



RE: HF4293 Omnibus State Government and Transportation Bill

May 9, 2022

To: Chair Nelson, Chair Kiffmeyer, and Members of the Conference Committee on HF4293

On behalf of the members of Conservation Minnesota located in all of Minnesota's 87 counties, we write to express our concerns on Article 5, Section 18 of the Senate version of HF4293, which effectively repeals Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule. That rule went through years of public comment, was approved by a judge, and was enacted into law in 2021.

We strongly believe that our state should remain committed to increasing the availability of electric vehicles, providing Minnesotans with improved consumer choice, lowered fuel prices, and reduced carbon and air pollutant emissions. We urge members not to include this regressive provision in the final, bipartisan version of HF4293, the Omnibus State Government and Transportation Bill.

Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule delivers a variety of benefits for Minnesotans. It decreases emissions in transportation, addressing our largest emitting sector. It improves air quality, reducing harmful particulate exhaust. It develops markets for Minnesota industries and it bolsters energy independence, using electricity produced right here in Minnesota.

But even beyond environmental and supply chain benefits, Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule simply gives consumers the opportunity and the choice to save money by switching to an electric vehicle that otherwise might not be available to them. At a time at which Minnesotans are wary of increasing costs and rising fuel prices, these rules allow consumers the freedom to choose the most efficient vehicles on the market, potentially saving thousands of dollars every single year.

Fuel Cost Savings for Minnesotans

- As of September 2021, Minnesota Power's average residential customer cost for electricity was \$0.1148 per kWh. With an average electric vehicle range of 200 miles on a 54 kWh battery, it would cost the average electric vehicle user just \$6.20 to drive 200 miles.
- As of May 6, 2022, the average gas price in Minnesota is \$3.975. With an average gas-powered vehicle efficiency of 25 mpg, it would cost the average gas-powered vehicle user \$31.80 to drive 200 miles.
- A 2022 Ford F150 Lightning has a 98 kWh battery with a 230 mile range, taking 85 kWh to travel 200 miles. At a per kWh cost of \$0.1148, it would cost an electric F150 user just \$9.76 to drive 200 miles.
- The 2022 Ford F150 (2.7-liter Twin Turbo V6) has a combined mileage rate of 22 mpg. At \$3.975 per gallon, it would cost a gas-powered F150 user \$36.14 to drive 200 miles.
- Currently, the average American drives 14,263 miles in a year. With a 2009 study determining that rural drivers travel roughly 21.5% further than the national average, the rural average becomes 17,329 miles.
- At these figures, it would cost the average statewide electric vehicle user just \$442 per year in fuel prices, and the average rural electric vehicle user just \$537 per year.



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- However, it would cost the average statewide gas-powered vehicle user \$2,268 per year in fuel prices, and the average rural gas-powered vehicle user \$2,755 per year.
- It would cost the average statewide electric F150 user just \$697 per year in fuel prices, and the average rural electric F150 user just \$848 per year.
- However, it would cost the average statewide gas-powered F150 user \$2,575 per year in fuel prices, and the average rural gas-powered F150 user \$3,129 per year.

Minnesotans can save anywhere from \$1,826 to \$2,281 every year in fuel prices by switching to electric vehicles. However, repealing Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule inhibits consumers ability to make that decision for themselves, reducing the availability of electric vehicles on the market.

The demand for electric vehicles is growing in America. Ranges are improving. Charging infrastructure is expanding. Vehicle prices are becoming more competitive. Manufacturers are transitioning. But Minnesotans are at risk of being left behind without Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule. Eighteen states, including Minnesota, have adopted standards to increase the availability of electric vehicles and to guarantee their residents the choice to purchase cost-saving vehicles. If we repeal these standards, we force many Minnesotans to confront rising gas prices without the opportunity to choose another path.

As the Conference Committee convenes and works toward a strong, bipartisan omnibus, members are faced with a decision. You can expand choices for Minnesotans, increasing the availability of electric vehicles and investing in their effectiveness; or you drag Minnesotans backward, making our state uncompetitive in the global drive toward affordable, reliable, and sustainable electrification. Respectfully, we urge you to support electric vehicle development and to reject the repeal of Minnesota's Clean Cars Rule.

We look forward to working with you in the future to guarantee a safe environment and a sustainable economy for current and future generations. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions. Thank you for helping to protect the Minnesota we love.

Sincerely,

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