

Accelerating Adoption of Korea-Made Electric City Buses

- Vice Minister of Environment visits city bus operator to discuss promotion of domestically made electric city buses
- Inspects electric bus and charging infrastructure status and holds industry meeting to hear on-site opinions

The Ministry of Environment (Minister Kim Sunghwan) announced that on the morning of July 30, Vice Minister Kum Hanseung will visit Damoa Motors, a city bus operator located in Mapo-gu, Seoul, to inspect the operation of electric buses and charging stations, and hold a meeting with industry officials on ways to promote the distribution of domestically produced electric city buses.

This field visit was arranged as part of the government's policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector and promote electrification in public transportation.

At the meeting held prior to the on-site inspection, participants will closely examine the current status of electric bus distribution and the construction and operation of charging infrastructure, while also listening to on-site challenges and focusing on practical measures to strengthen the competitiveness of the domestic electric bus industry.

As of June this year (2025), the number of registered electric vans in South Korea totals 12,830, of which 11,329 are large buses.

Electric vans have shown a steady increase* in distribution since the full-scale introduction of electric buses began in 2017.

* [Electric buses] (2017) 99 → (2019) 551 → (2021) 1,290 → (2022) 2,074 → (2023) 2,820 → (2024) 3,611 units

Vice Minister of Environment Kum Hanseung stated, “Expanding electric city buses not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions but also helps protect the health of vulnerable groups by improving air quality in densely populated urban areas.” He added, “We will accelerate the transition of the approximately 40,000* registered city buses in the country to domestically produced electric buses.”

* (Source) Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Statistics System data on total registered motor vehicles (as of June 2025)