Wednesday comments on ACC II

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My name is John Irwin. I'm a resident of New Castle County. I'm a volunteer with the Sierra Club here in Delaware, a parent and a volunteer at a democratic school here.

I urge you to adopt these ACC II programs now. It takes time to get all the components in place for a rapid transition to clean cars. The climate emergency demands that we move as fast as possible. We've heard at the international climate conference in Egypt that we are not meeting the targets needed in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We are still increasing emissions.

We need time to build out the rapid DC charging infrastructure. Now is when the money is coming available from the federal programs like the infrastructure bill and the Inflation Reduction Act.

We need to figure out how to make clean transportation available to people who live in multi-family housing and those without dedicated street parking, across the state not just in Dover, Newark and Wilmington. So that means designing the rules and procedures across the state.

We need the dealers to get up to speed on explaining EVs and answering potential customers' questions, and ready to service EVs as needed.

We need to be accelerating the transition to clean energy generation so that the electricity we use in our EVs is cleaner and cleaner.

Adopting these ACC II rules and standards sends a signal that we see the direction we must go. Health and climate concerns absolutely require urgent action. We need to set our course in that direction, start building the foundation, and make clear we must have an electrified future for transportation.

We need to start now. We are behind our neighboring states because we haven't adopted the ACC I rules. We shouldn't delay the needed steps to close the gap and do our part to reduce emissions, and improve air quality and our public health.

People living in areas with poor air quality are being damaged unjustly. We know transitioning to clean cars will improve health, save lives and reduce healthcare costs for everyone.

We know that the auto industry is transitioning to clean car technology as fast as possible. EVs are superior to gas powered cars in many ways. We need to be ready for an accelerating demand for them as people realize the range anxiety issue will soon disappear with improving batteries and the buildout of fast charging on highways.

So we need to get started by adopting these ACC II rules.

John Irwin

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"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Ruth Bader Ginsburg