

RESOLUTION MCM 2019 - 19

A RESOLUTION OF THE MESA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OPPOSING COLORADO'S PROPOSED ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE RULE

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2019, Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed Executive Order B 2019 002, which directed the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ("CDPHE") to develop a rule to establish a Zero Emission Vehicle program ("ZEV Program") to support the electrification of transportation, and to propose the ZEV Program to the Air Quality Control Commission ("AQCC"); and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division of CDPHE ("APCD") has been holding stakeholder meetings as part of the rule making process with the stated goal of adopting a ZEV Program that incorporates two sections of the California Zero-Emission Vehicle Standards, 13 CCR § 1962.2 (the "California ZEV Standards"); and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2019, the AQCC voted to hold a hearing on August 13-16, 2019, on whether or not to adopt Regulation Number 20, to consider adopting specific provisions of the California Zero Emission vehicle ("ZEV") program requiring vehicle manufacturers' sales fleets produced and delivered for sale in Colorado to meet minimum percentage requirements for zero emitting vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") believes that individuals and their families are in the best position to determine how to most effectively allocate their time and resources according to their specific needs; and

WHEREAS, government incentives and mandates compel individuals to make choices they otherwise may not, resulting in market distortions and economic inefficiencies; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of undue government support for specific products creates free and fair markets that both meet public demand and serve the public good through innovation; and

WHEREAS, the ZEV Program as proposed in Regulation Number 20 requires that certain provisions of the California ZEV Standards be incorporated word-for-word into the Colorado Code of Regulations without any opportunity for revisions; and

WHEREAS, Colorado already has more electric vehicles than all of the other states that comply with the ZEV rule, except for California and New York, thus negating the need for a mandate; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's primary electricity generation source is coal, which will offset many of the stated environmental goals of a ZEV mandate; and

WHEREAS, several Colorado-based utilities have set Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") reduction goals, which are aspirational, unenforceable, and influenced by regional considerations beyond Colorado's borders; and

WHEREAS, statewide electricity use is expected to increase by approximately 27% by 2050 in order to meet a high plug-in electric vehicle (“PEV”) use scenario; and

WHEREAS, utility providers are expected to collect as much as \$189 million in net revenue for PEV charging, while passing along these increased costs associated with a massive increase in electricity generation to Coloradans; and

WHEREAS, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and battery electric vehicles, due to their fuel or propulsion systems, use little or no liquid fuels and therefore do not contribute to the tax revenue used for road construction and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, a study from the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration identified the significant “technology cost burden” of electrified vehicles requires cross-subsidization, inflating the prices of pick-up trucks, SUVs, and other conventional vehicles to offset the losses from the sales of ZEVs; and

WHEREAS, the West Slope of Colorado’s economy is heavily dependent upon the mining, manufacturing, oil and gas, and agricultural sectors, all of which depend upon pick-up trucks and other vehicles that cannot feasibly comply with the Zero Emissions Standards; and

WHEREAS, a AAA study found that HVAC use at 20°F decreased driving range for ZEVs by 41%; and

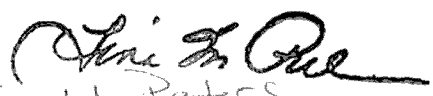
WHEREAS, the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission will only hold one hearing on the proposed rule in Glendale, Colorado, even though this rule will have enormous impacts throughout the state.



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that as part of a free society based on individual economic freedom, Mesa County specifically opposes efforts to impose government mandates related to zero emission vehicles in the State of Colorado, and Mesa County further demands that the AQCC hold a hearing concerning the adoption of Regulation Number 20a in Grand Junction to enable full participation of West Slope citizens in the ZEV discussion and rule making process.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto set our hands and cause to be affixed the official seal of Mesa County this 24th day of June, 2019.

Mesa County Board of County Commissioners

Attest:


Tina M. Peters
Clerk & Recorder

Rose Pugliese 
Chair
John Justman 
Scott McInnis 