



Zero Emission Vehicles: Clearing the Air

New Jersey Clean Air Council Annual Public
Hearing
April 12, 2018
9:30 a.m.

N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection
401 E. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

For more information on the Clean Air Council,
see www.nj.gov/dep/cleanair

Zero Emission Vehicles: Clearing the Air

New Jersey has an estimated 6.3 million vehicles, over 15,000 all-electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and 78 billion vehicle miles traveled. The amount of traffic has a direct impact on air quality. Mobile sources of air pollution including cars and trucks are the most significant source of air pollution in New Jersey. The Clean Air Council examined electric vehicles (EVs) and other alternative fuel vehicles in 2014, resulting in several successful new initiatives and increased EV sales. With breakthroughs in battery technology, rapidly declining battery costs, and increased availability of electric cars, trucks, buses and other vehicles, we revisit the subject to examine ways that transportation electrification could improve our air quality and health.

The main obstacles to widespread adoption of EVs are the purchase price of EVs compared to conventional vehicles, insufficient charging infrastructure, and lack of public awareness. Strategies need to address these three obstacles in order to accelerate market penetration of EVs, reduce vehicle emissions and clean the air.

The goal of the 2018 NJDEP Clean Air Council public hearing is to re-evaluate the hurdles and potential solutions to achieving widespread use of electric vehicles and make recommendations to the Commissioner of the NJDEP. Questions to be considered by the Council during the hearing include but are not limited to:

- **Affordability** – How can the state address the affordability gap between electric vehicles and comparable conventional vehicles? What incentives have been the most effective? Are different strategies needed to encourage EV adoption by New Jersey residents, businesses and governments?
- **Infrastructure** – How can the state grow the charging station network to attract and sustain EVs? What policies, programs and incentives have been effective in other states and municipalities? What are the barriers and options for EV charging in urban areas, and for apartments and condominiums? How can we ensure that new and existing buildings are “EV-ready”? How can we future proof our investments to accommodate developing technologies such as high-speed charging and fuel cells?
- **Awareness** – How can the state raise awareness of the availability and benefits of EVs? What outreach and education strategies have been most effective? How can the State’s fleet “lead by example”?
- **Equity** – How can the state ensure that low- and moderate-income communities share in the benefits of clean transportation? How can EVs be used for transit, ride-sharing and other mobility solutions?
- **Heavy-duty vehicles** – How can the state help to expand medium-duty and heavy-duty EV markets?

How to Testify

The Clean Air Council has invited guest speakers who will address many of these issues. Additionally, members of the public are encouraged to provide testimony. The Council will provide 5 minutes per oral presentation for members of the public and encourages the submittal of detailed written comments, including a summary of comments, to augment your testimony and to include in the hearing report. Written testimony will be accepted until April 30, 2018 via email in Microsoft Word. Those who wish to testify should contact Heidi Jones at (609) 777-0598 or via e-mail at Heidi.Jones@dep.nj.gov before April 2.