

Public Hearing Comments

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To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources) <DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov>

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

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Organization:

Comments:

My name is Roger Reinicker, and I am a Hockessin resident, but I attend and volunteer at a downtown Wilmington Church, close to I-95 and busy Pennsylvania Avenue. Our church very recently installed two EV charge stations to encourage our congregation, staff and workers and residents in a non-profit at that location to make the transition to electric vehicles. The same building with the EV chargers draws 45% of its power from a rooftop solar array. Recently, the Earth Care Task Force at our church wanted to showcase an EV and explain to the congregation its features and benefits. I asked a local GM dealer to bring a car to the church. He declined because he had no electric vehicles in stock and thought he would not be able to get one for months. Hence, our congregation lost an opportunity to get educated about EV's, see one in action, and ask questions of the dealer. Instituting ACCII rules will put Delaware in a position where we will get EV's from the manufacturers and see an increase in our choice of vehicles. Some opposition to ACCII may derive from range anxiety. I had an opportunity just days ago to drive a Subaru Solterra that belonged to a friend. This vehicle was only delivered after an 11-month wait. That's 11 months when my friend continued to operate a gas-powered vehicle that he did not wish to own any longer. This E vehicle was a large SUV; its range on a full charge was 226 miles. The owner believes he would get 277 miles due to how he uses the vehicle, with braking used to put charge back into the battery. If the range on a charge is about 240 miles, that's 4 hours of driving at 60 mph. Driving more than 4 hours at a stretch can be done, but it is safer for everyone on the road if drivers take a break every 3 - 4 hours. Getting a charge after 3 - 4 hours then is certainly not a hardship, and may indeed make for safer roads and fewer accidents. I am strongly in favor of Delaware adopting the stringent clean car rules called ACCII for the sake of our climate and for the ability of Delawareans to get a full range of choices if they wish to purchase an EV.