Publicly Accessible Charging Point Operators Authorisation

The Government has launched its first National Policy for Electric Vehicle Public Charging Infrastructure, aimed at making charging infrastructure accessible to the public, to enable electric vehicles to circulate in urban and densely populated areas as well as facilitate charging for all residents across Malta and Gozo. The following procedure is to be followed to install publically accessible electric vehicle charging points. If the charging point will not be publicly accessible, one will not need to apply for such authorisation from the Regulator, however all other necessary permits need to be obtained.

Step 1

Only businesses authorised by the Regulator for Energy and Water Services (REWS) can install publicly accessible EV Charging Infrastructures. Application for the grant, renewal or transfer of an authorisation to act as an operator of publicly accessible charging infrastructure can be found here.

The costs for applying for this authorisation are as follows:

- i. A non-refundable application fee of five hundred Euro (€500) for a new authorisation application or renewal of an existing authorisation
- ii. A fee of seventy-five Euro (€75) for each charging point payable every three years from date of issue of grant of the authorisation.

Authorisation is granted by the Regulator for a period of 12 years and this process can take up to six months.

Step 2

Authorised CPOs can either identify the location to install the charging pillars themselves or else bid to install the charging pillars on pre-determined sites which will be allotted periodically by Government through public tender/calls for expression of interest.

If the location is identified by the CPO, it is important for the applicant to obtain consent/necessary authorisation from the title holder of the land. It is also recommended that the applicant contacts the local council to obtain clearance in writing.

CPOs can check with the Lands Authority if the land identified is Government owned; in which case they would need to obtain consent from the Lands Authority by filling in application PLA1: https://onlineportal.landsauthority.org.mt/Application/PLA1, prior to apply for a permit with the Planning Authority (Step 3).

It is very important that as soon as the site is identified, the CPO consults with Enemalta Corporation to discuss the feasibility of connecting with the electricity grid from that location. CPOs would need to obtain a 'no objection' for the connection of the charging point(s) by submitting an email to evconsult.em@enemalta.com.mt. Enemalta will evaluate the application and revert back with the conditions for connection to the grid of the charging points, and a quotation for works.

The CPO will also need to consult with Enemalta to determine whether trenching works are required. If trenching works need to be carried out these can either be done by Enemalta and included in the works quotation; or else the CPO will need to apply with Transport Malta for a trenching permit. Road intervention works can be carried out solely by contractors who are registered with Transport Malta. A full list of these registered contractors may be viewed here. Trenching works guidelines can be found here:- Trenching Excavation Guidelines - Transport Malta (gov.mt).

Step 3

The CPO must then apply for the necessary planning permits through his/her perit.

In most cases only a Development Notification Order (DNO) will be required, however it is advisable that the Planning Authority are consulted as an exception applies in the case of certain areas as detailed in item (viii) of Class 5 - Development related to public utility services, more information can be found here: https://legislation.mt/eli/sl/552.8/mlt.

More information on the permitting process of the Planning Authority can also be found here: Planning Authority (pa.org.mt)

Step 4

The CPO will then need to apply with Transport Malta for a Signage and Marking Permit to install the charging point (which is considered as street furniture). The application form can be accessed here: https://www.transport.gov.mt/land/roads-and-traffic-management/traffic-management-division/permanent-traffic-management-forms-4523

Step 5

Once all permits are obtained the CPO can install the charging points and apply with ARMS Ltd by submitting an EV application form which may be downloaded from ARMS website, to be provided with the necessary meter using the link: https://arms.com.mt/en/services/apply-for-a-service/applications-forms

Step 6

Once the charging points are commissioned, the CPO must register each charging point with REWS using the appropriate application.

More information can be found here.

You can also request a meeting by contacting Business 1st on 144.

last updated April 2023