



Suite 1, 79-83 High Street  
Kew, Victoria 3101  
Australia  
+61 (0) 3 7017 2656  
info@lithium-au.com  
lithium-au.com

Lithium Australia Limited  
ACN: 129 129 413  
ASX: LIT

30 August 2024

Dear Standing Committee

Re: Supplementary Information – CCEEW Standing Committee

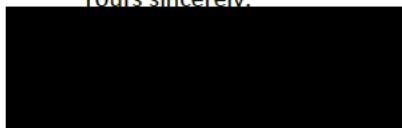
Thank you again for giving Lithium Australia the opportunity to contribute to your committee's inquiry into Australia's transition to electric vehicles. Whilst the pace of growth of EV ownership may fluctuate, it will continue to rise over the coming years, and this presents a range of both opportunities and issues that will require government action. We thank you for your work so far and view this committee's inquiry as the first step towards a strengthened domestic battery recycling sector.

One issue we were unable to cover in significant detail through our appearance was the problems arising from stockpiling of batteries. Right now, across Australia, there are thousands of batteries stockpiled in warehouses, often with insufficient concern for proper storage methods. These batteries are at their end-of-life stage and can easily be processed by organisations like Lithium Australia or others, but manufacturers are choosing to stockpile these batteries whilst they negotiate with foreign operators or await regulatory changes that will allow them to dispose of them for lower costs.

This restriction of supply is a significant hand brake slowing the growth and viability of Australia's battery recycling industry. Right now, Lithium Australia and Envirostream have the capacity to process **50%** more batteries than our current rates, without any changes to infrastructure or our processes. As we mentioned at the hearing, this is made all the more difficult when major manufacturers decide to suspend their contracts and take their batteries offshore to jurisdictions where processing is cheaper, primarily due to lower labour costs as well as reduced safety and environmental standards.

We note that the Committee is seeking to visit our Melbourne recycling operations. We look forward to hosting such a visit.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Linge  
CEO  
Lithium Australia

Divisions of Lithium Australia

