

October 17, 2022

Washington State Department of Ecology
300 Despond Drive SE.
Lacey, WA 98503

Subject: Opposition to Rulemaking – Clean Vehicles Program and General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources

Dear Washington State Department of Ecology,

On behalf of Christensen, Inc, a leading fuels, lubricants, and propane distributor in the state of Washington, I strongly urge you to reconsider passing new regulations on zero-emissions vehicles (ZEV) and banning the sale of new gasoline-powered vehicles. Christensen is not opposed to forward-thinking solutions. Our goal is for 50% of our profits to be derived from economically sustainable products and services by 2035. To achieve that, our company believes it is important to explore other options backed by scientific data, as opposed to following popular trends. The regulations being proposed are not definite solutions to eliminating greenhouse gases in our state and will have the greatest negative impact on our rural and low-income communities. There are many ways to reduce Washington's carbon footprint that are worth exploring, including the adoption of hybrid long-haul vehicles, powered by hydrogen, renewable natural gas, or plant-based diesel fuels. The benefits of hydrogen are something Christensen has been exploring for years and are currently being discussed by the present administration. In fact, in 2022, President Biden rolled out key policies to fund hydrogen hubs across the U.S. as another solution to combat climate change and energy security concerns.

While the ZEV mandate was recently passed in California, it is unlikely to be the solution for Washington, with its varying landscape and contrasting demographics. A ban on gasoline vehicles is simply not feasible for all residents of our state. For our more rural communities, it comes with a huge financial burden and a lack of adequate infrastructure to successfully implement such regulations. As you weigh your decision, I hope you consider the impact this would have on vulnerable Washington state residents and explore other alternatives that might better help us reach the same goal.

On behalf of Christensen, Inc.



Tony Christensen, President & CEO