

## **Facts about electric vehicles – ecological and economic benefits**

The electric vehicles have enormous ecological benefits - they do not generate carbon emissions and contribute to the reduction of other harmful gases and fine particles in the atmosphere. The introduction of electric vehicles and the construction of a sustainable urban transport is becoming an important priority of the EU policy.

According to the Euro emission standards:

- A conventional car generates between 12 and 46 kg CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for an annual mileage of 20,000 km per year;
- For electric vehicles these emissions are 0.

By reducing the amount of carbon emissions, resulting from transport, the electric vehicles contribute to limiting climate change. They also contribute to the reduction of air pollution. Reducing air pollution and monitoring air quality is an important priority in the Bulgarian national policy and introducing electric vehicles is a significant step towards fulfilling the obligations of the country under the European Directive for cleaner air in Europe.

In addition to the ecological benefits, in long-term the electric vehicles have major economic benefits:

- At 20,000 km annual mileage the cost for charging an electric car is about 720 leva ; for the same annual mileage the cost associated with a conventional car is about 3150 leva - more than four times as much.
- Moreover, a conventional car has significant costs for oil and maintenance each year - nearly 1,000 lev for an average annual mileage of 20,000 km. In the case of an electric car, these costs are 0.
- All this makes the electric car about 6 times more economical in the long run.

Moreover, electric vehicles are much more practical, especially in busy urban environment. They are very quiet which helps reduce the unpleasant noise associated with big cities. In addition to this, the owners of electric vehicles in Bulgaria have the right of free access to blue / green parking areas, which generates additional economic benefits.