

Subject: EV Mandate

Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 at 10:31:39 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Pat Semeraro

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

I am writing to inform you of my opposition to the proposed electric vehicle mandate in the State of Delaware.

First, any mandate that affects all citizens is the responsibility of the elected Legislature to enact, not appointed bureaucrats in the state government.

Second, DNREC cannot prove any benefit to the state of Delaware that justifies the cost of implementing such a mandate. You cannot tell me how this mandate will lower the global temperature or fix any air pollution in the State. Global warming, now called "climate change", is a complete hoax, completely without scientific merit or evidence. CO2 is a trace gas in the atmosphere, and regulating it in the name of saving the planet is a fool's errand. CO2 levels in the atmosphere have been higher in eras on Earth well before the Industrial Age started, and we are still here. Also, why are California Air Quality standards being imposed here in Delaware? We have no large point sources of air pollution or natural situations that create smog like California. In fact, most of our air pollution emanates from other states. And other countries, like China and India, are not required to make any changes to improve air quality, even though they are the source of most of the air pollution on the planet.

Three, it is not just the cost of the electric vehicles that are high and represent a penalty on all the citizens of the State. The costs of maintenance and repair are extremely high, and car dealers are loathe to invest the millions of dollars to create the facilities needed for repair. The batteries are massive and exorbitant in cost, needing replacement every 6-8 years depending on mileage. Only one cell out of thousands needs to go bad to ruin a battery pack. And how will these battery packs, weighing a ton or more apiece, be recycled? Will Delaware be building more power plants to generate the massive amounts of electricity needed to charge these vehicles? And who will pay for the additional charging stations needed at highway rest stops, major roads, and parking lots?

Four, places that use electric vehicles report maintenance and sustainability issues with their fleets. In Ann Arbor MI, their use of electric school buses has been a logistical nightmare and a costly failure. Reliability issues and infrastructure costs have completely demolished any other benefit to the town.

Five, this proposed mandate completely ignores the human and environmental costs of providing these vehicles in large quantities. The massive amounts of lithium and cobalt have to be mined from the earth in third world countries and in China, our enemy, many times using child and slave labor. How do you square that with your holier-than-thou mandate?

This mandate is ill-conceived, un-Constitutional, and unworkable. You answer to "We, the People", not to the so-called environmentalists and politicians catering to a group of woke people chasing a "Save The Planet" crusade.

Tony Semeraro.
Lewes, DE
May 26, 2023