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New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board  
1190 St. Francis Dr, Ste N4050  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board,

As a service advisor at AutoMax in Farmington, NM, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks Rules in New Mexico. While I appreciate the intent behind these regulations to promote a cleaner environment, I am apprehensive about their potential impact on the automotive industry, particularly in dealership service departments.

From my experience interacting with customers and managing service operations, I foresee several challenges. Firstly, the transition to advanced clean vehicles will require significant changes in our service department. This includes training our technicians in new technologies, investing in specialized equipment for electric and hybrid vehicles, and adapting our service offerings. Such changes could impose substantial financial and logistical burdens on our dealership.

Furthermore, the customer base for advanced clean vehicles is still evolving. Many of our customers are either unfamiliar with or hesitant about switching to electric or hybrid vehicles, primarily due to concerns about cost, performance, and the availability of charging infrastructure. The proposed rules could potentially limit the options available to our customers, impacting their satisfaction and our dealership's sales and service revenue.

Additionally, the infrastructure required to support a wide range of advanced clean vehicles is not yet fully developed in many parts of New Mexico. This includes a lack of sufficient charging stations and repair facilities specialized in these vehicles. The absence of such infrastructure could lead to practical difficulties for owners of these vehicles, affecting their maintenance and overall experience.

I believe in the importance of environmental stewardship and support initiatives that reduce emissions. However, I am of the view that these goals should be balanced with the practical and economic realities faced by the automotive industry and its customers. A more gradual and well-supported transition to advanced clean vehicles would be more feasible, ensuring that dealerships like ours can adapt without facing undue hardship.

I respectfully request that these considerations be taken into account in the decision-making process regarding the Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks Rules. Engaging with industry professionals and stakeholders to discuss these challenges could lead to more effective and inclusive policies.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am open to further dialogue and hope that a balanced approach can be achieved that supports both environmental goals and the needs of the automotive industry.

Sincerely,

Harris Charley  
Service Advisor  
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