

**Subject:** Do not stop sale of gasoline powered vehicles

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**To:** HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

There are several arguments against stopping the sale of gasoline vehicles and the claim that car batteries deplete other minerals in the earth.

- **Gasoline vehicles are still the most affordable option for many people.** The upfront cost of an electric vehicle is still significantly higher than that of a gasoline vehicle, and the cost of electricity to power an electric vehicle can vary depending on where you live. This makes electric vehicles out of reach for many people, especially those who live in rural areas with limited access to charging stations.
- **The infrastructure for electric vehicles is not yet in place.** There are still not enough charging stations available, and the ones that do exist can be slow to charge. This can make it difficult for people to use electric vehicles for long trips or for everyday commuting.
- **The environmental impact of electric vehicles is not yet clear.** While electric vehicles do not produce tailpipe emissions, they do still contribute to pollution through the mining and manufacturing of their batteries. Additionally, the electricity used to power electric vehicles can come from fossil fuels, which means that they are not always as environmentally friendly as they seem.

Overall, there are still a number of challenges that need to be addressed before electric vehicles can become a viable alternative to gasoline vehicles. Until these challenges are overcome, it is important to continue to sell gasoline vehicles as an option for people who cannot afford or do not have access to electric vehicles.

In addition to the above, there are also concerns about the depletion of other minerals in the earth due to the production of car batteries. Some of the key minerals used in car batteries include lithium, cobalt, and nickel. These minerals are often mined in developing countries, where environmental and labor standards may not be as strict as in developed countries. The mining of these minerals can have a negative impact on the environment, including water pollution, air pollution, and habitat destruction. The mining of these minerals can also lead to human rights abuses, such as child labor and forced labor.

It is important to weigh the environmental and social impacts of both gasoline vehicles and electric vehicles when making a decision about which type of vehicle to purchase. Ultimately, the best choice for each individual will depend on their own circumstances and priorities.