Preparation for the cessation of the production of the internal combustion engine.

Dear All

It isn't new news that automobile manufacturers will cease producing conventional internal combustion engines within nine (9) years; some as early as now, others by 2025, and almost all by 2030.

As a country we aren't as prepared for this as we should be. To date we've relied on market-driven solutions to match supply with demand. As evidenced by the extremely poor take-up and by the telecommunications example (lack of services in country areas where economy of scale doesn't provide enough profit), this model won't deliver at the rate required to meet global manufacturing changes. The conundrum for regional Australia, is that unless an artificial economy-of-scale is initially supported by government, the flow-on economic impact will be significant.

What is of concern to me, as CEO of a local government, is that almost always local government is given the task of on-the-ground delivery, or at the very least, facilitating others to deliver. Yet, to date, there hasn't to my knowledge been government invites to, or representation from, either Infrastructure NSW, Infrastructure Australia, or Transport for NSW to Murray River Council or our Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO).

I have the absolute confidence that there is much happening behind the scenes at a macro level. That's my point exactly. To have such a huge paradigm shift will require micro level solutions and implementation. To deliver such a monumental change an enormously successful level of collaboration with all three tiers of government, the automobile industry, energy retailers and distributors, and many others will need to occur.

This submission is simply to raise awareness that local governments right across Australia should be at the forefront in some way or another, and a budget should be placed aside to ensure local government is an integral part of the wider process.

Sincerely

Terry Dodds

CEO
Murray River Council
13/12/21