

D. Wonda Johnson

Please note the attached letter which does not support imposing a mandate on New Mexico consumers to transition from vehicles dependent on EV charging infrastructure especially in rural area of New Mexico too fast - too soon! Please do not rush into issuing a mandate as more time, consideration and communication is needed to have a successful transition.



State of New Mexico
House of Representatives
Santa Fe

D. WONDA JOHNSON
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COMMITTEES:

Vice Chair: Government, Elections & Indian
Affairs
Commerce & Economic Development
Rules & Order of Business

November 13, 2023

New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board
Attn: Chair Phoebe Suina
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Chair Suina and respective Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed California Advanced Clean Car II rules that are under consideration. I am writing to you to express my concerns as a State Representative, representing my constituents from House District 5 within McKinley and San Juan counties. In our area top priorities for everyday life are improving our infrastructure for water, electricity, internet service, paved roads and numerous essentials for survival and teaching our children.

While I understand the intention of the rule, I feel that this rule will limit choices of vehicles that all New Mexicans need as most live in rural areas and have to travel great distances for work, food, school and medical services.

I feel New Mexicans should be able to choose the vehicle that is right for them based on their needs and budget. Have you taken into consideration about those who don't have electricity in their homes or people who don't own their home? Will they be forced to pay more for charging while waiting at least 30 minutes to charge their vehicle? In order for a smooth transition, we need a charging network that is easily accessible, convenient and safe.

EV costs more than traditional vehicles and many will also need a home charging station, however there are no state incentives to help New Mexicans purchase an electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid like many other states across the country.

Although this approach may work in California, I feel that there are many differences such as income disparity, the number of miles we have to drive every day and access to public transportation. As the Chair of the Government, Elections and Indian Affairs, part of our responsibilities is to consider legislation that affects sovereign communities across the state. I feel the rules you have been presented with should have legislative input and consideration as this will affect all New Mexicans.

including our sovereign neighbors. Have you considered the unique circumstances of sovereign tribal lands and involved tribal-leaders and other stakeholders in communities throughout New Mexico? Please do not rush into issuing a mandate as more time, consideration and communication is needed to have a successful transition.

Sincerely,

D. Wonda Johnson
State Representative - District 5