

A!ert

dvrpc

September 2022

Alert is a monthly update on transportation and air quality planning activities in the Delaware Valley.



Air Quality Regulations

California Bans the Sale of New Gas-Powered Cars by 2035

On August 25, 2022, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) voted to ban the sale of new gasoline-powered light-duty cars and trucks by 2035 and set interim targets to phase out the sales of new gasoline-powered light-duty vehicles.

CARB's rule sets milestones for the sales of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs). Beginning with Model Year 2026 vehicles, 35 percent of new cars, SUVs, and small trucks sold in California are required to be ZEVs. That number increases each year and is expected to reach 51 percent of all new car sales in 2028, 68 percent in 2030, and 100 percent in 2035. The quotas also would allow 20 percent of zero-emission cars sold to be plug-in hybrids and do not impact the sales or usage of used vehicles.

This rule is the first of its kind in the United States. It is expected to have a significant impact on domestic electric vehicle car sales because of California's share of the new car market (11 percent) and the fact that fifteen other states, including New York and New Jersey, have previously adopted California's ZEV regulations. All told, the states that have adopted the previous ZEV rules account for almost 36 percent of new car sales in the US annually. While not all fifteen of those states have committed to adopting this California rule, a spokesman for California Governor Gavin Newsom expects the "majority of states to follow."

New York, Oregon, Washington state, and Rhode Island officials confirmed to CNN news that they plan to adopt California's gas-powered car ban through their own rule-making process, while New Jersey and Maryland officials said they were reviewing the California rule. Washington state is opening public comment on a similar rule in September 2022.

CARB Board member Daniel Sperling noted that if most of these states follow California's lead, the rule could transform the US auto industry.

"This is a big part of the US market," Sperling said. "Even if the feds don't move on a regulatory perspective, a big chunk of the country will be moving forward."

Sperling added the process of drafting the rules had received "surprisingly little debate" and pushback from car companies. Several automakers including Ford and GM have already announced plans to move toward zero-emission cars, trucks, and SUVs.

"The car companies see what's happening in China and Europe," Sperling said. "Many of them have already made announcements about how they're converting totally to electric vehicles."



Save the Date

**Thursday
September 1, 2022**

**Opening Date for Applications:
PA DEP
Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebate
Program**

**For more information,
please visit:**

**www.dep.pa.gov
and search
"rebates"**

**Monday
October 31, 2022**

**Deadline for Applications:
NJ BPU
EV Tourism Charger
Grant Program**

**For more information,
please visit:**

**nicleanenergy.com/
and select
"Programs"**

This rule by CARB codifies an executive order signed by Governor Newsom in 2020, mandating that all vehicles sold in the state must be zero-emission by 2035. This rule was made possible by the Biden Administration reinstating California's Clean Air Act waiver which gives the state the ability to set its own vehicle emission standards. This waiver was suspended by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Trump administration and was being challenged in federal court before the Biden administration reinstated the waiver in February 2022.

Read more about California's ban on gas-powered light-duty vehicles at [CNN.com](https://www.cnn.com).



Air Quality and Transportation

Governor Murphy Launches Year Three of *Charge Up New Jersey* Program

In July 2022, Governor Phil Murphy announced the launch of year three of the state's [Charge Up New Jersey](#) electric vehicle (EV) incentive program and the state's new residential EV charger program. Both the Charge-Up New Jersey Program and the Residential Charger Program are key components of legislation promoting EV adoption, known as the EV Law, signed by Governor Murphy in 2020. The EV Law commits at least \$30 million in annual incentives for the Charge Up New Jersey Program for ten years.

The Charge Up Program is the largest per-vehicle incentive program in the nation. During the first two years of the program, over 13,000 EVs were purchased or leased with the incentive. This year's incentive provides up to \$4,000 for vehicles with Manufacturer Suggested Retail Prices (MSRP) under \$45,000 and incentives of up to \$2,000 for vehicles with an MSRP between \$45,000 and \$55,000. This tiered approach offers a greater incentive for more affordable EVs in an attempt to make EVs more accessible to lower income families.

The Residential Charging Program will provide homeowners with a \$250 rebate to install an EV charging station. This rebate can be paired with other incentives available from the New Jersey Bureau of Public Utilities, which can help offset installation costs.

These programs advance New Jersey's goal to electrify the state's transportation sector, which accounts for more than 40 percent of the state's greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation electrification is one of the key strategies to help achieve the goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2050, which is identified in the state's Energy Master Plan.

Governor Murphy's [announcement](#) of new EV incentive programs can be viewed at www.nj.gov/governor.

PA DEP Launches New Round of Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebates

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) announced that the agency will begin accepting applications for rebates for the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles on September 1, 2022. In this round of rebates both new and pre-owned vehicles are eligible for rebates.

Eligibility for the program is tied to household income to make EV ownership more available for low-income households. The income cut-offs are available on the PA DEP program webpage. Battery electric vehicles are eligible for a \$2,000 rebate with the potential for an additional \$1,000 rebate for lower-income households. Plug-in hybrids are eligible for a \$1,500 rebate, and all other alternative fuel vehicles are eligible for a \$500 rebate. Vehicles must be purchased no more than six months before applying for the rebate, so vehicles purchased after March 1, 2022, are eligible to apply for this round of funding.

Details about the PA DEP [Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebate](#) program are available at www.dep.pa.gov.



DVRPC, 8th Floor
190 N. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1520
Phone: 215.592.1800 | Fax: 215.592.9125 | Web: www.dvrpc.org