November 13, 2023

New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board

Attn: Pamela Jones, Board Administrator

P.O. Box 5469

Santa Fe, NM 87502

Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board

P.O. Box 1293

Albuquerque, NM 87103

Dear Respective Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed Clean Car rules that you are considering. My name is Anthony Allison and I am a State Representative from Fruitland, New Mexico. My House district 4 lies within San Juan County and on the Navajo Nation.

Within the Navajo Nation, my constituents do not enjoy the conveniences that most New Mexicans take for granted, such as having easily accessible running water, electricity, and internet services in our homes. We also must travel great distances for our shopping needs, school, work, and medical services. Our roads are mostly unpaved which makes travel difficult at best and nearly impossible when the weather is bad.

Have the respective departments considered these issues and how they will affect sovereign tribal lands where my constituents may be forced to purchase an EV when they are not ready? Have tribal leaders and other tribal stakeholders had an opportunity to discuss this issue before you consider taking action? If so, what are the respective departments doing to educate our citizens before implementing these rules?

Due to these issues and many others, I feel that the state needs to prioritize the basic infrastructure needs of all New Mexicans before imposing rules that will prevent New Mexicans from purchasing the vehicles they need and can afford. By imposing these rules, you are not taking into consideration that electric vehicles cost more than traditional vehicles and that there are not enough, or no publicly available charging stations to meet the charging demand. Additionally, have you considered those that haul goods and services great distances like livestock, livestock feed, crops, and construction materials? How will these rules impact our transportation sector which is responsible for hauling loads hundreds of miles in a single day? These rules will result in more vehicles on the road which will cause additional wear and tear.

Why are we trying to implement a California-style rule in New Mexico? New Mexico is a poor and very rural state and most New Mexicans cannot afford these types of vehicles without incentives to make these vehicles affordable.

As you can see, there are several concerns that I feel need to be addressed before the state puts in place a requirement that will not allow a New Mexican to purchase a vehicle based on their needs and budget. Therefore, I respectfully urge the board to consider delaying the proposed rules until these items have been addressed.

Sincerely,

Anthony Allison

Anthony Allison

State Representative, District 4