



Public Hearing: “Vehicle Emissions and Electrification”

Monday, September 27, 2021, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Hearing Room 1

Testimony of Alissa Burger, Policy Manager, Electrification Coalition

Scheduled: 11:05 – 11:15 am EST

Chairman Langerholc, Minority Chair Sabatina, and honorable members of the committee—my name is Alissa Burger and I am a Policy Manager for the Electrification Coalition¹; thank you for inviting me to be here with you today. The Electrification Coalition is a bipartisan, nonprofit organization that promotes policies and actions to facilitate the widespread deployment and adoption of electric vehicles to overcome the economic, public health, and national security challenges that stem from America’s dependence on oil.

Oil accounts for about 91% of energy use in transportation in the United States.² Every year the U.S. military spends roughly \$81 billion to safeguard global oil supplies. Ninety percent of conventional crude oil reserves are held by OPEC member states or national oil companies that do not share U.S. strategic values or interests. Pennsylvanians consume more than 233.6 million barrels of oil per year (over 26 million gallons per day).³

The Electrification Coalition, along with our sister organization SAFE⁴ and affiliated Energy Security Leadership Council (ESLC)⁵, have viewed electric vehicles and the build-out of the EV supply chain as the solution to break our dependence on foreign oil and improve our national security. Investing in a transportation electrification future also brings additional benefits, such as job growth, cost savings on fuel and maintenance for all Pennsylvanians, improved air

¹ <https://www.electrificationcoalition.org/>

² US Energy used for transportation – US EIA, <https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/use-of-energy/transportation.php>

³ US Energy Information Administration State Energy Data System (SEDS) - Petroleum consumption, [https://www.eia.gov/state/seds/seds-datacomplete.php?sid=US and \\$2.20/gallon](https://www.eia.gov/state/seds/seds-datacomplete.php?sid=US and $2.20/gallon) (<https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>)

⁴ <https://secureenergy.org/>

⁵ <https://secureenergy.org/energy-security-leadership-council/>

quality, and a reduction in carbon emissions. Further, as the world shifts from internal combustion engine vehicles to EVs, China's current dominance of the EV supply chain means that investing in the U.S. EV industry is critical and urgent in order to ensure that the American automotive sector retains a strong global competitiveness.

Analysts predict that light-duty EVs will be at upfront price parity with internal combustion vehicles by 2025, if not sooner. And medium- and heavy-duty vehicles will be at upfront price parity a few years after that but can potentially outperform their internal combustion engine counterparts on a total cost of ownership basis *today*.⁶ The automotive sector in Pennsylvania has a long history of supporting economic stability and innovation for our state and our nation, a legacy that we can continue in Pennsylvania as we shift to an electrified transportation future.⁷

As a sixth generation Pennsylvanian, I believe, both professionally and personally, that Pennsylvania can be a leader in this space. As elected officials and leaders in our state, now is the time to capitalize on the EV moment and position our state to fully realize the opportunity we have before us. A number of EV-related bills that will lead to an accelerated adoption of EVs in our state have been introduced over the last nine months. With the leadership of the Senate Transportation Committee, these policies, combined with thoughtful planning and investment, will bring our state into an EV leadership position, will bring more makes and models of EVs to Pennsylvanians, will reduce our transportation related carbon emissions, and will result in jobs and economic development for our state. ⁸

⁶ Hunter, Chad, Michael Penev, Evan Reznicek, Jason Lustbader, Alicia Birky, and Chen Zhang. 2021. Spatial and Temporal Analysis of the Total Cost of Ownership for Class 8 Tractors and Class 4 Parcel Delivery Trucks. Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory. NREL/TP-5400-71796. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy21osti/71796.pdf>.

⁷ EE (2020), Electric Transportation Supply Chain in Pennsylvania. <https://info.aee.net/electric-transportation-supply-chain-in-pennsylvania>

⁸ American Lung Association (2020), The Road to Clean Air: Benefits of a Nationwide Transition to Electric Vehicles. <https://www.lung.org/getmedia/99cc945c-47f2-4ba9-ba59-14c311ca332a/electric-vehicle-report.pdf>



Tomorrow, outside of the Capitol, you will see the light-, medium- and heavy-duty EVs that will launch Pennsylvania into an electrified transportation future.⁹ I hope you will come out to see these vehicles for yourself. The future of transportation is electric. I look forward to working with each of you as we move our keystone state to be the cornerstone of this electric transportation future.

I sincerely thank you for your time and would welcome any questions.

⁹ <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harrisburg-ev-ride-drive-tickets-168165392215>