

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee
The Scottish Parliament,
Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.
netzero.committee@parliament.scot

Our ref:

26 November 2025

Dear Convener,

Thank you for your letter of the 21 November regarding the Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2025 and for setting out the Committee's concerns about the potential impact on zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) manufacture, sales, and associated infrastructure.

The Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (VETS) remains the single most significant policy measure for reducing transport emissions in Scotland. It underpins private investment in public charging infrastructure and supports our Programme for Government commitment to enable the delivery of approximately 24,000 additional public EV charge points by 2030, largely funded and delivered by the private sector.

In April, Scottish Ministers were asked to respond to proposals from the UK Government to amend (VETS) in response to significant economic pressures on the UK automotive sector following the introduction of global tariffs by the Trump administration.

The proposed amendments reflect the need to work in partnership with the other Governments of the UK to ensure a collective approach that supports UK industry whilst also safeguarding Scotland's climate ambitions. UK Government analysis suggests that these changes are likely to result in a reduction in carbon savings from VETS of around 2-3% compared to the original VETS Order.

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It is too early to conclude that these changes will negatively impact ZEV uptake or Scotland's ability to meet its emissions targets. However, Scottish Ministers are committed to keeping the impact of VETS under review.

Yours sincerely,

FIONA HYSLOP
Cabinet Secretary for Transport

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