

Subject: Hearing Comments

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 1:27:40 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: MERRYMAN, KENNETH E GS-12 USAF HAF AFMAO/C3

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

CC: ericmerryman21@gmail.com

Good Afternoon,

I want to start off by saying I do not currently own an electric vehicle, but I'm in no way opposed to owning one in the future. I actually support the initiative to offer electric vehicle as an alternative to our current gas, diesel, and hybrid options. I do however have questions on how Delaware plans to support charging electric vehicles. Is our current grid up to the task of increasing the number of electric vehicles in the state by say 30 - 50%? Not including the slew of tourists that come to our state every year to visit the beach. As we found out with our roadways, things can get congested in a hurry and you can find yourself way behind the curve. We found out the hard way our roadway infrastructure is severely lagging for the amount of traffic we see yearly. What types of chargers (Level I, II, III) are going to be installed and where? The gas lines are long in our high tourist areas as it is. Do we think it's feasible to have people wait 30 min - 1 hour to charge their vehicles? I can't imagine what that will look like at the WaWas and Royal Farms across the state. Are we going to make the same mistake with our power grids as we did thinking our roadways could sustain without upgrade for years to come? I'd like to see what research has been done and what initiatives are on the horizon to sustain electric vehicles across the state. I read the news daily and while I have seen this proposal come across headlines many times, I have yet to see an article that conveys any actual research on what our current and future power grid will support. In my opinion, this is like putting the cart ahead of the horse. Instead of mandating electric vehicles, there should be conversations in the Governors office about how we get to a point where that could be a reality. I also haven't seen or heard anyone bring up what power source supplies our current electricity. Are we currently burning fossil fuels to supply electric across Delaware? If so, how come that is not being mentioned when we talk about "zero emissions"? Is there a plan to move away from burning fuel to supply electricity across the state, so that we are truly "green"? I'll close by saying I can appreciate the weight this decisions carries, as you are impacting an entire state full of residents and those that travel here. I'm just hoping that you have the answers to some of these questions before you make that decision. They are questions I would want answered and I know others in Delaware would like answered prior to making a decision with this much impact.

Thank you for your time,

K. Eric Merryman