



Slashing costs of electric vehicle charging points will strain grid

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GMB, the energy union, has responded to reports Ofgem plans to slash the cost of electric car charging stations.

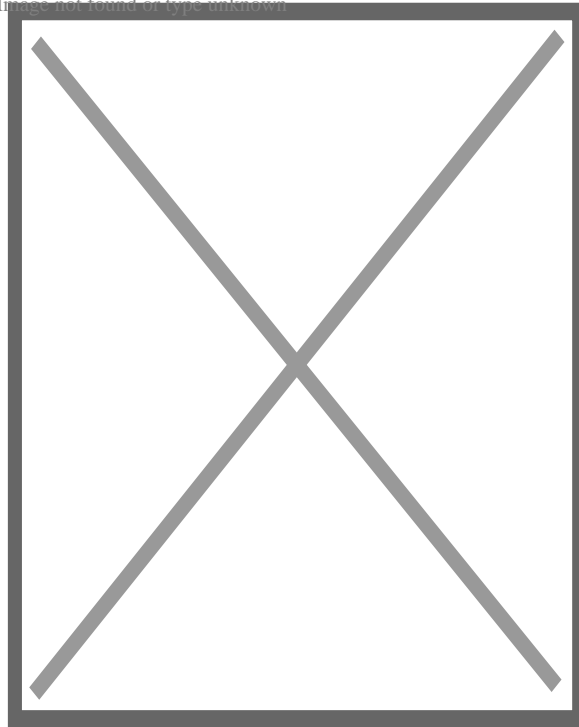
Andy Prendergast, GMB National Secretary, said:

"No one is arguing electric vehicles can make a massive difference in the move towards net zero.

"But there is little doubt this is going to put a massive strain on an electricity grid which is already operating close to capacity.

"There is already a real risk of brownouts as the grid becomes overwhelmed - that's before you add the extra electricity needed for electric vehicles and heat pumps.

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"This is why it's vital we have proper investment in hydrogen-based heating which is fit for purpose and will ensure that the electricity grid can cope.

'The lack of reference to building our own electric charging industry is deeply disappointing.

"We have the workforce and the skills to make us a world leader in this area and instead the Government is happy to rely on imports that have to travel halfway around the world.

"It's time we learned from the mistakes of the past and took the steps necessary to invest in this area, not simply rely on others who will ultimately reap the rewards."