Subject: Please include for the public record Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 12:21:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time From: Michelle Parsons To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources) --HIGHER COST Similar models of electric vehicles cost \$10,000 to \$15,000 more than their combustion engine counterparts. Replacing the battery in an electric vehicle is estimated to cost nearly \$16,000 - \$25,000. Constraining the supply of traditional vehicles will result in higher costs for those cars and trucks also. **PERFORMANCE ISSUES** Battery performance is inconsistent when the weather is particularly hot or cold. Vehicle ranges are reduced when carrying heavy loads like trailers and work equipment. Expect the cost of any service that involves heavy equipment to increase. Long range road trips will be severely inconvenienced by the need to stop more frequently for extended times to recharge.

CAUSE MORE HARM THAN GOOD

Vehicle fires involving electric vehicles are much more dangerous for emergency personnel and others near a burning vehicle.

Reliability and capacity of the electricity grid is already in question before the dramatic increase in electricity demand the mandate will require. <u>In California, where this policy is adopted from, government already has asked residents to refrain from charging their vehicles during periods of high electric usage.</u>

Living in Sussex County, we are vulnerable to evacuation orders and would be stranded if EV's were mandated.

Mining for the materials required for EV's, particularly cobalt, poses particular ethical issues around the human rights abuses of mining in the Congo. AKA "Blood Batteries"

The difficulty of disposing of millions of these thousand pound batteries.

DETRIMENTALLY AFFECTS THE POOR

The effects of this mandate will be particularly harmful to families and individuals with low-income levels. Consider:

Transportation costs will increase. The lower income a person has, the higher proportion of their income it takes to pay their transportation costs.

Costs to recharge vehicles will be higher at commercial locations available to the

public than they will be at home charging stations. The higher income person is more likely to have access to home charging.

A general increase in transportation costs adds a barrier to obtaining a job at any distance from one's residence. Individuals who live distant from thriving, successful businesses will have fewer opportunities to obtain well-paying jobs.

Many of our citizens are one fixed incomes, are just starting their families and careers, and some are small business owners, who cannot afford the high-ticket price of EV's and this cost should not be redistributed to other Delaware taxpayers.

JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

Delaware air has never been cleaner and Delaware is already fully compliant with Environmental Protection Agency standards. Delaware is NOT California, yet the State legislature has delegated their authority to regulate specific vehicle mandates to DNREC, which plans to follow California EV mandate laws.

It is unconstitutional for the legislature to delegate the authority of law making that is

VESTED in the legislature. Article 2 Section 1: The legislative power of this state shall be **vested** in a general assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of representatives.

There are other options for clean vehicular emissions, such as hybrid vehicles and hydrogen fuel cells.

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