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5373 Shrewsbury Drive
Troy, MI 48085
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The Honorable Joe Knollenberg
United States House of Representatives
2349 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Knollenberg,

Your article in the Detroit News on Friday May 9 prompted me to write this letter. While I generally agree with you in principle I take exception with two of your suggestions; hydrogen and battery power.

You must be completely unaware as to the source for hydrogen; it is Natural Gas. This is still a fossil fuel. We are already importing CNG (Compressed Natural Gas). How will this make us independent sources? I have watched "talking heads" and read articles saying the world has an unlimited supply of hydrogen, but it is in a simpler form; H_2O (water). This is just plain crazy to even suggest that Electrolysis is a viable commercial source. If these people had been in a Physics class they may have seen the process in action.

Remember the Hindenberg. One would have thought that Pinto fuel tank fires were bad, just imagine getting into a crash with a H_2 powered vehicle. Think of the armoring the fuel tank would require!

On the subject of battery powere cars. To get any sort of good range, these cars would be unbelievable heavy. I remember seeing UPS delivery vans that were so-powered; they were immense. Granted batteries have come a long way. Crash rescue workers would be in fear of getting electrcuted! Remember that these cars would need recharging and that would require fossil fuel powered (Atomic Power?) power plants.

Quite a conundrum isn't it!

Some better solutions might be:

1. A huge gas guzzler tax, except for commercial applications to get rid of Hummers Suvs and big pick-up trucks.

2. Switch to diesel power. Distilling more diesel would bring down the cost/price while increasing the cost/price of gasoline. One can't have it both ways.

3. Allow drilling in now banned areas. We will never "conserve" our way to foreign fuei independence!

For your consideration. When will politicians ever learn that the Laws of Physics cannot be obviated with the stroke of a pen.

Conrad E. Miesiak

Conrad E. Miesiak
Retired Automotive/Aerospace/
Diesel Degreed Engineer and
registered Republican