodore with its five-star ANCAP safety rating, so there are no trade-offs for drivers or passengers," said Mr Gray.

CEO of EV Engineering, Ian McCleave said the trial was an exciting opportunity to showcase the electric Commodore in a prestigious, demanding and ideal vehicle fleet.

The greater project is designed to demonstrate technical viability and customer attractiveness for a large electric car, as well as developing electric vehicle engineering skills and components within the Australian automotive industry.

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Some Facts: The electric car has a range of up to 160km and is powered by a 145kW/400Nm motor. So far, 14 public charge spots have been installed in the ACT.