

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), news.datda@hotmail.com

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

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Organization: Delaware Automobile and Truck Dealers' Association, Inc.

Comments:

As the Executive Director of the Delaware Automobile and Truck Dealers' Association, I know that our dealer members are committed to promoting a cleaner environment, and are selling EV's. However, DNREC's intent to adopt aggressive zero emissions vehicles regulations will have negative implications not just for auto dealers, but the public as well. Consumers currently purchasing EV's are only those that can afford paying markedly higher prices, and have the time to drive distances to one of the very limited charging stations currently in the State. The stark reality is that the majority of households can barely afford a new internal combustion vehicle, and under these regulations would be forced to pay higher prices going further into debt. Dealers can only sell (no matter how many EV's they have stocked), what the market will bear. Regulations are not going to sell more EV's-- it will lead to consumers going to other states to buy ICE's. Delaware's dealers currently have a significant economic impact on the State's economy with sales and jobs. These regulations could adversely impact those contributions. Adopting regulations when the State is no where near where it would need to be with charging stations, will not sell EV's. Adopting regulations that the vast majority of Delaware residents do not want, and have vociferously opposed at town halls, will not sell EV's. I respectfully submit these comments both professionally-- and personally as a Delaware resident. I urge DNREC to strongly consider rescinding these regulations as proposed. The process of transitioning to all EV's should be allowed to evolve with the market, technology and infrastructure-- none of which are there at this time. All considered, leaving Delaware as an LEV state (as it has been) is much more realistic, and is urged. If DNREC does decide to move forward with the adoption of regulations as currently written, provisions (as proposed by our Association) will definitely be needed. Thank you.