

Subject: Keep Rural Communities In Mind -Oppose Banning Cars in DE

Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 9:40:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Thomas Wilhoit

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

May 24, 2023 @ 01:16am

Keep Rural Communities In Mind -Oppose Banning Cars in DE

Dear Governor Carney,

I'm reaching out to voice my deep concern about the possibility of Delaware adopting California's Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) regulations. I understand that these rules cut down emissions and encourage more clean energy use, but implementing such a mandate in our state will hurt our rural communities.

Folks living in rural Delaware do not need to have electric vehicle (EV) policies forced upon them. Not only do EVs primarily serve urban areas, but subsidizing EVs puts an unfair burden on our rural citizens. Many of us don't have access to the infrastructure needed for charging stations and depend on gas-powered vehicles for our day-to-day lives.

Please note that California's politicians have consistently promoted extreme EV policies that might not fit Delaware's context. In October 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order to ensure all new cars and passenger trucks sold in the state are zero-emission vehicles by 2035. Consequently, the ACC II regulations will effectively ban gas-powered vehicles in California by the target year.

Our state adopted California's "Advanced Clean Cars" regulations back in 2007, and it's worrying to see that Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DRNEC) is now mulling over the adoption of ACC II, despite numerous objections from rural communities.

Governor Carney, please heed the voices of our rural communities, farmers, and small businesses by rejecting ACC II. We must not let California's approach dictate Delaware's transportation and economic future. Please fulfill your duties as an elected official to create policies that meet the needs and challenges of all Delawareans. Blindly following another state's lead is not the way to do that.

I ask you to stand together with rural Delaware by rejecting ACC II. In times of need like today, we must cooperate to promote cleaner transportation in our state without risking the livelihoods of those in rural areas.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Thomas Wilhoit
37 Comanche Circle,
Millsboro, DE 19966
thomas.wilhoit@gmail.com
301-883-9111