

Jared Bella

Researching another topic I came across this docket tonight, why has it quietly and secretly been tabled by our state's governor? I have found NO notice of this posted on any social media content relating to our state's governing entities, nor have I been able to locate any notice posted in local news journals in print or on their websites. As I am understanding this docket, it appears our Governor has appointed a group of *unelected* individuals to draft formal environmental policy that would effectively require all new vehicles sold in New Mexico to be zero emission electric vehicles beginning in only four years, and exclusively by 2032 and that this is directly modeled after California's policy. I am confident in saying a majority of people I acquaint with want to help keep New Mexico and our local community what it is and historically has been, and as this truth conveys it's important that we make our own decisions ~ this is why we live here, in these mountains, and not in a state such as California. It's also true that a majority of communities in New Mexico do not exist in an urban locale such as Albuquerque or Las Cruces, which unfortunately, regarding governing policies, has become a bane to the rest of our state by way of our current and recent governor(s) basing many decisions that affect all of New Mexico on their perceptions of what is happening in these few metro areas

Electric vehicles are great, and they definitely have an important place in our civilization's future. However, realistically they are unreliable and potentially unsafe for traveling on rugged, remote, and rural mountain roads, which comprise the only accessible routes across much of our state's topography. There are very few EV models that can safely and reliably tow a trailer, for example, which is integral to our way of life in our communities. I work with horses and snowmobiles, both of which are necessary for our livelihood in the mountains. It's necessary for literal survival to be able to tow equipment and supplies from one place to another. This would not be possible with ANY electric vehicle technology that currently exists, or WILL exist within the next decade and likely longer. The range of any EV is limited and would not allow towing a trailer with livestock or feed from Taos to Laramie, again just one example, I could write several pages of examples but will keep it to the point. Along with the inability of existing EV's physical capabilities, you can't travel reasonable distances from state to state with an EV without stopping for significant durations to recharge, it simply isn't possible. The restrictions created by financial burdens and time constraints to conduct interstate travel with an EV is an unacceptable financial burden, impossible for every day people, and would directly produce loss, harm and damage to New Mexico residents.

I agree and advocate that EV's should be integrated into our local communities, however not in a forceable way that requires blunt government regulatory overreach, and is such an obvious infringement of our liberties, nor by dictating unreasonable expectations that are literally not possible to achieve! Our energy grid is so strained already, it is not possible nor will it be possible within the coming decade for adequate electricity to be made available by utilities to even consider this as an option. Even if it was a possibility, which again it is not, the necessary infrastructure to produce electricity in an ecologically acceptable manner also does not exist - the environmental impacts to create and transport electricity to charging locations is no less detrimental than what this policy is attempting to address, this is something that California's government has failed to acknowledge about their own regulations.

Please continue to research this topic and determine reasonable and sensible ways to continue to

integrate electric vehicles into our society and our localities in New Mexico, in ways that make sense and can be utilized appropriately - i.e. for specific types of commuting and short-distance travelling for certain individuals as well as commercial uses, without trying to enact policies or legislation that will only be a detriment to our communities. There may come a time when the technology and methods of sustainable energy production allows for more widespread integration of EV's, that isn't occurring yet and won't be within the coming decade. Consider the financial burdens enacting policy as described in this docket will directly create for many New Mexico residents. And help keep New Mexico free and clear of bureaucratic overreach that will affect our chosen and independent modern ways of life. As a long-time resident of New Mexico, I can't and won't support any unreasonable government actions that affect our ability to make our own decisions regarding how we travel, especially when such a proposed regulation does not make sense, is impractical, is not financially attainable, and will not achieve the goals it is meant to.