

Austin Beauchamp

Hello Department of Ecology. It seems to me that you forget we are a state that represents both city and rural life but you clearly only pay attention to the city folk. As a person from a rural past I am frustrated with what I'm hearing. EVs require a high amount of infrastructure, which would include an overhaul of our electrical grid. How many homes in Washington aren't on municipal power? How much load can our electrical handle without having to import power? It seems to me in addition you need to be upper middle class to upper class to afford an ZEV, so you will increase the barrier to entry for the middle and lower income classes in order to just get a reliable vehicle. It would be better to focus your efforts on expanding energy generation, as energy is really expensive here, and naturally people will buy into a ZEV once the deal is better than a gasoline vehicle. You as a government have no right to make poor people even poorer and to cut off rural folks from traveling freely with the most effective and reliable method that is available today, gasoline powered vehicles.