

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4302

April 28, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to express our concerns regarding your latest proposed rule on electric vehicles (EVs) governing tailpipe emissions of carbon dioxide, smog-forming nitrogen oxide, and other pollutants from vehicles manufactured for model years 2027 through 2032. This rule represents another step toward your radical goal of requiring at least half of all new vehicles to be fully electric by 2030. We believe this rule will have devastating consequences for manufacturers and consumers.

This rule ignores how EV batteries are obtained. Batteries are made using costly rare earth minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and graphite. Manufacturers will struggle to acquire these minerals in a timely manner. Moreover, many of these minerals are imported from Communist China, which produces 70% of the world's EV batteries. Just as our great power competition with China heats up, your rule would have the practical effect of supporting—and deepening our dependence on—China's massive EV industry.

The electric grid in the United States is not ready for 50% of cars to be fully electric. Many more charging stations, as well as grid upgrades, would be required. In contrast, gas-powered vehicles are more practical and do not take hours to fully charge.¹ Additionally, you argue that this rule will slow climate-warming transportation pollution. But EV batteries pose their own environmental hazards, such as exacerbating water pollution and contributing to toxic waste.²

Furthermore, this rule favors consumers who currently own an electric vehicle over those who do not. It neglects to mention the cold truth that, on average, electric vehicles cost consumers around \$10,000 more per purchase. The federal government should not be in the business of disincentivizing owning gaspowered vehicles. The free market should dictate which kinds of cars become dominant or obsolete. Instead, your rule weaponizes the federal government by picking winners and losers in the auto industry.

We urge your administration not to bend a knee to radical environmental groups and instead to consider how this rule would impact everyday Americans. We respectfully ask that you answer the following questions:

1. How does your administration plan to promote importing the five key minerals needed in EV batteries without increasing our dependence on Communist China?

¹ https://www.kbb.com/car-advice/how-long-does-take-charge-electric-car/

² https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/06/business/lithium-mining-race.html

- 2. What has your administration learned from the chip shortage?
- 3. Have you considered the negative effects this proposed rule would have on the car market?
- 4. What would you say to consumers who simply do not want to buy an electric vehicle? Why do you want to deny them the freedom to choose what they want to drive?
- 5. What evidence do you have that our current electrical infrastructure can support a 50% increase in electric vehicles?

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

Keith Self

Member of Congress

Troy Nehls

Member of Congress

Randy Weber

Member of Congress

Kandy X. Wila

Dan Bishop

Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Byron Donalds

Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller

Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith Member of Congress

John Moolenaar

Member of Congress

Jake

Congress Jake Ellzey
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Bob Good Member of Congress

Scott Perry

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Tim Burchett Member of Congress

Josh Brecheen Member of Congress

Mark Alford Member of Congress

Roger Williams Member of Congress

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Eric Burlison Member of Congress Try Joan

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Ronny L. Jackson Member of Congress

Mike Collins Member of Congress

Michael Guest Member of Congress