For immediate release

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ARENA backs Alchemy Charge with $2million to unlock home EV charging for apartment residents

National Strata Assist program combines a standalone digital platform with smart charging technology to tackle approval, installation and cost barriers.

Alchemy Charge has secured $2 million in co-funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) for a nationwide program to make home electric vehicle charging more accessible for apartment residents.

The $7.4 million Strata Assist program will tackle the uncertainty around strata approvals, installation requirements and costs that can stall charging projects and discourage EV purchases.

Around 4.1 million Australians, about 15% of the population, live in strata, according to UNSW City Futures Research Centre's Australasian Strata Insights 2024, revised October 2025.

Strata Assist brings together a standalone digital engagement platform and affordable smart charging infrastructure to help residents, landlords, strata managers and owners corporations move from uncertainty to informed decisions about charging at home.

Program partners include Origin Energy, Climate Salad and NHP.

For existing EV owners, uncertainty about strata permissions, electrical requirements and installation costs can leave them relying on charging away from home. For prospective buyers, those same unanswered questions can delay the decision to go electric.

Yasemin Selvi

CEO

Alchemy Charge

“People shouldn’t have to become experts in strata processes or electrical infrastructure just to work out whether they can charge an electric car at home,” said Yasemin Selvi, CEO of Alchemy Charge.

“Whether you already drive an EV or are thinking about buying one, the questions are often the same: Can I get approval? How difficult will installation be? And what will it cost?

“Strata Assist is about helping people work through those questions, bringing the right parties together and giving apartment communities a practical way forward.”

The standalone Strata Assist digital platform is scheduled to launch on 1 February 2027. It will give residents, landlords, strata managers and owners corporations a clearer pathway to home charging, bringing information, communication, quoting and approval workflows into a shared digital process.

By helping participants understand installation options, costs and building requirements, the platform aims to reduce administrative delays and support informed investment in charging suited to each building’s needs and available electrical capacity. It will also support installation tracking and compliance processes, guiding participants through the permissions and technical assessments required to move projects forward.

Alongside the platform, the program will deploy Alchemy Charge’s SmartPoint charging infrastructure to help buildings accommodate EV charging while making better use of existing electrical capacity.

SmartPoints are individually metered smart power sockets supported by cloud-based load management. The technology manages charging demand within a building’s assessed electrical capacity, helping reduce the need for costly main switchboard upgrades where site conditions allow. Installations remain subject to electrical assessment and design.

Origin Energy will act as the charge point operator for participating buildings, integrating SmartPoints and supported

Level 2 chargers with its Origin 360 EV Charge Platform and supporting project delivery, maintenance and ongoing operations.

Together, the digital platform and charging technology aim to overcome practical barriers to EV adoption, helping apartment communities adapt to changing transport needs and supporting Australia's transition to a lower-emissions future.

"Building a more sustainable future starts with making change practical," Selvi said.

"We're helping apartment communities understand their options, make the most of the infrastructure they already have and invest confidently in what they need."

The program will also generate and share findings on charging costs, governance barriers and installation approaches. These insights will help strata managers, owners corporations, installers, charging operators and policymakers make more informed decisions about apartment EV charging.

Apartment residents, EV owners, prospective buyers, landlords and strata representatives can find out more and register their interest at https://www.alchemycharge.com.au/strata-assist.

This Project received funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) as part of ARENA's Driving the Nation Program.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily the views of the Australian Government, and the Australian Government does not accept responsibility for any information or advice contained herein.

Source for strata population estimate:
Easthope, H., Lu, Y. and Rivera, A. (2025), Australasian Strata Insights 2024, Sydney: UNSW City Futures Research Centre, revised October 2025

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About Alchemy Charge

Alchemy Charge is an Australian EV charging company founded in 2020 by Yasemin and Merich Selvi. It makes the SmartPoint smart power socket and the Alchemy IQ platform.

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