

## Public Hearing Comments

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

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### Comments:

I am against the ban on gas/diesel car sales for several reasons. 1) Electric cars for SUVs are unaffordable for the middle class making the median salaries in DE. 2) Where are the batteries to be disposed of safely? According to Undark.org, every electric vehicle, and most hybrid vehicles, rely on large lithium-ion batteries weighing hundreds of pounds. Typically made with cobalt, nickel, and manganese, among other components, these batteries cost thousands of dollars and come with an environmental burden: They require ingredients sourced from polluting mines and smelters around the world, and they can ultimately contaminate soil and water supplies if improperly disposed of. None of the lithium-ion batteries in electric vehicles are recyclable in the same sense that paper, glass, and lead car batteries are. lithium-ion batteries will be dumped, incinerated, or exported to countries with weaker standards, where they will contaminate the environment and threaten public health. Nickel has been shown to cause lung and nasal cancers, reduce lung function, and cause bronchitis. Cobalt can cause serious health conditions such as asthma and pneumonia, and it is a possible carcinogen. Exposure to manganese can result in respiratory problems, loss of coordination, and other neurological problems. 3) How are we to maintain our freedom of being able to travel long distances without having to map out certain routes to ensure charging stations? Will this cause aggression to those "fighting" over spots to charge their vehicles? 4) How are people in apartment buildings able to charge their cars? 5) How are people able to afford to have the proper systems installed in their homes that are already on fixed budgets? 6) How are we to get to work if we lost power during the night? 7) How is Delaware going to "stop" the air pollutants from our surrounding states? Are they too going to comply? "We cannot meet our air quality standards without sources in other states taking similar action," said DNREC Secretary David Small. "We need EPA to take steps to level the playing field between the states." Was this passed? 8) Can Delaware's power grids support this? Thank you! Michele