

**Subject:** Final comment on Proposed Regulation 1140

**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 at 1:15:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Collins, Rich G (LegHall)

**To:** HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC), Carney, John (MailBox Resources), Carney, Governor (Governor)

Comment on Docket 2022-R-A-0011, Regulation 1140

Secretary Garvin and Gov. Carney:

It is with heavy heart that I write this final message regarding Regulation 1140. It is obvious that both of you have bought into the argument that fossil fuel use is a negative both for all of humanity, as well as as Delawareans.

It is also obvious that you have not fully considered the incredible benefits of fossil fuels, including their documented lengthening of the the human lifespan, as well as the unprecedented civilizational advancements brought about by their use in our modern transportation system.

Before the organized use of large quantities of fossil fuel, the average lifespan in the world was about 40. Life was short and brutal, with constant concerns about lethal cold, starvation, and death from natural disasters.

Fossil fuels have mostly eliminated those concerns in the wealthy nations of the world. Unfortunately, about 6 billion people in the world still suffer from severe energy poverty, but through continuing massive increases in the use of coal, countries like China are currently drastically improving the lifestyles and lifespans of their people.

Here in the U.S. and Delaware, some leaders seem determined to force our population backwards by depriving them of the incredible economic, environmental, and climate resilience advancements we have made because of the use of fossil fuels.

We hear a constant refrain from DNREC that use of fossil fuels will lead to a variety of climate catastrophes, while totally ignoring the fact that deaths from climate disasters in the world have declined by 98% over the last 100 years.

Why is that? Because fossil fuels have allowed for incredible developments in all kinds of technology, including transportation, that have allowed us to protect ourselves and even master our environment.

Locally, PJM has warned you that we face massive electrical shortages in just the next ten years, and that renewables like solar and wind will not fill the void. If you go forward with forcing people into electric vehicles and we begin to suffer blackouts and brownouts, you will be held responsible by history.

Finally, there is another negative effect that your proposed regulation has created. I had been considering the purchase of an electric vehicle. Due to the research I have done regarding this mandate, I now realize they are totally unsuitable for my needs.

I can assure you, many other thinking citizens of Delaware have come to the same conclusion. Your own regulation is a major reason that any mandate to force us into electric vehicles will almost surely fail in the long run.

In conclusion, while it is true there could be some negative effects from the continued use of fossil fuels, it is also completely possible, and even likely, that there could be far more benefits. Closing your mind to that possibility without exhaustive, even-handed investigation, would be truly irresponsible.

Please do not adopt the California Clean Cars II regulation into our regulatory code. If you would like more information on the benefits of fossil fuels, I would be happy to direct you to many substantive sources.

Representative Rich Collins