

Rich Medved

The idea of disallowing internal combustion vehicles to be sold in WA does not recognize reality. We don't have the quantity of "charging stations" to permit unrestrained movement. And, WA does not have sufficient electricity generating capacity to meet present growth without a massive increase on the capacity. Between WA desire to blow up dams and adding mandatory ecars this plan is a formula for disaster. The range of ecars is extremely limited and recharge time is outlandish. The batteries easily, spontaneously catch fire creating hazardous fumes and can not be put out with water. The batteries weigh nearly 2000 lbs. and cause more damage and threat to life when involved in an accident, than lighter cars. Repair of ecars is much more expensive than their counterparts and insurance rates are anticipated to be at least 20% more than for conventional vehicles. Additionally, the cost of ecars is, on average, about \$30,000 more than a comparable gas powered car, which has a range of 300-400 miles and takes 5 minutes to refuel vs an ecar with a range of 100-175 miles and takes hours to "refuel" IF you can locate a charging station!

Some of the materials (cobalt) going into the batteries mostly comes from Africa and a large portion is mined by children, many as young as six, forced to work for \$1/day.. Lithium, essential for the battery, is controlled by our enemy, China, and the major world-wide supplier of batteries is China using slave labor.

Recycling of these batteries is virtually impossible so they must be buried, but not in my backyard. To replace that battery you're looking at a \$15,000 - \$20,000 expense.

This is an extremely bad idea that only a politician would love and must be stopped. Want to do something useful? Consider hybrid cars. Mfgs say that they can make 6 hybrids with the amount of battery material that it takes to make one ecar.