

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), ldelpercio@comcast.net

Comments on 2022-R-A-0011: Low Emission Vehicle Program

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Organization: No

Comments:

I am fully aware that change can be hard for some people and those imposing change can be met with opposition. When change involves a person's ability to freely choose or make decisions that are in their best financial interest the bar is raised. I am opposed to Governor John Carneys draconian plan to start phasing out gas-powered vehicles by 2026 and introduce electric cars in Delaware. This is not a Democrat, Independent or Republican issue this is a basic needs/necessity a way of life issue that the government needs to keep its hands out of. The cost of living in Delaware is 6% higher than the national average. Housing is 6% higher than the national average. Healthcare is 12.20 % higher. When it comes to basic necessities such as food, clothing, and groceries they are around 5.9% higher than the rest of the country. Finally, utilities come in at 5.2% higher than the national average (2021). Cost of living in Delaware. Best Places. Delawareans are slowly being swallowed up by rising costs and now we are being forced to make another large household purchase just as US households are dealing with rapid budget constraints. The average cost of an electric vehicle is \$40,700 - \$66,000 based on Kelly Blue Books' latest report. How do you expect the average household to afford this? You are putting the Cart (or should I say a car) before the proverbial Horse. The US Department of Energy found that 80% of EV charging is done at home, meaning that an investment in a Level 2 charger is something most EV owners should seriously consider. The addition of level 2 power station will cost on average \$799 - \$1440. I ask you.. 1. What has been done to improve our power grid? How will Delaware handle this increase? What type of energy will fuel this? 2. Will the cost be handed down to Delawareans in form of tax increases, another burden for Delawareans? 3. What happens to middle-class families, Low-income families or seniors on a fixed income who can't afford the car payment or new docking station? How about those same people who live in government/low income housing or apartments? Will you be supplying enough docking stations? Who will pay for these stations? The burdened tax payer? 4. Who will pay for docking stations at apartments? Will this be passed on in the form of higher rent? 5. 16 - 19-year-olds make up 10.8% of the workforce with 9.5% being white and 17. 7% are black based on U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics. Many drive to school as well as after-school sports/activities. How will parents afford an environmentally friendly vehicle? Most homes have 2 working parents. The days of parents running teens around have swiftly moved out the door. Cars are the modern-day freedom for teens. For some in single-parent homes, they are a necessity. I am sure, in doing your research you've taken into account how this energy will be created, knowing that Electric cars rely on regular charging from the local electricity network. The power plants providing that energy aren't emission-free; even in California, 60% of electricity came from burning fossil fuels in 2015, while solar and wind together made up less than 14%. The US gets about a third of its electricity from coal-fired power, according to the International Energy Agency, and more than 40% of total electricity worldwide comes from burning coal. Coal is a fossil fuel. So knowing this, my question is WHY???? You are certainly not benefitting the environment. You do know there is no such thing as "ZERO EMISSIONS"? A recent De Online article stated according to the Department of Energy there are 3,010 registered electric vehicles in Delaware as of June 2022, one of the lowest counts in the country. Projections aim for just over 300,000 electric vehicles by 2035. This speaks volumes to the needs and WANTS of Delaware citizens. Your decision to mandate these changes will negatively affect the citizens of Delaware. I ask you to LISTEN, LISTEN. You may have forgotten, you work for the people of Delaware, START LISTENING TO THEM!