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The current technology required for this type of vehicle is not yet available and it is unlikely to be developed by the deadlines set by the Governor. The batteries used in electric automobiles, trucks, and farm tractors are inefficient and are manufactured using highly toxic minerals and materials that cannot be safely recycled. Given these circumstances, it is my strong belief that the Environment Department should seriously consider postponing their decision to introduce these vehicles in New Mexico until a more viable and environmentally friendly option becomes available. By taking a prudent and cautious approach, we can ensure that we make the best decision for our state and its residents.

Furthermore, the lack of public meetings in our area and the absence of communication from the Governor's NMED office is a cause for concern. It is crucial that we have a transparent and inclusive decision-making process that involves all stakeholders. The voices of the people must be heard, and their concerns addressed. Without proper engagement and dialogue, the decision to introduce these vehicles will be seen as arbitrary, political, and lacking in legitimacy. It is important to approach this topic with a professional tone and carefully consider the potential impact on our state. New Mexico has its own unique set of circumstances and should not be compared to California or D.C. It is not appropriate to impose their rules and regulations on our state without considering our specific needs and challenges. We must prioritize the well-being of our residents and the preservation of our environment.

Moreover, the economic implications of this transition on our agricultural industry should not be overlooked. New Mexico agriculture is heavily reliant on industries such as oil and gas and would be significantly impacted by the introduction of electric vehicles. It is essential that we carefully assess the potential consequences and develop a comprehensive plan to mitigate any adverse effects on our agricultural economy and workforce.

Additionally, the infrastructure required to support electric vehicles is still in its early stages of development. Charging stations are limited in number and often inaccessible in rural areas. Without a robust and widespread charging network and supportive electrical grid, the practicality and convenience of electric vehicles may be compromised, especially for those living in remote regions of our state.

In light of these concerns, it is imperative that the Environment Department take a step back and thoroughly evaluate the feasibility and long-term implications of introducing electric vehicles in New Mexico. This evaluation should be apolitical and involve extensive research, consultation with experts, and a comprehensive analysis of the potential benefits and drawbacks, especially in the rural, agricultural areas of our state. By adopting a cautious and measured approach, we can ensure that any decision made regarding the introduction of electric vehicles in New Mexico is in the best interest of all stakeholders in our state, including those in the agricultural industry.