



Plug In America  
P.O. Box 1174  
El Segundo, CA 90245-6174  
[www.PlugInAmerica.org](http://www.PlugInAmerica.org)

March 17, 2008

Dear Gov. Schwarzenegger,

President George Bush called on Americans this month to "get off oil" and start to drive electric vehicles. With gas nearing \$4 a gallon, global warming threatening disaster, and our national security at risk, the president got it right.

Unfortunately, powerful California regulators are perilously close to killing the electric car all over again.

On March 27, the California Air Resources Board will revise their history-making program that put more than 5,000 highway-capable Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) on the road and reduced our output of carbon dioxide—the main global warming gas—by one million metric tons.

But new revisions by the Board's staff will profoundly weaken the program again instead of propelling our country toward a pollution-free future. This proposal would require each automaker to produce only about 150 ZEVs per year through 2015.

That's less than what consumers are demanding, less than the number of ZEVs that can be produced today—let alone three years from now—less than what's needed to meet state goals for emission reductions, and less than what these regulators required in 2003 when they helped kill the electric car the first time.

Under the Clean Air Act, California is the only state allowed to set tougher limits on vehicle emissions than federal regulators. Ten other states have adopted California's emission limits. The board's vote has national implications.

Consumers want cleaner cars. According to a recent Harris Interactive poll, 80 percent of respondents said fuel efficiency would affect their next new car purchase.

Take Norma Williamson, a public high school teacher in the Los Angeles suburb of Cerritos. Norma and her husband Alan have been driving a fully electric Toyota RAV4 since 2002. They charge the car with electricity generated by their home's solar panels. They haven't purchased gas in six years. They live—and propel—the promise of a pollution-free future.

Gov. Schwarzenegger, you showed true leadership when you signed the nation's first global warming law. You showed true leadership with your vow to "turn back the clock on pollution" through your Million Solar Roofs Plan, an initiative that is the equivalent of taking one million gasoline cars off the road.

Now, how about putting one million electric cars on the road?

Please continue to lead our state by asking the California Air Resources Board to strengthen their staff proposal and get more electric cars on the road.

As you prepare to take delivery of your electric Tesla, we ask you to support a stronger Zero Emission Vehicle Program that will help us all turn back the clock on pollution.

We ask you to save the electric car.

Chelsea Sexton

Executive Director, Plug In America

Plug In America is joined in this appeal to Governor Schwarzenegger by the following supporters:

Ed Begley, Jr., Actor  
Warren S. Gifford, Ph.D. Executive Director (ret.) Bell Laboratories  
Dr. and Mrs. Peter R. Greer, former Deputy Under Secretary of Education  
Peter Horton, Director/Producer  
Chris Paine, Director, "Who Killed the Electric Car?"  
Bradley D. Turock, Director (ret). Bell Communications Research  
Jon Wellinghoff, Commissioner, FERC  
Jim Woolsey, former Director of Central Intelligence  
Jerry Zucker, Director/Producer

As You Sow  
CalCars  
Central Coast EAA  
Co-op America  
Desert Star, LLLP  
Doublestone Computing  
Electric Auto Association  
Electric Vehicle Association of Southern California  
Energy Efficiency Solar  
Enviro Plumbing  
Global Exchange  
Jaguar Technologies  
Lightning Rod Foundation  
Mainstreet Moms  
Miles Automotive  
Northern Lights Foundation  
Ocean Defenders Alliance  
Orange County Interfaith Coalition for the Environment  
Rainforest Action Network  
Ranch Air Transport Corporation  
Reclaim Democracy  
San Francisco Electric Vehicle Association  
SBR Partners, LLC  
Sea Shepherd  
Summit Green, Inc.  
Sustainable Transport Club  
Telecom Internet, Ltd.  
Tesla Motors  
Turock Family Foundation  
V2Green  
Zenn Motors  
Zero Motorcycles  
3121 Property Management Corp.