

Ireland J. O'Kelly  
310 W. Dodd St  
Farmington, NM 87401  
irelandokelly@gmail.com  
505-320-9093

Environmental Improvement Board  
1190 St. Francis Dr. Suite N4050  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Subject: Opposition to the Proposed Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks Rules in New Mexico

Dear Environmental Improvement Board,

I am writing to you as a Senior Detailer at AutoMax Truck and Car Center, a business that has been a part of the New Mexico automotive community for 15+ years. I wish to express my concerns regarding the proposed Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks Rules. While I support environmental conservation and understand the need for sustainable practices, I believe these new rules may have unintended consequences that could adversely affect our industry and, by extension, our community.

Firstly, the rapid shift towards electric vehicles (EVs) as mandated by these rules could significantly disrupt the current market dynamics. As a detailer, my role encompasses preparing both new and used vehicles for sale. The proposed regulations could drastically reduce the availability and variety of vehicles we can offer, potentially leading to a decrease in sales and, consequently, jobs.

Moreover, the transition to EVs requires not just changes in the types of vehicles sold but also a transformation in the skill set required for their maintenance and detailing. This transition period could result in a skill gap among current employees, necessitating extensive training and possibly leading to job insecurity.

Additionally, I am concerned about the readiness of our state's infrastructure to support a sudden increase in EVs. The availability of charging stations, repair shops skilled in EV technology, and the overall preparedness of the automotive industry are crucial factors to consider. A premature implementation of these rules could lead to logistical challenges, affecting both dealerships and consumers.

I understand and respect the intentions behind these proposed rules. However, I urge you to consider the potential impact on small businesses and workers in the automotive industry. A more gradual approach, coupled with supportive measures for businesses and employees to adapt, might be a more effective and less disruptive path towards sustainable automotive practices.

I appreciate your consideration of my perspective on this matter. I am open to further discussions and hope that a balanced approach can be found that supports both our environmental goals and the economic well-being of New Mexico's automotive industry.

Sincerely,

Ireland J. O'Kelly , Senior Detailer