

## Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

**Submission No:** 313  
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### Submitter Comments:

I'm going to try to be logical here as there are other issues surrounding E-Bikes other than public safety. Firstly, an E-Bike is controlled by an electric MOTOR. The word MOTOR is the most important part to this submission. An E-Bike is virtually a "motorised bike" or a "motorbike". There are no 2 ways about this as it's just a fact. The fact that it is a "motorbike", the same laws and regulations should apply for all E-Bike users as the Road Motorbikes users. So, we need to enforce that a licence is required to handle an E-Bike which will lead to driver education and safety. Also, Registration needs to be paid to use all roads and public footpaths as the same with Road Motorbikes. So in essence, we need to treat E-Bikes the same way we treat the Road Motorbikes. In a court of law, an E-Bike will be proven to be a Road Motorbike when it comes to public liability or any other issues. The main issue I have with E-Bikes is that you need to be at least 16 to apply for a motorbike learners licence, and 18 for a motorbike full licence yet we have 10-15 year olds on E-Bikes on our roads. This is the part I am struggling with in relation to the logic of the road rules concerning Road Motorbikes. An Electric Bike on the road is a Road Motorbike on the road. Also, the fact that these E-Bikes can reach speeds up to 90km on our roads is a blight to where we are now. I shouldn't have to be writing this submission in what was an obvious thing to regulate such bikes not only for public safety but to equally treat E-bikes as Road Motorbikes because that's what they are. How we let young 10 to 15 year old kids on such a bike is mindboggling, and many without helmets too. They are way too immature to be given such responsibility on our roads at such speeds. I can't believe how irresponsible some parents are to even let their kids ride on the roads up to 50-60km without knowing where they are. I'm sure there are some parents that would be worried about their kids owning an E-Bike as we all know how dangerous our roads are, especially if you are allowing 10-15 year olds on the road as our current infrastructure doesn't allow for this. My 84 year old mum hates E-Bikes as they wizz past her on the footpaths without any warning or bell. The fact that they are so much faster than a pedal bike makes it so dangerous for elderly people like my mum or even mothers pushing a pram who can just veer to one side ever so slightly that the E-Bike won't have time to react to stop or move to one side. In summary, I just want E-bikes or even scooters for that matter to be treated the same way as Road Motorbikes because like I said earlier, in a court of law, by definition, they are the same yet the rules and regulations surrounding both are so vast and different that it is highly illogical. To top it off, we let minors as young as 10 to 15 year olds to control these E-Bikes with no licence or regulations or driver education. They are just kids with no awareness and responsibility, and we all know what 10-15 year olds do in the company of other kids in relation to peer group pressure and showing off. Anyway, there has to be a huge overhaul on E-Bikes as things will only get progressively worse, especially when we have so many E-Bike users on the road at the moment. To be honest, I'm not really too sure why we are at this stage as the lawmakers should have done something about this years ago when the first E-Bikes came into circulation. It shouldn't need our submissions or public outcry to formulate an outcome which is pretty obvious and logical to me. Thank you, John