

Nancy Singham

comments delivered remotely

Members and commissioners

My name is Nancy Singham. I am a former APS kindergarten teacher and have been working on climate change issue since I retired from teaching.

#1: In 2018, after long driving Toyota Prius hybrids, I decided to reduce my carbon emissions while powering my car mostly with my new solar panels by moving to a PLUG IN hybrid. So I went to the Toyota dealer in Albuquerque, and explained "I'd like to buy a PRIUS PRIME". The sales person's response? He burst into laughter and then said: 'Now, why would you want to do THAT?'

Well, It turns out that there was no dealership in NM that could sell me the car. So I went online, found the exact car of my dreams, on sale in Chicago where I once lived, flew to Ohare, and took a cab to a local dealer, and drove my great new Prius Prime home to New Mexico.

2: Fast forward FIVE years. 2 months ago, in September, I returned to the same dealership, and again asked if I could see the latest model of the new and improved Prius Prime. That very week Toyota had launched an ad campaign questionably claiming "Toyota offers more low and zero emission vehicles combined than any other automaker". BUT, In fact, the sales person told me, New Mexico dealerships rarely receive any of these cars. Instead, as a former Coloradan, he would be glad to fill me in on the best Colorado dealerships, where EV's and plug ins are plentiful and moving fast.

The 'moral' of these stories? while there are rumors being spread about how clean car regs will force people to buy gas cars out of state, I can tell you for certain that the reverse is already happening: those of us living in the second sunniest state in the country are STILL, right now, being forced out of state to buy cars that run on renewable energy. Changing these standards will help build badly needed clean car inventory in NM.

And Finally, While everyone here today understands that no major infrastructure change is easy or smooth, I appeal to you on behalf of the 13 year old middle school students I currently help educate about climate change:

The difficulties of making this energy transition (being discussed here today) ..are VERY SMALL compared with the dire consequences to New Mexico of failing to stop every single source of greenhouse gas emissions from our state. As one of the most climateANDwater vulnerable states in the US, we urgently must do everything we can protect ourselves and mitigate the climate warming that is heating and drying our landscapes.

Please, approve the clean car rules as soon as possible. Thank you