



New Mexico State Senate

STATE CAPITOL

Santa Fe 87501

November 9, 2023

Environmental Improvement Board
1190 Saint Francis Drive, Suite S2101
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Sent via email to pamela.jones@env.nm.gov

Re: Public Comment for EIB 23-56 (R): In the Matter of Proposed Amendments to 20.2.91 NMAC - New Motor Vehicle Emission Standards

Dear Members of the Board:

We, the undersigned members of the New Mexico Senate, are writing to express our opposition to proposed rule EIB 23-56 (R), mandating that 82 percent of all new vehicles sold in New Mexico be zero-emission by 2031.

The magnitude and impact of this proposal are severe, and as such, a thorough vetting by the citizens of our state and their elected legislators is necessary. As Senators, we must act in the best interest of our constituents, and this excessive mandate ignores their wishes, both in principle and practice.

The decision to transition to an electric vehicle should be made on an individual basis. Currently, less than one percent of all New Mexicans have done so. Mandating the transition will not decrease the high cost of electric vehicles, nor improve reliability of the technology. It will, however, levy an additional financial burden on hard working families.

Further, the impracticality of this measure cannot be overstated. Our state is largely rural, with limited access to charging stations, making traveling across New Mexico nearly impossible in an electric vehicle. Our rural communities are also facing damaged and degrading roads and highways, and electric vehicles do not pay the gas tax which is used to repair our aging infrastructure. In short, our existing technology and infrastructure are simply not prepared for electric vehicle transition, and consumers should not be stripped of other options.

Every New Mexico citizen and/or business must be able to select a vehicle that best fits their needs and budget. They must not be compelled to do otherwise, especially by an unelected board. We strongly urge you to reject this rule and leave the decision making authority on issues of this scale to the people and their duly elected representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg Schmedes".

GREGG SCHMEDES, M.D.
State Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Crystal Brantley".

CRYSTAL BRANTLEY
State Senator



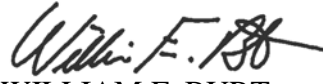
GREGORY A. BACA
State Senator
Senate Republican Leader



CRAIG W. BRANDT
State Senator
Senate Republican Whip



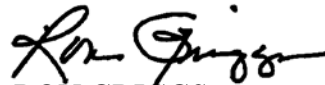
MARK MOORES
State Senator
Senate Republican Caucus Chair



WILLIAM F. BURT
State Senator



DAVID M. GALLEGOS
State Senator



RON GRIGGS
State Senator



STEVEN McCUTCHEON II
State Senator



STEVEN P. NEVILLE
State Senator



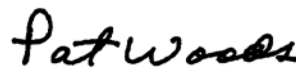
CLIFF R. PIRTLE
State Senator



JOSHUA SANCHEZ
State Senator



WILLIAM E. SHARER
State Senator



PAT WOODS
State Senator