

CA Vehicle Standard

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To: Krall, Kyle (DNREC) <Kyle.Krall@delaware.gov>

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Hello Kyle:

My name is Tom McCarthy. My wife and I are DE residents (Middletown) who are writing to you regarding the CA Vehicle Standard that is being considered for Delaware.

We strongly oppose this proposal and urge state lawmakers to do the same. Please be sure to share our comments with state lawmakers.

Government should not use the heavy hand of a direct mandate (or indirect mandate) on this subject. Instead, government should use business incentives (to encourage ongoing research related to E vehicle product improvement) and consumer-related incentives when it comes to encouraging the purchase of E vehicles. Barring a national emergency, government should avoid using sweeping mandates to make public policy.

We have nothing against E vehicles; in fact, we own a hybrid electric vehicle. Our objection to the CA proposal is based on government's poor performance in the marketplace where the best performance is the result of informed consumers. Simple translation: I don't want to live in a nanny state. Let me decide. (You can help me decide with information campaigns and incentives. But don't make the decision for me)

Further, how foolish the state of California looked this past summer telling residents not to plug their E-cars in for fear of dooming the grid.

Puh-leese. Fools.

The last thing I want to see, the last thing any wise public policy maker wants to see is someone getting hurt as a result a great-sounding (but poorly constructed) mandate. Now, think emergency. Think about the E vehicle that is not suitable for use in an emergency because there is not adequate capacity in the grid to charge the vehicle or because the emergency denies the time needed to complete the needed charge. (Think chaotic weather. Think emergency trip to the hospital. Think evacuation).

I wouldn't object if DE wanted to experiment by dedicating some of its fleet to all electric. But I wouldn't want our first responders (DSP, Paramedics & Fire companies and School bus vendors) included until or unless the exceptions mentioned above were addressed to significantly reduce risk to life and limb. And I would expect that the results of any such experiment be monitored and reported by a qualified, independent outside vendor.

Respectfully submitted on December 15, 2022

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