

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 at 5:39:11 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), fairs2@verizon.net

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

Name: Dianne Fair

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Organization: No

Comments:

I do NOT support the Low Emission Vehicle Program. I have supported the mission and efforts of DNREC for decades. I share your interest in the protection and enjoyment of our environment; however, I am deeply concerned on how this "program" was designed and its implementation plan. It appears that this initiative was crafted by someone (likely not even DNREC) to achieve a mandate and circumvent our democratic process and sadly the leaders of DNREC simply marched along. Your mission statement envisions "a Delaware that offers a healthy environment where people embrace a commitment to the protection, enhancement and enjoyment of the environment in their daily lives". I don't see the phrase "forced to" within this statement, but rather "embrace a commitment to". These are two completely different approaches. It seems abundantly clear that public opinion has not "embrace(d) a commitment to" the Low Emission Vehicle Program being considered today. It is easy to gain compliance when you force a policy on people; however more effective leadership will work hard to formulate creative and innovate ideas to gain the public's support and adoption of a program that they believe to be valuable. I also disagree with simply implementing California standards. It is disheartening that Delaware is planning to implement a program based on California standards - a state that does not share our size, population, location, economy, environmental challenges or fiscal responsibility. As a small state, we can do better than this and base our goals on reasonable and realistic considerations. I challenge you to achieve your vision by considering standards that are unique to our state in order to protect our environment, economy and quality of life and then design a creative and well thought out implementation plan that will encourage people to purchase low emission vehicles. A plan that will result in Delawareans CHOOSING electric vehicles instead of having them forced upon us. As an inspired and dedicated leader, I am sure you can come up with more thoughtful ideas that balance environmental, economical and quality of life goals to achieve lower emissions and a better implementation plan that embodies our democratic ideals rather than the one that has been presented to us in the Low Emission Vehicle Program – let's just force people to do it. I look forward to hearing about these initiatives in the near future.