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**Euroa leading the charge with Australian-first electric vehicle technology**

The Strathbogie Shire is fast becoming renowned as leaders in environmental sustainability and solar energy with the recent launch of Australia's first ultra-rapid electric vehicle charging station at the Euroa Shell Service Centre.

Australian electric vehicle company Chargefox signed a deal with leading European luxury car manufacturers, including Audi, Jaguar, Land Rover and Mercedes-Benz, to build a nationwide network of ultra-rapid charging stations for electric vehicles.

Minister for Energy Lily D'Ambrosio attended to open the station and announce the Andrews Labor Government's rollout of \$2 million to support charging stations in Melbourne, Ballarat, Horsham, Torquay and Traralgon, boosting tourism opportunities for these regions.

The station at Euroa is capable of fully charging an electric vehicle in under 15 minutes, sourced from 100 per cent renewable energy.

The charging station will dramatically reduce charging time for drivers, capable of delivering up to 400 kilometres of range in 15 minutes, the fastest of any charger currently deployed in Australia.

Minister D'Ambrosio said uptake of electric vehicles will help us reduce emissions and tackle climate change.

"More Victorians will be driving electric vehicles in the future, that's why we're building the infrastructure to be ready to meet this demand," Minister D'Ambrosio said.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the ultra-rapid charging station is a great outcome for the environment and the local economy.

"Being a prime location between Melbourne and Albury on the Melbourne to Sydney route, it is no surprise Euroa was selected as the first location on the network," Mayor McClaren said.

"The Euroa electorate also has the highest proportion of rooftop solar in Victoria, largely driven by our innovative Bogie Bulk Buy Program, where we assisted our residents in sourcing expert advice and solar at a bulk buy price."

"Electric vehicles are the future and we are so excited to be leading the way with the first charge point here in the Strathbogie Shire."

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