

Randy Menapace
220 South 5th St.
Gallup, NM 87301

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New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board
1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Subject: Advanced Clean Car II Rules Resident and Business Concerns

Dear Members of the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board,

I am writing this letter as not only a concerned resident of New Mexico but also a vested employee and manager of a 104-year-old business employing around 100 employees in Gallup, NM.

I would like to start off by saying that I 100% understand the importance of protecting our environment and that I 100% support the future of cleaner vehicles but not at the rapid rate we are going. Being born and raised in the four corners area I am worried that these rules and regulations might be too strict too fast and could harm our already struggling state's rural and urban economy and businesses. Many of our towns' patrons rely on their internal combustion vehicles to get them to and from Gallup and other surrounding towns for important and required things such as medical, work and general commerce. It is a proven fact that many people from the surrounding areas especially the Native American reservations do not have electricity and cannot even charge their cell phones let alone a vehicle. Many rural areas in New Mexico face the same situational hardships as those in and around Gallup.

As I mentioned above, I'm concerned that these rules might go too far too fast, which could make it hard for New Mexican residents and businesses to survive. New Mexico residents, businesses and their workers have been hit hard by many different recent challenges, and new regulations with their vehicles might add more stress and hardship to their already difficult lives.

Additionally, the rules could make it more expensive for businesses to operate, and they might pass these extra costs on to consumers. This could lead to higher prices for goods and services, which would impact all New Mexicans, especially those who are already struggling financially.

A few important items of concern are:

- Lack of infrastructure (in general).
- Lack of ability to provide required infrastructure to rural areas like the Navajo/Zuni reservations.
- Lack of required parts and supplies to install the necessary infrastructure.

- Lack of vendors to install and maintain the necessary infrastructure.
- Cost of required infrastructure for individual households, housing & apartment complexes, businesses, municipalities and the general public
 - Most of the dwellings & buildings in and around Gallup are older and will not support the requirements to run the required infrastructure and will most likely require expensive upgrades.
- Cost of EV's which on average have been shown to be more expensive
- Cost and danger to business employees having to work on high voltage electric components.
- Local, State and National Cost of required hazmat cleanup for issues with the electric components--not too mentioned the added workload.
- Cost, process and location to dispose of unusable/faulty electric components.
- Process to produce an electric battery (is it really that much cleaner?)
- Amount of pressure put on the grid at times especially during high peak times like the summer

I believe it's essential for us to find a balance between protecting the environment and supporting our local economy. I urge you to consider the potential impacts these rules may have on our economy, residents and businesses of New Mexico and am asking to please adapt at a slower pace without causing too much hardship.

Thank you for listening to my concerns, and I hope we can find a solution that helps our environment while also supporting New Mexico's economy, residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

Randy Menapace
 220 South 5th St.
 Gallup, NM 87301
admin@riocautocomplex.com
 (505)722-2271