

November 15, 2023

**New Mexico Improvement Board**

Attn: Pamela Jones, 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 rules that are under consideration. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Advanced Clean Car II Rules. I feel that the proposed rules are not right for New Mexico at this time. Although, I feel that Electric Vehicles will be a part of our transportation future, I feel that the mandates provided in the proposed rules are going too far, too fast.

In addition, there are many items that need to be addressed for a successful transition. I feel that we need to have the proper charging infrastructure throughout New Mexico, especially in the more rural parts of our state. We need to ensure that our utility companies can support the electrical demand as we cannot be like California where their utilities have been warning homeowners and EV owners alike to not to use their air conditioner or charge the EV's just this summer.

I also feel that the technology in the EV's need to be further advanced to increase the travel time between charges. The rural communities of New Mexico have long struggled with inadequate infrastructure, limited resources, as well as distance traveled commuting. While the world is moving towards a greener future with the adoption of electric vehicles, it is essential to consider the unique challenges faced by rural New Mexicans. Our geographic isolation and limited resources should be considered. Many of our cities can be over 100 miles away from the next, and the range on the EVs just isn't adequate. The absence of proper infrastructure compounds these challenges, leaving them at a disadvantage. Mandating electric vehicles

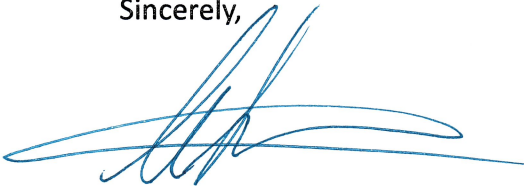
without considering these hurdles will only widen the gap between rural and urban communities.

In addition, EV's cost more than traditional vehicles and New Mexico struggles in this regard. We were 45th ranked by median household income and we need to keep that factor in the forefront when making legislative changes such as this. We should allow the market to drive the demand without having to mandate rules on many of us who are simply not ready.

Many auto manufacturers have recently scaled back the production of EVs due to the lack of demand across the nation. I feel that you will be hurting New Mexico business in all sectors from agriculture to construction where these businesses must haul loads many miles to get their commodities and supplies to and from the market or their respective job sites.

For all the reasons, stated above, please vote to oppose the adoption of the Advanced Clean Car rules

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Protzman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa Protzman

Tijeras, NM 87059