



Info Item 2

Established 1963 / Fondée en 1963

CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION D'ÉQUIPEMENT DE TRANSPORT DU CANADA

June 21, 2010

Mayor Peter Kelly
Halifax Regional Municipality
1841 Argyle Street
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

MUNICIPAL CLERKS OFFICE
 Distributed to:
 Councillors Meeting Regional Council
 Mayor
 CAO Date: May 13, 2008
 DCAG Wayne Anstey, Mike Labrecque
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 Communications
 Other Jennifer Churchill
Stewart Edwards - Krista Edgewell

MAYOR'S OFFICE
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DATE: June 23/10

Dear Mayor Kelly,

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2010, regarding the hazards surrounding the lack of sound emitted from Hybrid and full electric vehicles. The Board of Directors, members and staff of the Canadian Transportation Equipment Association (CTEA) share your concerns and welcome the opportunity to explain our roll within the larger vehicle manufacturing industry, and how we might assist you in your quest to ensure safer vehicles on Canadian roads.

To begin with, we would like to explain the makeup and mandate of CTEA. The CTEA membership is made up of intermediate and final stage truck manufacturers and trailer manufacturers, their suppliers and service providers. When we talk about intermediate and final stage manufacturers in the multi-stage truck manufacturing industry, we are talking about those companies that take a truck chassis built by an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), e.g. Mack, Kenworth, Ford, etc. and install a body and/or other equipment that completes the vehicle into a fully functional vocational truck, like a dump truck, concrete mixer or garbage packer, etc. The vast majority of these manufacturing companies are small and medium enterprises.

Although the OEMs are members within the CTEA, their membership is that of a supplier and is aimed primarily to provide for improved communication with the intermediate and final stage manufacturing members regarding design features and specifications that may affect the modification of the chassis to provide for installation of a body and other equipment required for its intended final purpose.

Our core membership is therefore typically not involved in design, specification or manufacture of the vehicle drive train or its components.

Although the CTEA membership has limited influence on vehicle drive train design, one of CTEA's mandates is to promote the safety of vehicles on the public highways. We therefore are quite willing to provide whatever assistance we can in getting the word out regarding this safety concern.

Firstly, we want you to be aware that the vehicle manufacturers involved in the hybrid and all electric vehicle market are very much aware of this issue. We attended the Green Fleets Expo in Toronto, Ontario on June 8th & 9th, 2010 and we can assure you that this issue was discussed by presenters and delegates alike from across the country. It is a recognized hazard and the challenge appears to be developing an appropriate standard that all manufacturers can work with. This standard would of course have to address such issues as the type of sound, the sound level, etc. As a matter of fact the Motor Vehicle Council of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) has a Hybrid Vehicle Sound Task Force, which is dealing with this very issue, and we are aware that Transport Canada is working on the issue towards a possible regulatory solution for new vehicles.

Finally, we suggest that we may be of assistance by forwarding your letter to appropriate associations in the vehicle manufacturing sector, such as the Truck Manufacturers Association (TMA) in Chicago, IL, the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers Association (CMVA) in Toronto, ON and the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) also in Toronto, ON, as well as to our own OEM contacts in the truck industry. The members of the above Associations represent the OEM manufacturers of most of the cars and trucks used on Canadian Highways.

We look forward to your reply and thank you again for allowing us to comment on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald E. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Donald E. Moore, P.Eng.
Executive Director
Canadian Transportation equipment Association

Cc: Kash Ram, Director General, Road Safety, Transport Canada