

**Subject:** Public Hearing Comments

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**From:** DoNotReply@delaware.gov

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

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

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Comments:

The Electric Vehicle (EV) Mandate will drive people from Delaware (pun intended). There are, at least, five problems with the EV Mandate. First, it unduly burdens the average Delawarean financially. The price of a new EV is, on average, \$16,000 more than a new combustion engine vehicle. All of the other costs associated with maintaining an EV are more expensive than a gasoline car from replacement parts to “high speed” charging. Second, EVs are inefficient. A study from AAA tested several EV models and found that they had a “minimum range of 100 miles per charge, but many dropped significantly when exposed to severe temperatures.” The researchers tested the cars running at 20 degrees and 95 degrees. In 20-degree temperatures, the driving range fell by 12%; the driving range dropped further to 41% when the car’s interior heater was used. When driving in 95-degree heat, the battery life dropped 4%; the battery life was reduced by 17% when the air conditioning was used. Temperatures of 20 degrees and 95 degrees are not unusual for Delaware. Third, Delaware does not have sufficient grid capacity. The power pool named Pennsylvania- New Jersey-Maryland, (PJM) which Delaware joined in 1981 also, now covers states in Ohio, West Virginia, most of Virginia, and parts of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Michigan. PJM does not create energy – it merely manages the arrival and departure of electrons across the region. An increased demand for electricity, which, by the way is almost entirely based on fossil fuels, will be overloaded and result in either a black out or a brown out as evidenced by what happened in Delaware during the cold snap. Even PJM admitted that “thermal generators are retiring at a rapid pace due to government and private sectors policies.” It is abundantly clear that wind and solar cannot make up the difference. Fourth, the laws of physics are against batteries; they cannot store energy. Fossil fuels hold 5,000% more energy per pound than batteries. EVs need a 1,000-pound battery to replace 80 pounds of gasoline. Batteries will never be powerful enough to replace fossil fuels. Moreover, EVs are not that green; 500,000 pounds of minerals and rock must be mined to make one EV battery. And all that mining, manufacturing, and shipping comes at an environmental cost. Ten to 20 tons of CO2 will be emitted before the vehicle gets to your driveway. EVs must drive over 60,000 miles to offset the CO2 from manufacturing. Fifth, the EV Mandate infringes on our civil liberties, especially our freedom to choose how we conduct our lives. We live in a constitutional Republic and mandates are anathema to that. Moreover, the EV Mandate should be recrafted as a bill and pass through the General Assembly. The legislative branch is the best means by which to reflect what Delawareans want. The state lawmakers are accountable to the citizens, not unelected bureaucrats. Polling shows that Delawareans across the political spectrum are against it; Republicans oppose the EV Mandate at 82%, Independents at 77% and even Democrats at a whopping 64% are against the EV Mandate. For these reasons, the EV Mandate should not be imposed on the citizens of Delaware.