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LETTERS TO THE TIMES

State Quotas for Zero-Emission Cars

Regulations that cannot be met undercut the credibility of public authority. It is an exercise in futility to try to prescribe market outcomes. Vehicle market share is determined by price and performance, and no amount of bureaucratic wishful thinking can make it otherwise. Battery-powered vehicles are a technological dead end. Car makers have ample economic incentive to refine hybrid and develop fuel-cell vehicles.

No court decisions are needed for the California Air Resources Board to know that its original zero-emission vehicle rule is unworkable, and there is no reason for the board to delay adjustments in its rule.

JAMES E. MOORE II
Los Angeles

How to Write to Us

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