

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), ajlore@yahoo.com

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

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Organization:

Comments:

Dear Secretary Shawn Gavin, I am writing to state my opposition to the implementation of the California copied EV mandate being imposed upon the State of Delaware citizens. I am not opposed to electric vehicles, but the forced and unnecessary imposition of this policy by your agency without the consent of citizens of the state through their elected representatives. As I stated above, I am not opposed to electric vehicles. I welcome new technology that would be beneficial to myself and the environment. However,, I do not believe the time is now for wholesale change to EVs as the drawbacks far outweigh the benefits . My reasons are as follows; 1. Lack of infrastructure. Not only does the lack of infrastructure affect us here in Delaware, but also across the whole nation. Recently I received my latest electric bill from DEC which included an insert offering rebates for not charging EVs during peak hours. This is being offered to help prevent power outages. If every household has one or more EV,businesses with their fleets of vehicles, government agencies, including public transportation, police and fire departments, road departments, etc, all needing to charge these vehicles, what will all this do to the available power for all the energy necessary for our daily lives? All one has to do is watch the news and see the rolling brownouts happening in California and other states without the the increased demands of an EV mandate. Let us build the energy infrastructure to support the current and added usage that electric vehicles will require. Also, this lack of infrastructure and the range of the EVs will restrict our ability to travel when,where,and how one desires. A trip ,whether for business or pleasure, would be prohibitive without charging stations throughout the nation, not to mention the time wasted waiting in line for an available charging station and then charging your vehicle. 2. Environmental Concerns Often touted are the environmental benefits of EVs such as, cleaner air and no longer using fossil fuels, One must take into account the damage done to the environment from the mining of the rare earth elements needed for the batteries of the vehicles. And by who and where is the mining done? What will the impact be on the environment by the disposal of unusable batteries? What safety and hazmat precautions and training are in place in case of accidents, fires, and leaks involving thes batteries. How much more electricity will be needed to be producedand by what means? 3. Costs of Vehicles Right now the cost of an electric vehicle is not consumer friendly. Sales are being driven by government rebates. I oppose the rebates, being a taxpayer who cannot afford a decent EV even with the rebate. Yet I am being forced to subsidize those who can. I cut back on my electric heat and AC. I set the heat at 65 and the air at 72, yet I am supposed to pay to install a car charger and keep 2 cars charged at all times. How much will it cost to replace a battery when needed? Will the insurance rates increase due to the volatile nature of the batteries in an EV?. The weight of the EVs is another concern. What effect will they have on the roads and bridges, especially the small bridges across the creeks,streams and drainage ditches? As I stated in the beginning of this letter, I am not opposed to Evs. I am opposed to the mandate. Evs will be a part of our lives in the future when the market and technology make them more feasible and economically desirable to the public . Forcing them upon people is not acceptable ,not only when the infrastructure is not ready , but at any time. Remember. we are a constitutional republic. we are not a dictatorship. Delaware is in compliance with the national EPA requirements. We do not need nor want this California mandate imposed in our state. Respectfully, Anthony J. Lorenz Seaford, Delaware